

Jessica Chamberlin

From: Pam Shelmidine <pam.shelmidine@richland.org>
Sent: Monday, January 8, 2024 11:54 AM
To: Jessica Chamberlin
Subject: Request for Weekly Trash Service at Richland County Fairgrounds

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Dear Jessica, Jeff and Sidney City Council;

I hope this letter finds you all well. I am writing to bring to your attention a matter of concern regarding the trash disposal services at the Richland County Fairgrounds. As a responsible community member and someone deeply invested in the well-being of our local events and venues, I would like to request the implementation of weekly trash collection services at the fairgrounds.

The Richland County Fairgrounds play a vital role in hosting a variety of events and gatherings throughout the year, contributing significantly to the cultural and social fabric of our community. In 2023 we hosted 115 events on the fairgrounds not including fair week, which averages out to be about one event every 3 days - an increase of 34% from 2022.

The unreliable equipment and inconsistent schedule of Great Plains Solid Waste have posed significant challenges for the weekly operations at the Richland County Fairgrounds. The frequent breakdowns and delays in waste collection services have resulted in overflowing bins, creating an unsightly and unhygienic environment. This situation not only hampers the fairgrounds' cleanliness but also disrupts the smooth execution of events and activities. A reliable and consistent waste management service is crucial for maintaining the fairgrounds' functionality and attractiveness, contributing to a positive experience for both event organizers and attendees. It is my responsibility to address these issues promptly to enhance the overall efficiency and appeal of this vital community space. I understand that the City of Sidney is committed to providing essential services to its residents and businesses, and I believe extending these services to the fairgrounds aligns with that commitment. I kindly request that the Public Works Department and City Council assess the feasibility of implementing a weekly trash collection schedule at the Richland County Fairgrounds for a reasonable price.

If there are any additional requirements or procedures that need to be followed to initiate this request, please provide the necessary information so that I can assist in facilitating the process. I have attached photos of the current bins we own for your reference. We own two 8 yard, two 6 yard, one 4 yard and one 2 yard dumpster. Were the fairgrounds able to get regularly scheduled, reliable trash pick up, we would not need this volume of bins – although we would need at least this many units (if not a few more) as they are regularly moved to areas within the fairgrounds where the events happen. Currently, we move the dumpsters back to a central location for pickup. This procedure can easily be adjusted to meet the needs of your drivers and the capabilities of your equipment. I look forward to having a discussion about how to make this happen in the most efficient and cost effective way.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I appreciate your dedication to maintaining the quality of life in our community, and I am confident that implementing a weekly trash service at the fairgrounds will contribute to the overall well-being of our wonderful city.

Sincerely,

Pam Shelmidine
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