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Date: Tue, 20 Jul 2004 23:09:58 EDT

From: RISHTURNER@aol.com [Add To Address Book](#)

Subject: Mtg. 7/21 - Solid Waste

To: jasinskib@rochesterhills.org

Dear Bev,

I am unable to attend the Council Meeting and would appreciate it if you would read my statement that follows:

"The Solid Waste Plan has been in the works for several years and I have followed it very carefully." Not too long ago a letter to the editor of the Eccentric appeared in which the resident indicated that the figures of one truck equals X number of cars must be fabricated because he could not find such information. I immediately found at least three websites including the Michigan Department of Transportation which refers to these car-truck ratios. I agree that information must be backed up with researched facts. The point is these figures are available. Here are some direct quotes, "the fact is that a single 40-ton truck puts as great a strain on the blacktop as 300,000 cars do. Heavy-vehicle traffic is, accordingly, one of the main causes of road damage." That is from BASF. Another quote from University of Michigan is as follows, "Winter climate is only partly to blame for deteriorating road conditions. Roads are also damaged from the stresses imposed by traffic, particularly heavy trucks."

Let's do the math regarding wear and tear on our roads by trucks versus cars. Currently, four waste companies operate in our city. All of them operate in many, if not most, of our neighborhoods each week. Each company has three trucks, one for garbage, one for recycling, and one for yard waste. The figures regarding one truck equals X number of cars vary, from 3,000 up to 15,000, depending on the weight of the truck. Using a very conservative figure of one truck equals 5,000 cars, means that half of the year we have 12 times 5,000 trucks, or the equivalent of 60,000 extra cars on our residential roads, and the rest of the year we have 8 times 5,000 or the equivalent of 40,000 extra cars on our roads **every week**. A great deal of damage is thus done to roads that are already in trouble. We know those roads have to be repaired and maintained. And we have a pretty good idea of where the money will have to come from -- us. It is ironic that "the right to choose one's own trash hauler" creates an economic burden on all of Rochester Hills residents.

If City Council votes to put a Solid Waste Plan into effect with one hauler, it will reduce the road usage from the equivalent of 60,000 and 40,000 "extra cars" down to 15,000 and 10,000 simply by reducing the trucks from 12 to 3 and from 8 to 2, depending on the time of year. In addition we won't have garbage sitting on our streets four days a week!

It is my hope that the City Council will vote in favor of this Solid Waste Plan for the sake of our residential roads, better service and controlled costs. Please **strongly** consider voting in favor of a single hauler.

Pat Turner
2407 Culbertson

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[Go to](#)

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[Inbc](#)

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Date: Tue, 20 Jul 2004 20:36:43 -0400

From: "TheBonners" <thebonners@wideopenwest.com> [Add To Address Book](#)

Subject: FW: Trash Collection

To: <jasinskib@rochesterhills.org>

Cc: <galeczkas@rochesterhills.org>, "'lois'" <lois@loisgolden.com>

Dear Ms. Jasinski,

Please note below the e-mail that I submitted to the council members earlier this week. It has been suggested that I forward it to you and formally request that it be read into the minutes of the meeting tomorrow, as I will be unable to attend. By way of this e-mail I am making that request.

I very much appreciate your assistance in this matter. Please feel free to contact me should there be any questions with which I might be of assistance. My cell is 586-255-2889 and my home phone is listed below.

Thank-You,

Mike Bonner

-----Original Message-----

From: TheBonners [mailto:thebonners@wideopenwest.com]

Sent: Monday, July 19, 2004 9:01 PM

To: 'barnettb@rochesterhills.org'; 'daltonj@rochesterhills.org'; 'duistermarsj@rochesterhills.org'; 'hillm@rochesterhills.org'; 'holderb@rochesterhills.org'; 'raschkel@rochesterhills.org'; 'robbinsg@rochesterhills.org'

Cc: 'jmenard@detnews.com'; 'gopwani@freepress.com'; 'ann.zaniewski@oakpress.com'; 'akingsbury@oe.homecomm.net'; 'gmiles@detnews.com'

Subject: Trash Collection

Dear Council Members,

Last year, when this matter was brought up, many of us worked diligently to express our disbelief that our elected city officials would endeavor to create a monopolistic system for waste hauling in our community. To make matters even worse, it was proposed as a means of saving we, the taxpayers, money. Anyone who has completed high school government and economics knows two things:

1. In a free market society, only competition can provide the forces necessary to contain prices, and
2. Governments' goal is not to save money for the taxpayer; it is by its very nature a body characterized by wasteful spending practices.

Each of us deserves the freedom of choice of who will provide service to our homes. It is these votes, cast with our spending decisions, that drives competitors to provide cost effective services in a timely, reliable fashion. Without the fear of losing the customer, there is no motivation to perform, and for us, the consumer, there is no recourse. Another freedom is lost!

You were elected by us to represent our best interests. Many of our roads are in a total state of disrepair and our local parks are in serious need of attention. Yet you insist on dabbling in areas of market driven economics where government, especially our local government, has no business. Shouldn't your attentions be focused on these more pressing municipal issues? Couldn't this \$100,000 have been put to much better use? (see item 2 above) We often expect our state and national representatives to be out of touch, but not our local officials. This is your community, too!

I was a customer of Waste Management when I first moved to this community. Their prices were continuously increasing and their billing and pick-up service was unreliable. I chose to move to another service (Trash Taxi) and have been happy with the results. When I cancelled my service with Waste Management, I cast my vote with my dollars, but perhaps equal satisfaction lay in the fact that I exercised my right to choose.

Please do the right thing and put an end this \$100,000 debacle on Wednesday night.

PLEASE DO NOT TAKE AWAY MY FREEDOM TO CHOOSE WHO PROVIDES SERVICES TO MY HOME!

Sincerely,

Michael R. Bonner

2320 Pleasant View Dr.

Rochester Hills, MI 48306

(248) 608-0104

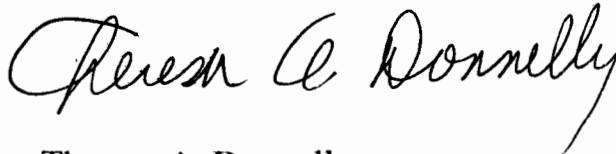
Date July 20, 2004
To Rochester Hills
City Council
From James and Theresa Donnelly
Re Waste Hauler

As a resident of the Brookedale Woods Subdivision we have 379 homes in the subdivision. As of last count we have 369 residents signed up with one waste hauler, and receive a discount rate from them.

We don't need the City Council getting involved in waste pickup, and creating a monopoly. You have enough problems handling what comes before you without creating a monopoly that the majority of the residents don't want.

Don't be so quick with this issue, put it on the November ballot and let the residents decide what's good for them.


James Donnelly


Theresa A. Donnelly