

Agenda
Saint Paul Garbage Advisory Committee
6:00 p.m. February 17, 2022
Rondo Library
461 N Dale Street, Saint Paul

1. Welcome and Introductions

Committee Members in attendance: Gabriele Pillmann, Rosemary O'Brien, Alisa Lein, Scott Jensen, Linda Huber, Drew Nelson, Sarah Axtmann, Andrew Rorvig, Celeste Marin, Gloria Penaloza Ruiz, Javonna McCoy-Barber, Robin Graham

City Staff in attendance: Susan Young (Manager Resident and Employee Services), Sarah Haas (Garbage Program Manager), Jeannette Rebar (Outreach and Engagement Specialist), Kris Hageman (Recycling Program Manager)

2. Approval of Minutes of 2/3/2022 meeting

Minutes approved

3. Questions/comments from previous meeting

None

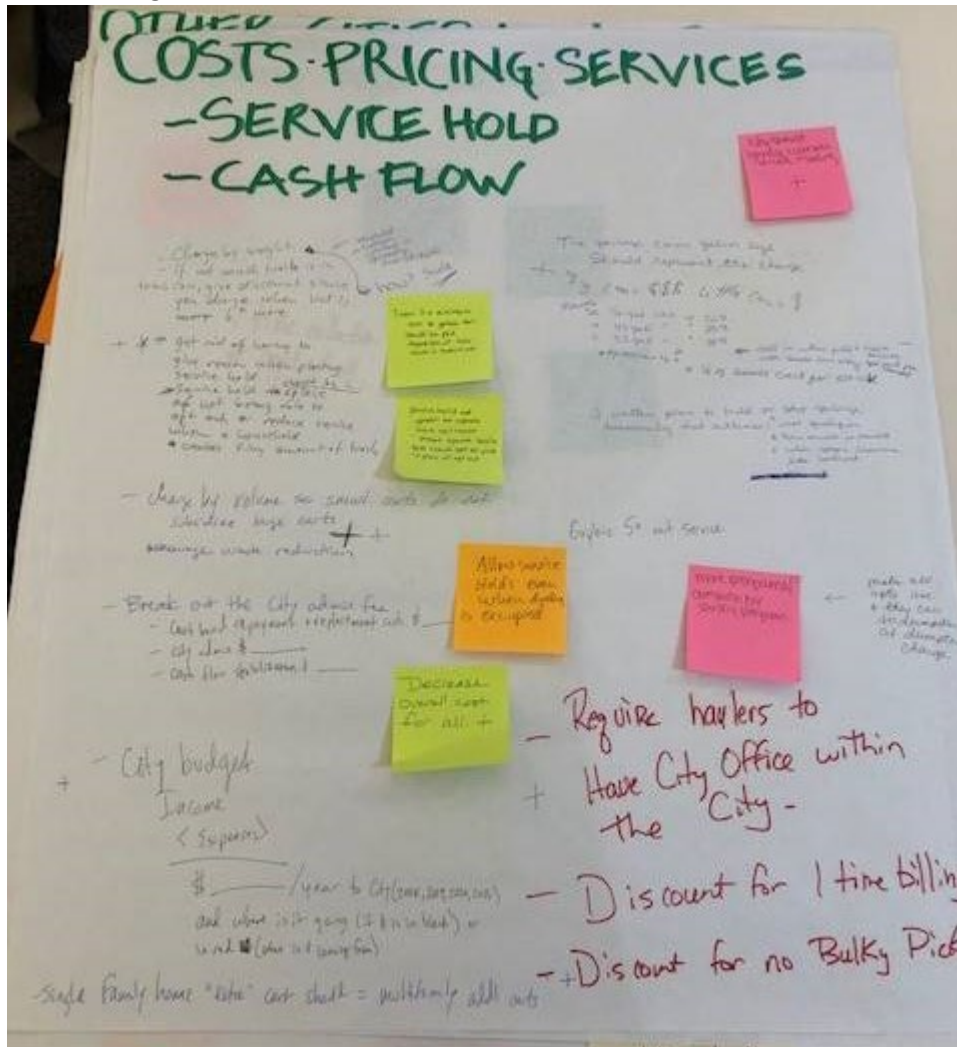
4. Development of recommendations for report to Mayor and Council

Group broke out into small groups to discuss the topics the bucket list developed at the 2/3/22 meeting. Committee members recorded their conversations and thoughts on flip charts for each topic. One group was online, and their information was typed.

