

Environmental Commission

May 18, 2020 – 6:30 pm

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

This meeting will be held via Cisco Webex in accordance with the local emergency declaration made by the City under Minn. Stat. § 12.37. The public may monitor this meeting by calling 1-415-655-0001 and entering the meeting code 287 136 762. For technical assistance, please contact support staff at 763-593-8007 or webexsupport@goldenvalleymn.gov. If you incur costs to call into the meeting, you may submit the costs to the City for reimbursement consideration. Additional information about for monitoring electronic meetings is available on the City website.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Resignation of Commission Member Susan Phelps
4. New Member Shannon Hansen (5 min)
5. New Member Wendy Weirich (5 min)
6. Approval of Agenda
7. Approval of April 27, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes (5 min)
8. Old Business
 - A. Partners in Energy Update (5 min)
 - B. 2019 Annual Report and 2020 Work Plan (5 min)
 - C. Curbside Organics Collection - Commission Summary Report (15 min)
(Action requested)
 - D. Curbside Organics Collection - Update on Public Input (20 min)
9. New Business
 - A. Election of Officers (5 min)
(Action requested)
 - B. Hennepin County Climate Action Plan (10 min)
 - C. Program/Project Updates (5 min)
 - D. Council Updates (5 min)
 - E. Other Business (5 min)
10. Adjournment



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Environmental Commission

April 27, 2020 – 6:30 pm

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

This meeting was held via Cisco Webex in accordance with the local emergency declaration made by the City under Minn. Stat. § 12.37. The public may monitor this meeting by calling 1-415-655-0001 and entering the meeting code 803 278 120. For technical assistance, please contact support staff at 763-593-8007 or webexsupport@goldenvalleymn.gov. If you incur costs to call into the meeting, you may submit the costs to the City for reimbursement consideration. Additional information about for monitoring electronic meetings is available on the City website.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Seys at 6:33

2. Roll Call

Commissioners present: Tracy Anderson, Tonia Galonska, Dawn Hill,
Joseph Ramlet, Scott Seys, Jim Stremel and Debra Yahle

Commissioners absent: Susan Phelps

Council Members present: Larry Fonnest

Staff present: Eric Eckman, Environmental Resources Supervisor;
Drew Chirpich, Environmental Specialist;
Emma Pierson, MN GreenCorps Member;
Carrie Nelson, Administrative Assistant

3. Approval of Agenda

MOTION by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Commissioner Stremmel to approve the agenda of April 27, 2020 and the motion carried with the following change by Chair Seys:

- Add announcements in between items 4 and 5.

4. Approval of February 24, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Commissioner Ramlet to approve the minutes of February 24, 2020 as submitted and the motion carried with the following changes:

- Correct the spelling of Commissioner Galonska's name in items 3 and 4.

Announcement:

Chair Seys wanted to thank outgoing Commissioners Tracy Anderson and Youth Commissioner Joe Ramlet for their participation on the Commission.



This document is available in alternate formats upon a 72-hour request. Please call 763-593-8006 (TTY: 763-593-3968) to make a request. Examples of alternate formats may include large print, electronic, Braille, audiocassette, etc.



5. Old Business

A. Partners in Energy update

Eric Eckman gave an update on the Partners in Energy Program:

- Early April – Internal kick-off meeting with staff and members of the Partners in Energy Team to figure out what everyone’s role will be.
 - o What will success look like?
 - Quantifiable Metrics
 - Having actionable and measurable work tasks
 - Building relationships and support within the community
 - How to support and expand the usage of electric vehicles
 - Increase renewable and clean energy – solar
- Start recruitment process for the Partners in Energy Team in 4-6 weeks
- Covid-19 shouldn’t affect the timeline of the program
- Important to reach out to traditionally under-represented communities to be on the action team.
 - o Engage with Human Rights Commission
 - o Working with multi-family property owners/tenants
 - o Engage with representatives who work with vulnerable populations or economically disadvantaged and elderly populations.

