

Bobbie Walthall

To: Patricia Sinclair
Subject: RE: Solid waste study consent agenda 9

From: Patricia Sinclair
Sent: Tuesday, April 9, 2019 11:59 AM
To: Bobbie Walthall <bjwalthall@lawrenceks.org>
Subject: Solid waste study consent agenda 9

It's unclear just when the last analysis was done of our solid waste system's services and their associated costs to the city and charges to consumers.

Therefore, my remarks will cover a general time frame.

I'm interested in looking at the environmental/green aspects of the city's waste system and the larger impact recycling, composting, wood chips mulch and other associated vehicular, container, and systems components. Hopefully we can assume that we share a goal of reducing waste and that the city will be willing to share in the costs.

Customers now supply and pay for their own specified bags for yard waste or rent/purchase a city container for composting or yard waste. This eases the city's burden in collecting this waste. The resulting composted waste can then be used by the city or others.

Tree limbs are accepted by the city and turned into wood chips which can be purchased and, I think, also used by the city.

The city also requires deposits of new renters which are reportedly not returned until some time after the expiration of a one year lease. Who is losing money on this arrangement, the city who does not collect enough of a deposit to cover the cost of what might be an overly large amount of trash when tenants move out, or the tenant who does not get the deposit back?

Other overly large trash collections still exist during and after other customer's residence. Are there fees for those? I recall once there were reports that volume of trash was being recorded and studied. What became of that?

Please study and inform us in a transparent fashion about the results of our recycling efforts. It might be helpful to look at our cities such as Eugene Oregon to see the easy to find explanations of how difficult it is to recycle now, as buyers in China no longer want mixed paper and some kinds of plastic. Does our recycling go to the landfill or is it sold?

Thank you for your consideration of what might be included in this contract and please excuse the errors in this memo.