



# Environment & Sustainability

City of Idaho Falls  
 Environment & Sustainability  
 CUSP Committee Meeting  
 Chair: Kris Millgate  
 Vice-Chair: Stephanie Austad

January 8, 2020  
 10:30 a.m.  
 Activity Center  
 1575 N. Skyline Dr.  
 Idaho Falls, ID 83402

## MINUTES

Roll Call:

Adams C.	X	Evaly J.	X	Millgate K.	X	Silverman H.	X
Austad S.	X	Haney C.	X	Morales K.	X	Vazhnik V.	X
Cherry B.	X	Lepler K.	X	Sehlke G.			

### CALL TO ORDER: K. MILLGATE

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 am by committee chair Kris Millgate. Chair Millgate reviewed the committee purpose and the public meeting process for those in attendance.

### GUEST SPEAKERS: CITY OF IDAHO FALLS WASTE MANAGEMENT - CHRIS FREDERICKSEN, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS JORDAN RECHENMACHER, SUPERINTENDENT SANITATION

See attached Sanitation Division presentation.

C. Fredericksen presented background and statistics on the City of Idaho Falls Sanitation department.

Background and statistics presented: Department has 23 employees, 300 1.5 cy containers, 2000 3 cy containers, 220 30 cy construction roll-off containers (22 for recycling) plus glass recycling containers, 95 gallon containers, a vehicle fleet, and a mulcher.

The City's sanitation department mission is hauling sanitary waste. Changed to autoloading from hand loading to reduce accident/injury problems. Sanitation is funded from utility bill (rates). Last rate increase 2014 – 5% increase \$9 to \$9.45. The City hauled 315,000 cy of waste in Fiscal Year 2018/2019.

### Recycling Services:

Recycling of cardboard/tin/aluminum is provided as a free drop off service at 18 locations. Recently added glass recycling.

Recycling costs the city \$3800/month for cardboard/tin/aluminum; \$1100/month for glass.

1000 ton of refuse removed from the waste stream through free recycling service; 168 tons of this was glass.

The City provides a Christmas tree removal service and mulches the trees.

The City provides a Fall pickup of leaves and mulches the leaves.

The mulch is offered free of charge to City of IF residents.

Questions from the Committee to C. Fredericksen and J. Rechenmacher:

V. Vazhnik: Do you foresee food waste composting?

City: City is bare bones – Christmas trees and leaves.

V. Vazhnik: Do you have a breakdown of how much waste is from construction vs. residential?

City: Majority of construction waste is new construction – no breakdown between construction and household waste. They will start tracking tonnage into hatch pit.

City: Hatch pit, Transfer Facility and Pederson Landfill are Bonneville County facilities. City is hauling service only.

C. Haney: Is there a limitation on the county landfill that would drive a waste reduction initiative?

City: The city is not aware of any limitation. Pederson Hill landfill has approximately 100 years of capacity left. There is a plan on the Bonn Cty Landfill that may be able to answer the question. Usually the year projection is based on permitting rather than capacity.

K. Lepler: How much has waste increased since recycling has been eliminated?

City: 1000 ton removed per year. Western provides curbside service.

S. Austad: Can you provide some background on the recycling program history?

There were recycling bins for paper and plastic, which have been removed. The free recycling bins for paper and plastic have been removed because the processor of the paper and plastic refused to take the product anymore.

B. Cherry: Is contamination of waste stream a big problem?

City: No, we don't have issues with waste stream contamination.

J. Evaly: Does the City do any educational outreach on waste?

City: Yes, the City has done some outreach at schools on waste.

**GUEST SPEAKERS: RECYCLE IF  
LYN STANGLAND CAMERON  
SAM ELLSWORTH**

See attached RecycleIF brief.

Presented history of group climate related activities.

They have conducted a recycling survey – what can we recycle and where? See Attachment 2

They have a FB page – You can recycle that, IF

They hold regular meetings at the UU Fellowship Hall,

The group has 4 goals:

1. Step up recycling
2. Get info out – 1 on 1 demonstrations, booth at events and Farmers market
3. Best practices and policy recommendation
4. Explore new and innovative solutions

Questions from the Committee:

V. Vazhnik: Are you pursuing zero waste options?

Recycle IF: Yes, we are looking into other zero waste ideas.

