

CITY OF MARSHALL AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Presenter:	Jason Anderson
Meeting Date:	Tuesday, June 10, 2025
Category:	NEW BUSINESS
Туре:	INFO/ACTION
Subject:	Consider Implementation of a Fee for Commercial Use of the City Tree/Leaf Dump Site
Background Information:	The City tree/leaf dump site is seeing a considerable expansion in use. Currently, there is no cost to use the site and it is open to all users. With the Emerald Ash Borer being present in our county and our community, we have seen a significant increase in site utilization.
	To manage the site, the City Street Department has a staff person that needs to spend time moving material with a front-end loader, nearly daily in the warm season months. Staff estimate 10 hours per week with a front-end loader. Using our Fee Schedule rates for staff person with loader, this results in an annual cost of \$93,600 in staff and machine time to manage the site.
	Included in the packet is a summary of sites that are operated by other communities. The summary doesn't explicitly cover cost to use, but focuses more on type of facility, operating hours, and permit requirements. Also included is a redline copy of the proposed changes to the City's fee resolution.
	The commercial operators are bringing most of the material, and they are doing so at a cost to the general public. Therefore, City staff recommend that we start requiring a permit for commercial operators who are benefiting from the use of the City's dump site. City staff could send out notice to all known commercial operators within the area to inform them of the change and required payment. Additionally, staff could post information at the site regarding the required payment for use by commercial operators. Staff would recommend that city residents' use should continue to remain free of charge. Because the site is always unmanned and open, it would be difficult to institute a fee for all users.
	This item was presented to the Ways & Means Committee at their meeting on 05/13/2025. At the meeting, the motion passed 3:0 to recommend to City Council the implementation of an annual fee of \$1,500/year to commercial operators using the site, as well as placing a new sign at the site that states that unless you are permitted for use of the site, the area is for the use by Marshall residents only and is under camera surveillance.
Fiscal Impact:	Adding an annual fee for commercial use of the public tree/leaf site will generate a small amount of revenue to help offset staff time and effort for managing the site. The Ways & Means Committee recommends an annual fee of \$1,500 for commercial operators. This could be added to City Fee Resolution as follows:
	Street Fee/Charge Weed/Mowing/Snow/Nuisance Enforcement \$ 55.00 + Direct Costs Commercial use of City tree/leaf dump site \$ 1,500.00 Annual

Alternative/	No alternative actions recommended.
Variations:	
Recommendations:	that the Council implement a \$1,500/year fee for commercial use of the City tree/leaf dump site in accordance with the recommendation of the Ways & Means Committee, as well as placing a new sign at the site that states the area is for the use by Marshall residents only and is under camera surveillance.