B. 2019 Annual Report and 2020 Work Plan

MOTION by Commissioner Stremel, seconded by Commissioner Galonska to approve the 2019 Annual Report and 2020 Work Plan and the motion carried with the following changes as presented by staff in an updated report from the Communications Department:

- New Pollinator themed picture on front page of the 2019 Annual Report
- A new picture of the DeCola Ponds on page 5 of the 2019 Annual Report
- Added and bolded the titles where needed on the 2020 Proposed Work

Plan

- Picture of butterfly added on 2020 Proposed Work Plan

C. Update on Solid Waste Licensing

Drew Chirpich gave an update on solid waste licensing:

- All 10 haulers renewed their licenses for 2020-2021 (7 residential, 3 commercial). There was no change in license numbers from the previous year despite new license requirements being adopted by Council in late 2019.
- New license information provided to the City from the haulers for each truck include:
 - Vehicle Number
 - Fuel Type Used
 - Number of Axles each truck has

- What it's used for
- Collection Type
- Inspection Records
- No minimum number of customers or market share is needed to retain a license

D. Curbside Organics Collection

Emma Pierson presented a summary of all information reviewed and work products produced by the Commission as part of its study of Curbside Organics Recycling options in Golden Valley. Staff requested feedback from the Commission to gauge whether it had enough information to determine its preferences or to make a recommendation to the City Council. The Commission discussed the matter and voted to recommend the "All-In – Everyone Pays" option and requested that staff prepare a brief report for the May meeting that includes the recommendation with added language about the uncertainties surrounding COVID-19, and that staff present the results to date of the citizen survey and virtual open house for informational purposes.

MOTION by Commissioner Yahle, seconded by Commissioner Hill to approve the recommendation to City Council of an "All-In – Everyone Pays" Curbside Organics Collection option and the motion carried.

The Commission recommendation and all other community engagement and stakeholder feedback will be presented to City Council at the Council/Manager Meeting in June.

6. New Business

A. GreenStep Cities Step 4 & 5 - New Stormwater Assessment Tool

Our score in the New Stormwater Assessment Tool went down slightly because the new tool is more comprehensive than the old tool that was retired. Also, the heavy, wet, clay soils in Golden Valley are very limiting in terms of what we can do with Volume Reduction Practices like infiltration. However, there is room for improvement and this will be addressed as part of the City's Step 5 actions in 2020-21.

On the positive side, the City is doing a lot with floodplain management. Its participation in FEMA's Community Rating System has made it possible for eligible residents to participate in the City's flood mitigation cost share program and to receive discounts on flood insurance.

MOTION by Commissioner Galonska, seconded by Commissioner Yahle to approve the New Stormwater Assessment for GreenStep Cities and the motion carried.

B. Program/Project Updates

- There are 4 ponds currently being inspected by the City. We look at:

- Condition of Stormwater Pipes and Structures
- The extent of erosion and sediment deposition
- Pond depths and treatment capacity

- Waste Zero Simple Textile Curbside Recycling Program temporarily stopped pick-up due to Covid-19 but did resume as of April 27, 2020.

C. Council Updates

Council Member Fonnest gave some Council Updates:

- Due to Covid-19, in the interest of conserving funds and resources, the Council voted to postpone the 2020 PMP and the 2020 Bike Lane Project.
- The City recently furloughed 65 employees, mainly from the Parks & Rec Department due to Covid-19.
- The Council has been working with Governor Walz's office and our Representatives to learn of any upcoming resources being made available to the City in upcoming months.
- The main goal of the Council is to safeguard the residents from any unnecessary burdens in the future.

D. Other Business

None

7. **Adjournment**

MOTION by Commissioner Ramlet, seconded by Commissioner Galonska to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 pm and the motion carried.

UNAPPROVED



MEMORANDUM
Physical Development Department
763-593-8030 / 763-593-3988 (fax)

Date: May 15, 2020

To: Environmental Commission

From: Emma Pierson, GreenCorps Member
Eric Eckman, Environmental Resources Supervisor

Subject: Curbside Organics Recycling Summary Report

As part of the Environmental Commission's 2019 work plan and the City's 2020 organizational priorities, the Commission explored options for curbside organics recycling collection in Golden Valley.

