



# Information about Saint Paul's Garbage Referendum Vote (November 5, 2019) on Ordinance 18-39 (updated 10/17/19)

**WHO:** All Saint Paul residents who are eligible to vote in the 2019 general election.

**WHAT:** Saint Paul residents can vote on whether to keep Ordinance 18-39 in effect on the upcoming general election ballot. Ordinance 18-39 created the regulations and rates that apply to coordinated garbage collection for more than 73,000 1-4 unit units in Saint Paul.

**WHEN:** The general election is Tuesday, November 5, 2019.

**WHERE:** To find your polling place, visit: <https://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us/>. To vote before election day: <https://www.ramseycounty.us/residents/elections-voting/voters/vote-election-day>.



QUESTION	WHAT WILL A "YES" VOTE DO?	WHAT WILL A "NO" VOTE DO?
FAQs	<b>"Yes" Vote</b> <i>Ordinance 18-39 stays in place</i>	<b>"No" Vote</b> <i>Ordinance 18-39 is repealed</i>
Will the current citywide coordinated collection continue?	Yes. There would be no change to the current program under the existing contract.	Yes. The City's contract with the garbage haulers would remain in effect. That means garbage would continue to be collected by the designated garbage haulers under the contract between the City and St. Paul Haulers, LLC.
Can residents choose their own garbage hauler?	No. The contract designates a specific garbage hauler to collect residents' garbage in a specific area on a designated day each week.	No. The City's contract with the garbage haulers remains in effect. The contract designates a specific garbage hauler to collect residents' garbage in a specific area on a designated day each week.

FAQs	"Yes" Vote <i>Ordinance 18-39 stays in place</i>	"No" Vote <i>Ordinance 18-39 is repealed</i>
<b>How will residents pay for their garbage service?</b>	The current citywide garbage program continues. All residential 1-4 unit properties will be billed quarterly by their designated garbage hauler with standardized rates based on their cart size.	The designated haulers will continue to collect garbage under the existing contract, but the financial obligation may be shifted from individual rate-payers to all property tax payers in Saint Paul. The cost for garbage collection for 2020 is estimated at \$27.1 million, which would require an additional 17.4% increase in the property tax levy if the City were to pay for garbage service.  To find out how this would impact your property taxes, use the property tax estimator: <a href="https://www.stpaul.gov/departments/financial-services/city-saint-paul-property-tax-estimator">https://www.stpaul.gov/departments/financial-services/city-saint-paul-property-tax-estimator</a> .  The City is working with the garbage haulers to prevent double payments and ensure that billing and payment requirements are clear. The City will provide property owners with additional information regarding billing as it develops.
<b>With the vote happening on November 5, do I need to pay my October garbage bill?</b>	Yes. To avoid late fees, residents should pay their garbage bill for Quarter 4 services (October 1 - December 31) by October 25, 2019.	Yes. To avoid late fees, residents should pay their garbage bill for Quarter 4 services (October 1 - December 31) by October 25, 2019. Garbage bills that are not paid by October 25, 2019 will incur late fees, and could be assessed to the 2020 property taxes.
<b>Can I cancel my garbage service?</b>	No. All occupied residential 1-4 unit properties are required to have garbage service. Under the contract, garbage haulers cannot cancel service.	No. The designated haulers will continue to collect garbage under the existing contract. Under the contract, garbage haulers cannot cancel service.
<b>Will I be able to suspend garbage service when I am out of town on vacation?</b>	Yes. Under the current contract, property owners are able to place a temporary service hold on garbage collection for four to 26 weeks per year and not be billed for garbage services during that time.	Yes. Garbage services can be placed on a temporary hold. Under the contract, the city would not have to pay for garbage service for property owners who have placed their service on hold.
<b>Can I suspend my garbage service for vacant units/properties?</b>	Yes. Under the current contract, property owners are able to contact the City to suspend garbage service for unoccupied units/properties.	Yes. Garbage services can be suspended for unoccupied units/properties. Under the contract, the city would not have to pay for garbage service for property owners who have placed their service on hold.
<b>Can I negotiate a new rate for services with my garbage hauler?</b>	No. Under the contract, rates are set with cart sizes and service levels.	No. The City's contract with the garbage haulers remains in effect. Under the contract, garbage haulers may not negotiate individual rates with property owners.



**CITYWIDE GARBAGE SERVICE – FACTS & NUMBERS AS REPORTED BY THE CITY AND GARBAGE HAULERS**

Number of residential units (1-4) in the program: **73,485 Units**

**Units per Property Type:**

Single Family	59,878 (82%)
Duplex	10,575 (14%)
Triplex	1,354 (2%)
Fourplex	1,678 (2%)
Townhomes	685 (.9%)

Number of units that did not have identified garbage service prior to October 2018: **9,300 Units**

Total tons of garbage collected in Saint Paul (October 2018 - August 2019): **51,647.36 Tons**

Total garbage pick-ups (October 2018 - August 2019): **3,475,839 Pick-ups**

Total missed garbage pick-ups (October 2018 - July 2019): **2,735 Misses or 0.1%**

Total number of bulky items collected (October 2018 - August 2019): **10,619 Bulky Items**