



WESTMINSTER

Staff Report

TO: The Mayor and Members of the City Council

DATE: December 29, 2010

SUBJECT: Study Session Agenda for January 3, 2011

PREPARED BY: J. Brent McFall, City Manager

Please Note: Study Sessions and Post City Council meetings are open to the public, and individuals are welcome to attend and observe. However, these meetings are not intended to be interactive with the audience, as this time is set aside for City Council to receive information, make inquiries, and provide Staff with policy direction.

Looking ahead to next Monday night's Study Session, the following schedule has been prepared:

A light dinner will be served in the Council Family Room 6:00 P.M.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

1. Report from Mayor (5 minutes)
2. Reports from City Councillors (10 minutes)

PRESENTATIONS

1. Swim and Fitness Center Renovation Presentation

6:30 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Review and discuss City facility security measures pursuant to WMC 1-11-3(C)(6) and CRS 24-6-402(4)(d)

INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS – Does not require action by City Council

1. Community Recycling Project Update

Additional items may come up between now and Monday night. City Council will be apprised of any changes to the Study Session meeting schedule.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Brent McFall
City Manager



WESTMINSTER

Staff Report

City Council Study Session Meeting

January 3, 2011



SUBJECT: Swim and Fitness Center Renovation

PREPARED BY: Kathy Piper, Landscape Architect II
Peggy Boccard, Recreation Services Manager

Recommended City Council Action:

Review plans and funding for the Swim and Fitness Center locker room renovation and facility improvements and provide Staff with any comments or changes that Councillors may require.

Summary Statement:

At Monday's Study Session Staff will review plans for the Swim and Fitness Center renovation, update Council on available funding and the Adams County Open Space grant award, and identify a tentative construction schedule.

- Staff presented a conceptual master plan of the Swim and Fitness Center to City Council earlier in 2010. Since that time, Staff and project architects Sinks, Combs and Dethlefs have refined the first phase of renovations. Staff believes it would be beneficial to review the status of the project with Council before proceeding with an amendment to architectural fees and a supplemental appropriation for the Adams County Open Space grant award.
- Staff also wants to make sure that Councillors are comfortable with the recommended funding sources for the project.
- Swim and Fitness Center renovations (see attached plan) will include a total renovation of the shower and locker room facilities; a new family changing room; relocation of the sauna, steam room and hot tub to more accessible areas and visibly secure locations; a small area for parties; and will provide a new outdoor splash pad.
- In July of 2010, Staff received City Council's approval to submit a grant request to Adams County Open Space to help fund the renovation of the Swim and Fitness Center. Staff presented the grant request on August 26, 2010, and the City was awarded \$205,000 for the water play feature on November 17, 2010.
- It is proposed that funding for this project will come from a variety of sources for a total project budget of 1,897,975.

Expenditure Required: \$1,897,975

Source of Funds: PR&L CIP Reserve - \$169,685
Parks and Open Space Bond/Bond Interest - \$533,780
SFC Renovation CIP Account- \$180,170
SFC Conservation Trust Fund - \$165,340
Recreation Improvement CIP Account - \$300,000
Building Operations and Maintenance - \$344,000
Adams County Open Space Grant - \$205,000

Policy Issue:

Does Council wish to proceed with the Swim and Fitness renovation at this time using the proposed funding sources for this project?

Alternative:

Council could direct Staff to move forward with this project, but to exclude certain components; however, Staff does not recommend this alternative. By combining needed maintenance, reorganization and upgrading of all the recommended facility amenities simultaneously it will allow for minimal shutdown time of the facility and will better serve the needs of the public when completed. In addition, Adams County grant funds have been made available to help offset the proposed water splash pad.

Background Information:

This Swim and Fitness Center opened in the 1970's and over the past 40 years has had several renovations to accommodate the changing needs of the community. A contract was approved on March 8, 2010, with Sink, Combs, and Dethlefs architects to provide a conceptual facility master plan for future expansion and improvements to the facility. The conceptual master plan encompasses upgraded locker room facilities, a family changing room; evaluation of the core area to eliminate the various levels that will help with accessibility for various abilities; the addition of areas for party rooms; upgrading of swim features; and providing a gymnasium, indoor track, and parking accessibility from the north and south ends of the facility.

Phase one of the project will concentrate on renovating the current restroom and shower facilities to include a family changing room and rearranging the existing circulation for better patron access to the lockers and pool area. The sauna, steam room and hot tub will be relocated to the pool area to help with user conflicts in the tot pool and front lobby.

Staff will be present at the January 3, 2010, Study Session to go over the proposed plans and answer any questions that Councillors may have about the project. This project meets City Council's Strategic Plan Goal of "Financially Sustainable City Government Providing Exceptional Services" and "Vibrant Neighborhoods and Commercial Areas" by providing alternative funding sources for capital improvement projects.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Brent McFall
City Manager

Attachment – Swim and Fitness Center Facility Plan

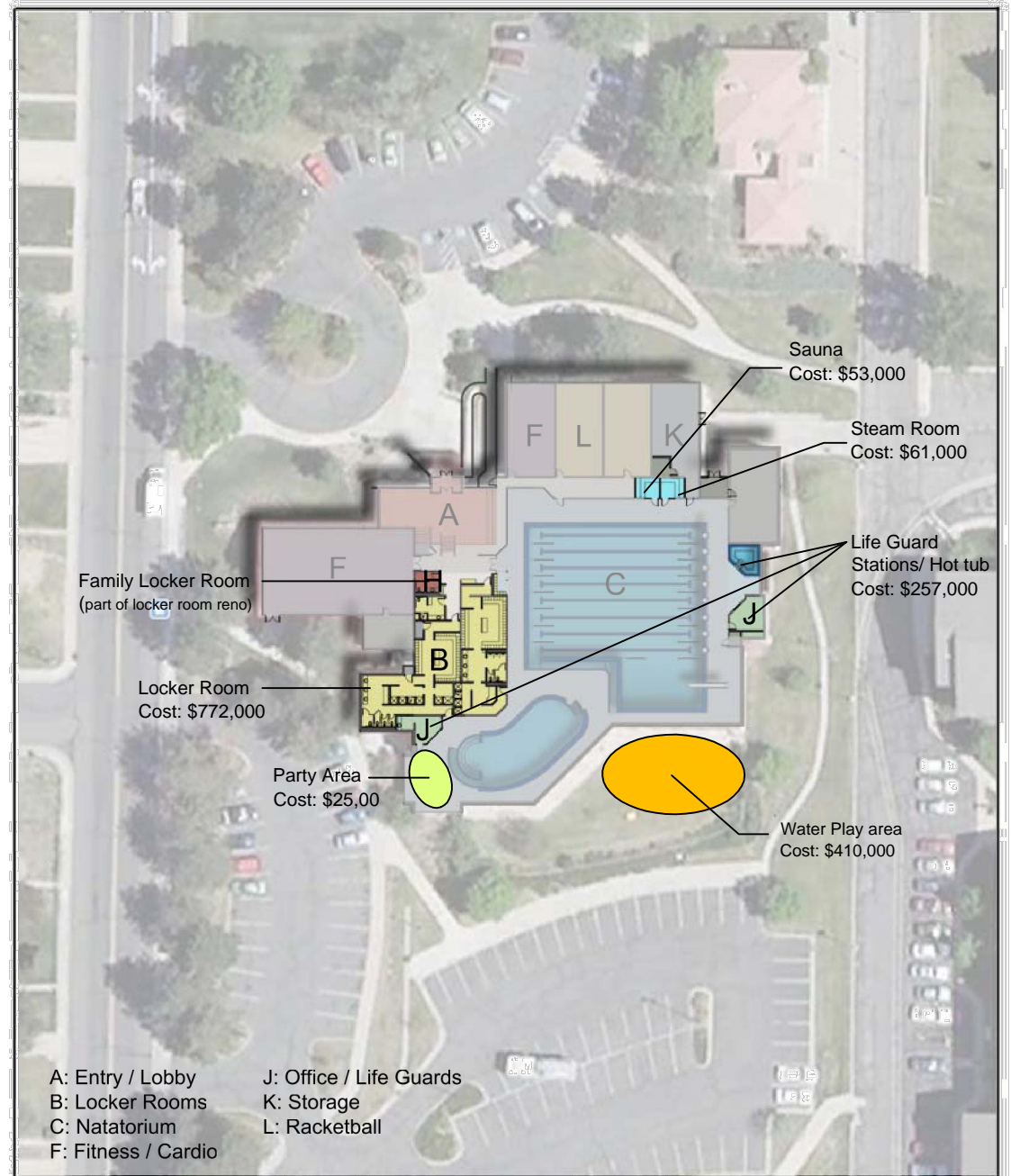
Swim and Fitness Center Renovation Project