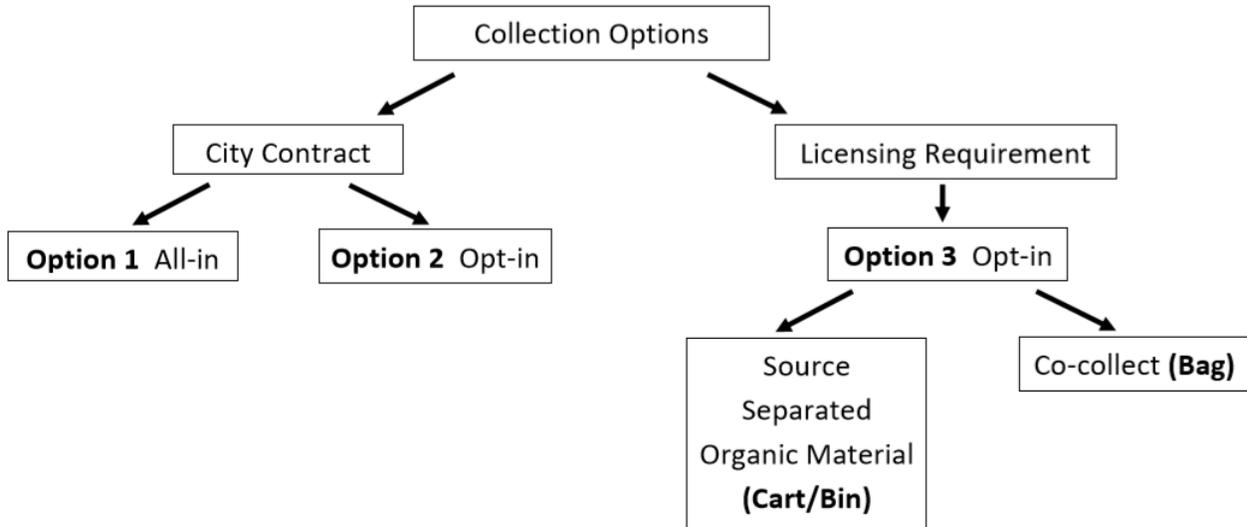
Following is a brief timeline:

- November 2019 Discuss program options, considerations, goals, questions
- December 2019 Staff engagement with haulers and other cities
- January 2020 Finalize prioritization of considerations and goals, discuss state and county plans and goals, begin pro-con matrix
- February 2020 Receive summary of hauler engagement, discuss and finalize pro-con matrix
- March 2020 Meeting cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic
- April 2020 Commission reviews all information to date, discusses options and preferences, makes recommendation for City Contract All-In, Everyone Pays option.
- May 2020 Commission reviews summary report and forwards report and recommendation to City Council for consideration
- June 2020 Present Environmental Commission report and recommendation, community input report (citizen survey, virtual open house, social media feedback), and hauler feedback to City Council
- Summer 2020 City Council provides direction to staff on its preferred option

In November 2019 the Commission began reviewing curbside organics recycling options that would meet the City's [Resilience & Sustainability](#) goals, the state's [Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Policy Plan](#), the [Hennepin County Solid Waste Management Master Plan](#),

and [Hennepin County Ordinance 13](#).

Hennepin County Ordinance 13, Section 2, Subsection 2A requires cities to provide the opportunity to participate in Curbside Organics Collection to residential households that are single family through fourplex and other residential households where each household has its own collection container for mixed recyclables starting January 1, 2022. This can be accomplished by contracting for citywide service or requiring haulers to provide the service. The three options reviewed by the Commission are shown and listed below.



OPTION 1: CITY CONTRACT—ALL-IN, EVERYONE PAYS

- Similar to current Golden Valley recycling contract
- City-wide service
- Everyone pays same fee
- Everyone gets an organics cart
- Weekly pick-up

OPTION 2: CITY CONTRACT—OPT-IN

- Contract for city-wide service
- Resident opts in for service and payment
- Everyone who opts in pays the same fee
- Weekly pick-up in organics cart

OPTION 3: HAULER LICENSE REQUIREMENT—OPT-IN (ORGANICS CART OR DURABLE BAG PLACED IN TRASH CART)

- Require all licensed trash haulers to provide organics service upon request of resident
- Fee determined by hauler
- Similar to current Golden Valley trash hauling
- Weekly pick-up in organics or trash cart

The Commission developed and prioritized a list of goals and considerations it felt was important in order to effectively evaluate options and implement a successful citywide organics recycling program. The considerations are outlined below. A more detailed matrix is attached to this report (Attachment 1).

