



SOLID WASTE DIVISION UPDATE

Public Works Department

City Council
June 28, 2022

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Background

On February 1, 2022, the City Council requested that staff provide a comprehensive update regarding hiring, vacancies, and equipment in the Public Works Solid Waste Division



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Industry-Wide Impacts

1. Solid Waste Association of North America has documented an industry-wide hiring and retention challenge
2. Nationwide shortage in truck drivers has also impacted the supply chain (equipment, repairs, bin delivery)
3. Vehicles will continue to be in short supply, rental units are also difficult to secure
4. Residential waste volumes have increased 15%



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Riverside-Specific Impacts

1. Many residents have experienced 2-3 day delays in pickup services
2. Crews have been working significant overtime to meet demands
3. The City's fleet is aging, with 14 trucks in need of immediate replacement
4. Loss of institutional knowledge resulting from turnover (mechanics)



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Solid Waste Fund Impacts

1. Anticipated additional \$1M+ in annual costs to process commingled green waste (Senate Bill 1383)
2. Costs to purchase processed organics waste (SB 1383)
3. Ongoing costs exceeding \$1M annually to process recycled goods (City previously received a credit)
4. Deferred vehicle replacement & high recurring maintenance costs
5. Increased tipping fees & operational costs



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Addressing Challenges

1. Staff working overtime, other division assistance
2. Emergency provision in Burrtec's contract: extra assistance
3. Continuous recruitment, Saturday interviews, promotion of jobs
4. Several vehicles purchased
5. "Trainee" positions
6. Route navigation software



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STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

Strategic Priority No. 5 – High Performing Government

Goal No. 5.3 - Attract, develop, engage and retain a diverse and highly skilled workforce across the entire City organization.

Cross-Cutting Threads



Community Trust



Equity



Innovation



Fiscal
Responsibility



Sustainability and
Resiliency



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RECOMMENDATIONS

That the City Council receive an update on the Public Works Solid Waste Division



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