

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS MATERIALS COLLECTION

BACKGROUND:

Since 1998, the City of Ames, through the Resource Recovery System, has contracted with Metro Waste Authority (MWA) for operation of a satellite Household Hazardous Materials (HHM) collection operation. The MWA owns the small building where the collected materials are received and stored for pick-up. The collected materials are then transported to MWA's facility in Bondurant, Iowa, and are safely processed in accordance with State and Federal regulations. Resource Recovery staff members receive HHM handling training and work with the customers when they make appointments to drop-off HHM.

Several agencies across Iowa are participating in this program to keep costs at a reasonable level. The 2010 to 2013 contract cost was \$0.87 per capita or a total of \$67,999.20 annually. The proposed three-year contract continues at the same rate, with new 2010 census numbers, for a total cost of \$77,193.36.

Over the past three years, our usage has been as follows:

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>CUSTOMERS</u>	<u>TOTAL WEIGHT (LBS)</u>	<u>LBS/CUSTOMER</u>	<u>\$/CUSTOMER</u>
2010	475	13,319	28.04	\$143.16
2011	449	15,847	35.29	\$151.45
2012	318	14,791	46.51	\$213.83

National averages indicate that average drop-off is 20 pounds per customer, and the Resource Recovery System's rate is above that level. Over one-half of the material is oil-based paints or paint-related products. The relatively high cost per user is offset by the knowledge that the materials are properly disposed of in an environmentally safe manner. Also, providing the HHM service is a requirement of the City's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) stormwater permit.

The general provisions of the proposed three-year agreement remain the same. The City Attorney and Risk Manager have reviewed the agreement and approve it as to form.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the proposed 2013-2016 intergovernmental agreement with MWA for a satellite HHM collection and disposal operation at an annual cost of \$77,193.36.
2. Do not approve the proposed agreement.

MANAGER’S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

It is important for the City to continue this service in order to provide an easy, proactive means for the public to dispose of hazardous materials. In addition to providing a means for keeping these pollutants out of the environment, **this service is a requirement of the City’s NPDES stormwater permit.**

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manger that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby approving the proposed 2010–2013 intergovernmental agreement with MWA for a satellite HHM collection and disposal operation at an annual cost of \$77,193.36.