



**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL  
ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
SUSTAINABILITY DIVISION**

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October 22, 2024

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Mayor Keith R. Sydnor  
Council President James Kole  
Laurel City Councilmembers

THRU: Joanne Hall Barr, Deputy City Administrator *JHB*

FROM: Michele Blair, Sustainability Manager *MB*

SUBJ: Request to Purchase: Curbside Composting Carts, Kitchen Countertop  
Carts, RFID tags and Compostable Bags

As part of the City's commitment to long-term sustainability, the Mayor & City Council passed Ordinance 2010, which established the organics composting program; defined separation of materials; and provided an effective date for the mandatory separation of organics from the waste stream.

**Background:**

In support of Ordinance 2010, the City is providing a composting "kit" to all single family and town home communities. The "kit" is comprised of a kitchen countertop container; a set of compostable bags; educational information on why and how to compost using the curbside collection system – including a refrigerator magnet for easy reference and the locking cart for outside.

To accommodate a variety of resident needs – we propose to purchase two different sized outdoor carts – a 12-gallon (townhome communities) and a the 35-gallon cart (single-family communities). RFID tags will be purchased to make the 12-gallon carts compatible with the current inventory and service verification software. Based on resident feedback, the countertop containers will be shorter and wider to better suite kitchen countertop usage. Compostable bags will be purchased in bulk.

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**Specifications:**

Multiple vendors will be used for these purchases.

- 35-gallon carts (RFID enabled): Rehrig Pacific Company, under **Omina/US Communities contract pricing (Contract #00254)**. Carts will work with both the Vision Inventory System and the Vision Service Verification System.

Unit pricing: \$52.81 – which includes delivery. Total cost for 4,000 units = \$211,240

- RFID tags (for the 12-gallon carts): Rehrig Pacific Company, under **Omina/US Communities contract pricing (Contract #00254)**. Rehrig Pacific is a sole source vendor for the vision-based service verification platform supporting the current inventory system used by the City – Vision Software. RFID tags will need to be purchased and placed on the 12-gallon outdoor carts.

Unit pricing for one roll of RFID tags: 1,500 tags per roll \$3,000 (the tags will be entered into the existing inventory system by Rehrig). Total cost for 2 rolls = \$6,000.

- 12-gallon carts: Orbis Corporation. Orbis is one of the few providers that manufacture 12-gallon curbside carts – both Howard County and College Park use the Orbis outdoor carts. The carts have a locking system and are on wheels. The carts will be fitted with RFID tags.

Unit pricing: \$18.59 – which includes delivery. Total cost for 3,000 units = \$55,770.

- 1.85 gallon kitchen countertop container: Orbis Corporation. The Orbis kitchen countertop container addresses the feedback received for residents requesting a smaller more compact countertop container.

Unit pricing: \$3.20 – which includes delivery. Total cost for 7,000 units = \$22,400.

- Compostable bags: Multiple vendors will be used to provide a starter set of bags (25 bags per roll) during the deployment of the carts city-wide. Unit pricing below is based on the most recent purchase.

Unit pricing: \$1.60 per roll. Delivery will depend on quantity. Total cost for 7,000 units = \$11,200

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**Funding:**

Funding for these purchases is provided in the Adopted FY2025 CIP – Environmental Programs Project.

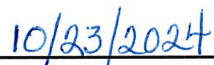
**Recommendation:**

It is requested that the City approve one-time purchases of 35-gallon Rehrig Pacific outdoor carts and RFID tags; 12-gallon outdoor carts and 1.85 gallon kitchen countertop containers from Orbis Corporation; and compostable bags from multiple vendors for a total cost of: \$306,610.00 for the purpose of providing the necessary tools for residents to participate in the curbside organics recycling program.

Should you have any questions or desire further information, please contact Michele Blair at 301-725-5300 extension 2203.

**Reviewed for funding:**

  
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**S. Michele Saylor, Director**  
**Department of Budget and Personnel Services**

  
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**Date**