



Compostable Bag Program & Proposed Agreements

UPDATE TO REGULATORY AND NEIGHBORHOOD AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

JUNE 13, 2019

Background On Program

- ❖ The City began collecting yard waste (grass clippings and leaves) in compostable bags in 2009.
- ❖ Compostable bags were chosen to replace petroleum based plastic bags to allow diversion of yard waste from landfill disposal to composting operations.
- ❖ Diverting this organic material from the landfill results in significant cost savings and revenue to the City; and decreases methane gas emissions from landfills helping to mitigate climate change.
- ❖ The cost avoidance of tip fees from program inception exceeds \$3.5M.
- ❖ Revenue received from the City's composting contractor is \$5.25/ton; which since program inception is \$764K.
- ❖ Originally bag vendors were approved for use in the City's program as long as they met the criteria of the program and the composter.



Proposed Updates

- ❖ The two contracts being proposed would bring the suppliers of the compostable bags under contract with the City allowing for greater oversight and better service to residents.
- ❖ Contracts address customer service, durability and supply concerns.
- ❖ City will have options to terminate suppliers if the criteria in the scope of work are not being met.
- ❖ City selected to maintain at least two vendors.

A close-up photograph of several green onions growing in dark soil. The onions are vibrant green and have a thick, papery white bulb at the base. The background is softly blurred, showing more of the same plants.

Proposed Program Improvements

Program Improvements Under Contracts:

- Bag thickness is increased to 1.2 mil;
- Requires 12-month minimum shelf life after distribution to retailers;
- Box requires manufacture date and use-by date;
- Packaging in multiple languages;
- Dedicated customer service resource;
- Listing of where bags can be purchased;
- Royalty to license City logo to be paid per box sold. (\$0.50/box)

Timeline for Implementation if Approved

- ❖ Within 30 days of executed contract the City will supply updated artwork to the newly approved vendors for use on the bags and boxes;
- ❖ Existing vendors will be notified that they have up to 90 days to sell or remove products with the City's logo from local retailers;
- ❖ Residents will have up to 120 days to use any remaining bags before being required to use the two new approved vendors' bags.



Thank you!

QUESTIONS?