After the breakout discussions, a report back occurred to share what was put on the flip charts and typed up from the online group with some additional discussion and questions.

Following are photos of the flip charts and the typed notes from the online group shared by topic.

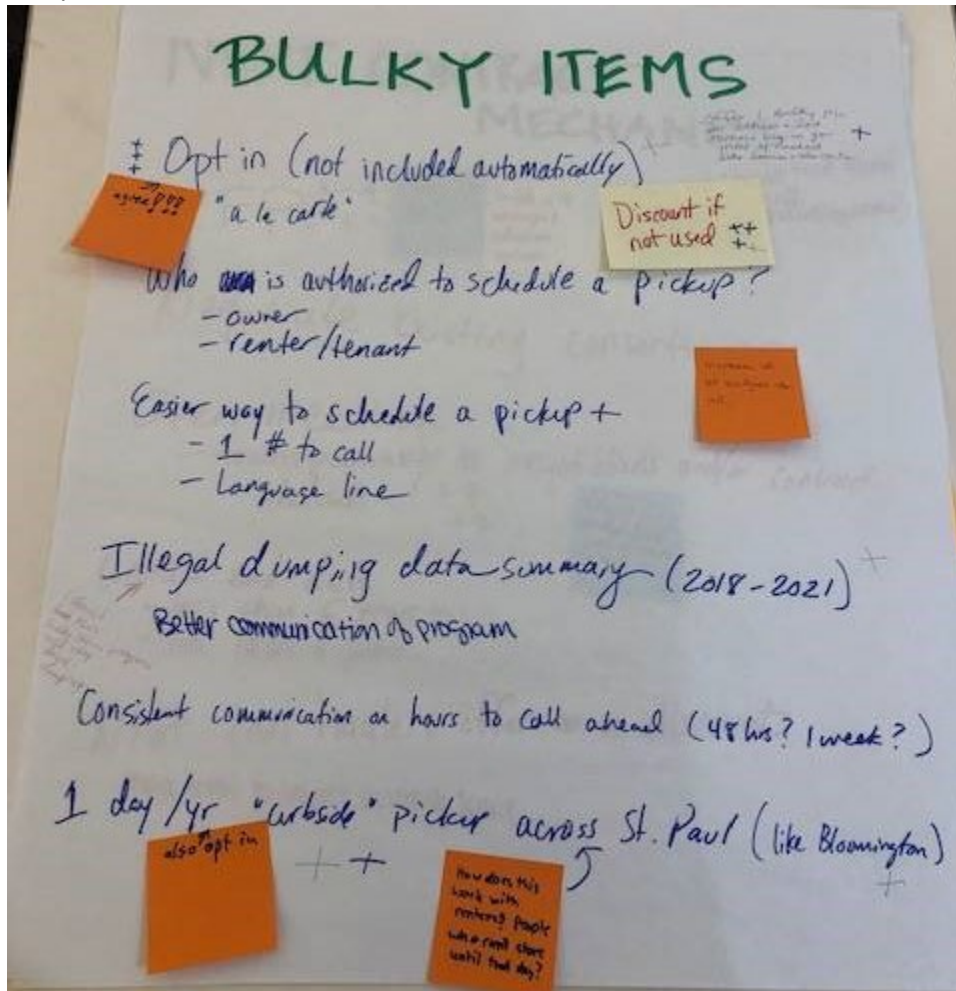
Costs/Pricing/Services



Online group:

- Don't want additional bill for open cart/lid open
- More information for new residents about cart size
- Administrative fees that the City charges on the property taxes – they are too high