Costs

Locker Rooms	\$772,000
Steam Room	\$ 61,000
Sauna	\$ 53,000
Hot Tub /Life Guard	\$257,000
Water Play area	\$410,000
Amenities (party room, chair lift)	\$25,000
Add Architect fees	\$123,275
COW 15% contingency	\$236,700
Total project needs	\$1,937,975

Available funding

Bond 80775050817	\$533,780
SFC Reno CIP 80975050817	\$180,170
SFC CTF 81055050965	\$165,340
BO&M 80955012806 CTF	\$344,000
Recreation CIP	\$300,000
ADCO Grant	\$205,000
PRL CIP Reserve	\$169,685
Total	\$1,897,975



City of Westminster
Swim and Fitness Center
June 21, 2010





Staff Report

Information Only Staff Report
January 3, 2011



SUBJECT: Community Recycling Project Update

PREPARED BY: Rachel Harlow-Schalk, Environmental and Administrative Services Officer
Carey Rangel, Environmental Analyst

Summary Statement:

This report is for City Council information only and requires no action by City Council.

Staff would like to make City Council aware of the status of the public engagement process to develop recommended revisions to the Solid Waste Collection Code that will support Council's Strategic Plan objective of a recycling program for businesses and residents with a high level of participation.

In the October 18, 2010 Staff Report, the process of stakeholder engagement was outlined to include:

- Individual meetings with trash collectors and Staff (October 6-25, 2010)
- Two initial public meetings (held November 9 and 10, 2010)
- Environmental Advisory Board Study Subcommittee (beginning December 16, 2010)
- Focus Groups to react to the recommendations of the Subcommittee (2011)
- Public Meetings to react to the recommendations of the Subcommittee (2011)

The following ideas for expanding the City's recycling are being discussed by the Environmental Advisory Board's Study Subcommittee for incorporation into a revision to the Solid Waste Collection Code:

- Setting a recycling diversion rate goal for all of Westminster
- Requiring all licensed trash collectors to offer recycling to multifamily units and commercial customers and allowing these complexes to place recycling dumpsters in areas that may be unenclosed
- Defining homeowner associations as residential customers for purposes of increasing availability of private recycling services
- Establishing a pay-as-you-throw trash collection system for all single family residences.

These approaches to recycling were discussed with City Council at a previous study session and Council agreed to consider these ideas further. A set of final recommendations will be brought back to City Council for consideration in the future.

Background Information

The Environmental Advisory Board and the Green Team have been working together to prepare a robust public engagement process as part of a review of possible for revisions to the Solid Waste Collection Code to help reach Council's Strategic Plan recycling objective.

The first two steps in the engagement process have been completed—interviews with licensed haulers by Staff and two public meetings on what has been learned about trash and recycling in Westminster.

Attached City Council will find summaries from interviews between October 6 and 25, 2010 with licensed trash collectors. In summary, there is an economic incentive for haulers to recycle materials—all companies are paying to take their materials to recycling facilities at a lower rate per ton compared to taking the same materials to the landfill. Depending upon the commodities market, if there is any material within the recyclables that yields a profit, a rebate is then deducted from the per ton fee the company would have to pay to the recycler. Additionally:

- Materials that go to recycling facilities are recycled. When asked if materials are landfilled if pricing markets down turn on certain products, recycling facilities stated they would hold (stockpile) material until markets yielded profits. None would place materials in the landfill.
- Recycling facilities can handle more material if the City were to require all residents to participate in a pay-as-you-throw (PAYT) trash collection system.
- There were four licensed haulers concerned with overwhelming recyclers. None of these owned or operated recycling facilities and those that did own or operate facilities were not concerned.
- The majority of trash collectors in Westminster have no experience with PAYT trash collection systems. As a result and as requested by haulers, Staff has engaged Skumatz Economic Research Associates to provide one-on-one consultation to haulers interested in finding ways to incorporate a pay-as-you-throw trash collection system into their business models.
- The few licensed trash haulers that have experience with PAYT in an open market are concerned with enforcement of fair practices by all licensed haulers. For example, a hauler picking up more trash outside of the customer's base rate and then not charging for the additional material would be operating outside of the PAYT system. This would be perceived as an unfair practice by other haulers who are charging for additional materials.

One of the largest issues discovered is the need for consistent, on-going education from the City, not just the trash haulers. Currently, the City only educates on programs that it runs like the recycling drop-off locations. Any changes to the trash collection system will require that the City educate in partnership with haulers on what services they provide.

Lastly, all of the haulers want to be involved in the Environmental Advisory Board's Study Committee to revise the Solid Waste Collection Code.

On November 9 and 10, 2010 two public meetings were held to educate the community on what has been learned about trash and recycling in Westminster. The November 9 meeting was held at the MAC and the November 10 meeting was held at City Park Recreation Center. These meetings were facilitated by City Human Resources Staff and consisted of a welcome by the Environmental Advisory Board Chairperson Nick Pizzuti, a presentation on the trash and recycling research and an open dialogue with four questions to help engage attendees. The meetings were both well attended.

The four questions asked at these meetings were:

1. Consider these facts:
 - o Colorado diverts 19.5% of trash from reaching the landfill
 - o Westminster diverts 11%
 - o Nationwide 33.4%Do you believe Westminster needs a diversion percentage goal?
2. Council has adopted in their Strategic Plan an objective to increase recycling participation through increased convenience. Do you think every residence and business should have recycling available to them at their curb?
3. Do you believe that recycling at the curb is the most convenient way to recycle?
4. We are evaluating a pay as you throw trash collection system. Just like with your water, the more you use, the more you would pay i.e., the more you put into the trash, the more you would pay and the less you throw away the less you pay. The trash haulers would retain their customers, set the rates, etc. however our intent is to build a system that is cost neutral and one that would reduce your bill if you recycle more. How do you feel about requiring trash collectors to offer pay as you throw?

In summary, residents believed the City should have a diversion rate goal, that all residents and businesses should have recycling available to them at the curb and that the most convenient place to recycle is at the curb. When it came to the actual PAYT system, the meeting held in the northern part of the City was concerned with how the program would be implemented while the southern meeting participants were most concerned with price. Detailed notes from these meetings can be found in attachment 2 of this Staff Report.

In addition to the comments from the public meetings, other comments received either by email, voicemail or Facebook will be provided to the Environmental Advisory Board's Study Committee for consideration when they begin work to draft revisions to the Solid Waste Collection Code. Comments received prior to the public meetings submitted through email, voicemail or Facebook can be found in attachment 3 of this Staff Report. Comments are still being received and will also be compiled.

