



# City of Lawrence

## **Plan for the Establishment of an Organized Recycling Collection Service**

**Description of the procedures used for the development of the plan for an organized recycling collection service and compliance with all required notice provisions.**

On June 12, 2012, the City of Lawrence Commission adopted [Resolution No. 6976](#) announcing the City's intent to consider adoption of an organized collection service for residential recycling within the city limits of Lawrence, Kansas. The statement of intent does not obligate the City to pursue a city-wide residential curbside recycling program, but it does provide notification of consideration of such.

During the 90-days (June 13, 2012 through September 10, 2012) following the adoption of the Resolution of Intent, the plan for the establishment of an organized recycling collection service was developed. The City of Lawrence scheduled three planning meetings on the following dates:

- Wednesday, July 11<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.,
- Thursday, July 26<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., and
- Friday, August 24<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

All interested persons, including registered haulers operating recycling collection services in the Lawrence, were invited to participate in the development of the plan for the establishment of the proposed organized recycling collection service.

Meeting notices were posted on the [City's online calendar](#) and on the [City's website](#). Meeting agendas, handouts, and notes were also posted on the [City's website](#).

The public hearing for this proposed plan will be held before the governing body of the City of Lawrence, on Tuesday, December 11, 2012, in the City Commission Meeting Room, City Hall, located at 6 East 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Lawrence, Kansas. This public hearing will begin at 6:35 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the governing body's schedule allows.

**Evaluation of the proposed organized recycling collection plan in regard to the following:**

- **Achieving the stated goals;**

The City of Lawrence strives to increase waste diversion over time. Higher diversion and recycling rates are achieved in communities with curbside recycling programs. The City of Lawrence Solid Waste Task Force recommended the goal of 50 percent recycling rate by volume in 2020. To achieve this goal the task force recommended implementing a city-wide single-stream residential curbside recycling program, if fiscally prudent and sustainable. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, recycling conserves natural resources such as timber, water and minerals, reduces the need for landfilling, prevents pollution caused by manufacturing of products from virgin materials, saves energy, decreases emissions of greenhouse gases that contribute to global climate change, protects and expands US manufacturing jobs, and helps sustain the environment for future generations.

- **Minimizing displacement and economic impact to current recycling collectors;**

The City of Lawrence plans to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) to select the most qualified and cost effective professional service provider for the proposed organized recycling collection service. The City will also prepare and submit a proposal for municipal curbside collection of residential recyclables in Lawrence. The City's proposal will be matched up with a material processing proposal deemed most advantageous to the City, as determined by the selection committee, and then compared to all other turn-key operations proposals.

All proposals will be evaluated on the basis of cost proposal; experience, financial condition and resources, and management capability; technical feasibility and reliability; and contract proposal. To minimize displacement and economic impact to current recycling collectors, the City of Lawrence will also be evaluating proposals on how the proposers incorporate the small local curbside recycling haulers into their recycling collection service.

- **Ensuring participation in the decision-making process of all interested parties, including all licensees or other persons operating recycling collection services in Lawrence as of the date of the resolution of intent to organize collection in Lawrence (June 12, 2012); and**

As required by Organized Collection Service Act, K.S.A. 12-2036, all curbside recycling haulers operating collection services in the City of Lawrence as of the date of the adoption of the Resolution of Intent (June 12, 2012) were invited to participate in the planning of the proposed organized recycling collection service. These haulers received a letter outlining the meeting schedule and inviting them to participate in the process. They also received email reminders of the upcoming meetings and a phone call to confirm they received the information.

All other interested individuals and businesses were also invited to attend these plan development meetings.

- **Maximizing efficiency in recycling collection; and**

The City of Lawrence key goals in establishing an organized recycling collection service are to increase the amount of material being diverted from the landfill and to increase recycling participation rates. The success of a recycling program is dependent on the efficiency of the collection.

Maximizing efficiency of the collection of recyclables may be accomplished by implementing:

- A city-wide residential curbside recycling collection service: households receive service under the same program. This includes single-family and multi-family households. The City handles billing for the recycling collection service.
- A single-stream recycling program: households may commingle recyclable materials and set out for collection in one recycling container (cart or dumpster). Recyclables are sorted at a processing facility.
- A standard container for set-out of recyclables: households receive a standard roll-out cart to set out their recyclables on collection day or households will have access to a recycling station which is a cluster of recycling carts and / or recycling dumpsters.
- The highest level of automated fleet for collection: fully automated and semi-automated trucks collect recyclables.

In addition, the City of Lawrence may consider implementing every-other-week collection of recyclables instead of weekly collection. Every-other-week collection maximizes volume per set out thus increases collection efficiency and provides other benefits, such as reduced collection costs, reduced emissions from collection vehicles, and reduced impact on city streets.

The current collection model in Lawrence with multiple haulers providing curbside recycling services leads to excessive truck traffic traveling on residential roads (e.g. noise, traffic, safety). Contracting with one hauler who may have subcontractors for collection will maximize efficiency of the recycling collection. The City of Lawrence may also choose to provide the service as a municipal recycling collection service instead of contracting with one hauler.

**Detailed justification for any tax, franchise or similar fee.**

The assessment of franchise fees for recycling collection service providers is not, at the time of passage of the Resolution of Intent, anticipated. Nothing in the Resolution of Intent shall preclude the City from assessing said fees, provided the City follows applicable laws and regulations concerning franchise fees.