



Council Agenda Item

Meeting Date: October 20, 2026

Agenda Item: 2026-O-24-Amending Ordinance 8.29.080(a) Garbage or Rubbish Placement

Staff Contact (name, email, phone): Llana Dostie, Zoning Specialist, ldostie@whitewater-wi.gov
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BACKGROUND

(Enter the who, what when, where, why)

Staff reviewed the City's existing ordinances related to trash, bulk trash, and code enforcement requirements. During this review, staff identified provisions regarding how trash may be placed for collection.

The current ordinance allows trash to be placed at the curb in trash bags for collection. While this provision permits bagged trash, bags placed directly at the curb can be susceptible to being opened or damaged by animals, which can result in scattered refuse and an inconsistent appearance along City streets.

Staff recommends revising the ordinance to remove the provision allowing trash to be placed at the curb solely in trash bags.

Under the proposed change, all regular trash placed at the curb for collection would be required to be contained in an appropriate trash or refuse container. Requiring trash to be placed in containers would provide for:

- A more consistent and orderly appearance of residential and mixed-use properties and streets;
- Reduced potential for animals to tear open trash bags and scatter refuse;
- Improved cleanliness and sanitation around collection areas; and
- A clearer and more consistent standard for code enforcement and property owners.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS – COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

(Dates, committees, action taken)

N/A

FINANCIAL IMPACT

(If none, state N/A)

None

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of the first reading proposed ordinance amendment to remove trash bags as an acceptable method for placing refuse at the curb for collection. Under the proposed amendment, all trash would be required to be placed in an appropriate refuse container for collection.

1. Option to waive second reading.

ATTACHMENT(S) INCLUDED

(If none, state N/A)