Program Considerations

Higher Priority	Medium Priority	Lower Priority
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Participation Rates ● Education/Outreach Opportunities ● Number of Bins ● Cost ● Number of Trucks ● Implementation ● Contamination Rates ● Infrastructure Wear & Tear 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● City staff Time ● End Product/ Availability of Compost 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Density/Efficiency of Route ● Hauler Staff Time ● Tonnage Data/ Recovery Rate ● Collection Frequency

The Commission created a Pro-Con Matrix for each program option with the Commission’s priorities and the state and county guidance documents serving as the basis for comparison. The Pro-Con Matrix is attached to this report (Attachment 2). The City Contract All-In, Everyone Pays option garnered the most Pros, the least Cons, and the greatest number of Commission “high” priority considerations.

As part of this analysis and rationale, Commission members cited that the ultimate goal is to divert recyclable material from landfills by achieving the highest citywide participation rates at the lowest fees to residents. The Commission anticipates the participation rates will be significantly higher and the monthly fee per household will be lower in the All-in, Everyone Pays option (\$2.96-5.50/month) when compared to the Opt-in option (\$6.00-11.00/month), as reported by peer cities.

Commission members also referenced the fact that St. Louis Park began with an opt-in model and later moved to an all-in model. Participation rates increased significantly when they made this change. Edina on the other hand chose to go with an all-in model right away. Some Commission members thought that Golden Valley could learn from these experiences and skip passed the opt-in phase to avoid years of lower participation and higher fees.

The Commission worked with staff to develop questions for licensed haulers in the City to gauge their interest and response to providing organics recycling service in Golden Valley. Staff engaged with haulers in December and January 2020 by reaching out to all licensed haulers and meeting with four. A summary of hauler comments is attached to this report (Attachment 3).

At its April 2020 meeting, the Commission reviewed all research conducted to date and received an update on the City's community education and engagement efforts. These efforts include newsletters, an organics webpage, website news feeds, social media posts, a citizen survey, and a virtual open house with opportunity to comment. (All input and results will be quantified and summarized for City Council at the June 2020 Council/Manager meeting.) In an effort to maintain independence and neutrality, the Commission elected to delay receiving the results of the citizen survey and open house comments until after it made its recommendation.

Based on its research, goals and priorities, pro-con matrix, and hauler comments, the Commission felt comfortable moving forward with a recommendation at its April 2020 Commission meeting. A motion to approve the recommendation to City Council of a City Contract All-In, Everyone Pays Curbside Organics Collection option passed with a 6-1 vote with one member absent. One caveat to this recommendation is that, in light of the uncertainties surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic and the City Council's goal to safeguard residents from any unnecessary burdens during this time, the Commission requests that the Council explore further the timing and economic impacts of such a program, and potentially offer first-year assistance to low and fixed-income residents.

Attachment 1

Organics: Considerations, Goals, Priorities, Questions

Considerations	Priority	Goals/Desires	Questions	Answers/Staff Comment
Participation Rates	High	100%, Everyone pays model instead of opt-in	How will each option affect SCORE Funds? What could we use those SCORE Funds for?	SCORE funds are affected by number of participants throughout the City. The higher the participation, the more funding you will receive. SCORE funds can be used for recycling education, events, subsidizing curbside programs, etc.
Education/Outreach Opportunities	High	Education to reduce/reuse over recycle Compostable Mailings	Could a County Staff Person host workshops to educate residents on organics? Are there grants for education? Education/booth at Farmer's Market?	Yes, the county does offer speakers for recycling and organics. At this moment there are no grants, however the County provides materials like signage and presentations. We are required to use County terminology on all materials for outreach. We can communicate with Market in the Valley about any booths we would like at the market. *If opting for a licensing requirement, haulers would have to adhere to the attached

