

Hall, Renee

From: Mack Shelley <mackshelleyii@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, September 23, 2023 11:31 AM
To: City Council and Mayor
Subject: glass and bottle recycling

[External Email]

Opportunities for convenient recycling of store-purchased glass and plastic containers for beverages just took a major turn for the worse in Ames.

I believe there are two issues that should be of interest to the City.

1. Today at the Lincoln Center Hy-Vee, with no prior notice, a sign announced that the store would no longer accept these items as of last week for recycling and indicated that such items need to be dropped off at 5820 Lincoln Way. On my way there I stopped off at the west-side Hy-Vee and saw much the same note at the location that was detached from the main part of the store (which I understood was done to decouple potential dirt/insects/illness that Hy-Vee propaganda indicated was a reason for opposing the previous bottle bill). As you may understand, the location of Ames Bottle and Can is just a few yards from the Boone County line, so not at all in an accessible location (particularly by bicycle).

2. I assume the two Hy-Vee locations (and other places in town that sell beverages in recyclable glass and plastic containers continue to collect the recycling fee. If I understand correctly, it appears that Hy-Vee (and other such entities) collect those fees from customers without providing any recycling service and thereby are simply fattening the corporate bottom line at the expense of consumers who get nothing in return from those sources.

May I ask if this is an issue of interest to the City and, if so, who I should contact to follow up?

Thanks very much.

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