As a result of either contacting the City or by volunteering at the public meetings, the Environmental Advisory Board's Study Subcommittee is nearly full. The one position that remains unfilled is a business representative. Staff has made contacts with many businesses and hopes to have this role filled by the first if not the second meeting of the Subcommittee. Current membership on this committee follows:

- A homeowner association management company: Tom Fakler, Management Specialists, Inc.
- A citizen living in a neighborhood in which the homeowners association contract for trash hauling: Dave Mack, Westcliff HOA President
- A non-HOA/group trash collection resident: Shirley Garcia
- A resident who is not interested in recycling: Gloria Fisher
- All licensed haulers will be a part of the Subcommittee (two can not make evening meetings, but want to be informed)
- A representative of a small shopping center (pending)
- A general business representative: Peter Smith, Smith Environmental and Engineering (also a Business Advisory Group member)

- The EAB chairperson and another Board member: Nick Pizzuti, Chairperson and Lisa Bressler
- Technical support: Skumatz Economic Research Associates representative; Jane Greenfield, City Attorney's Office; Katie Harberg, Public Information Officer; Rachel Harlow-Schalk, Environmental and Administrative Services Officer; Carey Rangel, Environmental Analyst and Staff Liaison to the Environmental Advisory Board
- Facilitators: Brenda Morrison and Chris Adams with Engaged Public

The first meeting of the Subcommittee was held on Thursday, December 16, 2010 at the Swim and Fitness Center. Staff will include a summary of the meeting in a future Staff Report. Staff will also continue to maintain the "Environment" section on the City's website to reflect the status of work by the Study Subcommittee.

This outreach project helps achieve City Council's community recycling objective within their Beautiful and Environmentally Sensitive City Strategic Plan Goal.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Brent McFall
City Manager

Attachment 1

Trash Collector Interviews (October 6-25, 2010) Ten Trash Collectors

These are staff's notes from the October 6-25, 2010 trash hauler meetings. These statements represent the hauler's comments and concerns, as we heard them, and have not been fact-checked by the City.

Glossary:

HOA(s) (Homeowner Association(s)): a collection of dwellings joined together through covenant

PAYT (Pay as You Throw): a system whereby trash costs per household are reduced the more they recycle.

SERA (Skumatz Economic Research Associates): the company hired to complete the trash and recycling research in the City of Westminster

Overall: All haulers happy to have input at the beginning of this process

All haulers are paying to recycle—fee is lower than landfill though.

There are gate rates at landfills for all haulers regardless of owner—everyone must be charged the same gate rate. No hauler owning a landfill can charge a higher rate to a competitor who must dump there.

Westminster's fees are high for business license and trucks. It is \$250 for each truck and \$250 for licensing in Westminster and \$10 for each "recycling only" truck. Aurora is \$54 per truck with \$50 licensing; Arvada is just the \$25 license.

PAYT Overall

The majority of local haulers have no experience providing PAYT. All said they can provide it and felt that it would incentivize recycling.

One company noted that because of PAYT they are better able to manage cost of disposal and better plan for volume.

Two haulers concerned with PAYT as a penalty and not an incentive—penalty for larger families and seniors with restricted budget. One of these haulers has had experience with hybrid PAYT the other had no experience with PAYT.

The company with the most PAYT experience noted larger families are biggest recyclers even though they may generate more volume.

One company was concerned with smaller bin sizing if the City decides to mandate types and sizes of bins. Smaller ones (32-gallons) blow over easier.

One company believed PAYT would be a complement to their current programs.

Composting

Yard waste is heavier than residential waste and increases the dump fee 6 months out of the year.

The fee at the dump is still less than composting.

In interviews, two landfill owners and one waste hauler noted appreciation for compost to help the landfill biodegradation process.

Education on composting and mulching at home would help with this issue too.

One company was willing to sponsor a compost bin at a drop-off location at the City.

There are not many locations that organics can be taken for composting.

All haulers noted they can handle composting, for a fee.

Education and outreach

Any trash collection change will require a large education effort.

The City will need to be partners in this education effort.

Any education information distributed should be prepared in both English and Spanish. Education will need to be frequent, often and on-going.

Schools will also be effective and pictures of diversion that “show” what trash looks like in different amounts will be helpful.

Educate on how to compost and mulch at home.

Businesses and Multifamily

All of the haulers that provide trash collection to businesses and multifamily units already offer recycling. A requirement to offer recycling in the Code will not affect them.

Enforcement

All PAYT experienced haulers are concerned with enforcement onto competitors not complying with an ordinance. For example, a resident leaves out a bag beyond their rate structure and the competitor takes it even though the resident doesn't pay for it—creates unfair advantage.

Fort Collins came up several times as an example because of their "preferred" hauler system. For example, a preferred hauler is one that operates within the ordinance whereas a company who does not follow the ordinance is taken off the preferred status, but still allowed to haul.

Participation in EAB Subcommittee

All but two haulers are interested in being part of the study committee. These two haulers want minutes and would like to provide input even though can't make meetings—they have evening commitments that restrict their availability.

Several companies believe HOAs are very important to have in the Study Committee for a number of reasons including administration and enforcement. HOA management company participation noted as optimum.

Comments on Research by SERA:

Two haulers felt SERA work was skewed to PAYT. One could not offer an alternative another could, but only under a single contract collection system.

One hauler did not feel the citizen survey in the SERA report was skewed and liked the questions asked.

HOA Implementation Time:

Most contracts are 3 years and monthly billing admin could be a problem. Those with large HOA accounts recommended a 3-5 year compliance window due to current contracts.

Other information:

All of the national companies prefer single contract or district contract systems guaranteeing customer numbers that will reduce pricing or offer better incentives.

The current days of the week restriction is hard to accommodate in Westminster.

Four of ten companies noted concern with overwhelming recycling facilities. Of these, none operated a recycling facility.

Follow-up questions for City:

- Average age of City streets - age at which replaced; answer pending
- Assurance that SERA survey data is a fair representation of population. See memorandum from SERA
- Can we provide training on what PAYT is including example systems? Yes, we will offer in December or January.

Attachment 2

City of Westminster Public Meeting Notes

Project: Community Trash and Recycling – Public Information & Questions/Comments Meeting

November 9, 2010

The MAC 7-8 p.m.

Community Member attendance: 16

City Council Members: Councillor Mark Kaiser, Councillor Mary Lindsey

Environmental Advisory Board Members: Chairperson Nick Pizzuti, Lisa Bressler

Trash Collection Companies: 2 (Your Way Disposal and Waste Connections)

Facilitators – City of Westminster: Jackie June, Employee Development Analyst and Lisa Chrisman, Human Resources Administrator

Staff: Presenter: Carey Rangel, Environmental Analyst; Jerry Cinkosky, Facilities Manager; Jeff Bowman, Fleet Manager; Katie Harberg, Public Information Officer; Rachel Price, Financial Analyst; Brian Potts, Planning Technician; Tom Ochterski, Energy and Facilities Project Coordinator; David Freeman, Skumatz Economic Research Associates

Consider these facts:

- **Colorado Diverts 19.5% of trash from reaching the landfill**
- **Westminster Diverts 11%**
- **Nationwide 33.4%**

Do you believe Westminster needs a diversion percentage goal?

Public Comment: Yes, we should have a goal. We need some kind of measurement to see how well we compare and how well we are doing. See where we are in relation to others.

Public Comment: Why is Colorado so poor (ranked so low)?

