


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	22-340	Meeting:	July 18, 2022
	Agenda Item:	64	Roll Call:	22-1198
	Submitted by:	Jonathan A. Gano, P.E., Public Works Director		

AGENDA HEADING:

Amending the Municipal Code Section 98 relating to the monthly fee reduction of charges for the collection and disposal of solid waste for the elderly and disabled (adding renters as eligible for the reduced garbage fee) to be consistent with State of Iowa law.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of amending the Municipal Code Sections 98-55 to become more equitable by adding the eligibility for renters receiving from the State of Iowa reimbursement of rent constituting paid, and for those who qualify for a fee reduction under the Municipal Code Section 98-55 (c), to apply for and receive a reduced garbage collection fee.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The annual subsidy is \$55.92. Housing reports there are 1,050 subsidy fee recipients receiving rental reimbursement from the State of Iowa. The impact would be approximately \$60,000 if all qualified residents were approved for the subsidy. This equitable program will allow us to decrease the monthly solid waste fee for one (1) 96-gallon garbage cart by \$-4.66 a month for those eligible. A reduction from \$15.66 to \$11.00 per month and decrease the 64-gallon garbage cart by \$-4.56. A reduction from \$14.56 to \$10.00 per month.

Rate Schedule for Garage collections	Garbage <u>Rate</u>	Subsidized <u>Rate</u>
First 64-gallon cart	\$14.56	\$10.00
First 96-gallon cart	\$15.66	\$11.00

*Subsidy only applies to 1st garbage cart.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- In 2021, the Iowa legislature expanded the eligibility for the property tax credit or rent reimbursement under Iowa Code Chapter 425 for elderly or disabled residents. Review of that change by City staff determined that the City’s garbage collection fee subsidy awarded to those who qualify for the State’s property tax credit unfairly excluded those eligible for the State’s parallel benefit of reimbursement of rent constituting property taxes. Both the property tax credit (for homeowners) and rent reimbursement (for renters) are authorized by the same section of Chapter 425 of the Iowa Code with the same eligibility criteria but the City’s garbage

fee subsidy is only available to residents receiving the property tax credit. This action corrects that mistake.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: May 5, 2003

Roll Call Number: [20-0847](#)

Action: An Ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE to amend the Municipal Code of the City of Des Moines, Iowa, 2000, adopted by Ordinance No. 13,827, passed June 5, 2000, as heretofore amended, by amending Section 98-55, relating to solid waste charges for collection services", which was considered and voted upon under Roll Call No. 20-0787 of May 4, 2020; and considered and voted upon for the second time under Roll Call No, 20-0847 of May 18, 2020; again presented and Moved by Gatto that the rule requiring that an ordinance must be considered and voted on for passage at two Council meetings prior to the meeting at which it is to be finally passed be suspended, that the ordinance be placed upon its final passage and that the ordinance do now pass. ORDINANCE NO. 15,895; NOTE: Waiver of this rule is requested by City Manager. Six voted Yea and one voted Nay. Motion passed.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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