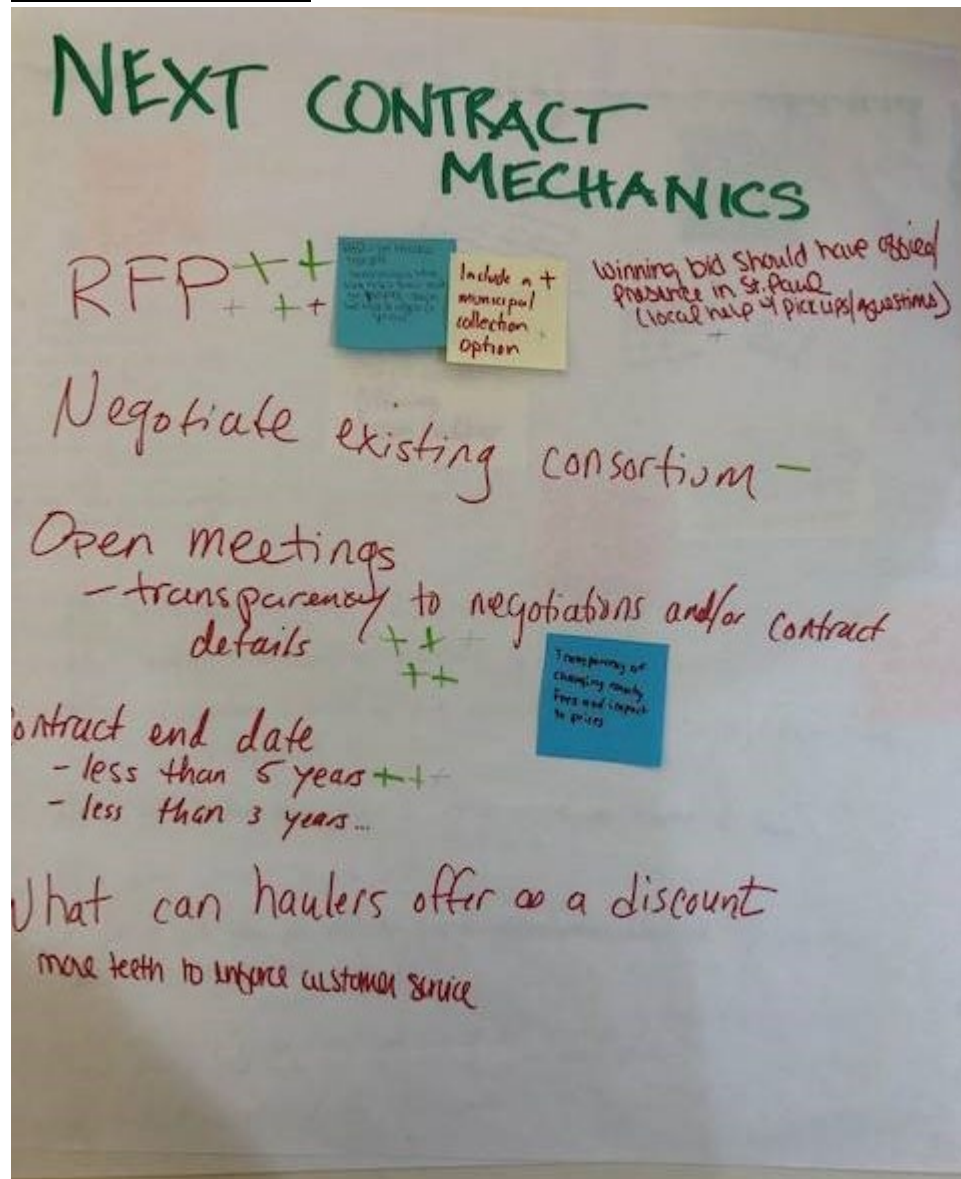
Bulky Items



Online group:

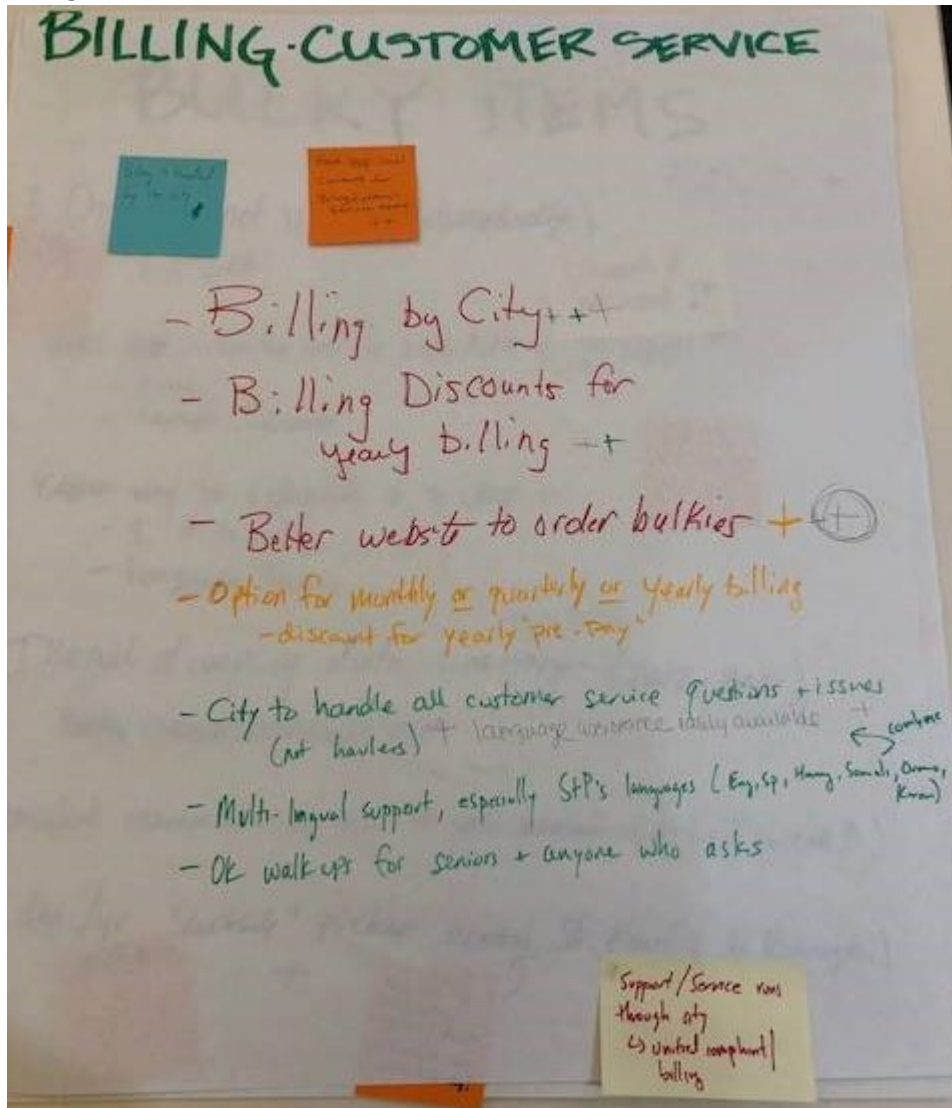
- If it's an incentive shouldn't be a limitation on it
 - o Don't make it so hard
 - o Make it easier to use
- Maybe only certain time of year
- Don't make it seasonal pick up
- Have same contract as Maplewood and other cities – include bulkies
- More information shared with customers on bulkies
- Tried to use it – they kept asking what size it was and then they said it was too big

