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DATE: January 29, 2024

TO: Wade Bryson, Chair
Public Works and Facilities Committee

THROUGH: Denise Koch, Director Engineering and Public Works

FROM: Dianna Robinson, Environmental Project Specialist

SUBJECT: Tire Shredder

Staff are reviewing options to purchase and install a tire shredder for under \$500,000. There are many types of shredders, which can shred a variety of items, operate at different speeds, and can handle a range of volumes. Staff are looking at ways to maximize this purchase and potentially use the shredder for other items.

Currently, staff do not have the capacity to operate the shredder themselves. We would issue an RFP to contract for operations, as we do successfully with our household hazardous waste (HHW) and recycling contracts. This will also give us the ability to subsidize the cost of accepting tires from residents.

Purchasing a shredder for waste can have immediate benefits for the community:

- Tires are a commonly 'dumped' item in Juneau and having a cheaper or free avenue for disposal would help to address this issue.
- After shredding, tires are then either landfilled or shipped south for recycling if available and cost-effective.
- It would extend the life of the landfill by reducing the size of bulky items and increasing the ability to compact waste.
- If the tire shredder program is successful, CBJ could consider expanding to shred other items.

In addition to a tire shredder, staff are looking into a tire de-rimmer. Tire rim removal is not an easy process to remove without machinery, and if we do not also acquire a de-rimmer, it would be on the resident to remove the rims and this is not an option for many people. The de-rimmer is a lower-cost piece of equipment and will be a great addition to this potential program.

Staff will present more details at a future meeting.