Attachment 1

Organics: Considerations, Goals, Priorities, Questions

				Hennepin County Ordinance 13 Education Requirements
Number of Bins	High	<p>Concerned w/ Number of Total bins</p> <p>Educate residents about options and implications prior to sending out survey question on # of bins</p>	<p>Bin storage ordinance</p> <p>How will /does collection of organics in a separate bin affect size of trash bin/collection frequency of trash?</p>	<p>City Code Sec. 22-23 States: "Containers shall be stored no more than three feet from the primary or accessory structure and shall at all times be located behind the front of the primary structure."</p> <p>Participating in organics can help you reduce the size of your garbage container by diverting waste to an organics bin.</p>
Cost	High	<p>Everyone Pays, optional to receive bin</p>	<p>What are neighboring cities contamination rates?</p> <p>Ask haulers what pricing would be</p> <p>How will each program be affected by taxes?</p>	<p>Saint Louis Park: Curbside Organized 1.76% Contamination</p> <p>Minneapolis: Curbside Organized 0.47%-1.45% Contamination (changes when outreach is done)</p> <p>Trash containers are taxed by sales price, which is determined by Haulers based on the volume of containers. County taxes 15.5% on trash</p>

Attachment 1

Organics: Considerations, Goals, Priorities, Questions

				and the State taxes 9.75% on trash. There are no taxes on recycling or organics recycling. If adding a separate organics bin to your property, there will be no additional tax to your hauling, and you may be able to reduce the size of your trash bin, in turn reducing taxes. If you are co-collecting in a durable bag system, there is no tax on the price to participate in the organics program, however, the volume of your trash bin will likely stay the same, causing no reduction in taxes, depending on the program.
Number of Trucks	High			No specific comment
Implementation	High		What is the timing on implementing each program?	Timing depends upon what decision City Council makes and when. Must have curbside opportunity available by January 1, 2022.
Contamination Rates	High		Compare contamination of Durable Bag v Separate Bin	There is no specific data showing contamination differences between the programs. While discussing options with haulers, some have mentioned a durable bag program is a risk; others like the program.

Attachment 1

Organics: Considerations, Goals, Priorities, Questions

Infrastructure Wear & Tear	High		Discuss infrastructure plan with haulers	No specific comment
Staff Time	Medium			An organized system would require more staff time than an open system
End Product/Availability of Compost	Medium	Coupon to participants, annual/semi-annual pick up site in Golden Valley (Farmer's Market, Mighty Tidy Day) (do not want to drive to SMSC)	Can there be an equitable system w/ more compost going to those participating at higher rates? Do haulers other than Randy's have the ability to provide coupons?	There are no known methods of accomplishing this.
Density/Efficiency of Route	Low	Least expensive route		No specific comment
Hauler Staff Time	Low		Is Republic doing curbside bins in other communities? Discuss capability of organics collection with trash haulers → lead to attrition?	Yes, Fridley and soon Richfield.
Tonnage Data/Recovery Rate	Low			No specific comment
Collection Frequency	Low	Weekly preferred	Would yard waste co-collection be an option? How could we compost in Nov-April if this were the program?	Cities and haulers have been moving from yard waste co-collect to separate bin collection.

Hauler Questions in red

Attachment 2

Organized 'All-in, Everyone Pays' Program (Cart)

Pro	Commission Priority	Guiding Documents	Con	Commission Priority	Guiding Documents
Increases Participation i.e. SLP	High	HC SWMMP 2018- 2023 (Pg 15) - Larger participation with citywide contract MSWPP 2016-2036 (pg 32) - Organized collection results in higher participation	Additional bin on property	High	HC SWMMP 2018- 2023 (Pg 6) - Address barriers to cart storage
Lower cost w/ City wide contract	High		Additional city staff, cost of city staff (could be supplemented by program fees)	Medium	
Option for bin tagging w/education	High	HC SWMMP 2018- 2023 (Pg 15) - Comprehensive outreach plan	Resident must pay regardless of participation		HC SWMMP 2018- 2023 (Pg 15) - Larger participation with citywide contract
City can manage education w/ help from Hennepin County	High	HC SWMMP 2018- 2023 (Pg 15) - Comprehensive outreach plan	Resident must provide bags		
Can reduce trash bin size and save money as waste is diverted from trash	High	MSWPP 2016-2036 (Pg 32) - Cases show households can offset organics collection costs by reducing trash bin sizes			
Higher density collection routes	Low	MSWPP 2016-2036 (Pg30) - Higher density routes needed for affordable service			
Everyone pays same fee		HC SWMMP 2018- 2023 (Pg 15) - Larger participation with citywide availability MSWPP 2016-2036 (pg 32) - Organized collection results in higher participation			
Resident can use certified compostable bags or paper grocery bags					
Consistent color bins throughout city					
No negotiation required for residents					