Next Contract Mechanics



Online group: Nothing additional

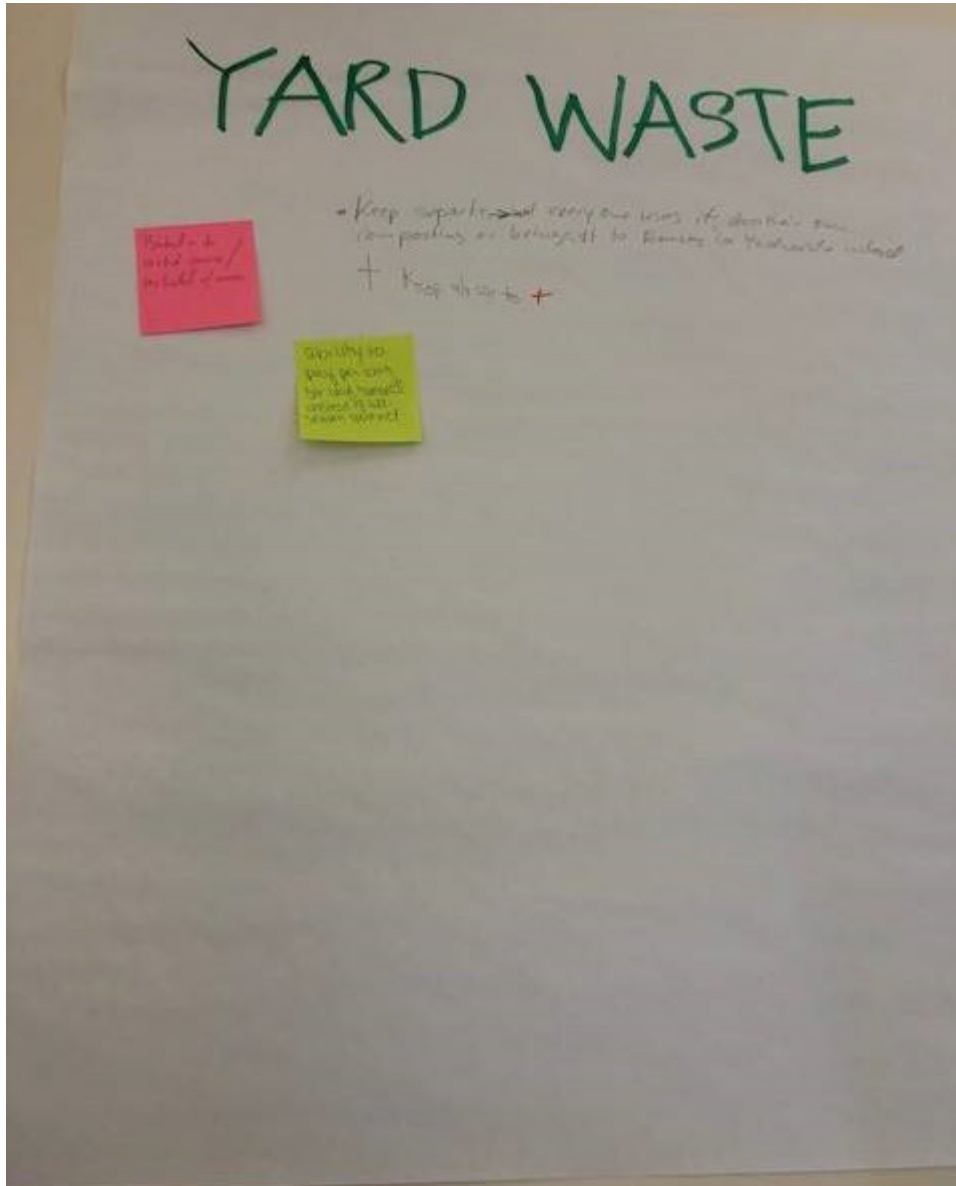
Billing/Customer Service



Online group:

- Don't see a need for City to get involved
- Bills are sent to customers late – what happens
- Automatic bill pay