City of Westminster Response: Colorado is so low because of low tipping fees and we do not have any state mandate to divert from the landfill.

Public Comment: If we increase our diversion, the materials go to the landfill anyway.

Public Comment: What materials are sent out of State that is collected?

Response from Waste Connections: Cardboard and plastics are sent to Asian countries for repackaging of goods that are sent back to the US.

Public Comment: It shows that the City cares and it is important. If people are looking to move here, it can be a draw. Green is the future, let's be a part of it.

Council has adopted in their Strategic Plan an objective to increase recycling participation through increased convenience. Do you think every residence and business should have recycling available to them at their curb?

Public Comment/Question: All haulers are required to offer recycling. Doesn't that make it available to everyone?

City of Westminster response: No, it does not apply to multifamily and HOAs. HOA recycling. Most of these units do not have recycling available either due to lack of space, or the service is not available through their HOA. They may not be able to get service in an HOA if the entire neighborhood does not receive it.

Public Comment: Will there be more traffic/trucks in my neighborhood? And won't this increase the air pollution?

Response from Waste Connections: No, will not increase the number of trucks, just the number of stops. We are currently already on the streets collecting materials, we'd just be adding more houses. The routes are already designated in Westminster.

Do you believe that recycling at the curb is the most convenient way to recycle?

Public Comment: Absolutely, yes it is the most convenient, but what is it going to cost me?

Public Comment: Yes it is the most convenient, but I still take my materials to the drop-offs.

Public Comment: What about other reward type programs?

Public Comment: I have heard in other communities that there are other reward programs for recycling?

Response from City of Westminster: Yes, there are such programs, but the hauler has to contract with Recycle Bank to offer rewards to you if you recycle more at the curb. It is not an independent program it has to be done in connection with the current hauler.

Response from Waste Connections: Yes, that is our program called Recycle Bank which rewards you for recycling. Trucks have scales on them and weigh your recycle bin and credits electronically for your recycling. You can use these rewards for gift cards and other merchandise from local vendors.

Environmental Advisory Board Member, Lisa Bressler: Is this program an additional charge to the customer though?

Response from Waste Connections: Yes, there is a charge for this program

Public Comment: For the amount you are credited from what you earn recycling, does that offset your collection bill?

Response from Waste Connections: No, it does not.

Public Comment: Absolutely curb is most convenient for me, but I don't want to pay \$3 per month to do it. I use the free drop-off locations.

We are evaluating a pay as you throw trash collection system. Just like with your water, the more you use, the more you would pay i.e., the more you put into the trash, the more you would pay and the less you throw away the less you pay. The trash haulers would retain their customers, set the rates, etc. however our intent is to build a system that is cost neutral and one that would reduce your bill if you recycle more. How do you feel about requiring trash collectors to offer pay as you throw?

Public Comment: Are you doing this just to get rid of the drop-offs?

City of Westminster Response: We don't know what the status will be for the drop-offs. At a cost of \$25,000 to maintain, we need to look at the program though.

Public Comment: Who will establish the prices?

City of Westminster Response: The City will not set the rates, just the ordinance. The hauler will set the rates.

Public Question: What about those that recycle currently?

City of Westminster Response: We will be trying to establish a cost neutral system so that your bill with either stay the same or possibly decrease. But, we are not at that point yet. We do not know what the system will look like or how much it will cost.

Public Question: Will people look for ways to work around the system? What about illegal dumping?

City of Westminster Response: National studies on cities that implement PAYT show that dumping does not increase after implementation.

Public Question: Is there an extra charge for recycling in this program?

City of Westminster Response: There will be a flat rate for the amount of trash you put out with free, unlimited recycling. If you go above the amount of trash at your established amount, you will be charged extra for that additional trash.

Public Question: Are any incentives applied to the cost of service?

City of Westminster response: The less trash that you out for collection, the smaller the bin you can get into, and pay the least amount for service. This will include free, unlimited recycling.

Public Comment: How do HOAs feel about PAYT?

City of Westminster Response: We don't know how they feel about it, but are asking them to be part of the Environmental Advisory Board Study Committee. We are at the very beginning phases of this process. We do not know what it will look like and are asking for input from all of the stakeholders in the Study Committee.

Public Question: Are there options available for organics?

City of Westminster Response: There are limited facilities that collect the materials right now, and the cost is extremely high for the haulers to recycle it.

Project: Community Trash and Recycling – Public Information & Questions/Comments Meetings

November 10, 2010

City Park Recreation Center 7-8 p.m.

Community Member attendance: 16

Trash Collection Companies: 2 (Waste Management of Colorado, Not a Licensed Westminster Collector)

City Council Members: Councillor Faith Winter

Environmental Advisory Board Members: Chairperson Nick Pizzuti, Lisa Bressler, Bill Lange

Facilitators – City of Westminster: Jackie June, Employee Development Analyst and Lisa Chrisman, Human Resources Administrator

City of Westminster Representation: Presenter: Carey Rangel, Environmental Analyst; Jerry Cinkosky, Facilities Manager; Jeff Bowman, Fleet Manager; Katie Harberg, Public Information Officer; Jane Greenfield, Assistant City Attorney II; Brian Shuyler, Software Engineer II; Matt Lutkus, Deputy City Manager; David Freeman, Skumatz Economic Research Associates

Consider these facts:

- **Colorado Diverts 19.5% of trash from reaching the landfill**
- **Westminster Diverts 11%**
- **Nationwide 33.4%**

Do you believe Westminster needs a diversion percentage goal?

Public Comment: Absolutely.

Public Comment: How is the percentage figured? The material percent or the participation percent—numbers are confusing.

City of Westminster Response: Diversion is the amount of material not going to the landfill. Participation rate is the number of residents that are recycling. Our focus is the diversion, not participation.

Public Comment: It is the City's responsibility if we are concerned with Diversion then the City needs to educate the community on it. How can people participate if they don't know what is out there? Educate the consumer!

Public Comment: The numbers on monthly trash costs may be skewed on the low side due to HOAs. I am the president of our HOA and know that we have more negotiating power and are able to get lower rates. It is easier for the hauler to include all homes in the area.

Public Comment: What percentage of Westminster is in an HOA?

City of Westminster Response: Around 80%

Public Comment: I am thrilled with the recycling options in Colorado. I moved here from Pennsylvania where there aren't many options and people prefer to dump their trash, rather than pay for it. I love the single-stream system. Not many of my neighbors recycle on the block. I contacted all licensed haulers before subscribing for service. Only one offered an incentive for recycling. Produces hardly any trash; either compost or recycle. Want to see recycling mandatory. Wish hauler would take recycling every week instead of every two weeks. People complain for silly reasons; whether bigger containers, the small ones are messy. Agree with PAYT; make people think twice about throwing things away. More education on recycling is important. Education helps with litter on the streets, talk with children in the schools.

City of Westminster Response: You've spoken a lot about education. How do we reach the community?

Public Comment: Use utility bill, use your current resources. Utility bill reaches a lot of people. City Edition

Public Comment: Do you actually read your bill?

Public Comment: Put it on my payment portion and I will read it. Talking won't work.

Public Comment: There are some people out there that just aren't going to recycle no matter what. You just aren't going to reach them.

Public Comment: (In regards to do we need a goal for Westminster) Absolutely! Set the bar high and encourage residents to participate.

Public Comment: Goals drive performance. But you have to have a City run program to support your goal similar to Open Space. We have gotten a lot of mileage out of our Open Space goal. You can't have a goal support with lip service.

