Our Vision: Brooklyn Park, a thriving community inspiring pride where opportunities exist for all.

Our Brooklyn Park 2025 Goals:

• A united and welcoming community, strengthened by our diversity • Beautiful spaces and quality infrastructure make Brooklyn Park a unique destination • A balanced economic environment that empowers businesses and people to thrive • People of all ages have what they need to feel healthy and safe • Partnerships that increase racial and economic equity empower residents and neighborhoods to prosper • Effective and engaging government recognized as a leader

A. CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Jeffrey Lunde

B. GENERAL INFORMATION
   None

C. DISCUSSION ITEMS/GENERAL ACTION ITEMS – These items will be discussion items but the City Council may act upon them during the course of the meeting.
   C.1 Transit Update and Priorities
   C.2 Update on City-Wide Events – Recreation and Community Engagement Departments
   C.3 Organics Recycling Requirement Discussion
      A. ORGANICS RECYCLING REQUIREMENT DISCUSSION MEMO
      B. MEMO ON ORGANICS RECYCLING ADDENDUM 1
      C. MEMO ON ORGANICS RECYCLING ADDENDUM 2

D. VERBAL REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
   D.1 COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
   D.2 CITY MANAGER REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

E. ADJOURNMENT
City of Brooklyn Park
Council Work Session

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<tr>
<th>Meeting Date:</th>
<th>February 3, 2020</th>
<th>Originating Department:</th>
<th>Community Development</th>
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<tr>
<td>Agenda Item:</td>
<td>C.1</td>
<td>Prepared By:</td>
<td>Cindy Sherman, Planning Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agenda Section:</td>
<td>Discussion Items/ General Action Items</td>
<td>Presented By:</td>
<td>Cindy Sherman and Jeff Holstein, Transportation Engineer</td>
</tr>
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<td>Item:</td>
<td>Transit Update and Priorities</td>
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Summary:

Metro Transit is beginning a two-year effort to develop a vision for the bus network of 2040. Building on the existing network’s strengths, they are setting out to identify expanded bus service across a spectrum of transit improvements, including improved local and express routes, new arterial bus rapid transit (BRT) lines and integrated shared mobility options.

Staff met with Metro Transit staff in December and reviewed existing service and discussed future service desires. Staff will review our response with the Council and add any additional concerns or ideas from the discussion.
City of Brooklyn Park
Council Work Session

Meeting Date: February 3, 2020
Originating Department: Recreation and Parks

Agenda Item: C.2
Prepared By: Kelly Mertes, Recreation Supervisor

Agenda Section: Discussion Items/
General Action Items
Presented By: Michelle Margo, Kelly Mertes
and Josie Shardlow

Item: Update on City-Wide Events – Recreation and Community Engagement Departments

Summary:

In October 2019, the Community Engagement and Recreation Events Team presented to Council an overview of the 2019 Tater Daze event, the results of participant event surveys, along with what was trending in nearby cities related to community-wide celebrations.

As part of this discussion, staff shared they have seen an increase in participation at one-day, smaller scale community events like Concerts, Movies in the Park and Kick-off to National Night Out, and were receiving positive feedback and requests to increase the number of these types of family-oriented events.

Council provided the following direction for staff:
- Bring back a community events plan in early 2020
- City to continue to host an event that celebrates Brooklyn Park history, but open to change in what that looks like
- Incorporate City Hall on the Go! into existing events
- Include community groups in city-wide events

In November 2019, Recreation and Community Engagement led a cross-departmental event planners meeting. They reviewed the Council’s request/direction and mapped out the events that each department has historically led (by month and location). This resulted in the creation of an event calendar for the City. Staff identified areas for collaborating on events, defined what constitutes a program versus an event and discussed other events happening in the city by outside groups that the city could potentially partner with to reach a broader audience.