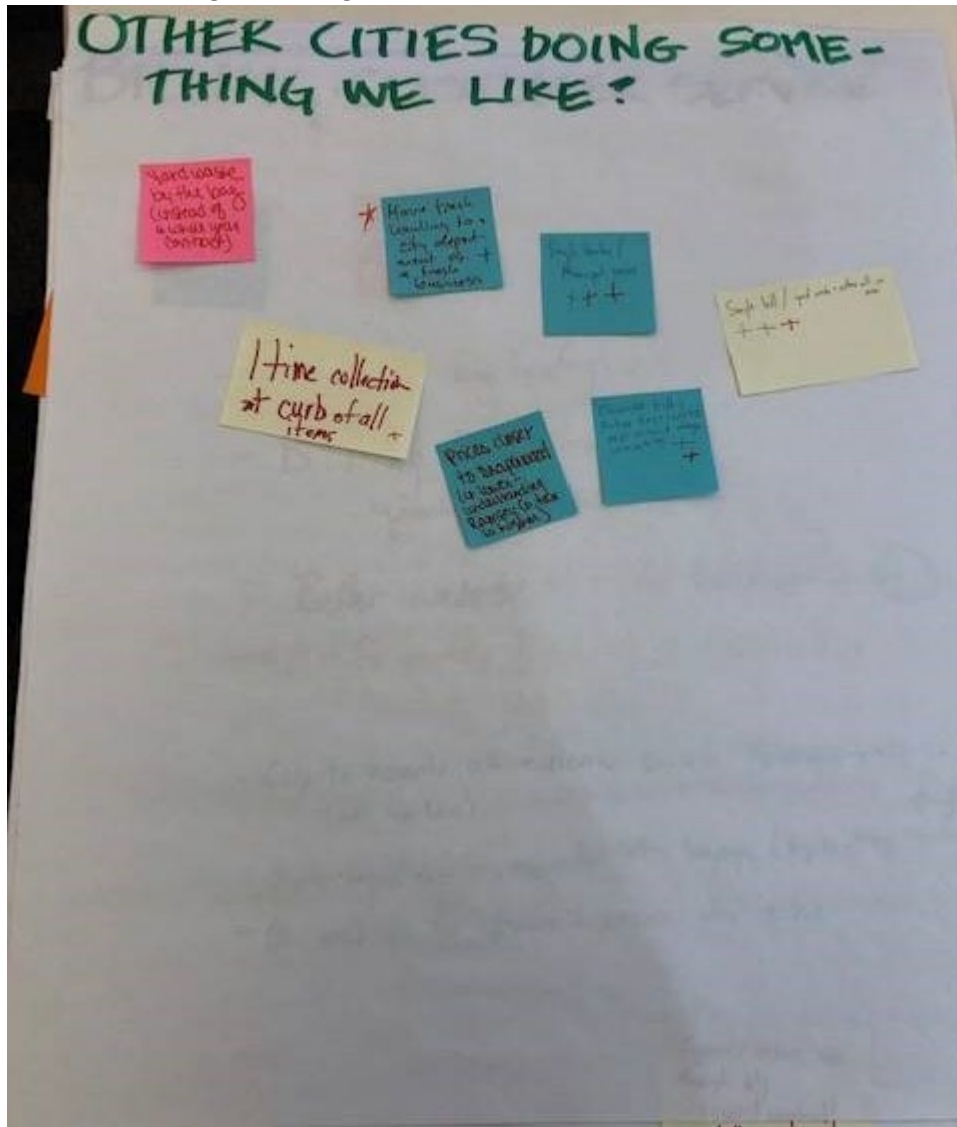
Yard Waste



Online group:

- Compost it in yard
- Ability to pay per bag

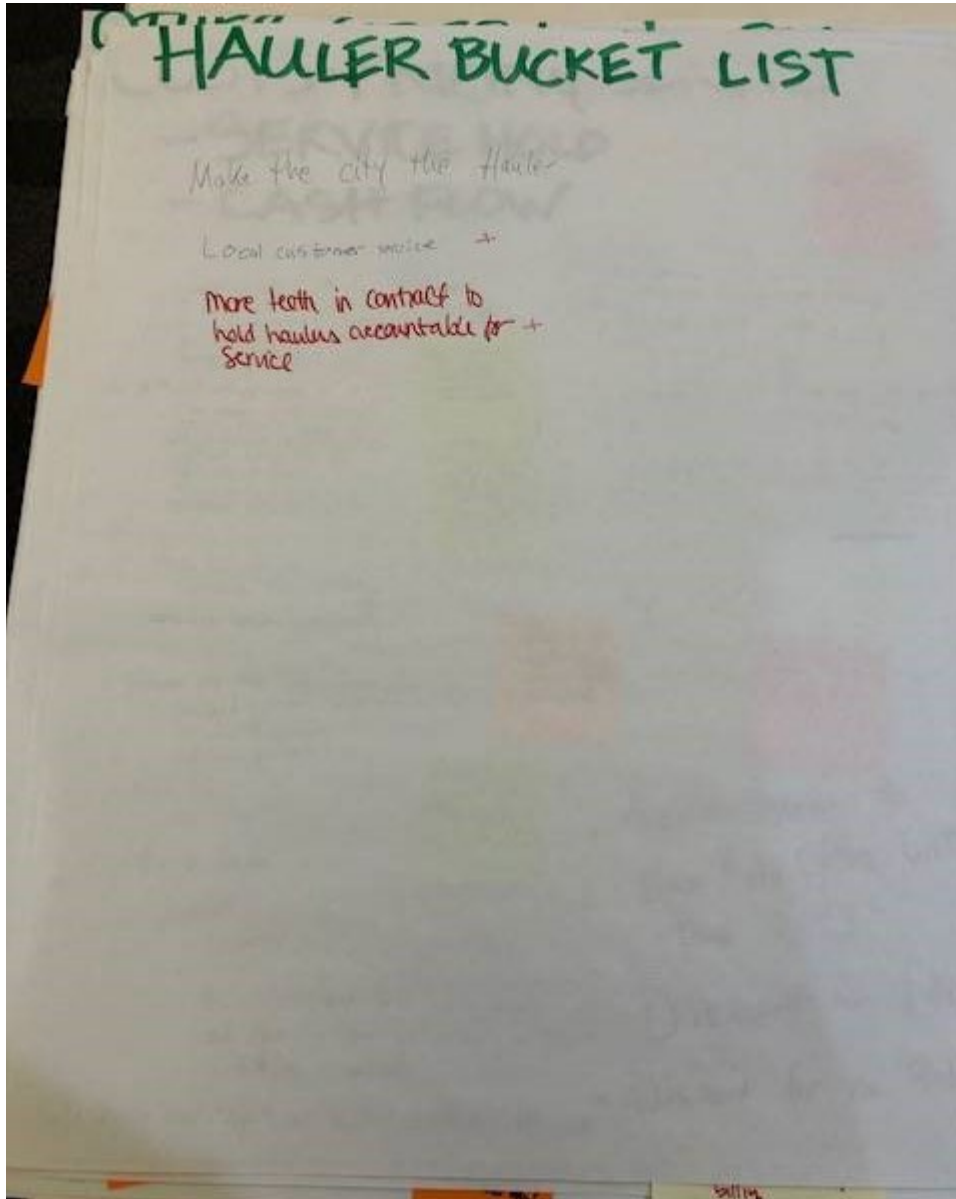
Other Cities doing something that we like