Public Comment: This is the first place I have lived where I have had to pay for recycling. Good to have a goal, but we need to incentivize. We are coming at this backwards. We should require recycling at no cost and raise the amount on trash. Since materials are collected every other week, they build up and are under foot. So, I take them to the drop at 88th Avenue. We need more push from the haulers on the recycling piece.

Council has adopted in their Strategic Plan an objective to increase recycling participation through increased convenience. Do you think every residence and business should have recycling available to them at their curb?

Public Comment: Yes

Public Comment: Yes, because convenience is most important. The fact that you have to haul it and store it. Having at curb is nice. Would like it more than every other week for collection.

Public Comment: 1/3 of my HOA does not recycle. They don't care. You have to incentivize it. Not this mindset of "it's nice to have" but they don't do it.

Public Comment: You have to have an education program. They have to know that it is offered. Most people will not call all of the haulers to find out. Put the step in sales by haulers so that the hauler promotes recycling when people call for service. Haulers need to educate their customers more.

Public Comment: Apartments are a problem. There are no options for recycling. We have to take it somewhere. You have to set up a program, provide containers, and you have to haul it. If we can educate our haulers, our multifamily and our kids they won't necessarily pursue it, but at least if told they may do it (recycle).

Public Comment: 100% curbside mandatory recycling for everyone (businesses, single-family, and multifamily) would be ideal, but knows this won't happen

Public Comment: Incentivize recycling with the haulers through the licensing fees. The more recycling customers they have, the more we reduce their licensing fees.

City of Westminster Response: This is very popular on the West Coast. We do not see a lot of that in Colorado.

Public Comment: How many haulers do we have?

City of Westminster Response: 10 residential, 3 commercial

Public Comment: So we have 10 haulers splitting business and what gets collected. That is just too many haulers. People are not recycling, we are not combining efforts. This doesn't make any sense. Inefficient with 8 haulers—1 hauler picks up 2 on a street another 3 on the same street.

Public Comment: Why can't the City go to one or two haulers? Divide the City into zones. Wouldn't that reduce street maintenance? Make all haulers compete for zones and award zone to best rate. Isn't the City worried about the number of trucks, their frequency and their weight? Residential streets are not built to handle such a heavy weight. The savings could be recognized by the maintenance on the streets. Over time, wouldn't this be a huge savings.

City of Westminster Response: This has taken place in Oregon and Fort Collins just completed a study. A lot of political push back with these types of zoning programs. People don't want to lose their hauler they have had for 20+ years.

Public Comment: I can't imagine anyone being in love with their trash hauler.

Public Comment: I am absolutely in love with my trash hauler. I like the idea of choice and free market. I can set my clock by my waste hauler. He is friendly, dependable. I don't want this choice made for me.

Non-Westminster Licensed Trash Collector—Westminster is a free-market system. The City just does licensing

Public Comment: Parents recycle a lot now due to PAYT in Loveland. Don't know a lot other than it is a bag system. PAYT got his parents to recycle.

Do you believe that recycling at the curb is the most convenient way to recycle?

Public Comment: Yes it is most convenient

Public Comment: Yes, but only if you can get it for everyone. The current system does not have an option for multifamily. Maybe the haulers can't afford to set it up. Maybe they need help.

We are evaluating a pay as you throw trash collection system. Just like with your water, the more you use, the more you would pay i.e., the more you put into the trash, the more you would pay and the less you throw away the less you pay. The trash haulers would retain their customers, set the rates, etc. however our intent is to build a system that is cost neutral and one that would reduce your bill if you recycle more. How do you feel about requiring trash collectors to offer pay as you throw?

Public Comment: Great idea. I would pay little to nothing for my trash.

Public Comment: Makes sense. But I don't know what the rates will be. How will the rates be set?

City of Westminster Response: The City of Westminster will not be setting the rates. That will be set by the individual hauler. We are just designing a system.

Public Comment: Be careful of public dumping issues.

Public Comment: I work as a teacher in Boulder where the kids think it is crazy that we have to pay extra to recycle. They can't believe it. Students point out to him when he throws something away when it should have been in the yellow bin. It is obvious recycling becomes a habit very quickly. However, I take my materials to 88th avenue. I realize the mess, but I know when they are dumped so I make sure to dump my materials at that time.

Public Comment: I can see how PAYT would incentivize. But you need to explain how condominiums and townhomes would be incentivized. Who would keep track of who throws away what. If you can't do it citywide, this is the wrong way. You need to get to multifamily units and figure a way to manage it.

Public Comment: You could set up containers, and the total amount collected could be divided by each tenant and then offset the rent.

Public Comment: If you can get to the multifamily answer, you will get to a lot of people. They want to recycle, but are in a position where they can't. Need to reach them.

City of Westminster Response: The multifamily units would need to work with their haulers and make a system that would work for them. The City is just trying to increase recycling. Let the haulers work with the units. As a City, we will help to educate them.

Public Comment: We need to be aware of the risks of this type of program. It can backfire. How do other communities handle it? Aren't people just going to dump trash into their recycle bins, therefore corrupting the system?

City of Westminster Response: National studies have shown that this just doesn't happen. When fully implemented, the dumping of the trash in the bins does not occur.

Public Comment: This is a big pie to chew. You're not going to get it done in 9 months. First step should be every resident, to include businesses, multifamily, single-family. This is the only way to sell this.

Public Comment: This process needs to be broken and the ordinance needs to be changed in increments.

Attachment 3

Project: Community Trash and Recycling – Public Information & Questions/Comments Meeting

The following are voicemails, emails and Facebook posts submitted to the City of Westminster prior to the November 9 and 10, 2010 Public Information & Questions/Comments Meeting on the Community Trash and Recycling Project

Voicemails

1. Hello. I was calling on the recycling, and my phone number, if you need to recall me, is XXXXXX. My name is XXX, and I would prefer the neighborhood recycling centers. I would be more likely to recycle probably in that format. So again, thanks for the input. Bye, bye.

2. I come from back east where recycling is mandatory, and I was pretty upset when I got to Colorado and there is no real centralized recycling effort. It seems like each community has their own recycling rules and regulations, I guess what the homeowner's association wants to pay for, so it's hit and miss. As far as neighborhood collection centers, I have no idea where the neighborhood collection center is, so that has to be publicized a little bit better. The other thing I'd like to see is recycling for businesses. There's no real effort made to have businesses to recycle. By the way, your website link does not work for e-mail. Bye.

3. I work every week to recycle the cardboard from Westminster Food Bank. We have a lot of cardboard, and I've been recycling it at any of the three nearby public locations for it, which are all convenient to me, and I will continue doing that at those locations. However, it seems the popularity of those locations, once people discover them, seems to have really blossomed, and I think we need more public locations for people scattered around the City. However, better curbside recycling (which would not involve me, because I use the public locations) may benefit many of the Westminster residents and reduce the need for those drop-off locations. I do need the drop-off locations, because I have large loads of flattened cardboard at least once a week—probably even twice a week—from the Food Bank, so I really need those. Other people could probably use the curbside as well, so I think both are needed. That's all. Thank you

4. Hi, my name is XXXX. I've lived in Westminster for approximately a little over 20 years. I've had three different recycling companies during that time. The best deal, I think for a private person, is Waste Connections, because not only do they provide the bins, but they give you a discount on your trash. The recycling is much more affordable than Waste Management or BFI, because I had both, and I had lots of problems with BFI. Waste Management was OK, but it was very costly. Thank you for your time. Have a good day.

5. Hi. Recycling—I'd prefer not to use curbside, because they charge. I love the neighborhood recycling drop-off locations. I don't live that far, fortunately, so it's not out of my way. It is just so handy, and it saves me, because I'm not going to pay regular licensed trash collectors to recycle. I don't even think my company that I have has recycling options. So it really helps me and makes my trash a lot lighter, and I can also speak for my neighbors in this area that do the same thing. I appreciate it. I hope you keep it. Thank you.

