



## City of Shorewood Council Meeting Item

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MEETING TYPE  
WORK SESSION

**Title / Subject:** Solid Waste Collection Investigation

**Meeting Date:** September 24, 2018

**Prepared by:** Greg Lerud, City Administrator

**Reviewed by:** Tim Keane, City Attorney

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### **Background:**

Staff commenced the solid waste collection investigation process earlier this spring. On May 8, staff met with the Shorewood licensed haulers. At the May 14 council meeting, the council heard from residents who preferred no changes to the present collection and from those who wanted to consider an organized approach. As was clearly stated at the meeting with the haulers and at the May 14 council meeting, the city does not have a pre-determined timeline or outcome of this process. Since that meeting, the issue has not been on a council or work session agenda, but Council members and staff have received numerous comments from residents expressing their opinions and suggestions.

The Council has previously stated that this investigative process should provide ample opportunity for community engagement and public input. Staff has been looking at what other cities are doing as they also examine solid waste collection in their communities. A common step in the investigative process for many of the cities is conducting a survey of the residents regarding solid waste collection.

Staff has considered options for conducting a survey and contacted the firm of Morris Leatherman about conducting a survey. Their firm has conducted surveys in several other cities – some specifically on this topic. A scientific survey conducted by an outside company would cost approximately \$7,000, and it would be that initial opportunity for public input. There are sufficient funds available in the Recycling Fund to cover the cost of a survey. If the council decides to pursue a survey, staff will request an updated proposal that will detail survey methods and timing.

**Next Steps and Timeline:** Staff requests council direction for the next step in this process, and staff will take that direction and bring the matter back to a future meeting for a formal council decision.