Staff will present the following information:
- Proposed direction on future city-wide events and partnerships
- Proposed city-wide events calendar
- Proposed Community Engagement Plan – City-wide Events

The vision is to Celebrate Brooklyn Park by providing events and opportunities for residents to come together and celebrate our community.
City of Brooklyn Park  
Council Work Session

Meeting Date: February 3, 2020  
Originating Department: Operations and Maintenance

Agenda Item: C.3  
Prepared By: Tim Pratt, Recycling Manager

Agenda Section: Discussion Items/General Action Items  
Presented By: Tim Pratt

Item: Organics Recycling Requirement Discussion

Summary:

Hennepin County has updated Ordinance 13 requiring cities to ensure residents have access to curbside residential organics recycling collection by January 1, 2022.

Included in the packet is a memo with background information and two options.

Staff will review our options and request Council feedback on how to proceed.

Attachments:

C.3A ORGANICS RECYCLING REQUIREMENT DISCUSSION MEMO
C.3B MEMO ON ORGANICS RECYCLING ADDENDUM 1
C.3C MEMO ON ORGANICS RECYCLING ADDENDUM 2
Memorandum

Date: January 30, 2020

To: Brooklyn Park City Council

From: Tim Pratt, Recycling Manager

Subject: Residential Organics Recycling Service

Cc: Jay Stroebel, City Manager

In late November 2018, the Hennepin County Board updated Ordinance 13 to require that all cities in the county with more than 10,000 residents provide for access to curbside residential organics recycling collection by January 1, 2022.

The County wants to increase the diversion of organic material (food scraps and non-recyclable paper such as napkins and paper towels) from the trash into composting and other recycling options. Turning waste into a resource.

Recent trash composition studies by both the State and the County have shown that the largest component of our trash is organics. The percentage of our trash that is food scraps ranged from 15 – 31% and non-recyclable paper such as napkins and paper towels which could be collected in an organics recycling program made up 5.7 – 9.8%.

There are two options to comply with the mandate: a citywide contract or a garbage hauler licensing requirement. I’m asking the Council to provide direction as to which option members wish the city to pursue.

Is There Interest in Curbside Organics Recycling

First some background. When we discussed organics recycling in 2016, council members noted that they had received little input from residents and wanted staff to do additional education and outreach with residents.

Hennepin County had been consulting with cities for several years about organics recycling incentives and requirements. Starting in 2017 the County created an organics recycling incentive fund. The City of Brooklyn Park received grant funding based on the number of households that are enrolled in an organics recycling program (drop offs and special events are not eligible).
Currently the only eligible option for residents is to contract with Randy’s Environmental Services for organics recycling since no other hauler offers the service. The current cost is $69.95 a year. As of January 1, 2020, there are 34 households in Brooklyn Park that have signed up. Here are charts showing enrollees over time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>2017 Enrollees</th>
<th>2018 Enrollees</th>
<th>2019 Enrollees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brooklyn Park</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

And the resulting organics recycling incentive grant amounts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hennepin County Organics Grants</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Brooklyn Park Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>$759</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note that the grants are awarded at the end of the calendar year for use in the next calendar year.

In 2018, we used the money to pay for educational ads in the Sun newspaper.
In 2019, we experimented with an incentive program. We paid for a mailing to current customers of Randy’s Environmental Services offering to split the cost of the first year of organics recycling service.

Randy’s uses a patented co-collection method where residents put organics in a compostable bag. The bag is placed in the residents’ trash carts. Randy’s sorts trash at its facility in Delano to remove the compostable bags. The bags are then delivered to a composting facility.

The postcards were mailed in March to more than 2,000 customers. Seven customers redeemed the offer.

The number of organics customers lags other cities using similar incentive programs. For instance, Minnetonka pays for the first year of service and about 2% of their residents subscribe to organics service. And our performance is significantly less that cities that have city-wide contracts such as Medina and St. Louis Park which have 20-30% or residents enrolled.

Newsletter
We have had multiple columns in the Park Pages newsletter. The column in the September/October 2019 edition asked residents to submit input on organics recycling options. Resident responses are included as Addendum 1 to this memo.
Survey results
We included a question in the past two resident surveys. Here are the results:

As you may know, some cities have begun a curbside collection program for compostable waste called “organics,” such as food scraps and non-recyclable paper.

