



Your Trash. Your Choice. We asked. You answered. We listened.

Questions and Answers about the Solid Waste and Recycling Proposal

Background:

In order to meet criteria established by Sedgwick County that all cities have a volume-based approach to trash collection *and* offer curbside recycling, the City of Wichita is proposing a new system that will provide affordable options to residents while preserving their ability to choose their hauler. Learn more about the new proposal through the Questions and Answers below. If you have additional questions, please contact the City Manager's office at 268-4351.



Q: *I like the trash hauler I have now. Will I be forced to change haulers?* No. This plan does not require you to do anything different than what you do now if you like your hauler. You do not need to make any changes!

Q. *I don't have any interest in recycling. Will I be required to recycle?* No. This proposal will offer residents the option of recycling through all haulers licensed to collect solid waste within the City of Wichita, but you will not be required to recycle if you choose not to.

Q. *I already recycle by personally taking my recyclables to Dillons. Will I have to pay my hauler to do that from now on?* No. You can continue to recycle just like you do now – it's completely up to you!

Q. *Then how will this proposal benefit me?* Lots of people have told us that they do not need the large containers that the haulers provide for them now because they don't throw away that much trash. This proposal allows you to choose which hauler you want *and* save money by paying less for a smaller cart if that better meets your needs.

Q. *But what if I fill my larger cart now and couldn't get by with a smaller cart? How will this proposal benefit me?* If you are willing to *try* recycling, you may find that you could indeed get by with the smaller cart. You would fill your recycling container (for pick up every other week) and then put what should be much less trash in your other cart.

Q. *But won't this increase my costs?* We heard the community loud and clear when they said they want to allow the free market system to work without government interference. So we're going to allow the haulers to compete for and earn your business! Most of the haulers have already said that this proposal should not cause an increase in costs for our residents.

Q. *But how will we know what the various companies are charging?* Part of the proposal is an interactive website where you can voluntarily provide information about your trash hauler and what you are paying for your service(s). You'll be able to see what your neighbors and people around the city are paying so that you can choose the best price and hauler for you!