Cities that do this:

St Louis Park, Minneapolis, Edina (May), Richfield (RFP in 2019)

Cost ranges:

\$2.96- \$5.50/month per household

Organized 'Opt-in' Program (Cart)					
Pro	Commission Priority	Guiding Documents	Con	Commission Priority	Guiding Documents
Optional - no payment if choosing not to participate	High	MSWPP 2016-2036 (Pg32) - Communities with subscribe and pay systems have lower participation HC SWMMP 2018- 2023 (Pg 15) - Larger participation with citywide contract	Less participation possible	High	MSWPP 2016-2036 (Pg32) - Communities with subscribe and pay systems have lower participation HC SWMMP 2018- 2023 (Pg 15) - Larger participation with citywide contract
Option for bin tagging w/education	High	HC SWMMP 2018- 2023 (Pg 15) - Comprehensive outreach plan	Additional bin to property	High	HC SWMMP 2018- 2023 (Pg 6) - Address barriers to cart storage
Can reduce trash bin size and save money as waste is diverted from trash	High	MSWPP 2016-2036 (Pg 32) - Cases show households can offset organics collection costs by reducing trash bin sizes	Higher cost possible w/ lower participation	High	
Resident can use certified compostable bags or paper grocery bags			Resident must provide bags		
			Additional city staff, cost of city staff (could be supplemented by program fees)		
Cities that do this:					
Robbinsdale, Fridley					
Cost ranges:					
\$6-\$11/month per household (In Fridley, the City funds a portion of the cost)					

License Requirement (Cart)					
Pro	Commission Priority	Guiding Documents	Con	Commission Priority	Guiding Documents
Optional - no payment if choosing not to participate	High	MSWPP 2016-2036 (Pg32) - Communities with subscribe and pay systems have lower participation HC SWMMP 2018- 2023 (Pg 15) - Larger participation with citywide contract	Less participation possible	High	MSWPP 2016-2036 (Pg32) - Communities with subscribe and pay systems have lower participation HC SWMMP 2018- 2023 (Pg 15) - Larger participation with citywide contract
Option for bin tagging w/ education	High	HC SWMMP 2018- 2023 (Pg 15) - Comprehensive outreach plan	No regulation or consistency of costs between haulers	High	
Hauler is responsible for education	High	HC SWMMP 2018- 2023 (Pg 15) - Comprehensive outreach plan	Additional bin to property	High	HC SWMMP 2018- 2023 (Pg 6) - Address barriers to cart storage
Can reduce trash bin size and save money as waste is diverted from trash	High	MSWPP 2016-2036 (Pg 32) - Cases show households can offset organics collection costs by reducing trash bin sizes	Unknown amount of added trucks to each street	High	
Less city staff time than organized system	Medium		City has less input on education provided	High	HC SWMMP 2018- 2023 (Pg 15) - Comprehensive outreach plan
Resident can use certified compostable bags or paper grocery bags					
Cities that do this:					
N/A					
Cost ranges:					
Haulers estimated about \$15-20/month per household					

License Requirement (Durable Bag Program, Co-collect)					
Pro	Commission Priority	Guiding Documents	Con	Commission Priority	Guiding Documents
No additional bin on property	High	HC SWMMP 2018- 2023 (Pg 6)- Address barriers to cart storage	Less participation possible	High	MSWPP 2016-2036 (Pg32)- Communities with subscribe and pay systems have lower participation HC SWMMP 2018- 2023 (Pg 15) - Larger participation with citywide contract
Optional - no payment if choosing not to participate	High	MSWPP 2016-2036 (Pg32)- Communities with subscribe and pay systems have lower participation HC SWMMP 2018- 2023 (Pg 15) - Larger participation with citywide contract	Bin is not organics specific, limited/no opportunity for bin tagging/education	High	HC SWMMP 2018- 2023 (Pg 15)- Comprehensive outreach plan
Hauler is responsible for education	High	HC SWMMP 2018- 2023 (Pg 15)- Comprehensive outreach plan	Takes up room in trash bin; would not decrease trash bin size	High	MSWPP 2016-2036 (Pg 32)- Cases show households can offset organics collection costs by reducing trash bin sizes
No additional trucks on streets	High		City has less input on education provided	High	HC SWMMP 2018- 2023 (Pg 15)- Comprehensive outreach plan
Less city staff time than organized system	Medium		Restricted bag size		
Durable bags included in program fee (limited amount)			Mandated unorganized durable bag hauling could provide capacity overload for facilities that accept and sort bags		
Cities that do this:					
No cities have this program as a license requirement					
Cost ranges:					
\$5.83/month (\$69.95/year) per household					

