

**CITY COUNCIL  
COMMUNICATION:**

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

**02-233**

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

**AGENDA:**

**SYNOPSIS -**

MAY 6, 2002

**SUBJECT:**

MODIFICATION OF  
SOLID WASTE  
ORDINANCE

On April 19, 1999, by Roll Call No. 99-1189, the City Council approved a solid waste fee increase of \$10.25 per month per household (\$9.25 for low-income eligible households) effective July 1, 1999. The rate increase was necessary to fund solid waste collection operations and a bi-weekly recycling program. Solid waste collection services are provided to residential units up to and including four-plexes, some of which may prefer to use a dumpster rather than have their tenants place solid waste at the curb in smaller containers.

**TYPE:**

RESOLUTION  
ORDINANCE

**RECEIVE/FILE**

**SUBMITTED BY:**

WILLIAM STOWE  
PUBLIC WORKS  
DIRECTOR

To accommodate interested owners of four-plexes who may opt for a City-provided dumpster, staff recommends providing dumpsters at a fee of \$9 per month to be charged in addition to the current \$10.25 per unit per month solid waste fee. Owners would, of course, have the option of purchasing their own two-yard dumpster for service by the City or keeping their current service. Discussions with four-plex owners have revealed that some prefer dumpster service, which is now provided by private services at a cost of \$50 to \$55 per month. By ordinance, these locations are to be billed \$41 (four units at \$10.25 each) per month by the City in addition to any private service fees they choose to pay.

**FISCAL IMPACT -**

The solid waste collection and disposal program is an enterprise account which is funded exclusively through user fees and yard waste tonnage fees paid to the City by the Metro Waste Authority. The two-yard dumpsters to be provided by the City would be purchased out of the Solid Waste Enterprise Account. The dumpster fee of \$9 per month would be deposited back into the account and reflect the cost of this service.

**RECOMMENDATION -**

**Receive, file, and refer to the Legal Department to draft**

**appropriate ordinance changes.**

**BACKGROUND -**

The City of Des Moines has traditionally provided curbside collection for solid waste, recyclables, and yard debris. Collection service has been provided to residential units up to and including four-plexes. Recent inquiries regarding dumpster collection options have revealed the need to provide collection to interested four-plex owners via two-yard dumpsters.

The dumpsters would be purchased out of the Solid Waste Enterprise Account and funded through a dumpster fee of \$9 per month to be paid by dumpster users. The City would also provide recyclables and yard debris collection

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