

Mayor
William Siegel
Mayor Pro Tem
Lois Wynne
Council Members
John Gordon
Eddie Neal
Willard Rodarmel



**Public Works
Department**

711 W. Cinnamon Drive
Lemoore • CA 93245
Phone • (559) 924-6735
FAX • (559) 924-6708

Staff Report

SS ITEM 2

To: Lemoore City Council
From: Lauren Apone, Administrative Analyst *LA*
Date: October 23, 2013
Subject: Update - Refuse Pick-Up Schedule

Discussion:

History:

In February 2009, the City of Lemoore reduced pick-up of recycling and green waste cans from weekly to every other week. This was done, along with reducing street sweeping to every other week and raising commercial refuse rates, in order to help the refuse fund become more financially stable.

When this item was first presented, staff solicited public input by putting a message on the utility bill asking whether the citizens would rather the reduced service or a \$3-\$4 per month increase in their residential refuse rate. The responses were overwhelming in favor of the reduced service. In addition, refuse staff checked the fullness of the green waste and recycling cans of 100 homes in the month of July and determined that for about 90% of homes, every other week pick-up would be sufficient. For those other 10% of homes, an additional green waste and/or recycling can was provided upon request at no additional charge.

Making these changes allowed the City to eliminate one full-time refuse position, eliminate one side loading refuse truck, save 6,000 gallons of fuel annually, and save approximately \$165,000 annually. An analysis was performed approximately six months after the program was implemented that showed that recycling rates remained unchanged.

Possible Changes:

If Council wishes to return to weekly service for green waste and recycling, it would require an increase to residential refuse rates. Since the green waste truck does not currently run during the recycling week, and vice versa, this would need to be a City-wide change, not an optional service residents could electively pay for. To reinstate weekly service, a full-time refuse driver would need to be hired and another refuse truck be brought back on the road. A new rate analysis would need to be performed, but the cost of these services would cost the rate-payer approximately \$4/month.

Budget Impact:

The cost for reinstating the weekly recycling and green waste pick-up would be approximately \$4/month per residential refuse customer.

Recommendation:

For discussion only.