Attachment 3

Hauler Engagement Summary

- 1) Would you be interested in providing a residential curbside organics service? Through License requirement? Through City contract?
 - a. All would be interested in providing service in either model, though many haulers reported that city contracts are more efficient and cost effective.
- 2) Do you already have curbside bins/do you service other communities with organics?
 - a. Most haulers provide organics service in other communities.
- 3) What would the average pricing be for each of the following programs?
 - a. Contract- 'Everyone Pays' model w/ cart
 - b. Contract- 'Opt-in' model w/ cart
 - c. License requirement- Durable Bag Program or cart
 - i. Pricing varies, depending on the hauler and community. Factors include density, participation, location, route accessibility, etc. Haulers reported that a contract 'Everyone Pays' model would be least expensive per household. They also reported that increased density and/or participation would also lower costs.
- 4) What is your capacity for organics hauling, and how will you be making updates to accommodate the new county mandate? Do you have the capacity to comply with organics as a licensing requirement?

All haulers reported that they have the capacity to offer curbside organics as either a city organized program or as a licensing requirement.

 - a. If a license requirement, how would you plan to meet the requirement?
 - i. Co-collection (bag) or cart
 1. Many haulers reported that they would use separate collection carts because it reduces risk of contamination. Some haulers reported they would use a co-collect model with trash for licensing requirements or contracts.
 - b. If a contract, would you have the capacity for additional trucks/carts if needed?

Haulers that co-collect with a durable bag, would also have to provide a cart for the durable organics bag to those that do not subscribe to their trash service. All durable organics bags would be collected in the garbage truck and separated at their facility.
- 5) Would you be able to make compost available to residents? How? Pick up, drop off etc. Where? How often? Separate contract? Coupon?
 - a. Some haulers have an established coupon system; others have the ability to backhaul compost, but would need to look into specific contracts with vendors.
- 6) Would you be capable of providing service with a CNG or lower emissions vehicle?
 - a. Many haulers operate with primarily CNG trucks. Many are replacing old diesel trucks with new CNG trucks.
- 7) What issues do you see for your business implementing a curbside organics service?
 - a. Some haulers reported that an issue could arise contracting for organics with an open hauling trash system. Other concerns included disposal site capacity, and specific days of operation within the city.

- 8) Do you have the ability to comply with Hennepin County education requirements? (see handout)
 - a. All haulers stated they would be able to comply with the Hennepin County education requirements.
- 9) What resources do you have available to increase resident participation, education, and prevent contamination?
 - a. All haulers would work with the City, County, and Disposal sites to develop customer educational materials. All have local or regional customer service hubs and capacity to handle increased customer service calls.
- 10) What are your company's sustainability or environmental goals?
 - a. Some haulers have written sustainability plans, and others have goals that are not outlined in a sustainability specific plan.



MEMORANDUM
Physical Development Department
763-593-8030 / 763-593-3988 (fax)

Date: May 15, 2020

To: Environmental Commission

From: Emma Pierson, GreenCorps Member
Eric Eckman, Environmental Resources Supervisor

Subject: Organics Recycling – Public Input

Staff will provide a summary of the City's community education and engagement efforts and the results to date of the citizen survey and virtual open house, both of which are accessible on the City's organics recycling webpage at <https://www.goldenvalleymn.gov/recycling/curbside/organics.php>.



MEMORANDUM
Physical Development Department
763-593-8030 / 763-593-3988 (fax)

Date: May 15, 2020
To: Environmental Commission
From: Eric Eckman, Environmental Resources Supervisor
Subject: Hennepin County Climate Action Plan

Staff will provide information on the County's Climate Action Planning process and the results of its initial engagement with public partners like the City of Golden Valley. More information can be found at <https://www.hennepin.us/your-government/projects-initiatives/reducing-greenhouse-gas-emissions>.