6. I do not have curbside recycling, but I do go out to the Rec Center, out off 108th and Countryside. I just have the concern that since they do not recycle bags, I usually have to put my stuff in bags and then try to lift the lid and try to pick up my bag and dump my bag and hang onto it so it doesn't go inside. It's just really, really hard. It's such a tall container, and there's no place to leave the lid up. There's no stand or anything to hold it, so if you're by yourself, I have quite a bit of trouble getting my recyclables up and over and into the bin with one hand while I'm trying to hold the lid with the other. I was just curious if they can come up with a better system or something that holds it up so I can put my items in there. That's the only trouble I've been having. I would love to have curbside pick-up. I think that my neighbors were telling me that that's a charge when you use your regular pick-up service, and so I've just been running over to Countryside. But I would love to have some kind of help in getting my stuff up in there. Even if I had a big box, I don't think I could lift the lid high enough to tip my box over and get it in there. So that's just a concern of mine that with the height of them and then not being able to get the lid up very far, and trying to get my recyclables in there, I would like some help in that department. Thank you. Bye bye.

7. Hi, my name is XXXX I'm on the HOA board for XXXX. I'm calling regarding the recycling "pay-as-you-throw" situation, and I wanted to offer some feedback, since I am going to be at a conference that week you are having the community meetings. Basically, we already pay as we throw for our recycling bins, and we have people in the community all the time putting stuff in our bins, even though they don't live in our complex. I'm routinely having to redirect them to go to City Hall or churches or other places that have open-to-the-public recycling bins. My fear is if you go to "pay-as-you-throw", people are going to start dumping their recycling somewhat the same way they dump garbage in our regular garbage areas as well. We have a chronic problem with overflowing garbage bins, as well as our recycle bins, because people outside the complex are putting stuff in ours. I see that as a problem, and that needs to be also addressed, and I'm not sure how that would look, but it is an issue. Thanks. If you want to reach me for more information, or to ask questions or whatever, you can reach me at XXXX. Again, XXXX, and my name is XXXX. Thank you.

8. Hi, this is XXXX, and I am currently dropping off my recyclables at the drop-off sites. I actually really prefer that, rather than have it with the trash pick-up. I feel that is a better way to go for me. Thank you.

9. My name is XXXX, and my home is at XXXX, in Countryside, Westminster. I would like to know a little bit more about the recycling for the City. I probably will not be able to attend those two meetings, but please keep me posted or keep me informed, either via e-mail, or my phone number is XXXX. My name is XXXX, and I live at XXXX. Thank you.

10. My name is XXXX. I'm calling about a comment with the recycling program. I'm very happy with the neighborhood drop-offs, although I wish that there were more of them. It seems like a lot of times I have to go out of my way to take my recycle, so I wish there were more locations. Also, the locations that I always go to are always full, so I think it would be beneficial in that sense, too, to open up more locations. Thank you.

11. First, the public recycle at City of Westminster.us link, I clicked on it and it did not go through my Yahoo browser. I currently drop off at Shaw Heights Middle School. I live in Shaw Heights, and the elementary school is locked. I go to the fire station down at 73rd near Bradburn, and I'm happy with that. It's free. It's not real convenient, but it's free. I don't know if it's even available in Shaw Heights, but I'm not interested in paying for curbside. That's my input. Thanks.

12. I am a resident of Westminster, close to 80th and Lowell, and I'm a strong proponent for recycle. I love coming to the fire house there off 72nd near Bradburn, to be able to recycle, and there being plenty of bins. It would be nicer to have it at home, but I'm happier if I don't have to pay to recycle. I always have more that I recycle than I put out for trash, that's for sure, so I'm glad something's available to us. I would love to have something free that's curbside, but I sure wouldn't want them taking the free option away. Of course, it's close for me, so that's nice as it is. The curb would be great; of course, in winter, I don't know how things would do out in the exposure. All right, thank you. I'm at XXXX, if you have any need to contact me. Thank you.

Emails

1. To Whom It May Concern, In response to your request for comment which I saw on the West View Recycle Bins it would be my advice to set up a sole source single stream household waste and recycling program. Certainly this is the way of the future as it encourages recycling and minimizes the impact of multiple haulers within the City and rewards the hauler who can perform the job. Though a number of small metro area cities have taken this approach if one large city such as Westminster would do it the flood gates would open up. XXXX

2. Good morning, I would like to comment on the city-wide recycling program. We are residents in Amherst and use Waste Connections as our trash hauler/recycling company. We were given a new 96 gallon trash toter and a new 96 gallon recycling toter. This was a huge improvement over our last nationally known trash hauler, who made us purchase two small tubs for \$20 apiece, and pay for recycling services. The Waste Connections trash carts belong to the company and we do not pay for them. The company charges us extra if we have more than one full trash cart, which is an incentive to recycle. The pay to throw program works very well. We were given a photo chart/list of what we can recycle and the list of items is extensive. Recycling is single stream, so no sorting is required. Above and beyond the incentive to reduce our trash output, Waste Connections works with the Recycle Bank to give us points for every pound of material recycled. These points accumulate in an account much like credit card points, and we can use them for dining out, buying items online, or donating to our favorite charity. The recycle cart has an RFID tag that is read by the recycle truck, and it automatically calculates weight and adds points to our account. We can access our recycle bank online and manage our account very easily. I should also note that Waste Connections does not charge for recycling like our old nationally known waste company, and Waste Connections rates are actually cheaper, too. I think the pay to throw program, combined with added recycling incentives is a great idea, and one the city should embrace. XXXX

3. Hello, It would be nice if the City of Westminster offered some type of composting service. XXXX

4. Hello, I'm not able to make the recycling meetings next week so I thought I'd write a quick email and give you my two cents worth. My garbage company is Allied. Way back when Westminster started offering curbside recycling, the trash companies fought hard to keep trash pickup in the city (as opposed to having the city take it over) and they did so by saying they could do recycling better and at no additional cost to the citizens. Each year the curbside service got more limited. It got to a point that I would drive to a recycling center in Broomfield in order to do most of my recycling. Then my trash company started charging for recycling. No warning, no letter of any kind. I called to inquire and they said they sent out a letter but when I asked for a copy of that letter, they said it was no longer available. I don't think any letter actually ever existed. I now take all of my recycling to the city drop-off sites because I go by one on my way to work because I don't feel that I should have to pay more for that service. I would imagine you want everyone to use curbside services instead of your drop-off service but I just get frustrated by the whole trash system in Westminster. It's one of many examples of how we reward people for acting in an unsustainable manner. My garbage each week amounts to about 1/4 of a trash can of non-recyclable items (hard plastics, plastic wrappers, Styrofoam packaging and the like). I recycle everything I possibly can. Most of my neighbors throw out everything and have anywhere from 3 to 10 barrels, bags, and boxes of trash every single week all year long - yet we all pay the same for trash pickup. It's a rotten system and it certainly doesn't respect mother earth. If you don't care about the future of the planet, there is no incentive in the current system to get you to take positive actions - whether you care or not. I'd be much more amiable to paying for recycling if we all had to pay equally for the amount of trash we put out. That's my two cents worth. Thanks for asking. XXXX