37. If a curbside collection program for compostable waste was available to your household, how likely would you be to participate in it – very likely, somewhat likely, not too likely or not at all likely?
   
   Very likely…………21%
   Somewhat likely……..29%
   Not too likely…………24%
   Not at all likely………..24%
   Don’t know/refused……..3%

IF “VERY LIKELY” OR “SOMETHING LIKELY,” ASK: (N=393)

38. Would you be willing to pay a fee of $4 a month to use this program?
   
   Yes…………………..79%
   No…………………..13%
   Don’t know/refused…..8%

As you may know, some cities have begun a curbside collection program for compostable waste called “organics,” such as food scraps and non-recyclable paper.

37. If a curbside collection program for compostable waste was available to your household, how likely would you be to participate in it – very likely, somewhat likely, not too likely or not at all likely?

Very likely…………19%
Somewhat likely……..15%
Not too likely…………34%
Not at all likely………..29%
Don’t know/refused……..3%

IF “VERY LIKELY” OR “SOMETHING LIKELY,” ASK: (N=270)

38. Would you be willing to pay a fee of $5 a month to use this program?

Yes…………………..86%
No…………………..9%
Don’t know/refused…..6%
As part of our RFP process in fall of 2017, Waste Management offered to provide organics recycling service at an additional cost to be determined. They would provide service like how we provide traditional recycling service. All homeowners would be charged for the service, but they would choose whether or not to participate. Participants would put their organics in a compostable bag. Bags would be put in a dedicated organics recycling cart that would be emptied by a dedicated truck. Organics carts are 32-gallons or smaller and are collected weekly year-round.

In November 2019 Waste Management provided a memo detailing their proposal for organics service. That memo is attached as Addendum 2 to this memo. Waste Management is proposing a three-tiered pricing model.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Monthly Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drive by rate (100% residential participation)</td>
<td>$ 1.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscription Rate (Customers who opt in for SSO service)</td>
<td>$ 3.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disposal. (City may pay disposal directly)</td>
<td>$ 0.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total for residents not participating</td>
<td>$ 1.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total for residents participating</td>
<td>$ 5.93</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There would be a base fee of $1.75 per household per month. Then they would charge $3.65 for each household that subscribes to the service. The City could either pay Waste Management an estimated disposal fee of $0.53 per subscriber, or the City could pay the actual tipping fee at the Hennepin County Drop-Off Facility of $25/ton.

This is the pricing model Waste Management uses for the City of Robbinsdale. However, limitations of the software used by our Utility Billing division would make it difficult if not impossible to bill individual households a different rate for their recycling service. Instead the City could estimate the number of households that would participate in the future year and build that into the base rate set each November.

The City could also issue an RFP for residential organics collection to solicit proposals from other companies. The City could then enter a separate contract for organics recycling service.

Establish Organics Service as a Licensing Requirement
According to Hennepin County staff the City could change its licensing requirements for garbage haulers to mandate that they offer organics recycling service. Residents could then opt in as they do now for yard waste service. Given that currently only one hauler offers organics recycling service, it could be a while before other haulers are able to purchase the equipment needed. Also, there may not be route density for the haulers to offer the service cost-effectively.
Updating licensing requirements would require changing the City Code as well as the licensing forms.

Drop-Off Location
Residents can self-haul organics to the Hennepin County Drop-Off Facility in Brooklyn Park. This does not meet the mandate for curbside collection.

How to Proceed
I am requesting City Council direction as to which option they wish the city to pursue:

Option 1 – Citywide Contract

Option 2 – Garbage Hauler Licensing Requirement

Either option will require future City Council action.
Resident Responses to Organics Recycling Options Column

From: Serenity Smile < >
Sent: Sunday, September 01, 2019 12:27 AM
To: Tim Pratt
Subject: Organics Recycling

Hi Tim,

I'm a new resident (moving from out of state) and was glad to see your article in the Brooklyn Park Park Pages newsletter about Organics Recycling. I think it is very important that everyone be able to recycle organics and I support your efforts! I think either way you mentioned would work (although I think I lean more toward the separate cart for organics to be picked up). I am already a dedicated composter, but for most people, whatever might be easiest for them to comply with in a cost effective way would be best. I think it'd be great to give out composters to homeowners who want to recycle themselves (maybe they could get a discounted fee for not requiring organics pickup as an incentive as well). For apartments, perhaps the cart option or the bag option would work better.

