



Office of the Town Manager
Frank Cassidy

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STAFF REPORT

Council Meeting Date:	November 12 th , 2025
Agenda Title:	Refuse Update – Recycling Trucks
Requested Action:	Approve a Motion to Surplus the Units
Department / Agency Lead:	Public Works – Fleet Management
Staff Lead:	Johnny Switzer, Fleet & Facilities Manager

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Public Works Department recommends selling the two **KANN dual compartment recycling trucks** purchased in 2022 for **\$313,153 each** using ARPA funds. Despite three years of operation, the trucks have proven difficult to fully integrate because the Town Manager in 2022 only approved the purchase of the large recycling trucks, deferring the necessary accompanying purchases: **95-gallon refuse cans** and **two small collection trucks** for the historic district. Given that a replacement refuse truck was recently put into service and staff believes the current units require extensive additional investment to fit the program, the recommendation is to market and sell the units, expecting to recover at least **75% of the original cost**.

BACKGROUND

Original Refuse Modernization Plan (2022)

The full modernization plan proposed in 2022 included three key components:

Purchase of two KANN dual-compartment recycling trucks (semi-automated).

Purchase of 95-gallon refuse cans. (\$250,000 Additional)

Purchase of two small collection trucks to service the historic district. (\$300,000 Additional)

2022 Purchase and Implementation Issues

In 2022, under the former Town Manager's direction, only the two large blue recycling trucks were purchased using ARPA funds. The acquisition of the refuse cans and the smaller collection trucks was deferred to a later date. Over the past three years, the department has experienced continual issues with the implementation of the KANN units because the full modernization plan—specifically the associated equipment like the cans and smaller trucks—was never fully implemented.

2022 Memo Details (Original Purchase)

The original February 14, 2022, memo to the Town Manager detailed the selection process, which favored a semi-automated KANN truck over a fully automated one. The semi-automated truck was chosen for its smaller size, maneuverability, dual hoppers (for curbside sorting), and flexibility with various container options. The updated quoted price at that time was \$308,402 per truck, later finalized at \$313,153 per truck.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Public Works recommends beginning the process of **marketing and selling the two KANN dual compartment recycling trucks**. Staff believes these units will **not fit effectively** into their refuse program without a significant and extensive investment in additional trucks and refuse cans that was not approved as part of the initial modernization plan. A replacement refuse truck has already been put into service this year under the Capital Assets Replacement Project (CARP).

Service Level/Collaborative Impact

The sale of the trucks would finalize the shift away from the semi-automated, dual-compartment collection model envisioned in 2022. The impact on service levels has already been addressed by solidifying a single-stream recycling method and continuing to utilize the same rear-loading refuse units that align with current operational needs and street accessibility, particularly in the historic district. The move is a recognition that the town and infrastructure are not equipped to support the initial semi-automated system.

Policy Direction/Warrenton Plan 2040

The decision to sell the trucks represents a pivot from the previous Town Manager's direction attempted in 2022. Future policy must link waste management strategy to the town's goals, specifically addressing efficiency, sustainability, and accessibility for all parts of the Town, including the unique challenges of the historic district.

Legal & Fiscal Impact

Fiscal Impact

- Original Cost: \$313,153 per truck (Total: \$626,306) purchased with ARPA funds.
- Expected Recovery: Staff anticipates recovering at least 75% of the original cost through the sale of the units. This would recoup a minimum of approximately \$469,729 of the original ARPA investment.
- Future Investment: Selling the units avoids the need for extensive future investment in additional trucks and specialized 95-gallon refuse cans that Public Works believes would be necessary to make the KANN trucks viable.

Legal Impact

The process of selling municipal assets must comply with all relevant Town procurement policies regarding the disposition of surplus equipment. Staff is requesting Council direction to initiate the formal process of marketing and selling the two trucks.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. 2022 Memo from PW Director to Town Manager Schaeffer
- B. Draft Motions for Council Consideration