

**CITY COUNCIL  
COMMUNICATION:**

**REVISED**

**ITEM \_\_\_\_\_**

**00-461**

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER  
CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA**

**AGENDA:**

**SYNOPSIS -**

OCTOBER 2, 2000

During the budget submittal process for fiscal year 2001, the Public Works Department described its intention to pursue a pilot program for automated solid waste collection. The pilot program elements now include the purchase of an automated solid waste collection vehicle and procurement of 4,608 solid waste carts for use by residents involved in the program. The automated collection vehicle has been purchased and will be delivered this fall. Recent changes in the City's purchasing ordinance allow the City to take advantage of other government entities' competitive purchasing processes. Discussions with Metro Waste Authority have revealed their favorable purchase of automated containers.

**SUBJECT:**

**AUTOMATED SOLID  
WASTE COLLECTION  
PILOT PROGRAM**

**TYPE:**

**RESOLUTION  
ORDINANCE  
RECEIVE/FILE**

**FISCAL IMPACT -**

Funding for purchase of the carts, which is calculated at \$182,016, is provided in the existing Solid Waste Enterprise Account.

**SUBMITTED BY:**

**JOHN P. BELLIZZI  
PUBLIC WORKS  
DIRECTOR**

**RECOMMENDATION -**

**Purchase an estimated 4,608 carts from the Metro Waste Authority.**

**WILLIAM G. STOWE  
PUBLIC WORKS  
DIRECTOR  
DESIGNEE**

**BACKGROUND -**

During budget submittals for FY01, the Public Works Department proposed initiation of a pilot program for the automated collection of residential solid waste. The program was designed to implement this service for one collection route on each of the five weekly collection days. The pilot program was recommended to evaluate customer acceptance and efficiency of collection services. The program can

also be modified to allow for a volume-based pricing schedule for users. The automated collection vehicle will be operated by one person, who will collect an average of 850 units per collection day. Present two-man collection vehicles average 720 units per collection day.

The automated collection truck has been purchased and is scheduled for delivery this fall. Wheeled plastic carts must be purchased and distributed to residential customers to initiate implementation of the pilot program, presumably in January, 2001.