

10-19-22 ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

MODIFIED 10-17-22

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Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2022

Time: 6:00 pm

Place: Conference Room on 10th floor of City Hall, 161 W Michigan Avenue, Jackson, Michigan

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

III. Adoption of the Agenda

IV. Approval of the minutes for the 09-21-22 meeting.

V. New Business

VI. Old Business

VII. 2022 Action Items

a) Refuse and Recycling Committee Report and Discussion

i) Presentation to City Council on 10-11-22 (PowerPoint graphics attached)

b) Sustainable Procurement Committee Report and Discussion

c) Urban Forestry Committee Report and Discussion

i) Forester/Arborist position

VIII. Citizen Comments (3 minute limit)

IX. Commissioner Comments

X. Next Meeting – Wednesday, 11-16-22 at 6:00pm

XI. Adjournment

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION 09-21-22 MEETING

MINUTES (PREPARED 09-26-22)

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Date: Wednesday, September 21, 2022

Time: 6:00 pm

Place: Conference Room on 10th floor of City Hall, 161 W Michigan Avenue, Jackson, Michigan

I. Call to Order *Chairperson Kazmier called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.*

II. Roll Call

Present: *Commissioner Jane Flores, Commissioner Will Forgrave (Sixth Ward Councilmember), Commissioner Kelsey Heck Wood (Vice Chairperson), Commissioner Jacob Inosencio, Commissioner Kevin Lund and Commissioner Kelli Kazmier (Chairperson).*

Absent: *None.*

Staff: *Troy R White, City of Jackson Engineering*

Also Present: *None.*

III. Adoption of the Agenda

Motion made by Commissioner Inosencio and seconded by Commissioner Heck Wood to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion approved unanimously.

IV. Approval of 08-17-22 Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Inosencio and seconded by Commissioner Flores to approve the minutes for the 08-17-22 meeting with an amendment to show that Mayor Daniel Mahoney was in attendance. Motion approved unanimously.

V. Old Business – No Mow May

Commissioner Heck Wood related that, at the last meeting, it was determined that she would draft a memo to City Council to encourage participation in No Mow May.

Commissioner Inosencio stated that the Commission should recommend that weed enforcement be relaxed.

Commissioner Heck Wood discussed input from the Mayor at the July meeting that signs could be used to designate lawns that are participating and should not be cited.

Commissioner Inosencio inquired whether the Commission should draft recommended noxious weed ordinance amendments.

Commissioner Heck suggested that text for such an amendment should be generated at the City Council level. Commissioner Forgrave concurred.

VI. 2022 Action Items

a) Refuse and Recycling Committee Report and Discussion

Commissioner Kazmier reported that she modified the previously presented slide show to reflect research by Commissioner Lund and the cost summaries for clean-up days and leaf pickups provided by Mr. White. She reported that the draft slideshow had been presented to the City Manager who suggested that it be modified and presented to City Council members.

The modified slide show was then presented to the Commission. Suggestions were received from Commissioners for minor modifications to form and content. It was determined by consensus that the slideshow with the provided suggested modifications is ready for presentation to City Councilmembers. The final slideshow with the suggested modifications incorporated is attached.

b) Sustainable Procurement Committee Report and Discussion

No report of progress since previous meeting.

Chairperson Kazmier suggested that goals be set to work towards incorporating environmental sustainability into the City's contracting process.

Commissioner Lund suggested that it may be easier for City Council to address a single environmental initiative at a time – perhaps sustainable procurement should be progressed after the Refuse and Recycling presentation has been made to City Councilmembers.

Chairperson Kazmier closed discussion.

c) Urban Forestry Committee Report and Discussion

No report of progress since previous meeting.

Commissioner Inosencio related his interest in the City hiring a forester or arborist to manage trees and landscaping in a more appropriate manner and to select appropriate new trees and ground covers.

Commissioner Inosencio will draft a memo to City Council for the Commission to consider at the next Commission meeting.

VII. Citizen Comments

None.

VIII. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Kazmier commented on two subjects:

- 1) *Based on a review of the information from the DDA, it does not appear that a booth at the Farmers' Market is an option for community outreach. This item is tabled.*
- 2) *A review of the information provided from the wastewater treatment plant shows that biosolids generated by the plant test below action limits for PFAs and the biosolids are being sold and applied to farmers' fields.*

A question was asked whether there is better practice for disposing of biosolids containing PFAs.

Commissioner Kazmier replied that landfilling is an option. She related that PFAs are a carcinogen. People get exposed to PFAs from pans used for cooking and the PFAs pass from humans to the treatment plant. Spreading biosolids from the plant on fields spreads PFAs. The more biosolids are added to a field over time, the more the PFAs become concentrated.