I think it's really great that you are spearheading this important initiative. Please let me know if you have any questions or if I can help in any way.

Thank you,

:) Serenity

From: CenturyLink Customer < >
Sent: Friday, August 30, 2019 7:02 PM
To: Tim Pratt
Subject: Recycling organics

Don't believe I have room for a third container in my garage. Compostable bag would be preferable.

Thanks,

Dan Bailey

From: Suzanne Almen < >
Sent: Thursday, August 29, 2019 8:18 PM
To: Tim Pratt
Subject: Organic recycling article

I’m glad Brooklyn Park is looking at organic recycling. We have been using Blue Bag organics through Randy’s for 2 years now. I used to do my own composting but this way I can recycle so much more. I heartily endorse the “blue bag put into my regular garbage can” option over having another garbage can outside that will attract rodents and other pests. We simply got a stainless steel step to open bin for the kitchen and that works great. If I have something early in the week that I think will smell, I freeze it, then dump it on the blue bag on garbage day. I even created a “cheat sheet” attached with a magnet to the top of the can that lists what can go in and what can’t.

The only thing I would change is the offer to get a free bag of compost annually doesn’t do me any good because the nearest pickup point is Delano. I wish Randy’s could just drop it off one time in the spring when they pick up my garbage

Thanks for reading this.

Suzanne Almen
Hey Tim -
Very interesting article in the Brooklyn Park Newsletter. I didn't even know we could bring organics into the drop-off facility. I am excited to hear that we are bringing organics recycling to the city!! I think a separate container would be easiest and most convenient. I get concerned that people would actually use these things - we want to make it easy so people do it. I guess the separate bag for organics would be okay too, one would just have to have a separate trash container for that (at least that's what I'd do), which I would think might stink if it sat for a week.
Anyway, thanks for the update and information!
Take care,
Amy Bement

After reading your article in the Park Pages, want to let you know we do our own composting. This is a good idea for those who don't, but I would hope not to be charged for this program if we don't participate since we do our own.

Tim, My husband and I discussed it and we think having the additional cart would be the best choice. Currently our daughter lives in Minneapolis and that's what they have. It works great.
Putting a compostable bag in along with our garbage seems inefficient. Taking the trash somewhere first to separate it out is an extra step. Also, the likelihood of the bag breaking and then it becomes garbage, seems pretty high.
I understand that having a third cart on your property is kind of a hassle, but then with recycling, and composting, the garbage container could be a smaller version.
I hope Brooklyn Park starts this program sooner than 2022. Currently we have a backyard compost bin and then during the winter I take it to the Transfer Station. Most people probably don't go to this extreme, so let's get moving on it sooner. Make it easier to be earth friendly.

Lynn Rehm
Tim,

OMG! I couldn’t wait to respond to your article in the Sept/Oct. Park Pages! I have been hoping that Organics recycling would be offered in Brooklyn Park! I hope this becomes a reality- sooner than later!

I agree - so much food is wasted, but at least if it could be composted, the organics would still have a use! And so many people use paper napkins and paper towels instead of reusable/washable cloths/rags. And soiled pizza boxes - a lot of these must end up in the garbage!

We must change soon! It took forever for people to start learning why & how to recycle items, but it is finally catching on!

I have contacted my hauler (Ace) many times, requesting organics recycling. We have our own compost bin in the summer, and in the winter we take our organics to the Hennepin /county Drop-Off facility. But having it picked up at our home would be the best!

Your suggestions for the method of recycling.....

