

To: **Mayor and City Council**  
From: **Ryan Schroeder, City Manager**  
Date: **July 22, 2019**

## **Change in Residential Hauling Hours of Operation**

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### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

On October 22, 2018 Council adopted Ordinance 18-17 amending 111.13 of the Code regarding waste hauling within the community. Through the process, Council provided the opportunity to run a pilot program to June 2019 allowing for hauling starts at 6:00 am in residential districts as opposed to the pre-existing requirement for 7:00 am starts. That pilot has now concluded. On June 24, Council discussed the results of the Pilot Program at the OCWS and provided the direction to amend the ordinance providing a change from a 7:00 am start to a 6:00 am start. While an extension of the pilot was also discussed, it appeared to be consensus that if the ordinance later becomes a problem, Council can further amend the ordinance as deemed appropriate. On July 8, 2019 Council held the first reading of the proposed ordinance. On July 22, 2019 after a public hearing it is recommended that Council adopt the ordinance as presented.

The change in start times was a request from the haulers in consideration for reduction in hauling days within the community; those days being Tuesday – Thursday. Monday and Friday collections would only be permitted on holiday weeks of New Years, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

As reported earlier comments from the haulers include the following:

“I checked with our operations people and they confirmed that the earlier start time is a benefit. It has allowed our drivers to get in and out of higher traffic areas before they really get busy.”

“The 6:00 am start time is very beneficial primarily for safety reasons. We would appreciate the 6:00 am start time to continue.”

“I wanted to check with my office first to find out if we’ve heard anything good or bad from residents, as we have been utilizing the 6:00 am start time on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday each week. To my knowledge and from what my office staff has told me, we have not received any complaints about the 6:00 am start time. It is very beneficial to have the 6:00am start time, we are able to avoid the busy areas around schools with this start time and my routes are complete by 2:00-3:00 pm so the trucks are able to get out of West St. Paul before people are arriving home from work, as well. We would greatly encourage the city to extend the 6:00 am start time permanently if possible.”

“It appears operationally we were never made aware of these changes. We will, going forward, take this into account for our operation.”

City staff has recorded the following communications regarding the pilot program:

Date of Call	Nature of Call
12/05/2018	Disapproval of collections dates. Prefers to get rid of their family's garbage on Monday since most is generated over the weekend.
12/12/2018	Not happy with 6:00 am start time OR change in day from Monday to Wednesday.
12/14/2018	Calling on behalf of her father Charles (100 years of age) but she also lives there. Had questions about the 3 day limitation and the reduction in haulers but seemed satisfied with response. Her hauler is Highland. Concerned about 6:00 am start as they do not wish to put their garbage out the night before due to coyotes getting into the garbage and getting their garbage out at 5:00 am is too early.
02/11/2019	Received in mail: On this topic, homes where only one person is in residence are at a financial disadvantage when it comes to trash and recycling collection. Example: 1/3 grocery bag of trash in a 2-week period, 1 grocery bag of recycling in a 2-week period. For years, rates have been based on "volume." I have yet to see rates that 'reward' or encourage residents to reduce waste...with the exception of the 'free' organics composting program. (Thank you for that!) Apparently dumps are the only option? Haulers charge the same amount for weekly versus monthly pickup."

On July 8, Council held the first reading of this ordinance. This is the second reading required to amend City Code 133.01 (F) changing the allowable start time from 7:00 am to 6:00 am during the week. Enclosed is the ordinance that would do so.

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

By motion, consider adoption of Ordinance No. 19-12 Amending Section 133.01 (F) of the West St. Paul City Code Regarding Refuse Hauling and Recycling Collection, allowing for a 6:00 am start time for residential waste hauling in West St. Paul.