

Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL

November 1, 1999

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: MODIFICATIONS TO THE CITYWIDE REFUSE COLLECTION TIMES

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that City Council:

1. Adopt the Negative Declaration approving the Initial Study of the environmental factors surrounding the changing of refuse collection hours.
2. Adopt the refuse collection hours recommended below for citywide application:

Monday--Saturday 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
(In residential, commercial and industrial areas)

Sunday by special permit
(in commercial and industrial areas only)
3. Direct the City Attorney to amend the Pasadena Municipal Code, Section 8.60.200, to reflect the above hours of operation for all refuse collection vehicles.

BACKGROUND

The present Pasadena Municipal Code pertaining to refuse, Section 8.60.200.D, permits refuse collection vehicles to operate between 6:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. in residential areas, Monday through Saturday. Staff is proposing a Municipal Code revision to 1) establish refuse collection hours that are not in conflict with the City's construction noise ordinance (Section 9.36.110), 2) address complaints from the public and 3) provide sufficient number of refuse collection hours for businesses.

When complaints were received from residents about early morning noise relating to collection of refuse, staff investigated and discovered that although the Municipal Code allowed for refuse collection to begin at 6:30 a.m., another section of the Municipal Code, Section 9.36.110 pertaining to construction noise restricted the start time to 7:00 a.m.

Because there appeared to be conflicting elements in the Pasadena Municipal Code, staff sent written notice to all franchise refuse collection operators informing them that the City was restricting refuse collection vehicle operation to begin no earlier than 7:00 a.m. Monday through Saturday. Staff recommends that this apparent conflict in code section be revised by amending Section 8.60.220 to reflect the 7:00 a.m. start time.

Cal Tech has complained that starting trash collection at 7:00 a.m., rather than earlier, interferes with student parking as students arrive for class. Likewise, restaurants in the Old Pasadena District and some fast food businesses have spoken to City staff in a variety of departments and complained that the 7:00 a.m. start time interferes with their morning business because trash collection trucks have difficulties maneuvering around customer traffic.

Conversations between City staff, Pasadena franchisees and businesses, indicate that there is concern about further restricting hours for certain business activities, making Pasadena a less attractive location for doing business. Staff is willing to evaluate placement of refuse bins to minimize business disruption during collection.

The new code should reflect the following times and restrictions.

Monday–Saturday 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
(In residential, commercial and industrial areas)

Sunday With special permit by the Director of Public Works

The revised code will apply to both City and franchise refuse collection vehicles. Both will be required to abide by these times and area zoning restrictions.

A proposal for change in refuse collection hours is not exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) regulations. CEQA regulations require adoption of a Negative Declaration for the environmental initial study (attached), which was conducted to assess the ramifications of this change in the hours on the environment. A completed initial study is required before Council can take action on the proposed amendment of the Municipal Code regarding refuse collection hours. The Initial Study on this project revealed that there are no significant environmental impacts which will result from the acceptance of the recommended hours.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

An Initial Study was conducted by staff in accordance with CEQA regulations to assess the environmental impact of the proposed collection hours. Possible impacts were identified and examined. No significant environmental impacts were found.


FISCAL IMPACT

There is no anticipated fiscal impact.

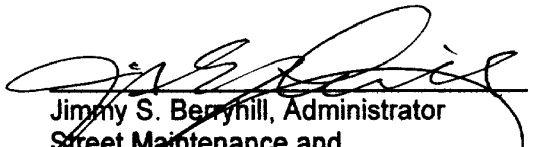
Respectfully submitted,


Cynthia J. Kurtz
City Manager

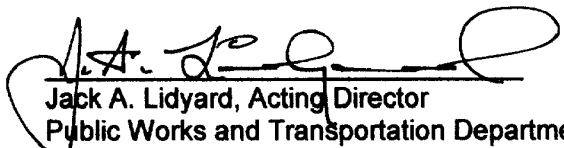
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