



CITY OF **DOUGLAS** WYOMING
HOME OF THE JACKALOPE.

Agenda Item Report City Council - June 27, 2022

Department

Administration

Staff Contact

J.D. Cox

Recommendations

Consider adopting Resolution #2022-15.

Executive Summary

Douglas began recycling in 2016. There were two dedicated employees hired for the recycle program. We accepted aluminum, cardboard, three different types of plastic, steel cans, magazines, and newspapers. There were locations in some of the trailers for accepting glass, however there was no market for it, and was disposed of in the landfill.

Recycling was discontinued in 2019, except for aluminum cans

According to Landfill Supervisor Allen Gorrel, a number of conditions then changed, causing drastic implications on Douglas' recycling program, including the following:

1. WYCO (the company who accepted our recycling) was purchased by Waste Management.
2. This new company started charging more for the semi-trailer that would haul our recycled items and began to charge an additional fee for pickup.
3. The market for recyclable materials dried up (previously shipped to China).
4. This resulted in an upside down cost structure where materials that we could previously sell by the ton now cost by the ton.
5. Additionally, it was difficult to keep employees in the recycle positions.
6. Without a distribution center to take recycling (while remaining cost positive) and without the ability to fill the recycling positions, all recycling except for aluminum cans, was discontinued in 2019.

Appearances of Recycling

In addition, a second problem also exists in that the recycling containers have remained in place and have not yet been pulled. Unfortunately, this keeps the appearance that our recycle program is continuing.

Alignment to Strategic Goals and/or Other Plans

Recycling is not currently a part of the City of Douglas Strategic Goals

Budget/Fiscal Impact



Fund	n/a
Department	n/a
Line Item Descript	n/a
Project	n/a
Amount	No costs anticipated and no budget impact

Responsible Staff

J. D. Cox, City Administrator
John Harbarger, Director of Public Works

Action Requested

1. Establish Recycling Feasibility Task Force
2. Remove Recycling Dumpsters Until Program is Reactivated
3. Communicate Plan to Public

Reviewed/Approved

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Works |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Administrator | <input type="checkbox"/> Finance |

Recommended Motion

- I move to approve Resolution No. 2012-15, that will:
1. Establish a Recycling Task Force to study recycling costs, to explore how to pay for recycling and other opportunities and options for recycling in the City of Douglas, with a report due back to Council by September 30.
 2. Direct City Staff to remove all recycling dumpsters and to provide clarification to the Public.
 3. Direct City Staff to communicate the plan to the public.

Attachments

Attachment #1: Resolution No. 2012-15