I would not think that placing the organics in a compostable bag & put in the trash cart would work.  
1. That would be one more step in the recycling process. (Having to remove the bag from the trash in order for it to be sent to composting.)  
2. The bag might also be missed & end up with the garbage, and not composted.  
3. The organics compostable bags that I have been buying are not very sturdy (very flimsy) - they are easily punctured and might be squashed with the other items in the garbage can.  
4. After about a week, the composting bags (filled with organics) start to decompose and leak!

I think a separate smaller sized organics cart would work better. But I suppose that means more trash cans at the curb, and more trucks to pick up the separate cans?

I hope a lot of people respond with ideas, and that City Council will act soon!

Thanks for your articles,
Connie Boord

P.S. I think repeating your information is valuable. For example - select several common items that people should NOT put in the recycling bins in Brooklyn Park and publish this as a regular part of your article. And remind people that each community has different guidelines & do/do not recycling rules.
Hi Tim!

I’m reading the article on organics and think it would be great if we had a small organics bin that gets picked up weekly.

Thanks!

Katie

Hi Tim-

I saw your article in the recent Park Pages magazine on organics recycling and wanted to share my thoughts.

I am so excited for this!!!! My husband and I currently pay a yearly fee to our trash company, Randy’s Sanitation, to be able to do organics recycling with them. They have us place blue compostable bags (that they provided) with our organics in the regular trash bin and they sort everything out at their facility. It is so easy for us to do it this way. We have a small bin in our kitchen, lined with a small compostable bag, that we use on a daily basis when we are preparing our meals or cleaning up afterwards, then a larger bin in our garage that is lined with the blue bag that we load with our smaller bags from the house.

My parents also collect their organics- they take their bags to the facility on Jefferson Highway once or twice a week.

I keep trying to get more people to participate! My husband and I recently purchased a new house in Brooklyn Park, about a mile from where we currently live, and I made sure to ask the sellers if the home owners association allowed the owners to choose their own trash company- I want to make sure I can still compost!!!

Thanks for what you are doing to help the environment!!

Becky Christensen
Hi Tim –

Just read the Park Pages and saw the article about Organics recycling. I would love to have a small organics cart that got picked up weekly. Currently I am taking my organics to the Hennepin County Drop-Off Facility, but I am not as consistent as I would like to be. If we had a cart, then I would switch to a smaller regular garbage cart. That would help make room! Just wanted to give my input. Have a great week!

Ann Sievers

763-639-5925 (c)

Tim,

I suggest a separate container for organic compost collection. I currently take my organics in a compostable bag to the Hennepin County Recycling and Transfer Station on a monthly basis. The bags are very fragile and often tear when picked-up. If these bags were placed in the trash bin I foresee all the compostable material mixed with the trash and become unsortable at the processing facility.

I believe the highest recycling rates will be achieved if each resident sorts into three separate containers - Trash, Recycling (current single sort), and Compostable organics.

Thank you for asking,
Bill Disch
bill.disch@gmail.com
Hi Tim. Saw your notice in the Park Pages (September/October 2019) about organics recycling. I mentioned it at a family dinner & the outcome was comedy gold, but produced some interesting & meaningful outcomes. I'll spare you all the ridiculousness that went on at the table & stick to outcomes! We discussed pros/cons of organics recycling methods. Whether we were discussing the cost, user friendliness, the cost, pest concerns, physical space concerns, the cost, compliance.. we came back to bags every time!

Concerns with outdoor containers (some variety somewhat like trash+recycling bins): expensive for the city, likely to be shared cost with resident.. another bulky thing to find space for in the garage or coral that holds such things.. concerns of what pests would be attracted lead to interesting ideas about what kind of container/how to make it pest proof - got complicated.. a 3rd container to drag out to the street & a 3rd collection to make in the house.. even if smaller, still likely too big for the amount that people will utilize, at least initially.

