

Office of the City Manager

City of Richland Hills, Texas

Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor Bill Agan and members of the Richland Hills City Council.
From: Eric Strong, City Manager
Date: April 7th, 2015
Subject: Discussion regarding Solid Waste Ordinance

Council Action: Discussion regarding Chapter 66, Solid Waste Collection, of the Richland Hills Code of Ordinances.

Background Information:

In reviewing the Solid Waste Ordinance, it has come to staff's attention that there is no provision in the ordinance requiring that either businesses or residences have trash service with the city. That leaves open the possibility that people could start trying to "cancel" their trash service and deal with their trash in another way. The primary problem with this is that you ultimately get people avoiding the true cost of service by sharing with neighbors. As an example, neighboring businesses could get together and decide they will only pay the price for one dumpster, and they will all use it. Even more problematic, is if residents were to decide that one house on the block would carry the service for all, and all residents would just put their trash on the one residents curb.

Most cities have a provision that requires trash service, and staff would like to discuss this with the council and see what you would like to do. I think it is imperative that we do something to address this for residential customers. We need to discuss if we also make this change for commercial customers, or if the council finds it acceptable to allow businesses to share trash services.

Financial Impact: N/A

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Attachments: N/A