



**City of Rochester Hills
AGENDA SUMMARY
NON-FINANCIAL ITEMS**

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Legislative File No: 2006-0034

TO: City Council Members
FROM: James Rosen, City Council President
DATE: March 24, 2006
SUBJECT: Solid Waste Program Re-Evaluation

The single trash hauler is a complex mix of facts, estimates and opinions that often conflict. This work session to look at the issue will be a different approach than we usually use to study a complex issue.

One of our residents, David Grossman, is a well-respected expert in problem solving and facilitation using a technique called Mind Mapping. Mind Mapping is a visual approach to understanding the relationships of information that lead to a decision. A brief bio on Mr. Grossman is included. The technique helps a group, such as the Council, to understand a complex problem and find an optimal solution that minimizes or even eliminates most of the negatives. I have used techniques very similar to this in the past and found them very helpful and productive.

I, along with Bryan Barnett and Scott Cope, have been working with Mr. Grossman over the last couple of weeks to “pre-load” the information on the single trash hauler issue we already have into the “model”. This “pre-loading” will save a significant amount of time in the beginning of the work session. Once we review the information we have already captured, we can spend more time understanding the remaining issues and concerns, and developing ways to address the concerns.

I believe the overall technique will solidify our understanding of the issue and identify any remaining issues to be determined. While we will not make any definitive decisions at the work session, at some point the Council will understand whether we can seriously consider an updated final proposal to implement a single trash hauler program, or whether the issue should be thrown out.

We have included a fairly extensive packet of information that has been previously developed by the CDV and the rest of Council. There is no “new” information here. For those familiar with the issue, you may want to review the final presentation as a refresher. If you are new to the issue please review the information more carefully, so you are familiar with the basics.

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