5. I would love to see a public compost pile. Thanks for taking this into consideration.

6. **DO NOT POST!** Comment received, no release per request of resident

7. Dear City of Westminster, I recently received an e-mail seeking feedback on the City of Westminster recycling options. I would like to provide with our feedback. We currently use the recycle drop off at the West View Rec Center on 108th dr. It is often very full – so I know it is being used a lot! This free solution works well for us, and we truly appreciate the city providing this service. We are very satisfied with the kinds of items that can be recycled through this method and for the ease of use. If there was an option for curbside, that would be nice, but it would have to be free or very low cost for us to opt to use that instead of the recycle drop off. It would also have to happen at least monthly in order to work with the volume of items that we recycle. Thank you again for providing the drop off recycle services. These are a wonderful benefit to our residents and we are regular users!-XXXX

8. I would like to see a public compost pile started. Maybe you can pass that along. Thanks, XXXX

Comment on Face book after email was posted. The City of Loveland has an entire centralized facility for recycling - wood/scrap metal/branches/compost. They do pickups of regular recycling at the curb. If Westminster is serious about going green, then someone should phone up Loveland and see what their challenges have been. XXXX

9. Ms. McNally, I think that the single stream recycling is one of the nicest things the City has done for us. (Though we LOVE the limb recycling in the summer months, too!!) Until that was started, we were paying our local garbage service to take something away that they were probably getting paid for. It would be great if we could put out our recycling on the curb, but that seems like a LOT of gasoline and energy expense for the city. If we could just have DAILY pick up at the Rec center so that the bins were not overflowing??? Then each household could drop theirs off as needed in route to other errands or trips. It seems like that would save a lot of energy as opposed to going down EVERY street? Those who feel strongly will make the effort instead of the truck passing by 3 out of 5 households who might not be participating? If something can be worked out with all the garbage companies in the area to pick up curbside, that would be great. But, paying an additional fee is harder and harder both in this economy and for us (at our age as we near a fixed income situation.) I am unable to attend the meetings listed below, but am interested in the information if it can be disseminated via email? We have subscribed to the Westminster paper for things like this as well, but email is very effective. Thanks so much for considering this topic. We feel strongly about recycling and it's role in the long term solutions of our energy problems. I have a two year old grandson and the vision of the world we are leaving behind is not always rosy. XXXX

XXXX PS Thanks so much for stopping by our Neighborhood Night out party this August. It was great seeing you. We love our neighborhood and love living in Westminster. We do see all the effort that is being put out!!!

10. Dear Mayor McNally, Thank you for your note about recycling and at neighborhood recycling drop-off locations is there such a thing as neighborhood recycling drop-off locations in Westminster? I am aware only of the several recycling dumpsters at the city utilities building on 88th. While there are three or four dumpsters, they all take only the same limited menu of items. Contrast this to Broomfield's extensive recycling facility near 120th and Nickel. Even Northglenn, (seldom a leader in community benefits) has a convenient and capacious recycling center at the Northwest Open Space. I am embarrassed to say that I use both facilities though I am not a resident in either community. I'm afraid that at my level of awareness (which is probably very restricted), Westminster recycling is about as advanced as Westminster on-street recycling routes. Both contrast unfavorably with our neighboring municipalities. RegardsXXXX

11. Mayor, This could evolve into a bureaucratic nightmare. Please:

- 1) Keep it simple and people will use it, feel good about it and feel good about the city doing it. Everyone likes the environment. An example: Several years ago, I changed half of my house to CFL's. One died and due to the mercury in it, I looked to find a place to recycle it. The only place I found was a hazardous waste disposal place at a huge fee. The government pushed the CFL's, but didn't mandate everyone who sells them must take the old ones back. Very shortsighted.
- 2) If you don't have competition (at least 4 suppliers) when you are done, then you will probably end up with government highly paid trash collectors like a city I came from many years ago, back east. Another example is the lack of competition in the cab service in Denver. A virtual monopoly.
- 3) Keep the price within 10% (less than 5% is better) of current rates. Remember, fees, price increases, mandates are all just taxes to most of us. This is a tax also. If the cost is not low, postpone the implementation until more people are working. I think the actual unemployment rate is probably 17%.

- 4) Implement it in all branches of city government first. After all if it's good enough for all of us, it's good enough for city workers. Ex. The windows of the CU Boulder buildings are atrocious and far from energy efficient. Yet CU Boulder will promote energy efficiency. Just not for them. Hypocritical. Lead by example, and people will follow.
 - 5) Allow for windy Colorado days, so the bins, etc close properly and material does not blow all over the neighborhood and counteract any good that your trying to accomplish.
 - 6) Keep the cost to every citizen low. How about if we just spray paint a big colorful R on the one trash can with recyclables on it (it's practical, easy, inexpensive). Money is tight right now. Electricity just went up 10% and 60% for the summer months. Keeping the costs very low shows the city is sensitive to the current economic environment.
 - 7) Keep it simple. How about two types of trash, recyclable (glass, paper, aluminum, etc) and not-recyclable and let the separation of the recyclable items occur elsewhere.
- I hope these suggestions help, XXXX

12. Dear Mayor McNally and City Council members, Thank you for being pro-active about this issue. Many residents 😞 have been upset about the lack of recycling capacity. We really are trying to be environmentally responsible, but the 88th Ave center next to the police station is always overflowing. So here are my suggestions. Place additional dumpsters near shopping areas, on the far ends of their parking lots, where you wish to attract business. There is an RTD area behind the pet store & TJ Maxx at the 104th /Church Ranch Rd. development. Folks could come to catch the bus and/or shop and recycle in one trip. College Hill Library has space on the very west-most section, two trips in one. Westminster Mall, lots of space, why not attract residents to recycle and stop in to shop here. Since I live in Sheridan Green, these are areas with which I am familiar. Residents of other areas can suggest space in their neighborhoods. As for funding, perhaps the companies that have city permits to pick up trash could be required to pick up the dumpster recycling items free of cost to the city. The size and weight of these trucks substantially adds wear and tear to our neighborhoods, and we pay for this maintenance. If they all add 50 cents to our bill monthly, it's well worth it.

Thank you for listening, 😊 XXXX

P.S. Thanks for the play area next to the soccer fields and Westy Rec. center on 104th. The tots LOVE it!!! Perhaps more swings could be added in the spring. Please.

13. I saw at the Westminster recycling site that you were soliciting comments from city residents and thought this would be a great opportunity to mention to you that Broomfield has a recycling center in their southern part of their city and since Westminster doesn't have anything in its northern section, maybe the two cities could work something out. They might welcome Westminster folks if our city contributed something for their site's maintenance. -XXXX

14. To Whom It May Concern, In response to your request for comment which I saw on the West View Recycle Bins it would be my advice to set up a sole source single stream household waste and recycling program. Certainly this is the way of the future as it encourages recycling and minimizes the impact of multiple haulers within the City and rewards the hauler who can perform the job. Though a number of small metro area cities have taken this approach if one large city such as Westminster would do it the flood gates would open up. XXXX

15. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Have we considered asking the trash services to offer recycling of kitchen, yard and lawn waste, for those of us with no room for compost piles? When I take my recycling to the drop-off, I empty my plastic bags and reuse them. When I leave it at the curb for my trash hauler to take, they take bags and all, so I am much more likely to go to the drop-off. XXXX

16. XXXX

I use to pay our trash company to take our recycle stuff away from the curb.

It just eats me alive to pay someone to do that. A wise company can recover a lot of the cost of recycling. Now I bring it up to the free dumpsters provided by the city.

It is a small inconvenience to drag it up to the drop off, but I will not pay for someone to pick up my recycle stuff. When I was a child in NY, they still burned garbage. It was mandatory to separate the burnable from glass, cans etc...They had separate pickup days for the 2 kinds of trash. I don't claim to understand the cost of logistics of this problem.