PROGRAM/PROJECT UPDATES – May 2020

GREENCORPS

Member for 2020-2021 service term – The City has been informed that they have been selected to host a GreenCorps member for the upcoming 2020-2021 service term. The member will be in the Air Pollution Reduction track and will work on many of the City's sustainability and energy reduction goals.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Pennsylvania Woods DNR Habitat Grant – The City recently received confirmation that it was selected to receive a habitat grant for areas of the Pennsylvania Woods Nature Area that are outside of the DeCola Ponds B and C Flood Mitigation project boundaries. The project will involve the removal of buckthorn and other invasive species, and the planting and establishment of native vegetation. A request for quotes will be sent out in the coming months to select a contractor to complete the work outlined in the project.

MetroBlooms Workshop- With the assistance and funding from the Environmental Commission, the City sponsored a Resilient Yards workshop put on by MetroBlooms on Thursday, April 2nd. The workshop was originally planned to be hosted in-person at Brookview Community Center, but was moved to an interactive webinar format due to COVID-19. Early reports from the program staff and attendees indicate that the online format went well, and survey results show that attendees found the workshop valuable in this new format. There were 29 virtual attendees, which means there could have been additional viewers per computer.

Recycling and Solid Waste updates- Staff will give an update of recent changes to recycling and solid waste programs due to the COVID-19 pandemic. All recycling services have resumed as normal, with the exception of Republic only accepting recyclables that fit inside a cart. Additional recycling carts can be ordered free of charge by calling Republic at **952-941-5174**.

WATER RESOURCES

DeCola Ponds Flood Mitigation Projects - The DeCola Ponds B and C project is about 90% complete. The excavation and utility work is complete, the trails will be paved in the next couple weeks, and the City's native vegetation contractor is seeding and planting trees, shrubs, and grasses in May, June, and September 2020.

The City and Bassett Creek Watershed are beginning to plan and study the next flood mitigation project areas. The Wildwood Park/SEA School area has been identified as having potential for flood storage to benefit properties around DeCola Ponds D, E, and F. A planning level study to understand opportunities and challenges and develop concepts is programmed for this spring and will include engagement with the community, the school, and nearby stakeholders. The Isaacson Park/Industrial Area is also being looked at for potential future flood storage. The DNR is supportive of the projects in Golden Valley and has requested flood damage reduction funding in the 2020 state bonding bill this legislative session. Look for more information and an invitation to a (virtual engagement) open house in the coming months.

PLANNING AND ZONING AND DEVELOPMENTS

May 6, 2020

7345 Country Club Drive (Schuller's Tavern)—Regarding the property from Low Density Residential to Retail/Service and rezoning the property from Single-Family Residential (R-1) to Commercial. The applicant would like to add an outdoor patio, but because this is a non-conforming use it cannot expand without completing three key steps: reguide/rezone, receive a Conditional Use Permit for a bar/restaurant use, and obtain variances from the Board of Zoning Appeals to bring

the building and patio into conformance. The same request was made in 2012 (recommended for denial by the Planning Commission and no action taken by the City Council). Scheduled for a public hearing on May 11.

Narrow Lots—In early March, the Planning Commission continued its study of narrow lots in Golden Valley and possible ways to mitigate impacts of development on neighboring properties. The study of these lots was temporarily put on hold but will continue at the regular meeting on May 11 with a review of draft code language. After an extended public comment period, an informal public hearing on this topic will be held on June 8 with formal consideration by the City Council expected on July 7.

Tobacco Sales Restrictions—A Zoning Text Amendment to restrict the sale of tobacco products based on nearby uses was discussed in January, February, and March. Following recent City Council action to restrict the sale of flavored tobacco, to raise the age of sales to 21, and to cap the number of City tobacco licenses, the Planning Commission began looking at additional locational restrictions around schools, parks, and other youth-oriented centers. A public hearing on new restrictions is tentatively scheduled for May 27.

City Council

1421 Rhode Island Ave N—A Minor Subdivision to divide one lot into two. The existing home would remain but a new lot would be created on which a new home would be constructed. This property is the result of a consolidation of three narrower lots in 2008. The Planning Commission recommended approval (7-0) on April 12; the City Council approved the preliminary plat (4-0) on May 5.