

2.02: Provide Direction on Curbside Recycling Program

Mayor LeTourneau recognized the time constraints for this case, noting that this could move forward for discussion and if needed, this could continue to the regular meeting.

City Planner Chris Anderson reviewed the staff report.

Councilmember Heinrich stated that she is happy with ACE and the service they provide, recognizing that ACE is a local business. She stated that she is an advocate for obtaining requests for proposals and would like to see that as an option.

Councilmember Menth stated that he would be against the concept of having multiple trucks picking up recycling as that will be more stress on the roads.

Councilmember Musgrove referenced the cost of the previous contract and whether the cost has changed or increased. She asked if the contract allows for adjustments that may come from the State.

City Planner Anderson stated that the cost with ACE throughout this contract and previous contracts has remained consistent at \$2.95 per month. He stated that if there were negotiations with ACE, monthly cost per household would be up for discussion. He stated that he has not heard anything that would jeopardize the SCORE funding that is passed from the State to the individual counties.

Councilmember Kuzma stated that the previous week the Council spent a lot of time reviewing the Commissions and the EPB has provided direction that he would support. He stated that ACE has made improvements to their local facility and would support continuing to work with ACE.

Councilmember Heinrich asked staff to clarify how many years residents have paid \$2.95 per month through the contract with ACE.

City Planner Anderson replied that the current contract is a three-year contract and believed that last contract was also three years, with perhaps a one-year extension. He noted that the contract prior to that was a five-year contract and the City converted to the single sort system during that contract time. He confirmed that the price remained consistent throughout the single sort time.

Councilmember Specht stated that he appreciates the service that ACE provides and the excellent job they do. He stated that he also appreciates transparency and would be open to accepting proposals, which ACE could participate in.

Councilmember Heinrich asked for clarity on her question related to how long the residents have been charged \$2.95 per month.

Randy Triplett, ACE Solid Waste, confirmed that the rate was held consistent for at least the past nine years, even with the recent changes to the recycling market. He noted that in order to provide more information he would need to review the contract details.

Finance Director Lund stated that the contract with ACE began in 2007 and the current rate began in 2008.

Mayor LeTourneau summarized the consensus of the Council to be happy with the service ACE provides and directing staff to negotiate a new contract. He suggested that staff could review the pricing compared to the market and if there is a disparity, the Council could choose to go out for a RFP. He confirmed that the information would come back to the Council.

City Administrator Ulrich confirmed that staff will work with ACE to negotiate a new contract based on what the market for recycling is.