

May 8, 2002

Honorable Mayor and Members of  
the Hermosa Beach City Council

Regular Meeting of  
May 14, 2002

**REVIEW OF RECYCLING PROGRAM; PUBLIC RECYCLING AND TRASH  
CANS; ALTERNATIVE BILLING PROCEDURE; AND ACCEPT  
RECOMMENDATION TO CONTINUE THE MANUAL COLLECTION  
SYSTEM UNDER THE AGREEMENT WITH  
CONSOLIDATED DISPOSAL SERVICE.**

**Recommendation:**

1. That the City Council review and approve the 32 gallon recycling containers and informational materials;
2. That the City Council approve placement of public recycling and new trash cans throughout the City;
3. That the City Council direct staff to report back on a home composting program in corporation with another jurisdiction;
4. That the City Council approve new procedure for Alternative billing procedures and direct staff to return with a amendment to the municipal code; and,
5. That the City Council accept the staff recommendation to continue the manual collection system.

**Background:**

When the new solid waste disposal and recycling agreement was approved in September of 2001, the City Council directed that the hauler return with a recycling information program and new containers for recycling. In addition, the hauler and staff were to return with a recommendation on whether or not we could use the semi-automated cart system for residential solid waste.

The recycling information program is detailed in the attached letter and is intended to be an ongoing program with different activities each year. The most notable change will be the new 32-gallon container. This will have the City of Hermosa Beach and the recycling logo on it and we will mail a flyer to each resident announcing the change. It is expected that the new containers will be available in August. Residents will be able to keep the current boxes if they wish. The new 32-gallon container will be available at the meeting. CDS will also provide the schools with containers so they can operate a recycling center in order to raise funds for school activities.

**Collection System:**

After reviewing the operation and the very tight spaces that our residents have for storage to trash containers in the narrow streets and parking conditions, it was determined that the manual system of collection would be the most efficient for us. As a result, there is no need to conduct a public hearing or information effort for our residents to determine if they are interested in switching to the cart system. The contract with CDS would be modified to state that the City could consider the cart option in the future.

**Alternative Billing Procedures:**

The municipal code now provides that, in order for a tenant to pay for the trash service, the property owner must file a form at City Hall and then the hauler is notified of the new billing address and name. The application fee for this is \$11.00 and this is processed in the City Manager's office. It is proposed that the process be entirely handled by the hauler and the fee be dropped. I suspect that the application process was designed to make sure that the property owner was aware that if the tenant did not pay the bills that they would be responsible for it. CDS would handle this from their customer service center. They would collect the information and bill the tenant. The property owner would still be on notice and this will eliminate one step for the tenant and property owner. CDS handles this function for other cities that they serve.

**Home Composting:**

The contract provides for handling home composting. A number of other cities with larger lots offer a subsidized compost container. They also offer classes that show residents how to do home composting. It is recommended that staff be directed to look into participating in one of the programs offered in nearby cities so that residents wishing to participate could be offered the subsidized rate for the container and the class.

**Public Recycling Containers:**

It is also recommended that the City purchase and place recycling containers in all locations that are feasible, along side the trash containers. Staff will provide a brochure showing the containers at the meeting. There would be two containers at each location, one for recycling and one for trash. Funds for these containers are budgeted in this fiscal year. The containers would have the City logo on them and could be in place this summer.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen R. Burrell  
City Manager