

CITY OF ROCHESTER HILLS

Building
Department

Scott Cope, Director Building/Ordinance
Services
Bob White, Supervisor of Ordinance
Services

DATE: April 22, 2008
TO: Mayor Barnett/City Council
RE: Single Solid Waste Hauler

This memo is a brief synopsis of the attached solid waste survey conducted in March-April of 2008

Surveys were distributed to thirteen (13) communities.

Four of the communities in the survey do not have a single solid waste hauler program. Those communities are; Auburn Hills, Clinton Township, Orion Township and West Bloomfield. During the interviews with the representatives of these communities, three of the four stated that they would prefer to have a single hauler and are in the process of approaching their respective Councils or Boards to consider it.

The remaining communities in the survey have a single waste hauler. These communities are: Farmington Hills, Livonia, Ray Township, Rochester, Royal Oak, Shelby Township, Southfield, Sterling Heights, and Troy.

The single waste hauler programs in these communities serve between 800 (Ray Township) to 39,000 (Livonia) residential homes. Only one community (Troy) has businesses included in the program. Sterling Heights recently eliminated its dumpster pickup for businesses and many of the multi-family buildings as part of a cost recovery program.

All but two communities fund the solid waste program by millage and make it part of the homeowner's property taxes. Millage rates for solid waste collection range from .65 mills to 2.814 mills. The fees per household vary with the millage method based on the taxable value of the home. In the other two communities, (Ray and Shelby Townships) the hauler does the billing direct to the customer. The cost per household is \$101.64 per year in Ray Township (curbside refuse only, no bulk, yard waste or white goods) and \$146.16 in Shelby Township (full service). Ray Township (serving 800 homes) is the only community that provides an interruption of service for those who leave the community for the winter. The hauler charges a \$15.00 fee to start collections again upon their return. Shelby Township is the only community with a senior discount.

The experience with a single solid waste hauler program varies among the communities surveyed from 3 years to over 39 years. The length of contracts vary from 3 years to 10 years with similar renewal options.

The companies who have contracted with these communities are: Waste Management, Allied Waste, Richfield, Rizzo, and Tringali.