Online group:

- Yard waste – pay for bag; other cities can get stickers from the City
- Pricing is better in other cities – pay less than we do

Hauler bucket list?



Online group:

- Agree – make the City the hauler – less complaints; City worker gets benefits
 - o But could be very expensive
 - o Might be more economic to let a private entity do it – contract needs to be stricter so the complaints are reduced
 - o Over time the City should look at being the hauler – could generate revenue

Report back discussion

Bulky items:

- Brooklyn Center/Brooklyn Park one-day pick up
 - o Once every 3 years rotate the area – no additional cost to bills
- Bloomington
 - o Could put anything out
 - o But it is changing
 - o Pay a fee every month to get it

Next steps:

- Susan will put all the information from the discussion today together by topic
- At the next meeting, start putting together where you want your report to be

5. Confirmation of date/time of next meeting

Thursday, March 3, 2022, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Haulers will be there for 20 minutes although it could be longer if majority of group wants more time

Any specific questions for haulers so that Greg can share them with the Haulers Consortium in advance of the meeting

Some of the questions were answered in this discussion

- What are the haulers biggest grips & dislikes of the current contract?
- What do the haulers like?
- What is their bottom line and what are they willing to take?
- Specific service issue questions
 - o What would their position be on a dumpster vs. multiple carts?
 - o How many service hold requests do you get each year?
 - Answer: Avg 125 a month – more in the winter; haulers report them to the City
 - Appeal option – but just a couple cases and they go to the City
 - Form online
- Where did the penalty fee for having cart open come from? Why is it necessary?
- Some haulers have 2 staff and others just have a driver; service difference
 - o Carts get missed if just a driver
 - o Question – is this going to continue? Is the industry changing?
- Originally said 20 minutes – but guess more questions
 - o Any time limit on the discussion
 - o What else on the agenda – going through this bucket list for the report
 - o All 6 haulers will be here, but greg as spokesperson will be speaking
 - o Can we talk to the haulers separately
 - o Concern the consortium has to single one out is not acceptable
 - Can share the concern/ask the question
 - Want to ask them about what they can do
- Consortium (St Paul Haulers LLC) is a legal entity

- This is not disbanded until Sept 30, 2023
- None of the companies will place a separate response to an RFP before they are disbanded. Otherwise they violate agreement
 - How did companies sell?
 - Just sold to other consortium members
 - How did they determine who would do what area?
 - Based on market share in Saint Paul and then worked together to figure out the areas – Consortium decided who would do service for what area
- Want a Limited time for haulers – 20 minutes
 - Spend our time on our issues
 - Don't agree with them coming at all
 - We're representing the citizens of Saint Paul
 - 20 minutes unless majority of group wants additional time
- Any licensed hauler will be able to respond to RFP
- Minimum wage for haulers?
- Will the hauler areas be the same?
 - If there's an RFP, can we decide what the areas are?
 - If there's an extension of the current contract with Consortium, it would be market share based on time of renegotiation
- How many other companies licensed not part of consortium?
 - 6 or so but haven't looked
 - Other companies could get a license in Saint Paul – need trucks & people here
- Is there somewhere to look up licensed haulers?