The idea of a bag was the winner each time, from each angle. I think sealing it/closing it correctly would be the biggest concern I can think of.. Not doing so well or correctly could make it spill out into regular trash & defeat the whole purpose, plus expose a concentrated cache of goodies to attract pests to the trash bin once it goes outside.. like an 'air freshener' calling their name!! So something that is attached to the bag (a clip or clamp), or the bag having a zip top that can be removed @processing, would be a smooth move to ensure the organics are separate from regular trash & prevent such attractiveness to unwanted pests!

Since people will need to get used to the whole idea, providing like 2 bags upfront, then 1 per month & more if requested would be a good place to start, perhaps. Delivering weekly would be expensive delivery costs, plus a great deal of waste since not everyone is going to jump on the wagon.. Then adjust to maybe 2 per month when the year comes that most people are compliant, perhaps. Maybe giving the option for households that don't want to participate or don't have the need (think single guy who eats out every meal, or disabled person with a feeding tube). I could probably think up a bunch of examples, as unlikely as it would seem, but not everyone would need to be receiving any, let alone repeated deliveries of bags. Telling people how to opt out - hopefully not in any manner that people who just don't want to bother doing it will jump at.. will save overall expense & prevent waste of the waste bags! Printing a website URL on the bag or on the closure mechanism someone dreams up would be really smart so people don't have to go hunt for who to contact/how/more info/details on what to recycle+how/etc > just all pertinent info is awesome to have concentrated in 1 spot, a URL is pretty universal (even my 85yr old Grandmother is quick to open a website to investigate things). I realize there's people without internet or some other limitation that prevents them from using it, so I guess a phone number would be wise, but I'm sure nobody wants to sign up for a million phone calls.

Great idea, fun +entertaining conversation about recycling.. I hope any of this is helpful! GOOD LUCK!!

Kindest regards,

Jalyssa Erickson

7257 Brunswick Ave N
Brooklyn Park, MN  55429
My parents live in St Louis Park and they have the organics recycling there already. The city gave them a little bin for the house for food scraps, and some biodegradable bags for that little bin. Plus a bigger outdoor rolling bin for putting out to the curb on pickup day.

They're very happy with having that option, and I would love to have that option too.

My parents mentioned space is getting tight in their garage for all those rolling bins. I'm concerned about that as well, and I don't even have the yard waste bins that many of my neighbors have. Since Brooklyn Park has made it a rule that those bins have to be out of sight of the neighbors, I don't have space on the side of my garage to build something to hide the bins without cutting down bushes and plants. Sadly, I cannot put the bins in the backyard or my dogs will get into them (one of them is incredibly/frustratingly smart). So these bins have to fit into my garage. I believe I can make room for one more small bin, but I don't think all of my neighbors can.

My opinion on combining the organics recycling with the trash... in my limited experience using those biodegradable bags, they probably aren't strong enough to survive being added to the trash pick up - dumped into the truck, dumped out of the truck, and then sorting out - without those bags tearing open and spreading the food waste everywhere. They definitely are not as strong as regular trash bags. I've had those bags tear open on me just from the stem on an apple or grape stems poking thru.

Perhaps if you give us all another bin, you can roll out a special program helping people build something on the side of their garages to hide ALL FOUR bins - the trash bin, recycle bin, yard waste bin, and organics bin. Something to help us meet your regulations on keeping them out of sight. Something like an affordable option for those of us with low income, and maybe a nicer option for those who aren't living on such a restricted budget. Last of all, perhaps options like an easy to assemble kit for for the less handy people that can be put together with minimal tools, and an option like a detailed plan with a supply list and clear instructions for those of us who are handy and have the tools. But whatever it is, it MUST be able to hide all four of these bins.

Since we have all these bins, and you require us to hide them, I think *helping* us be able to hide them would be a good idea. And being clearer on exactly what the regulation is. Do the bins have to be completely out of sight from the neighbors, or just out of sight from the street? If the bins are in my neighbors backyard and I can see them, is that ok since they can't be seen from the street? If the bins are on the side of my house and are shielded from the street, but not from my neighbors windows, is that ok?

But overall I am excited to be getting the organics recycling program. I've tried composting my garden stuff and food waste in the backyard but it just seems to attract mice and so I've given up on that.