Just giving you my "2 cents" worth (that you asked for). Thank you, XXXX

17. As a resident of Westminster, I believe the current city recycling program is adequate. I currently use curbside pick-up and I use neighborhood drop-off locations. For example, I often use the dumpsters located at the Westminster Municipal Court house at US 36 and Federal Blvd for large recycle items. As a family of four we work hard at recycling. We wish the recycle program would expand to include larger item pick-up curb side, but we understand the financial and logistical limits. We're happy our tax money goes to recycling. We feel recycling is our responsibility to our environment. We do not wish to pay more taxes to expand this service. No one wants to pay more, but if it helps the environment, we will consider other options like a coop option with other municipalities.

Thank you for your time, XXXX

18. I live near Front Range College which is far from any of the current recycle sites, so I never use them. I strongly recommend additional sites, e.g. at the water plant on Huron or in the dog park on 128th.

19. Hi there Recyclers- I live at Townhomes at the Ranch (112 & Wyandot). Our trash company also offers recycling service. It works great! Just wanted you to know. XXXX

20. Hi, I read with great interest your information on the community recycling study. I tried to submit comments to the address listed (on the city website – publicrecycle@cityofwestminster.us) but my email was twice returned to me so I am hoping you are able to direct this to the appropriate group or person. I recently moved to Westminster from a small town (pop. approx. 12,000) in Iowa where we had comprehensive weekly curbside recycling. At my new location in Westminster, we continue to highly utilize and greatly appreciate curbside and other recycling services. My only wish is that the recycling pickup would be weekly instead of every other week here too. We always have way more recycling than garbage to put out.

Thank you for soliciting feedback on this important issue. XXXX

21. I believe that the City of Westminster should mandate that the trash and/or recycling company educate the community better on exactly what can be recycled and how they want it organized it for them to pick up. If they don't, I believe they should not be able to operate their business in the city of Westminster. I've been recycling for years using small blue containers but now feel like they should be providing us with larger bins. I recycle more than I have garbage.

XXXX

22. Does not currently recycle, but knows that he probably should. If the city or waste hauler were to provide the bins to him for free than he would more than likely start to recycle at the curb. XXXX

23. We have curbside recycling pick every other week and I think this is very successful and really encourages all to participate. XXXX

Comment on Face book after email was posted Where? My trash provider still does not accept recycling!!! :- (XXXX

24. I would like to see the city continue with the collection point at the maintenance facility on 88th. As retired citizens we do not accumulate an amount of recyclable material to make weekly pickup by Waste Management cost effective. We also have limited storage space to hold recyclable material. The city collection is convenient and we use it as needed. XXXX

Comment on Face book after email was posted The bins on 88th and up at the Rec Center on 108th get full almost immediately on the weekends. I know this could deter people from recycling - and the commercial pickup options are too extensive. \$15 for a biweekly recycling pickup on top of my regular bill? No thanks. XXXX

Comment on Face book after email was posted We have been meeting with the haulers and have not learned of a \$15 recycling fee separate from the base trash rate. Our recycling research report to City Council from September 2010 found base trash was about \$16.50 per month with an average additional cost of \$3 per month for recycling. Westminster Green Team

Comment on Face book after email was posted Thanks for the clarification. I'll go back to my provider and see if what I was quoted was just a misunderstanding, then - sounds it! Is the Saturday pickup at the rec center a morning pickup? It seems that those bins are invariably overflowing by Sunday afternoon. XXXX

Comment on Face book after email was posted Hello! The hauler works to pickup all of their locations by 5 pm. They have multiple locations they are pulling and can only give a "by 5 pm" time frame. Westminster Green Team

Facebook

1. Unfortunately I can't make either meeting, but I do want to offer a comment. I *love* the expanded materials collection requirement for my HOA's trash hauler, but I do wish we had curbside service weekly rather than every two weeks. In two weeks' time we accumulate so many recyclables that they're unwieldy to store and I'm likely to make a trip to the Municipal Service Center roll-offs just to get it out from under foot. XXXX

2. 2. I have five Styrofoam coolers (approximately 10" x 10") that I need to get rid of. Are there any recyclers in the area who will take these for free? I called one in Denver who will charge me \$15-\$20! I just can't bring myself to put them in the landfill. XXXX

Comment to original post above. How about donating to Habitat store if in good shape? XXXX

Comment to original post above. Good idea about the Habitat store! ChaRM charges \$3 per vehicle, plus whatever additional \$\$ to recycle the Styrofoam, plus gas to/from Boulder, so that's out. I considered Meals on Wheels, but the coolers are a bit small for their needs - which is probably the same issue for the Winery - unfortunately, the coolers wouldn't accommodate a full bottle of wine. Thanks for the suggestions! XXXX

3. The Company that we use for our trash service is Waste Connections of Colorado, Inc. They are awesome - they provided us with two large containers, one for trash and one for recyclables. Right on the container for recycling is a listing of what is accepted and what is not. The trash container gets emptied weekly and the recycling container is emptied every other week. We even earn points for the amount of stuff that we recycle that we can then use to trade for other items such as gift cards, etc. We started with this company in July and I have been very pleased. I highly recommend this company. XXXX

4. I think a lot of the aversion to home composting is that there is a perception that it smells, attracts pests, etc. When done right, the smell from a home compost heap should not be noticeable, perhaps that could also be part of the education piece that is part of the proposal document. Container type, nitrogen balance, etc.. XXXX

5. The trash providers seem to be very reasonable as far as what they charge for curbside recycling. Now that the city ordinance has passed requiring them to pick up all items that can be recycled at the recycling centers, there is no need for me to spend gas to drive my items to the centers. I think Your-Way disposal charges an additional \$2 or \$3 per quarter to provide weekly recycling pick-up. A small price to pay for saving the earth, in my opinion! XXXX

6. Will the city be providing recycling centers in the north side of Westminster in the future?
XXXX

Comment to original post above. Hello, there are no changes planned in the recycling drop-off location program. Westminster Green Team

7. Is there any talk of starting a yard waste program? I grew up in Illinois, and we had a separate system for disposing of yard waste (lawn clippings, leaves, etc.). After they are picked up from residents, they could be used by the city as compost/mulch, or sold back to residents in the spring season to get gardens started, etc. XXXX

Comment to original post above. Thank you for adding this to the discussion Westminster Green Team

Comment to original post above. Mulching lawnmowers can rid you of leaf debris, and studies have shown that the extra nitrate in the soil from it doesn't have lasting effects on your turf. XXXX

8. VERY happy about the changes to curbside recycling! One problem I have is understanding what I can put in the container and what should go in the trash. I watched a video from CHARM and learned a lot about their program, but don't know if it applies to me. I love the "dirty dozen" flier they created. Do you have a "dirty dozen" items that people put in recycling that really need to go to the trash?XXXX

Comment to original post above. That's a great question. We'll pull a list together. Westminster Green Team

Comment to original post above. We know from our drop-off locations that we have a lot of confusion over what can be recycled and how to prepare it. For example, we want your shredded paper, but it has to be in a clear plastic bag. If it is dumped out in our bin, it will gum up the sorting machinery at the recycling facility. However, we don't want other materials in plastic bags or plastic bags alone, because we are not collecting those for recycling. Those can be taken to local grocery stores. We decided the best thing to do is to ask our haulers for their dirty dozen. We have 10 licensed residential trash collectors in Westminster and can ask them through this process to give us their list for publication. We like Charm's list--definitely use it until we have a list from our haulers. Thank you for your idea! We are excited to put together this list for Westminster. Westminster Green Team