Commissioner Heck Wood presented the attached memo to City Council regarding No Mow May for the Commission's consideration. The memo was read aloud and then approved by consensus. The memo will be transmitted to the City Manager so that it can be communicated to City Councilmembers.

Commissioner Lund suggested that the quote by past Mayor Dobies in the Environmental Action Plan regarding modernization of the City's waste systems be included in the slideshow presentation to Councilmembers regarding refuse pickup. Other commissioners suggested doing so may not help move the issued forward.

Commissioner Lund also suggested that the slideshow, after it is presented to City Councilmembers, be posted on the City's website.

IX. Next meeting – Wednesday, October 19, 2022 at 6:00 pm.

XVI. Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner Inosencio and supported by Commissioner Heck Wood to adjourn approved unanimously. Meeting ended at 7:34 pm.

CITY OF JACKSON ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

161 W. MICHIGAN AVENUE, JACKSON, MICHIGAN 49201

September 21, 2022

City Council
City of Jackson
161 W Michigan Avenue
Jackson, MI 49201

RE: No Mow May in the City of Jackson

Dear City Council:

The Environmental Commission recommends City Council consider implementing No Mow May starting in May 2023.

No Mow May is a conservation initiative where people refrain from mowing their lawns during the month of May - this allows grass to grow creating habitat for early season pollinators. This is particularly important in urban areas where there are limited spaces for growth.

Communities in Michigan are already getting on board with No Mow May - in 2022 the cities of Albion and Ann Arbor adopted No Mow May. Additional information can be found at <https://www.beecityusa.org/no-mow-may/> or on the City of Albion and/or City of Ann Arbor websites.

Refuse and Recycling in Jackson

Jackson Environmental Commission – October 2022

Overview

Challenges and Goals

Current Costs to City

Current Cost to Residents

**Service and Price Comparison with
Peer Communities**

Conclusions and Recommendations

Challenges and Goals

- Decrease illegal dumping of trash in public areas
 - Mitigate trash build-up in garages, porches, yards and reduce associated cost of inspection, enforcement and clean-up
 - Limit emissions/street wear from large vehicles
 - **Lower costs and increase accessibility to trash services for Jackson residents**
-

Current Costs to City Overview

CD Activities and Costs

- Monitoring reports
- Issuing citations
- Managing compliance
- Escalating non-compliance

DPW Activities and Costs

- Conducting property inspections
- Enforcing private clean-ups
- Cleaning up streets and dumping in public areas

Other City Activities and Costs

- Leaf pickups
 - Community clean-ups
-

CD Garbage + Debris Reports

2019

800 total citations issued
citywide

2018- 1352 citations

2020-21- 689 citations

Cost Breakdown

Factoring in staff time and
fees, this cost the city an
estimated **\$160-200k** in 2019

DPW Inspection and Clean-up

2019

DPW invoiced **218** clean-ups
for a total cost of **\$73,825.99**

2018- \$72,725

2021-2022- \$65,480

Cost Breakdown

Contractor costs - \$44,980

DPW costs - \$13,585.99

Inspection fees - \$15,260

- This does not include costs for police assistance
-

DPW Street and Dumping Clean-ups

2019

DPW spent **\$109,352.43** to clean streets and to fund clean-ups of known trash dumping sites

