

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE August 31, 2018

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Garbage and Recycling Collection**

As was conveyed in Tuesday's Taking Care of Business update, some customers may experience late or delayed garbage and recycling collection over the next 90-120 days due to lower than required fleet availability. Specifically, collection times may be later in the evening than normal and in some isolated instances some residents may not receive collection until the following morning. The fleet availability should improve incrementally over the next several months due to new City fleet maintenance initiatives and the arrival of recently purchased Sanitation equipment that should begin arriving in early September and continue arriving through the end of the year.

As you know, Sanitation Services has been aggressively addressing its aging fleet. Over the past 5 years, the department has funded replacement of close to \$30M in collection fleet. Even with the recent significant investment, Sanitation's collection fleet needs are estimated to be almost \$19M.

To increase fleet availability levels, Sanitation Services and Fleet Management are engaging in several efforts that should begin improving equipment availability short-term and long term. Below is a list of improvement efforts that are currently underway or are part of approved improvement initiatives.

Short-term

- Fleet Management is providing additional targeted daily overtime to address Sanitation fleet availability, aggressively working to fill existing mechanic vacancies and pursuing the use of additional outside contracted services on an emergency basis.
- In September Fleet Management will be realigning existing resources to create a new late-night shift dedicated to Sanitation Services fleet maintenance.
- The FY18-19 budget includes the addition of 6 mechanics dedicated to Sanitation Services fleet maintenance.
- Sanitation Services will be receiving and placing into service 20 new rear load collection trucks and 2 new automated trucks over the next 120 days, with the first trucks scheduled to start arriving in early September.

Long-term

- Fleet Management is moving to a stand-alone department to allow greater focus on service efficiencies and delivery to customer departments.
- Sanitation Services will continue its aggressive fleet replacement program by replacing almost \$8M of the estimated \$19M in collection fleet needs, next fiscal year. Based on Sanitation Services current fleet replacement schedule, it is anticipated that the majority of remaining fleet needs will be addressed over the

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next 3 years, but the current years replacement equipment and next year's (FY 19) equipment purchases should provide significant improvement.

To communicate the potential impacts to residents, a notification has been posted to the City's main website, Sanitation Services' departmental page, and on the Nextdoor and Sanitation Services apps. Additionally, the notifications let residents know that they can check the Sanitation Services webpage for daily updates on affected areas. Each morning Sanitation Services will post a link on its website of any areas that may not have been completed the prior day and the link will also provide an estimated time of completion.



Joey Zapata
Assistant City Manager

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Larry Casto, City Attorney
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
Billerae Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
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