

MEMO TO CITY COUNCIL

Request to Include Topic on the City Council Workshop Agenda

From: Laurelei McVey, Public Works Meeting Date: November 14, 2023

Presenter: Laurelei McVey, Public Works **Est Time:** 15 Min

Topic: Solid Waste: Improvements to Bulky Item Pickup Program

The Public Works Department is recommending a change to improve the bulky item pickup process for our residents. Bulky items are items that are too large to fit in a standard curbside trashcan such as non-freon appliances, mattresses, chairs, and couches, just to name a few.

Currently the City offers two opportunities for residents to schedule to have these items picked up for free throughout the year. Once during Extra Trash Week (last week of December) and once during Spring Cleanup (first week in May after Trash or Treasure Event). Residents currently have to call and schedule these pickups in advance, but can have up to 7 large items removed for free. Additional bulky item pickups can be scheduled throughout other times of the year with Republic Services; however, it is at a cost to the resident.

Due to the growing success of these programs and the growing size of our community, there is now too much demand to efficiently manage these pickups during the one-week period. Public Works staff worked with Republic Services to evaluate and propose a program enhancement.

Under the new program, every year each resident will be given 10 free bulky item pickups to be scheduled with Republic Services anytime throughout the year. This will add flexibility and convivence for our residents. The year-round bulky item pickup program will replace the Extra Trash Week and the Spring Cleanup week. However, this program change will not impact other events like Trash or Treasure, Christmas Tree Recycling, and Rake Up the Fall which will still occur and offer residents additional free opportunities to divert these items from the normal trash stream.

This program change will not result in a cost increase to the City from Republic Services.

Questions related to this agreement should be directed to Laurelei McVey, Public Works, lmcvey@meridiancity.org, 208-985-1259.