

City of Spring Lake Park Staff Report



Agenda Date	Status
May 18, 2026	
Requestor	Agenda Section
Buchholtz	Discussion
Agenda Item:	
Recycling Services Agreement Discussion	
Executive Summary	
<p>Staff is seeking direction from the City Council regarding whether to pursue a negotiated extension of the City’s current recycling services agreement with Walters Recycling & Refuse or issue a new request for proposals (RFP) for recycling services.</p>	
Background	
<p>The City’s current recycling agreement with Walters Recycling & Refuse will expire at the end of 2026. Traditionally, the City has issued a five-year RFP for recycling services; however, staff believes there may be value in negotiating a shorter-term extension of the existing agreement with Walters Recycling & Refuse.</p> <p>Walters currently offers an organics bag collection program that may provide the City with a flexible and lower-cost option as Minnesota moves toward expanded organics collection requirements. Maintaining the current relationship preserves the City’s ability to continue evaluating that program and other future organics collection options.</p> <p>A shorter-term extension would also provide the City additional time to monitor future state requirements, evaluate collection models and costs, and determine the most practical long-term approach for recycling and organics services.</p>	
Board/Commission Review	
N/A	

Financial Impact

No direct financial impact is associated with this discussion item at this time. A negotiated contract extension or future RFP process may impact future recycling service costs depending on market conditions, service levels, and potential organics collection requirements. Any proposed agreement or extension would be brought forward to the City Council for consideration at a later date.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Council discuss the advantages and disadvantages of negotiating a shorter-term extension of the current recycling agreement versus issuing a traditional five-year RFP and provide direction to staff regarding the preferred approach.

Attachments