-Laura
Hey Tim,

Happy Monday. I read the article in the Park Pages regarding organics. I recently moved here (November 2018) from North Minneapolis. I used their organics system for a couple years. I loved it! The curbside pick is awesome. We already do it for both recycling and garbage. My only improvement comment is that I think both recycling and organics should be weekly. We usually had packed organics and recycling cans and almost nothing in our garbage. If done properly, this should be the goal...reducing what goes into landfill. I would even suggest making garbage every other week to incentivize the other two options.

If users are required to make community drops for organics...only a small percentage of people will participate. Change is way too scary for people the way it is. If they are forced to make additional effort on top of the change, they won't do it.

Let me know if you have any questions.

--

Thanks,

JD

Jeff Dahler

Good morning!

I am a bit behind but finally got around to reading the September/October Park Pages with your article about organics collection on the back page. Since I took the zero waste class offered by the City earlier this year (which has totally changed my life, by the way), I have been hauling my organics to the transfer station. I’m very glad that option is available for now but I’m super happy that curbside collection will be happening in a couple of years. My Aunt lives in Medina and she has had a small organics cart for a number of years already and I’m hoping BP will decide on that option as well (and I’m hoping it will be available in my townhome complex). I have found that organics don’t really smell bad so it could even be picked up every other week and probably be fine.

Thank you!

Sarah Thies
8733 Maplebrook Parkway N
I'm glad to see that Brooklyn Park is finally going to recycle organics. As a homeowner, I've been doing it for decades. Perhaps we would solve the "global warming" issue if everyone would do it. It's the best fertilizer there is. I've even told my friends they could save their scraps and bring them over. They don't. However, most people don't care to do it because of the smell and the flies. Good luck with getting most renters to recycle, unless you can find a way to educate the management. My perspective is different because I grew up on a farm in central MN, and it was second nature to reuse and recycle. But in today's society, few of those same farm "kids" recycle organics. As you know, most people are very wasteful.

I believe that issue could be solved by partnering with school districts and developing a plan to teach the kids HOW and WHERE to save organics and what its benefits are. They could make it an ongoing class project, teach their parents to save, and all could grow community gardens with the fertilizer, etc., etc. It's a big project, but it's the basis for reducing, reusing, and recycling. It sure beats carrying "Save the Planet" signs.

Hello Tim,

I am a resident of Brooklyn Park and am glad to hear that organics recycling is coming to Brooklyn Park. I compost kitchen scraps and some garden material, put out yard waste for our garbage collector and I take a sack of organics to the Drop-Off facility each week. I hope we have a curbside organics bin soon. I don't like the idea of putting our bag of organics in with our trash to be processed and sent to a composting facility. That seems too messy and complicated. What I would like is to encourage all garbage collectors to offer an every other week option and to give a discount for that. We have so little garbage each week since we compost, recycle and deliver organics. Sometimes I don't even put out the garbage can each week. Looking forward to tossing my organics in a bin closer to home and not delivering it each week to the drop-off facility!
From: Sandy <>
Sent: Friday, December 20, 2019 9:41 AM
To: Tim Pratt <Tim.Pratt@BrooklynPark.Org>
Subject: Re: Organics recycling

Thank you Tim. I personally would be willing to incur a fee or small tax increase for such a program, however it takes shape.

------- Original Message -------

From: Tim Pratt
To: Sandra Ackerman
Subject: RE: Organics recycling

Sandra,

Hennepin County is requiring all cities ensure residents have access to curbside residential organics recycling by January 1, 2022. We could either do it by citywide contract as we do for bottles, cans and paper recycling. Or we could require garbage haulers to offer the service like we require them to offer yard waste service.

I will be discussing these options with the City Council at the February 3, 2020 work session.

I have been taking public comments that I will share with the council. Let me know your thoughts and I’ll include them.

