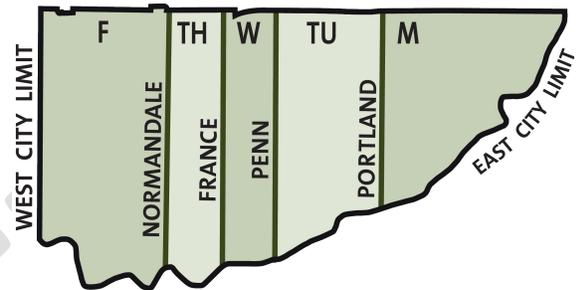


OCOC Interim Report: Executive Summary

The desire for organized solid waste collection has been growing in Bloomington for many years. In 1998, the first City tried to implement organized collection. The five hauling districts within Bloomington, one for each day of the work week, remain as a result of that initial effort. In 2013, the City commissioned the development of a draft *Solid Waste Management Plan* to provide a comprehensive policy framework for system improvement options.

Currently seven (7) Haulers are licensed by the City to collect trash from residential routes. After review of the framework and continuing requests from some of the public to minimize the number of trash hauler trucks in neighborhoods, the Bloomington City Council directed staff to pursue the possible development of an organized solid waste management system. The City's planning process has carefully followed the specifications of the organized collection statute (Minnesota Statutes 115A.94) regarding the process to organize collection for solid waste programs. The City Council approved moving forward with the first step in the process, hauler negotiations, at the City Council meeting on October 13, 2014. At this meeting, the *City Priorities* were adopted by Council.



The Hauler negotiations were originally scheduled to be completed in 60 days with a "Hauler Proposal" submitted to the City Council on December 12, 2014. Negotiations were conducted in a professional and respectful manner. The Haulers met the original 60-day deadline, but due primarily to price, the proposal was not accepted by the City. On January 12, 2015, the negotiating period was formally extended by the Council.

On February 2, 2015 the City Council discussed the Haulers' latest proposed price schedule and formed the Organized Collection Options Committee (OCOC), which is the second step in the statutory process. The City Council also directed staff to continue negotiations with the Haulers. The deadline was again extended and set at Monday, April 6, 2015 for the Haulers' best and final proposal.

The OCOC has held five meetings. All meetings have been open to the public with posted meeting notices, agendas, minutes and OCOC meeting updates. The OCOC has guided the development of the City's request for proposals (RFP) for organized solid waste collection services. The schedule of OCOC meetings, along with the schedule for RFP development and release, has been posted on the [City's organized collection web page](#).

The draft *Interim Report* from the OCOC is a preliminary set of findings about the Hauler negotiations and OCOC process to date. The City is hosting an Open House on Thursday, April 23, 2015 from 4 to 7 p.m. to solicit additional input and comments on the various options for

organized collection. The results of this Open House will be summarized in the next draft of the *Interim Report* before submittal to the full City Council. In addition to the Open House, a wide variety of community engagement and public input tools are being used to solicit feedback and comments on the organized collection options. No final decision by City Council will be made until a public hearing is held, tentatively scheduled for August 2015.

Throughout the City's organized collection discussions and earlier planning steps, several options have been evaluated. These options have included, but are not limited to:

- ◆ A system in which a single hauler collects solid waste from all sections of the City.
- ◆ A system in which multiple haulers, either singly or as members of an organization of haulers, collect solid waste from different sections of the City.

The one option that has not been entertained by the City is use of municipal crews and trucks. The City determined very early in the development of the draft *Solid Waste Management Plan* that adequate capacity and experience exists in the private sector and Bloomington should not make internal investments in City crews or equipment.

The City has made its best attempt to negotiate in good faith with the existing Haulers that serve the residents of Bloomington. A full and complete proposal was submitted by the Haulers, including the concept of a consortium including all seven (7) Haulers. Bloomington's research found that the concept of a hauler consortium has ample precedent in Minnesota. The existing Haulers met or exceeded nearly all of the *City Priorities* and responded to all service elements listed by the City in its *Parameters Framework*. The main reservation in the negotiations became price.

The draft RFP is currently under development and is scheduled to be presented to the full City Council on Monday, May 4, 2015. The intent of the OCOC was to make the RFP attractive to as many eligible organizations as possible while still enabling smaller haulers to submit a proposal. The OCOC determined that the minimum quantity of households that may be proposed for a Contract is 2,500 for each weekly 5-day cycle, and the maximum quantity of households that may be proposed on is approximately 26,000 (i.e., all eligible residential households in the City). Similarly, the OCOC determined that the RFP should allow for the Contract to be awarded to one Contractor or multiple Contractors. Two types of organizations comprised of eligible haulers would be allowed: a single company or a group of companies submitting as one Respondent. Groups of companies could include teams, consortiums or as one company with subcontractor companies.

If authorized by the full City Council on May 4, 2015, the RFP will be released and proposals will be received in late May this year. After a thorough review and analysis, the results of the proposal reviews will be brought back to the full City Council in June. If a Contract is recommended to be awarded, there will be a formal public hearing before any final decision by the City Council. After the public hearing, a final report of the OCOC will be submitted to the City Council.