

Jenny Coker

Public Works Director
City of Sandy
39250 Pioneer BLVD
Sandy, OR 97055

Date: May 30, 2024

Re: Internal Street Sweeping Operational Analysis

Jenny,

Sandy Public Works has analyzed the feasibility of bringing street sweeping services in-house to combat rising contractual service costs, along with the desire to better control street sweeping frequencies. In moving to internal street sweeping maintenance, Sandy Public Works needed to evaluate several factors to determine whether the operational change best fits the needs of our community and the capabilities of our staff. Across the region there is an even blend of municipalities that perform sweeping maintenance in-house vs. having the service outsourced. Sandy has probed some of our neighboring agencies to aide in answering questions that are related to switching operations strategy and forecasting budgetary impacts.

Background

The street sweeping services for the City of Sandy have been contracted to Great Western Sweeping (GWS) for many years. The contractor performs street cleaning services during the last two weeks of each month unless requested for special or unplanned service. GWS has a large metal bin staged at the City's operation facility that is periodically swapped out as the contractor fills each bin. The monthly service usually lasts for three to four days as they have two to three vehicles each day moving throughout our community removing gutter debris.

GWS has performed outstanding service for Sandy. Over the past several years, there have been incremental increases in the contractor's fee structure. The hourly fees have gotten high enough that it has triggered a feasibility analysis that has looked at procuring a City owned sweeper. Sweeping the streets is half the service provided by the current contractor, the second part is related to hauling and disposal of the swept materials. The monthly combined invoices are averaging twenty-five thousand dollars. Given the recent increases, it is projected that the hourly fees will continue to increase five percent annually.

Equipment Procurement

Sandy Public Works has preliminarily reached out to street sweeper distributors to learn more about equipment technology, sizing, availability, and high-level cost. The City has the option to lease/finance or purchase outright the equipment. Sandy is a member of Sourcewell, a co-operative purchasing collective that allows for a simplified procurement process. After internal discussions and reviewing the needs and goals of our street management program, it has led to the targeting of a regenerative air sweeper with a six-to-eight-yard tank capacity.

Auxiliary Considerations

Labor – After reviewing historic invoicing and speaking to other agencies, it has been identified that it will require forty hours of staff labor to meet the current service level that is provided by the contractor. Sandy Public Works can meet this demand with current operations staffing. During the next budget planning cycle, PW will complete a staffing evaluation to assess future staffing levels that will include sweeping labor.

Hauling & Disposal – Staff has identified a dump site at the City's Sunset St. property. The City could stockpile swept materials here until an alternative strategy is developed. The City could sift the materials to remove leafy organics. These materials could be donated to nurseries or mulch facilities that could re-use the debris. The City could also re-claim road sand that is used during winter weather response. Staff will also reach out to our franchise solid waste provider to see if they could provide drop box service for the swept debris. If the previously stated strategies prove inefficient, staff could stockpile the sweepings and make quarterly haul outs to local landfills.

Financial Implications

At our current spend down rate, it is anticipated that Sandy will spend three hundred and fifty thousand dollars on sweeping and hauling services during the remaining fourteen months of our budget cycle. The Street Department Contractual Services line code has a Variance Favorable that would cover the cost to procure the equipment and the material handling associated. If moving to internal sweeping is enacted, the remaining streets budgeted funds allocated to contractual services will be transferred to the street's equipment fund and the professional services fund.

Qualifying

Public Works staff solicited quotes from three sweeper vendors utilizing Sandy's membership in the cooperative procurement agency Sourcewell. Qualifying quotes were received from two equipment suppliers, Owen Equipment and SWS Equipment. The third supplier did not submit a quote. The SWS quote was for a Schwarze A7 sweeper for a purchase price of \$393,485.50. The Owen quote was for an Elgin RegenX sweeper for \$324,956.00.

Recommendation

Sandy staff requested product demonstrations from both suppliers. City Operators were able to inspect both machines and take the sweepers around town to witness each machines capability. After crew discussions and calling other agencies who use these machines, we determined that the Owen Equipment – Elgin RegenX machine will best meet the City’s needs.

Ryan Wood

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