Thanks,

Tim Pratt
O & M – Recycling/Support Services Manager
W. 763-493-8120

From: BPCustserv@BrooklynPark.Org <BPCustserv@BrooklynPark.Org>
Sent: Friday, December 13, 2019 3:32 PM
Subject: New submission from Contact

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Sandra Ackerman</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>5046 93rd Ave N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Brooklyn Park, MN 55303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Message</td>
<td>Is there any consideration underway of adding organic recycling pick up to the city’s recycling program?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hi Tim,

I think organics recycling is a great idea. My biggest concern with the small organics cart is with smell and flies in the summer. Also it's one more thing to find space for in the garage.

My concern with the compostable bags is the cost of buying them month after month. There is the potential for smell with this method also as the waste collects for a week.

thanks

Sharon

From: Hellen Flores <>
Sent: Monday, October 14, 2019 9:03 PM
To: Tim Pratt
Subject: Composting in Brooklyn Park 2021

Hello,

My name is Helen, I live in Brooklyn park and I read an article about the city is preparing the program to recycle organics, I love the idea to use small carts for composting as Minneapolis city do. I don’t recommend putting the compost on top of the recycling cause the compost bags rips easy. I was talking with my neighbors about it and we are wondering if the composting service will be adicional cost for us?

Thank you

Suzanne Almen

From: Suzanne Almen <>
Sent: Thursday, August 29, 2019 8:18 PM
To: Tim Pratt
Subject: Organic recycling article

I’m glad Brooklyn Park is looking at organic recycling. We have been using Blue Bag organics through Randy’s for 2 years now. I used to do my own composting but this way I can recycle so much more. I heartily endorse the” blue bag put into my regular garbage can” option over having another garbage can outside that will attract rodents and other pests. We simply got a stainless steel step to open bin for the kitchen and that works great. If I have something early in the week that I think will smell, I freeze it, then dump it on the blue bag on garbage day. I even created a “cheat sheet” attached with a magnet to the top of the can that lists what can go in and what can’t.

The only thing I would change is the offer to get a free bag of compost annually doesn’t do me any good because the nearest pickup point is Delano. I wish Randy’s could just drop it off one time in the spring when they pick up my garbage.

Thanks for reading this.

Suzanne Almen
September 9, 2019

Mr. Tim Pratt  
8300 Noble Ave  
Brooklyn Park, MN 55443

SSO (Source Separated Organics) Proposal

Dear Mr. Pratt

Waste Management is pleased to submit this proposal for SSO to Brooklyn Park, Minnesota.

Waste Management has built a working relationship with not only the City Staff and Administration, but also the Residents of Brooklyn Park. We appreciate the opportunity to provide the same high level of service and relationships for years to come.

This SSO Proposal aligns with the City’s interest of meeting the 2022 Hennepin County mandate to have a viable organics plan in place while offering residents an affordable solution to organics service. WM views the City’s interests as the highest priority, and the service and proposal has been customized to meet and exceed these goals.

We look forward to continuing our work with the City of Brooklyn Park on a new SSO service, and the option of strengthening our relationship as a community service provider and partner.

Please feel free to contact me with any additional questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Jason Hartman

Jason Hartman  
Waste Management of Minnesota, Inc  
Jhartma5@wm.com  
Mobile 612-271-7863
City of Brooklyn Park, 5-Year SSO Proposal

We would like to propose a 5 year SSO service plan to the city of Brooklyn Park starting at a mutually agreeable time for both WM and the City Brooklyn Park.

### Monthly SSO Rates Per Subscribed Household

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Monthly Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drive by rate (100% residential participation)</td>
<td>$ 1.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscription Rate (Customers who opt in for SSO service)</td>
<td>$ 3.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disposal. (City may pay disposal directly)</td>
<td>$ 0.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total for residents not participating</td>
<td>$ 1.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total for residents participating</td>
<td>$ 5.93</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Proposed trash rates are for residential collection in WM supplied carts, transfer, and disposal for residential households. Disposal rate based on $25 disposal charge at Brooklyn Park Transfer Station and is subject to change if rates change or contamination becomes an issue. Service may be discontinued if disposal becomes unavailable and alternative can not be found at a similar distance and cost.

Rates are subject to 4% annual price increase