

## Town of Superior Board considers new waste collection options

The Town provides waste collection service through a third-party vendor to approximately 1,000 homes in Superior that are not part of the Rock Creek Master HOA. The Town's current contract expires at the end of the year, so staff and ACES have been engaging residents, collecting information on best practices and neighboring contracts, and working with the Town Board since early this year to prepare for a new contract with updated service levels.

The Town's Sustainability Action Plan includes a number of zero waste policy direction items and actions resulting from this contract bid process will directly influence whether Superior is able to achieve many of the zero waste actions and meet our community's policy goals. Both a Pay-as-You-Throw (PAYT)/volume-based model of waste reduction and inclusive composting service are specifically called out in as key drivers of sustainable action on waste for our community.

At the <u>9/16 Work Session</u>, the Town Board <u>reviewed the bid tabulation results from three area waste haulers and discussed scope of service options</u>. The Board discussed key items like pricing, customer service, educational support, sustainability and ability to deliver on the Town's service level requirements. All costs for waste services that residents pay via their utility bills are paid directly to the hauler. Staff received preliminary direction from the Town Board to work with Republic Services on a contract for PAYT/volume-based pricing for every week trash, every week recycling and every other week organics collection, with electric truck pick-up for all three waste streams. This direction aligns with the Town's sustainability objectives and the ACES recommendation, and will be formally considered by the Town Board during an upcoming regular meeting; this item is tentatively scheduled for the 10/14 Board meeting agenda.

Additionally, at the <u>9/9 Board meeting</u>, the Board had the first reading of an <u>ordinance to eliminate the exclusion of HOA-managed areas</u> from the Town's single-service residential waste service provider area. Many municipalities in the region have transitioned their waste collection to a single-service provider area, which has contributed significantly to meeting each community's diversion and greenhouse gas goals, while providing more choice for individual customers. Additionally, including more customers under one contract often provides cheaper pricing with greater economies of scale, makes customer communication easier, and enhances ability to negotiate potentially beneficial contract provisions. If the ordinance passes, Rock Creek HOA residents will be brought into the Town's contract when the HOA's current contract ends in 2028. The second reading of this ordinance is scheduled for 9/23.