

CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

FROM: The Office of the City Manager **DATE:** February 8, 2021
SUBJECT: Discuss service level requirements for proposals for solid waste and recycling services.
PRESENTER: Karen Manila, Assistant City Manager

SUMMARY:

On January 11, 2021 City Council approved the final 1-year contract extension with Republic Waste Services of Texas, Ltd. and directed staff to schedule a work session item to discuss service levels to include in the request for proposal to be issued for solid waste and recycling services.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The City of North Richland Hills has contracted with Republic Waste Services of Texas, Ltd. (formerly Duncan Waste) since 2008. The current contract, including two (2) optional 1 year extensions, expires on January 31, 2022. Because of ongoing customer service concerns with Republic, it was determined to be in the City's best interest to issue a request for proposals (RFP) for a new contract that would commence on February 1, 2022.

The current contract terms include:

- Twice a week "take all" service on Monday/Thursday or Tuesday/Friday
 - Including up to 4 cubic yards of bundled and bulky waste per week
- Once a week residential curbside recycling on one of the regularly scheduled trash days
 - Only collect what fits in the recycling cart
- Curbside Christmas tree collection, plus central drop-off locations
 - 2 curbside days and 2 drop off locations
- Landfill privileges for residents twice a year
- Free trash and recycling service for city facilities, including Iron Horse Golf Course
- 84 free roll-off hauls
 - Includes regular city operations as well as community events
 - This amount is exceeded each year
- Free landfill privileges for city operations up to 400 cubic yards per month
 - Excess of 400 cubic yards charged per rate schedule
- \$15,000 donation each year to Keep NRH Beautiful
- \$10,000 per year donation for senior programming



Staff has researched services provided to residents of other North Texas cities to determine what service level enhancements could be included in a new contract. The cities surveyed included cities serviced by Republic Waste as well as other trash companies. These services include:

- Home collection and/or drop off locations for electronics disposal
- Curbside collection of household hazardous waste
- “Green” collections that do not get disposed of in a landfill
- Periodic “bulky” collection in addition to take all service
- Leaf collection during “leaf season”
- Collection of cardboard that does not fit into recycling container
- Recycling drop off locations
- Free landfill entry for residents (not limited to 2 times per year)
- Storm debris cleanup collections

In the past, the request for proposal (RFP) was written in such a way that it required a proposal for general service requirements plus allowed for “alternate” proposals for service modifications and/or enhancements. Drafting the RFP in such a way provides a means to do an apples to apples comparison for what is determined to be the general requirements, as well as consider which modifications/enhancements to the service levels would be desirable and/or affordable.

Staff has been in contact with a consultant to assist us with drafting the request for proposal. Additionally, they would work with us to evaluate the proposals we receive, assist with negotiations as well as help us in drafting a contract. While the cost for this service is below the amount requiring City Council approval, staff is seeking City Council consensus on whether or not to engage with an outside consultant.

In summary, staff is seeking City Council input on the following:

- What services you would like to see included in the general service requirements?
- Is City Council in agreement with accepting alternate proposals for service modifications/enhancements?
- Is there City Council consensus to use a consultant to assist us in the procurement of a new solid waste and recycling vendor/contract?