B. Cherry: Is cooperating with other cities competing for resources or are there economy of scale.

Recycle IF: We have not researched that. As a note though, Teton County, Wyoming sends their garbage to Bonn Cty landfill.

H. Silverman: Do you have a website?

Recycle IF: No, just a FaceBook site.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

K. Millgate opened the meeting up to Public Comment.

Stephanie Walsh:

1. Has the city contacted other companies for recycling 3-7 plastics?
  2. Does Renewlogy have potential? City of Phoenix has just purchased one.
- City of IF: Yes, they have looked at it. Some companies have contacted the City. Ie. Hefty Bag Initiative and Western Recycling couldn't support it – shipping and freight made it problematic – they couldn't bin it in IF.

K. Millgate closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

### **DISCUSS COMMITTEE GOALS:**

1. K. Lepler suggested assigning a small group within the committee to research composting plans. Will also contact Western for research.
2. V. Vazhnik: We need to consider the scope of impact. Do we want to stick with just the City boundaries? Or the larger county community?
3. C. Haney would like to hear from Bonneville County on the topic of solid waste and suggested that Energy should be a third item of focus for the committee.

4. B. Cherry: Are we using all of our resources on recycling/composting? Do we see IF at some performance level? How do we increase that? Do we want to be at 90% level of innovation?
5. H. Silverman provided a report on the available recycling information that is available. The City IF has an informative web page that has links to other resources.
6. K. Millgate suggested that the committee takes additional time for data gathering before we come finalize a plan.
7. Several members expressed an interest in a tour of the Bonneville County Transfer Station.

**CALL FOR AGENDA ITEMS:**

The committee would like to hear presentations from Bannock and Bonneville Counties.

**SET NEXT MEETING DATE/TIME:**

Next meeting will be January 29, at 10:30 am at the Skyline Activity Center. With every other Wed. rotation until May.

**ADJOURN:**

Meeting adjourned at 12:08 pm.

**END NOTES**

Recorded by:  
Stephanie Austad

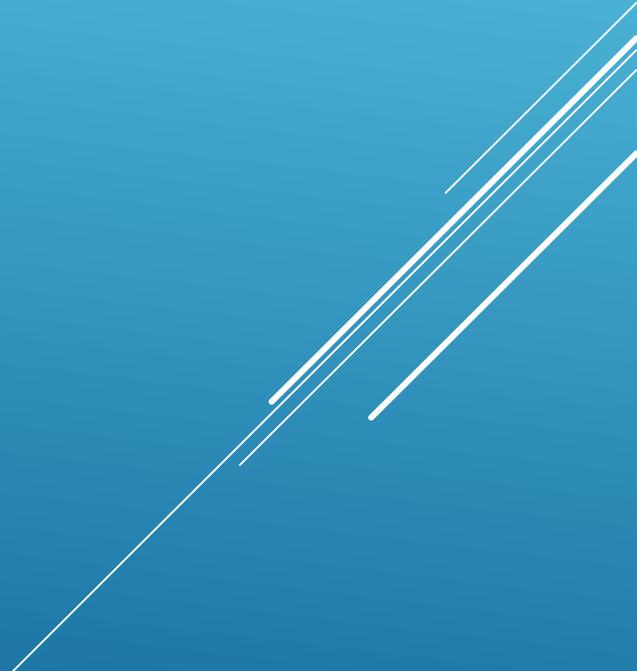
# PUBLIC WORKS – SANITATION DIVISION

CUSP – ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY  
MEETING

JANUARY 8, 2020



# SANITATION DIVISION

- Background
  - Employees – 23 Full Time, Seasonals as Needed
  - Assets
    - 300 – 1.5 Cubic Yard Containers
    - 2,015 – 3 Cubic Yard Containers
    - 220 – 30 Cubic Yard Containers
    - 22 – 30 Cubic Yard Recycling Containers
    - 16 – 3 Cubic Yard Glass Recycling Containers
    - 18,000 – 95 Gallon Residential Carts
- 