2018- \$61,069

2021-2022- \$122,440

Cost Breakdown

Major Streets - \$42,131.73

Local Streets - \$67,220.70

Other Activities and Costs

Leaf Pickups

2 Rounds/year

2021-2022- **\$231,851**

Community Cleanups

2 Times/year

2021-2022- **\$24,090**

CD Garbage + Debris
Reports

DPW Street Cleaning

Community Cleanups



\$180,000

\$73,826

\$109,352

\$231,851

\$24,090

DPW Inspection and
Cleanup

Leaf Pickups

Cost of Garbage Services to City Per Year

\$619,119

Tax Burden to Residents

\$619,119 / 11,000 service units / 12 mo =

\$4.70 / mo

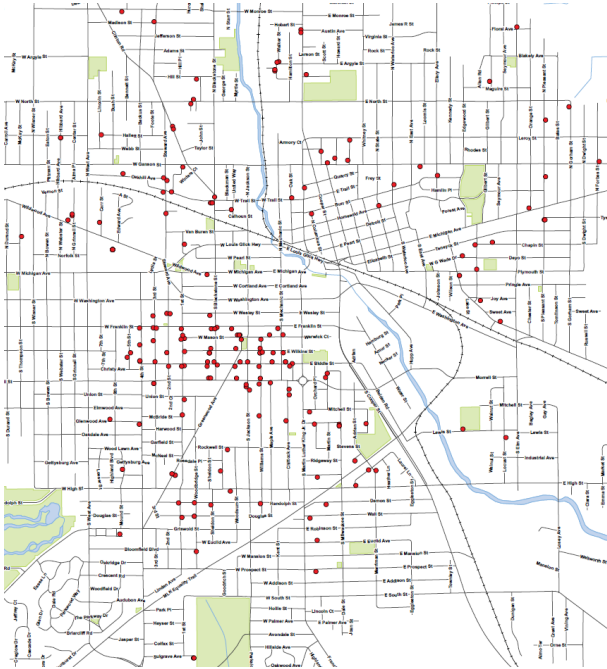
Current Costs to Residents Overview

Effects of Trash Accumulation on
Community

Current Services and Prices

2021 GIS map of
private residence
citations

Effects of Private Trash Accumulation and Public Dumping



- Trash accumulation affects the entire city
 - DPW using valuable city time and money cleaning nuisance dumping locations, instead of addressing other community needs
 - Fines and clean-up costs are expensive for affected residents
 - **Trash buildup in our homes, neighborhoods, and public areas affects our quality of life**
-

Cost of Garbage Service (2022)

In Jackson, we pay a high price for few services from large and small haulers

Services	90-100 gal trash	60-65 gal trash	20-40 gal trash	Per bag service	Curbside Recycling	Curbside Yard waste
Emmons	\$31.90/mo	\$28.70/mo	\$24.60-25.80/mo	\$32.50/6 bags	Weekly, included	\$2/ bag 10 bag/ wk
Modern	\$30.35/mo	\$26.75/mo	X	X	X	X
Granger	\$35.23/mo	\$31.46/mo	X	X	X	X
Mohawk	\$28.00/mo	\$23.00/mo	X	X	X	X
A1	\$35.00/mo	\$30.00/mo	\$25.00/mo	X	X	X

Average- \$27.98

Cost of Garbage Service Per Month
\$27.98/mo avg fee + \$4.70/mo tax =
\$32.68/mo

Total Cost of Garbage Service per Year
\$32.68 x 12 months x 11,000 service units =
\$4.31 million

Cost Comparison to Peer Communities Overview

Regional Refuse Service Models

City-Performing Services

- Comparison of Peer Communities
- City of East Lansing 2021

Contractor-Performing Services

- Comparison of Peer Communities
 - City of Flint 2021
-

Regional Refuse Service Models

Jackson is **alone** among peer communities in not providing garbage service directly or through an contracted single hauler

Lansing	city-performing municipal service
East Lansing	city-performing municipal service
Ann Arbor	city-performing municipal service
Kalamazoo	city-performing municipal service
Midland	city-performing municipal service (refuse), contracted SH (recycling, Republic)
Flint	contracted single hauler-performing municipal service (Priority)
Adrian	contracted single hauler-performing municipal service (Stevens)
Battle Creek	contracted single hauler-performing municipal service (Republic)
Hillsdale	contracted single hauler-performing/administering service (Modern)

Jackson
 \$28 fee +
 \$5 tax burden

City-Performing Services (2022)

Services	90-100 gal trash	60-65 gal trash	20-40 gal trash	Per bag service	Curbside Recycling	Curbside Yard waste	Bulk Item/ Other
Lansing	\$20/mo fee	\$19/mo fee	\$9-18/mo fee	X	\$10/mo tax		\$17-33/ item Haz Was Comm Serv
Midland	\$3/mo fee + \$8/mo tax + \$70 (can)*	X	X	X	Included, Contracted	\$3/mo + \$70 (can)*	Included Haz Was Dumpsters

*Add \$6/mo for first year per can

Fees are taken from city websites (2022)

Taxes are estimated by taking most recent available city budget revenue and/or expenditures divided by estimated service units

Jackson
 \$28 fee +
 \$5 tax burden

City-Performing Services (2022)

Services	90-100 gal trash	60-65 gal trash	20-40 gal trash	Per bag service	Curbside Recycling	Curbside Yard waste	Bulk Item/ Other
Kalamazoo (1.8 mills)	\$10/mo tax, personal cans				Included	Included, Contracted	Included Haz Was
East Lansing (1.825 mills)	\$8/mo fee +13/mo tax + \$79 (can)	\$13/mo tax + \$70 (can)	\$13/mo tax + \$58 (can)	\$10/ 5 bags	\$45-55 (can)	\$2/ bag	\$20/ item Haz Was
Ann Arbor (2.33 mills)	\$3/mo fee + \$42/mo tax	\$42/mo tax	\$42/mo tax	X	Included	Included	X

Fees are taken from city websites (2022)

Taxes are estimated by taking most recent available city budget revenue and/or expenditures divided by estimated service units

