

RECYCLING SERVICE UPDATE

Improving Recycling & Garbage Collection for Businesses

Fall 2008

City plans new waste collection system to achieve higher business recycling rates.

Thank you for your input! The City of San José plans to change recycling and garbage services for businesses. An initial concept approved by the City Council reflects extensive input from 500 small and large businesses, analysis of comparable collection models from other cities, and a waste stream study. A comparison of the current system and the proposed system is below.



WASTE COLLECTION SYSTEM COMPARISON

<i>Current</i>	<i>Proposed</i>
Multiple companies authorized to collect recycling and garbage from businesses in San José	Selected companies have exclusive franchise to collect recycling and garbage in identified areas in San José
Businesses recycle less than 20% of their waste	Businesses could recycle up to 80% of their waste
<i>Your Input on the Current System</i>	<i>New System Benefits</i>
Lack of recycling services is an obstacle to recycling more	Consistent suite of services that can be tailored per business
Inconsistent rates, even for neighboring companies with identical service levels	Equitable and consistent rates, with a competitive process to control costs
Varying level of satisfaction with customer service provided by collection companies	Customer service standards and incentives enforced in contracts
Noise and traffic complaints from multiple collection trucks driving overlapping routes on multiple days	Each geographical area would have one collection company, reducing traffic, noise and air pollution

NEXT STEPS

City Council Committee Review

Check the City of San José website at www.sanjoseca.gov/clerk/CommitteeAgenda/TE/TE.asp to confirm date. A detailed report of the information in this update will be presented at the City Council's Transportation and Environment Committee meeting, where next steps will be determined to implement a new system.

COMPLETED

September 2008

City Council directs staff to develop a multi-district exclusive system to increase business recycling.

May 2008

Business Survey and Interview

April 2008

Waste Stream Study

We welcome your input and want to continue to hear from you. If you have questions or concerns, email zerowaste@sanjoseca.gov or contact Mike Foster at (408) 975-2601.

To receive updates and information on the business recycling improvement process, visit: <http://www.sjrecycles.org/business/zerowaste/default.asp> and click on the sign-up link at the bottom of the page.