# SANITATION DIVISION



- Fleet
  - 7 Commercial Container Trucks
  - 4 Tilt Frame Container Trucks
  - 6 Residential Side Load Trucks
  - 2 Hand Load Trucks
  - 1 Boom Truck
  - 1 Front End Loader
  - 4 Pickups
  - Mulcher
- \$4,500,000 Purchase Cost of Equipment

SCS ENGINEERS



Final Report

**Autoload Feasibility Analysis and  
Rate Study**

Presented to:

City of Idaho Falls, ID

Public Works Department



308 Constitution Way  
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83405  
(208) 612-8259

Presented by:

**SCS ENGINEERS**  
2405 140<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Bellevue, Washington 98005  
(425) 746-4500

November 18, 2014  
File No. 09214062.00

Offices Nationwide  
[www.scsengineers.com](http://www.scsengineers.com)

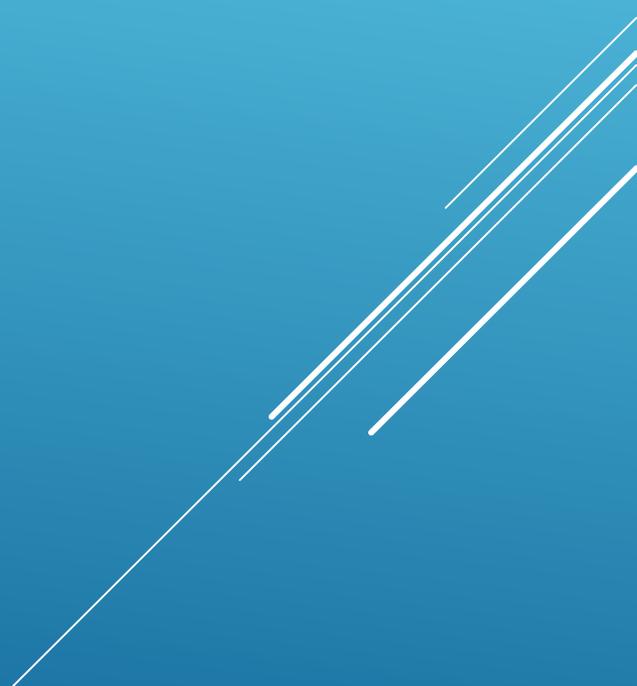
# SANITATION DIVISION

## Residential Autoload – November 2014

- 3 Phases of Implementation  
2015/2016/2017
- Staff Reduction – 28 to 22 Employees
  - Readjusted - 23 Employees

