TO: HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: CITY MANAGER DEPARTMENT: PUBLIC WORKS

DATE: DECEMBER 12, 2005 CMR:457:05

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON NEW RECYCLING AND SOLID WASTE SERVICES

This is an informational report and no Council action is required.

BACKGROUND


DISCUSSION

Single Stream Recycling Update

The recycling report for the first full month, October 2005, of the new service shows:

- PASCO collected 1,288 tons of recyclables, a 7 percent increase from the recycling material collected in October 2004.
- The residue rate was 3.9 percent. PASCO had originally estimated 5 percent residue rate. Residue is a result of people placing items inside the container that are not recyclable.
- PASCO is currently receiving $30 per ton for single stream recyclables, while the initial estimate was $15 to $20 per ton.
- Prior to the implementation, only 40 percent of multi-family complexes were recycling. Today all multi-family complexes have recycling services.
- Aerosol cans and all plastics numbered 1 through 7 are being recycled.

The $7.7 million modifications at the Davis Street processing center, the processing location for single stream recycling, will soon be completed. These improvements could lead to additional materials being considered for recycling, the next item being the recycling of plastic bags.

Garbage and Yard Trimmings Update

- Curbside garbage service in October decreased 4.9 tons in daily tonnage.
- Curbside yard trimmings collection service increased 14.11 tons in daily tonnage. Staff believes this is a result of gardeners utilizing the new cart collection program as opposed to directly hauling the material to the landfill.
• The curbside garbage cart is increasingly popular. The numerous requests received by PASCO show that residents are making the change from backyard garbage service to curbside cart service.

Collection Carts
Delivery of new carts to residents and businesses was completed one month ahead of schedule. Residents had a choice of 10 different carts including three different sizes for both single stream recycling and yard trimmings, and four different sizes for the optional garbage cart.

Staff will be increasing outreach to educate the public to return their carts to private properties after collection service. This is in response to complaints from residents.

Collection Vehicles
PASCO has four new recycling collection vehicles that operate on compressed natural gas (CNG). PASCO has also retrofitted the rest of its fleet to meet an early California Air Resources Board (ARB) deadline to reduce particulate emissions. As a result, PASCO has reduced 8.2 tons per year of harmful air emissions from its fleet of garbage and recycling trucks – the equivalent of taking 949 new passenger cars off the road.

PASCO will add two additional new CNG vehicles to its fleet in the next few months. In addition, 32 of the remaining 34 vehicles have been equipped with special pollution control technologies such as oxidation catalysts or filters. The vehicles also use ultra low sulfur fuel to reduce harmful particulate emissions. As a result, PASCO achieved a compliance rate of 91 percent in advance of ARB’s July 1, 2005 deadline of having at least 50 percent of older trucks in compliance with new particulate emission guidelines.

Single stream recycling has also affected the collection vehicles in that the trucks now make fewer passes through neighborhoods during collection services and are collecting more material per load.

RESOURCE IMPACT
There is no resource impact.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
This report is not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and an environmental review is not necessary.

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