

Hall, Renee

From: leopold ecology <leopold.ecology@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 7, 2024 2:58 PM
To: City Council and Mayor
Subject: moving forward with solid waste collection and disposal

[External Email]

June 7th 2024

TO: Mayor and Council

FR: Ames Climate Action Team (ACAT)

RE: Moving forward from the most recent (May 28th) Staff Report SOLIDWASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL FOLLOW-UP

As you are aware, members of ACAT strongly support the council and staff initiatives to redesign our energy generation and waste hauling systems.

The Council's ongoing discussion presents an important opportunity to advance the goals of the Climate Action Plan while also addressing several of the other challenges associated with excessive refuse truck traffic in residential neighborhoods.

As a reminder, using data from the Sept. 27, 2022 staff report, we can extrapolate that reducing the current system from a maximum of 18/trips/street/week to a maximum of two garbage truck trips/street/week reduces greenhouse gas emissions by 89%. This does not include the additional greenhouse gas contributions from the more frequent repairs and replacement of city streets due to the heavy truck traffic use. It doesn't include an estimate for the additional dollar cost to the city to accomplish these repairs.

As part of the inter-related issues of collection, waste processing, waste disposal, climate action, and energy production, city staff reports that the most advisable collection strategy for the City Council to pursue would be to partner with Metro Waste Authority to implement an organized collection system. This partnering should meet the City Council's requirements, staff suggests the requirements include curbside collection of refuse (MSW), recyclables, and yard waste in a manner that reduces truck traffic on City streets.

OUR ASK: We ask that the City Council stipulations for staff negotiations with Metro Waste Authority **require** minimizing the number of trucks on the streets.

Without this baseline requirement, the addition of hauler curbside refuse and recyclable options can easily ADD to the number and amount of truck traffic on our streets. This is a highly undesirable outcome.

Respectfully,

Jeri Neal, on behalf of Ames Climate Action Team working group #4
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