

THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT NO: 10-043

DATE ISSUED: April 6, 2010

ATTENTION: Natural Resources and Culture Committee Agenda of April 14, 2010.

SUBJECT: Amendment of SDMC 59.5.0406 - Refuse Collection Hours in Residential Areas

REFERENCE: None

REQUESTED ACTION:

Amend SDMC section 59.5.0406 Refuse Vehicles and Parking Lot Sweepers to permit refuse and recycling vehicles to operate in residential areas starting at 6:00 a.m., which is one hour earlier in the morning than is currently permitted.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approve requested action.

SUMMARY:

City of San Diego (City) crews collect and transport refuse, curbside recyclables, and yard waste from San Diego residences using heavy duty refuse and recycling packers which deliver these waste commodities to landfills and recycling centers throughout the San Diego area. Currently the San Diego Municipal Code (SDMC) permits the operation of these collection vehicles between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. in residential areas. This section falls within the Noise Abatement and Control section of the Municipal Code.

As part of the Environmental Services Department (ESD) effort to increase efficiency and reduce operating costs, we have proposed reorganizing refuse and recycling collection routes from eight hour workdays to ten hour workdays. This proposed change in daily collection hours requires an amendment to SDMC section 59.5.0406 to permit refuse and recycling collection beginning one hour earlier in the morning, at 6:00 a.m. instead of the current 7:00 a.m., so as to effectively utilize daylight hours and meet the operational hours of disposal sites and recycling centers which receive the City's refuse and recyclables.

The Miramar Landfill (Landfill) closes at 4:30 p.m. each day to comply with the requirements of its operating permit to cover the day's trash prior to sunset. The Landfill lease between the City

and the Department of the Navy prohibits Landfill operation after dark under artificial lighting due to potential conflicts with MCAS Miramar operations.

At this time, the City, MEA, and AFSCME Local 127 have agreed through the meet and confer process that the refuse, recycling, and yard waste collection shift start time shall be thirty minutes earlier than the current shift start time, resulting in residential collection beginning at 6:30 a.m. However, ESD is recommending amending the Municipal Code to allow for a 6:00 a.m. start time to provide future flexibility in case further efficiencies and further agreements with the labor unions would allow for collection beginning at 6:00 a.m.

Two-thirds of the communities in the County permit residential waste collection at 6:00 a.m.

Carlsbad	6:00 AM	La Mesa	6:00 AM
Chula Vista	7:00 AM	Lemon Grove	6:00 AM
Coronado	7:00 AM	National City	6:00 AM
County of San Diego	6:00 AM	Poway	7:00 AM
Del Mar	6:00 AM	San Diego	7:00 AM
El Cajon	6:00 AM	San Marcos	6:00 AM
Encinitas	6:00 AM	Santee	6:30 AM
Escondido	6:00 AM	Solana Beach	6:00 AM
Imperial Beach	7:30 AM	Vista	6:00 AM

San Diego's solid waste collection program is often compared to Phoenix, San Jose and Long Beach. Phoenix and San Jose begin collection at 6 a.m., and Long Beach begins at 7:00 a.m.

Amending the Municipal Code to permit collection beginning at 6:00 a.m. ensures that refuse vehicles will be able to complete waste collection services, and maneuver through afternoon traffic, with adequate time to deposit waste prior to the landfill closing, thereby facilitating the department's 10-hour day cost saving measure. Public services will be more efficiently routed, but no new traffic will be generated. Emission reduction measures such as more efficient routing are an increasingly important component of local government carbon reduction strategies. As the AB32 scoping plan triggers increased reporting and reduction requirements, such measures become increasingly important. No potential significant impacts associated with this project have been identified. This project uses existing roads and is Categorical Exempt per CEQA section 15301.

FISCAL CONSIDERATIONS:

The proposed City-wide waste collection route redesign is anticipated to streamline collection operations and thereby reduce costs to the City by \$4.4 million, approximately \$2.4 million in the General Fund, \$1.8 million in the Recycling Enterprise Fund, and \$200,000 in the Refuse Disposal Enterprise Fund.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL and/or COMMITTEE ACTION:

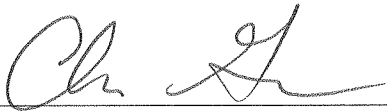
None.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND PUBLIC OUTREACH EFFORTS:

Residents will be informed of the new hours of trash, recycling and greenery collection through direct mail, media outreach, news releases for City Council and community groups' newsletters, and web updates. Two to three weeks before implementation, residents will receive the *Curbsider* newsletter and collection calendar notifying them of the change and the media will receive a news release. One to two weeks prior to the program implementation, the media will receive new media "Tweet" as a reminder. Residents with questions or concerns may contact Environmental Services Department Customer Service, or obtain information from the City and Environmental Service Department's websites.

KEY STAKEHOLDERS AND PROJECTED IMPACTS:

Refuse, recycling, and yard waste collection vehicles service all City Council districts in the City of San Diego.



Chris Gonaver
Environmental Services Director



Dave Jarrell
Deputy Chief of Public Works

Attachment: Amended Municipal Code Section 59.5.0406

H: BPR/start time change mgr report.mlv/sb

STRIKEOUT ORDINANCE

NEW LANGUAGE – UNDERLINED

ORDINANCE NUMBER O-_____ (NEW SERIES)

DATE OF FINAL PASSAGE _____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 5, ARTICLE 9.5,
DIVISION 4 OF THE SAN DIEGO MUNICIPAL CODE
BY AMENDING SECTION 59.5.0406 RELATING TO THE
START TIME FOR OPERATION OF REFUSE VEHICLES
AND PARKING LOT SWEEPERS.

§ 59.5.0406 Refuse Vehicles and Parking Lot Sweepers

No person shall operate or permit to be operated a refuse compacting, processing,
or collection vehicle between the hours of 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. or a parking lot
sweeper between the hours of 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. in any residential area unless
a permit has been applied for and granted by the Administrator.

GCL:mb
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Or.Dept:ESD
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