# SANITATION DIVISION

2019-2020

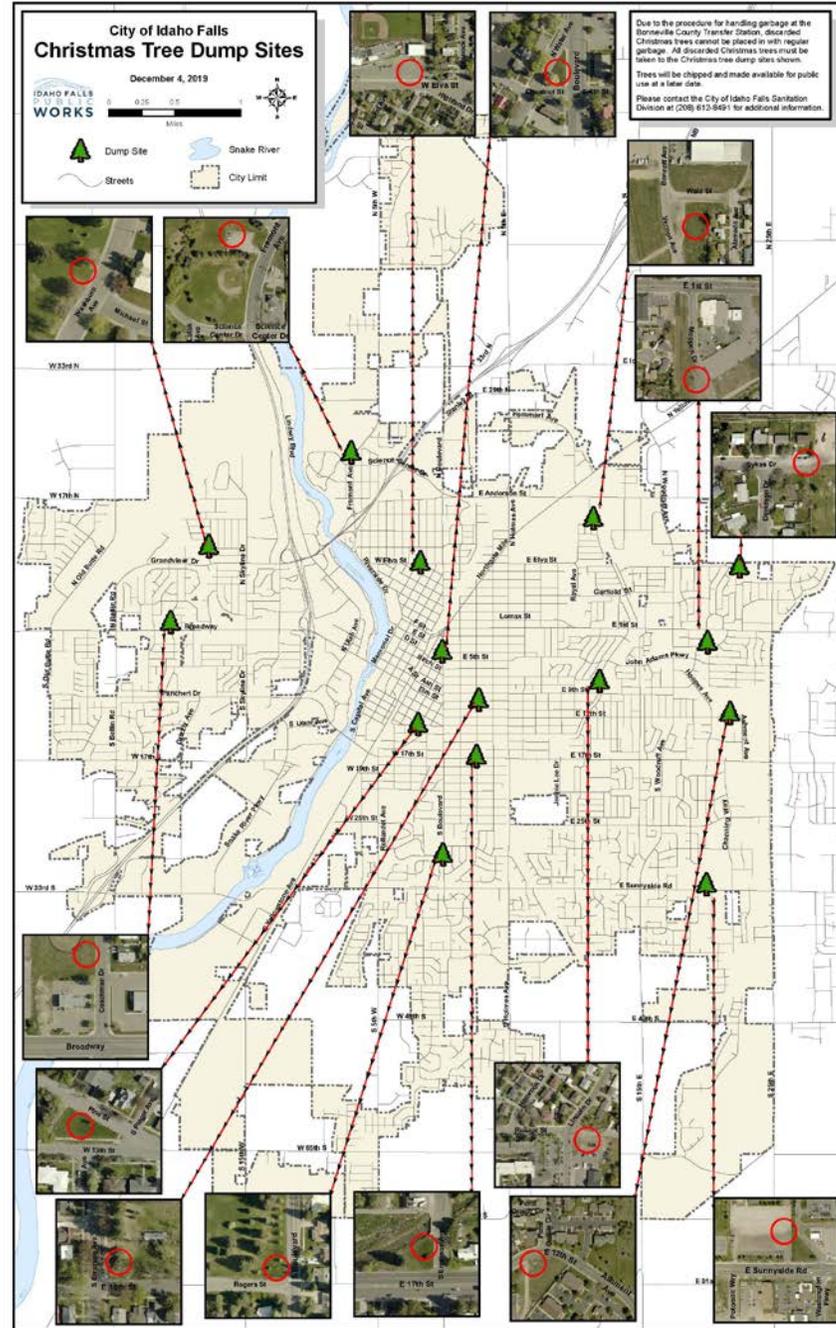
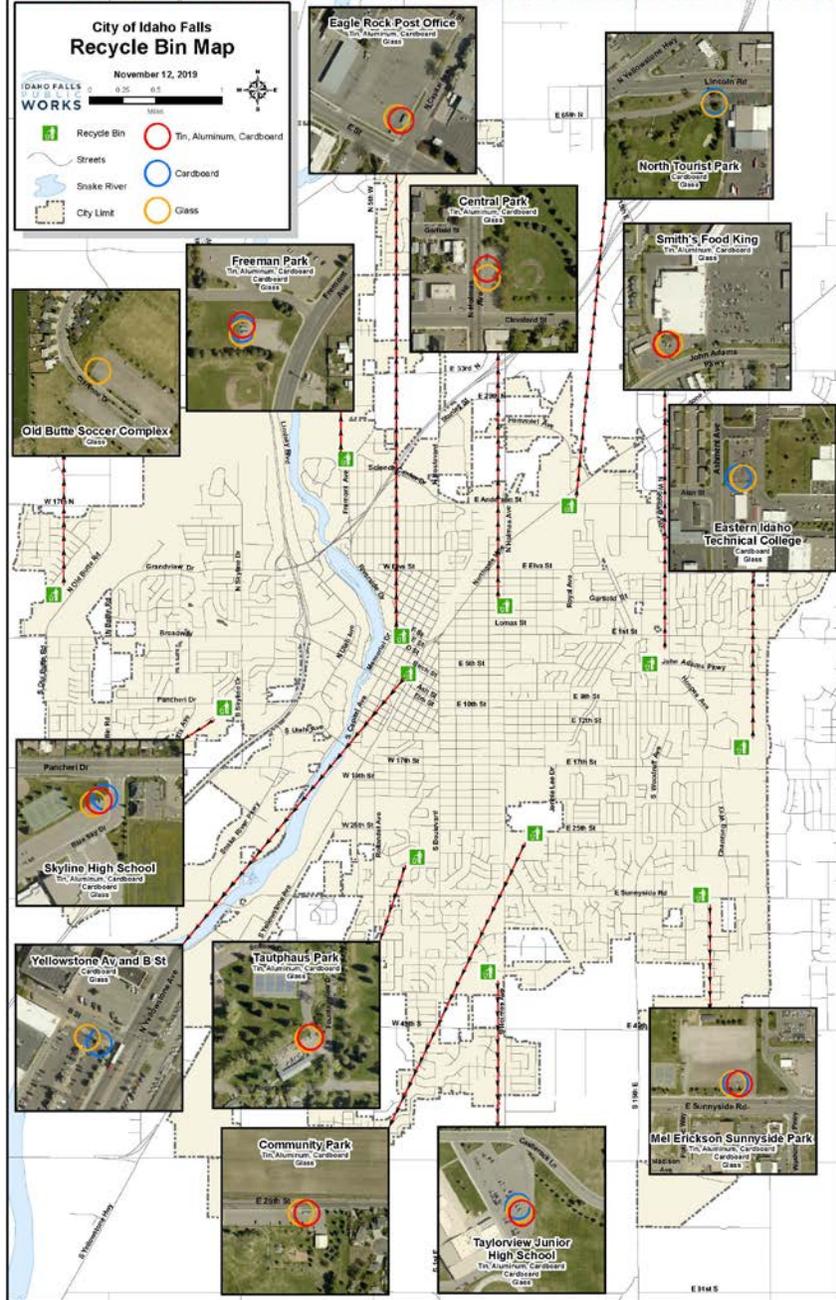
- Budget: \$5,660,000
  - Anticipated Revenues: \$4,650,000
  - Last Rate Increase 2014 – 5% Increase (\$9.00 – \$9.45)
  - Hauled 315,200 Cubic Yards of Waste
  - Drove 189,000 Miles Without a Vehicular Accident
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# SANITATION DIVISION – RECYCLING

