
John Brock, Town Clerk
Town of Howey in the Hills
jbrock@howey.org

Re: Non-ad valorem special assessment notice for solid waste and recycling

Mr. Brock,

Please accept this written notice as our objection to the amount of this assessment. The objection is not regarding the amount billed by GFL but the other fees being charged. The details provided of itemizations of this special assessment are delivered in a confusing manner. It would be helpful to simply bullet how the total \$387.84 amount is broken down.

After contacting Councilor Galleili and Councilor Klein to obtain this clarification, we were informed the Town of Howey's fee is to continue collecting 3% of the \$387.84 as they have always collected. This fee despite being told previously that the Town of Howey wanted to shift the solid waste charge from utility billing to county non-ad valorem special assessment in order to reduce the Town's administrative costs. Therefore, it appears the residents of the town are not benefitting from this shift and in fact are having to pay additional administrative costs being the usual 3% to the Town and an unknown additional fee to Lake County.

The Town of Howey in the Hills administrative workload was greatly reduced when the county took over this special assessment, therefore, why would the Town's fee to the residents not also be reduced? In light of the residents' home insurance premiums and property taxes continuing to increase, it would be prudent and accurate to reduce the Town's fee for the minimal time it takes to process paperwork. Lastly, when residents call Town Hall Office with issues regarding solid waste pick-up, we are instructed to contact the solid waste company directly. This instruction is fine yet another example of the Town having minimal duties related to any such solid waste fee.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or clarifications.

Respectfully submitted,
Joe & Chanda McCollom
122 W Magnolia Ave

Lisa Spence
596 Avila Place
Howey in the Hills, FL
34737

July 30, 2022

Town of Howey in the Hills
101 N. Palm Avenue
Howey in the Hills, FL
34737

Dear Howey in the Hills Town Council,

I object to the proposed non-ad valorem assessment for solid waste collection.

If the fee for garbage collection has increased, the increase should be noted on the monthly water bill for sanitation. Ideally, fees for garbage pick-up should be collected by the company providing the service – GFL!

If an individual does not pay for garbage collection – that individual's garbage collection service should stop. It should not become a tax certificate against someone's property. Garbage collection should not increase an individual's mortgage or annual property tax.

Additionally – we do not need to have garbage collected twice a week. If the cost has increased – manage it by decreasing the number of collections and have individuals who need more than one can for a weekly pick-up purchase another can.

Sincerely,
Lisa Spence



John Brock

From: Simon Ambrose <simonambrose@ymail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2022 4:54 PM
To: John Brock
Subject: Ordinance No: 2021-004 Non Ad Valorem Special Assessment

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: Waste to Tax Roll Project

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Mr Brock

Regarding the proposed non ad valorem assessment for the collection of solid waste, yard waste and recycling materials that is proposed for the town. First of all , as it stands I object to the proposal without knowing what might have entailed in reducing the towns waste collection costs before arriving at the current situation. Have ways of reducing the towns cost been reviewed?

Personally I do not believe that there is any need at all for a Monday and Thursday collection of regular waste. I have lived in the town since 2008 and have never needed to use both collections in a week. Neither do any of my neighbors use the regular waste collection twice a week so surely there is a cost saving to be had by reducing that to once a week along with the once a week recycling collection. If anything needs to happen with the waste collection in the town the recycling carts need to be bigger than they currently are as mine is often full to the brim on collection day. If the Towns residents were educated more on recycling in general I feel sure that a lot of what gets put in the regular trash cart should have been put in the recycling cart.

Simon Ambrose
(352) 874-3703 Cell

simonambrose@ymail.com

From: Wendy D
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2022 5:39 PM
To: jbrock@howey.org
Subject: Special Assessment for Sanitation

Address:
111 East Laurel Avenue

Dear Sirs

We are only at our home for two to three months a year. We will be taking our own trash to the local landfill.

We will no longer ask for the town of Howey in the Hills to service our address. Please feel free to recover your cans and we will be sure to tend to our own trash and recyclables.

Please confirm you have received this request. I will be sure to put a copy into the mail as well.

Wendy Dowdall

NYS Licensed Real-Estate Salesperson

Howard Hanna Real Estate Services

Cell 607 226 2689

Office 607 336 8080

John Brock

From: MARTHA SUAU <suauma@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2022 2:12 PM
To: John Brock
Subject: Special Assessment

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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In regard to the special assessment you are planning to establish, we think that you should consider as an alternative to reduce the garbage pickup to only one day per week. That way you can reduce the costs and expenses the town incurs for solid waste collection. We have noticed that a majority of our neighbors only take the garbage can out only once a week both for solid waste and recycling. Some of our surrounding communities serviced by Lake County, such as Mission Inn Las Colinas, only have one day service and it has been successful. Only one day service for both solid waste and recycling should reduce costs and eliminate the need of the assessment. We respectfully ask you to consider this alternative for the benefit of all residents of Howey in the Hills.

Miguel A. Suau
44 Camino Real
Howey in the Hills

Sent from my iPad

John Brock

From: Diane Villegas <beachbunny0823@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2022 5:44 PM
To: John Brock
Subject: 9/12 meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Categories: Waste to Tax Roll Project

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Unfortunately I will be out of town on 9/12 or I would be attending the meeting. The trash/recycle company the town uses is a joke! I cannot tell you how many times they skip our street (N. Valencia Ave) either trash or recycling. They do not always pick up yard waste either. This morning we watched as they drove right by our house and skipped our garbage pick up. I called immediately and was told they would send them back out. Just now 5:40 pm a garbage truck drove down our street and did not stop!!!! I have been beyond frustrated with this company and now we are being assessed \$387.84?!

Diana Villegas
1001 N Valencia Ave
Howey in the Hills