Ann Arbor is the only community in our investigation with more expensive service

- 1.3x our cost at 1.9x our household income

City-Performing Service Comparison

City of Jackson

- 11k service units/33k population
- 23k/37k individual/household income

- Total cost- **\$4.3 million/year**
- Average cost- **\$33/mo** fees + taxes

City of East Lansing

- 15k service units/48k population
- 24k/41k individual/household income

- Total cost- **\$2.41 million/year**
- Average cost- **\$13/mo** in taxes

East Lansing provides weekly trash and recycling services to **every resident, free** at point of service for **less than half** of what we currently pay per unit

Jackson
\$28 fee +
\$5 tax burden

Contractor-Performing Services (2022)

Services	90-100 gal trash	60-65 gal trash	20-40 gal trash	Per bag service	Curbside Recycling	Curbside Yard waste	Bulk Item/ Other
Flint	\$16/mo tax	X	X	X	Included	Included	Included
Adrian	\$20/mo tax	X	X	X	Included	\$2/ bag	\$10/ item
Battle Creek	\$20-30/mo* fee	X	X	X	Included	Included	Included
Hillsdale	X	\$10.50/mo	X	X	\$3.50/mo	Included	X

*\$10/mo discount for curbside service

Our competitive marketplace simply costs more

Contractor-Performing Service Comparison

City of Jackson

- 11k service units/33k population
- 23k/37k individual/household income

- Total cost- **\$4.3 million/year**
- Average cost- **\$33/mo** fees + city tax

City of Flint

- 34k service units/111k population
- 18k/30k individual/household income

- Total cost- **\$6.56 million/year**
- Average cost- **\$16/mo** (city tax)

Flint provides weekly trash, recycling, and yard waste services to **every resident, free** at point of service for **half** of what we currently pay per unit

Additional Benefits to Flint's Contract

- Trash dumpster drop-off services
 - Recycling dumpsters for multi-family residents
 - Control of routes to limit emissions and road wear
 - Tracked deliveries to licensed landfill and material recovery facilities
 - Fines for inappropriate dumping, leakage, minimum requirements for service vehicles
 - Anti-bligh, community clean-up efforts
 - Disability assistance program
-

Jackson
 \$28 fee +
 \$5 tax burden

Contractor-Performing Services (2022)

Services	90-100 gal trash	60-65 gal trash	20-40 gal trash	Per bag service	Curbside Recycling	Curbside Yard waste	Bulk Item/ Other
Flint	\$16/mo tax	X	X	X	Included	Included	Included
Adrian	\$20/mo tax	X	X	X	Included	\$2/ bag	\$10/ item
Battle Creek	\$20-30/mo* fee	X	X	X	Included	Included	Included
Hillsdale	X	\$10.50/mo	X	X	\$3.50/mo	Included	X
Jackson-Granger 2013	Maximum \$14/mo fee (2022- \$17/mo)			X	Included	X	X

We have paid an estimated **\$19.0 million** dollars more due to repeal of single hauler ordinance

Conclusions

Importance of Universal Access

Is our system worth the cost?

Recommendations

Our Best Chance for Change is Universal Access

- Residents without garbage service can lead to accumulation of trash in private and public areas with significant clean up costs for the city
 - Residents can accumulate steep fees (\$150-250 dollars) that if not paid, persist with the property and can be added to property taxes
 - If residents cannot pay these fees, they can lose their homes
 - \$13-16/mo is less than the cost of one citation per year and the resident gains reliable, automatic access to competitively-priced garbage services
 - **We are failing our most vulnerable residents by uniquely refusing to provide affordable, automatic service**
-

Is our current system worth paying

\$20 more / month?

\$1.89 million more / yr?

\$19 million more for another decade?

Recommendations

Advantages of Curbside Service

- Lower costs

Advantages of Single Hauler Service

- Even lower costs
- Universal service
- Expanded service
- Control of service

Advantages of City-Performing Service

- Even lower costs
 - Even more control of service
-

Thank you for your consideration!

2013 curbside bids

Granger:

(2022 Inflation adjustment)

Weekly Trash and Weekly Recycling

65 Gallon: \$63.87/quarter

(\$77.08/quarter)

96 Gallon: \$63.87/quarter

Weekly Trash and Bi-Weekly Recycling

65 Gallon: \$57.87/quarter

(\$69.84/quarter)

96 Gallon: \$57.87/quarter

Bi-Weekly Trash and Bi-Weekly Recycling

65 Gallon: \$49.62/quarter

(\$59.88/quarter)

96 Gallon: \$49.62/quarter

*Weekly Trash and Recycling w/o "Closed County Law"**

No more than \$42/quarter

(\$50.69/quarter)
