



**Public Works Committee
Meeting Summary**

July 7, 2009 **1:30 p.m.** **Conference Room 391**

Members Present: **Johnson, Lehmann, López, Nevitt**
Members Absent: **None**
Other Council: **Linkhart, Robb**

Agenda: DPS & Solid Waste agreement
 Wastewater projects on S. Platte River and Lakewood Gulch

1. DPS agreement regarding refuse and recycling collection

Committee Action

The Committee approved filing the proposed Intergovernmental Agreement between the City and Denver Public Schools (DPS) regarding collection of solid waste and recycling at the schools.

Summary of Discussion

Bob Kochevar, Public Works Deputy Manager of Operations; and Mike Lutz, Solid Waste; presented the proposed agreement. The discussion included the following information:

- DPS decided to get out of the trash hauling business and issued a Request for Proposals for solid waste and recycling collection at its school facilities and administration building.
- City submitted a very competitive proposal and was selected by DPS.
- City can incorporate service at 60 of the 85 locations by modifying an existing neighborhood route; other locations require special accommodation due to location and size (larger schools produce more material for collection).
- City purchased 3 front-end loading trash collection vehicles from DPS for \$90,000.
- City team understands that DPS will not layoff any employees due to this transfer.
- The term of the IGA is 3 years with anticipated value of \$900,000 in revenue to the City.
- Trash service once/week for \$100/month or twice/week for \$150/month. Service determined by volume.
- Recycling service every other week for \$40/month or every week for \$50/month or more than once/week for \$100/month.
- Recycling collection will begin at 11 DPS buildings once/week; add 20 schools each month, along with classroom education on recycling; all facilities included by end of school year in spring 2010.
- Denver Recycles will provide classroom education with existing staff plus one new part time person (in order to rollout to 20/school/month with adequate education).
- Small purple bins and large rollout carts will be provided at each facility, initially based on about 5 carts per 100 students/employees on site.

Council members made suggestions:

- Use volunteers for the classroom recycling education and start at all schools at beginning of school year.
- Don't underestimate the school's readiness for recycling.
- Schools would be good central collection points in neighborhoods of buildings of 7+ units, which don't receive City recycling service.
- Schools would be good central compost collection points as well.

2. Wastewater projects: S. Platte River and Lakewood Gulch

Kimberly Watanabe, Wastewater Management, introduced Tim Fairbanks of Matrix Design Group, project consultant, who described the projects on the two waterways, which intersect at 14th Ave.

- The goals of the two projects are generally the same:
 - Restore river
 - Reduce floodplain (anticipate removing 300 parcels from floodplain)
 - Improve public safety
 - Make the river "boatable"
 - Provide flood protection to RTD West Corridor
- City and Urban Drainage & Flood Control are the funding partners, but several other agencies are involved, including Denver Water and CDOT.
- The S. Platte project will:
 - Lower the riverbed by 4 to 5 feet for more capacity and to allow kayaking.
 - Widen the channel to a maximum of 40 feet (where feasible, mostly on west bank) for more capacity.
 - Restore the multi-use trail and add grade-separated crossing at 13th Ave.
 - Enhance landscape by adding native vegetation.
- Denver Water will relocate water mains from 11th and 12th avenues.
- The Zuni electrical plant will switch to a closed loop cooling system, pulling much less water from the river.
- Inflatable dam at the plant will be replaced with a drop structure, allowing for more consistent water flow which encourages habitat development.
- The Lakewood Gulch project will:
 - Widen the channel to a maximum of 200 feet.
 - Relocate the multi-use trail.
 - Add new pedestrian bridges at the Platte River and west of Decatur St.
 - Add 2 drop structures.
 - Increase the width of the underpass from 16 feet to 154 feet.
 - Increase capacity from the 10-year to 100-year flood.
 - Demolish the City facilities at 1390 Decatur.
 - Enhance landscape by adding native vegetation.
- Schedule:
 - Aug. 24, 2009 Notice to Proceed issued
 - Sept. 16 Start work on west bank of Platte
 - Oct. 22 Start work on east side of Lakewood Gulch
 - Oct. 1, 2010 Start work on east bank of Platte
 - Oct. 1, 2010 Start work on west side of Lakewood Gulch
 - Dec. 1 Vacation of Decatur Facility
 - Nov. 21, 2011 Construction complete