



## **Clean and Sanitary Downtown Test Case Options**

City of Tacoma | Environmental Services

**Economic Development Council Committee  
August 13, 2019**



## **PRESENTATION OVERVIEW**



- Present Safe and Clean Opportunities to Improve Tacoma's Downtown Streetscape
  - Public litter containers
  - Three (3) proposals for Solid Waste Commercial Collection

## ISSUES



### • Downtown BIA Solid Waste Concerns

- Excessive blight and litter downtown
- Unsightly garbage containers on the pedestrian streetscape
- Unsecure garbage containers
- Lack of Public litter cans downtown



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## ISSUES



### • Contributing Factors to BIA Concerns

- Downtown homelessness population
- Lack of secure container storage locations
- Overloaded containers
- Illegal dumping
- Misuse of public litter containers



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## PROPOSED TEST AREA



- Solid Waste Collection System Enhancements

- Pedestrian Litter Containers
- Commercial Garbage Collection
  - Centralized Collection System
  - Daily Collection
  - Evening Collection



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## PROPOSED TEST AREA



- Downtown Solid Waste Service Data

- Collection Volumes per Week
  - Garbage: 41,024 gallons
  - Recycle: 12,224 gallons
  - Glass: 2,760 gallons
- **32%** of Containers Always Left Out
- High Volume of 311 Complaints
  - Associated with homelessness activity and/or illegal dumping

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## PUBLIC LITTER CAN PROPOSAL

### • Benefits

- Secure Containers to prevent Scavenging
- Foot pedals
- Pedestrian and Worker Safety
- Solar Powered Compaction
- Improved Collection Efficiency
- Wrap opportunities
- Prevents some types of misuse



### • Costs

- Up front capital/installation: \$127,000 (28 units)
- Annual Cost: \$47,000
  - Includes collection and disposal, cleaning, pressure washing, graffiti removal, repair and replacement

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## CENTRALIZED COLLECTION SYSTEM

Issue	Pros	Cons
Reduced operating cost / monthly rates	✓	
No more containers in streetscape	✓	
No curbside collection		✓
No containers for scavenging	✓	
Reduced blight litter	✓	



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## COMPACTOR UPGRADES



### 8<sup>TH</sup> Street & Court A

Current



Proposed - Draft

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## CENTRALIZED COLLECTION SYSTEM



<u>Up Front Capital Cost</u>	<u>Annual O&amp;M</u>
Garbage System: \$205,000 Recycle System: \$185,000	Garbage: \$52,000 Recycle: \$24,000

- Enclosure Features
  - Above or Below Ground
  - Security Cameras
  - Blends in with the streetscape (aesthetically pleasing)
  - Wash Facilities
  - Improved lighting

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## CENTRALIZED COLLECTION SYSTEM



- Barriers to Success
  - Approved funding
  - Available real estate
  - Commitment from large garbage generators
    - Housing complexes – may require maintenance staff
    - Accountability and enforcement
  - Equity and accessibility



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## DAILY GARBAGE COLLECTION



Issue	Pros	Cons
Reduced operating cost / monthly rates		-
No more containers in streetscape		+
Curbside collection	✓	
Containers for scavenging		+
Reduced blight litter	✓	

- Benefits
  - Smaller containers in streetscape
  - Less garbage per day / opportunity for scavenging
- Barriers to Success
  - Increased operating cost / monthly rate increases
  - Requires a new rate structure

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## EVENING GARBAGE COLLECTION



Issue	Pros	Cons
Reduced operating cost / monthly rates	N/A	N/A
No more containers in streetscape		✓
Curbside collection	✓	
Containers for scavenging		+
Reduced blight litter	✓	

- Benefits
  - Garbage containers emptied at night / less opportunity for scavenging
  - No net increase in operating cost or monthly rates
- Barriers to Success
  - Same garbage volume and containers in streetscape
  - Labor Contracts

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## PROPOSAL SUMMARY



Category	Centralized System	Daily Collection	Evening Collection	Litter Cans
Reduced utility costs/rates	+	-	-	N/A
Streetscape Improvement	+	+	✓	+
No curbside collection	-	✓	✓	N/A
No containers for scavenging	+	✓+	✓	+
Reduced blight litter	+	✓+	✓+	+
Funding	Solid Waste	Solid Waste	Solid Waste	General
Startup Capital Cost:	\$390K	\$\$\$K	N/A	\$127K
Annual Cost:	\$76K	\$\$\$K	\$\$K	\$47K

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## OUTREACH / NEXT STEPS



- Outreach
  - BIA Stakeholder Meeting - August 1, 2019
  - Small & Large Business Stakeholder Meetings - September 2019
- Next Steps
  - Receive Economic Development Committee feedback (today)
  - Receive formal input and recommendations from BIA
  - Solicit additional feedback from stakeholders on commercial garbage proposals
  - Present recommendations to full City Council during Study Session
  - Identify General Fund options for pedestrian litter cans

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