- Existing Free City Recycling 13 Locations
  - Cost of Service \$4,300/month vs \$1,600/month Revenue
  - Glass Recycling Cost of Service \$1,100/month
  - Total Recycling Cost to Sanitation Division: \$3,800/month (\$45,600 Annually)
  - Exceeding **1000 tons** of refuse removed from the waste stream. (848 tons solid waste & 168 tons glass – 2018-2019)
  - Christmas Tree Disposal
  - Leave Mulching

**AS OF 9/6/2019 THE CITY OF IDAHO FALLS CAN NO LONGER ACCEPT PLASTIC OR PAPER**



# SANITATION DIVISION

## Bonneville County Solid Waste Facilities

- Transfer Station – 2455 Hemmert Avenue
  - Hatch Pit – 3690 Recycle Road (Construction Waste)
  - Peterson Hill Landfill Site – 9449 East Sunnyside Road
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IDAHO FALLS  
PUBLIC  
WORKS

QUESTIONS

With over 20 active members from Idaho Falls and surrounding counties, our group formed in September 2019 to focus on improving recycling in our region. We meet every other Sunday at 2 pm, in the UU Fellowship Hall at 555 E Street in Idaho Falls. Our focus areas are three:

## 1. Assemble clear, current information on what we can recycle now, & where.

- We launched an area-wide survey in November to collect up-to-date information on drop-off spots for a wide variety of recyclable solid waste types.
- The data are tallied in a google sheet so we can spot gaps, answer questions, and help partnering organizations and authorities improve the system for everybody.

## 2. Increase outreach and education to increase recycling rates.

- RecycleIF is now posting information and answering questions through our press releases, on FB and Twitter, with plans to expand to Instagram and more.
- Our team stays in touch with local government and private-sector recyclers to identify gaps, needs and opportunities.
  - SUCCESS!** Our recommendations on user-friendliness have already improved navigation and content on the City's recycling page.
- We're developing engaging, interactive recycling demonstrations and FAQ for meetings and events, such as the Jan. 25 Women's March & Forum, Earth Day in April, and more.

## 3. Identify innovations and opportunities for a long-term increase in recycling.

- We observed an unmet need for on-site glass recycling at large events.
  - SUCCESS!** In response, City Public Works Director Chris Fredericksen agreed with Sanitation Superintendent Jordan Rechenmacher to purchase two extra glass recycling bins that will be available for special events.
- We're taking the TREX challenge to increase plastic bag and film recycling -- and win outdoor benches to enhance our livable community. LDPE & HDPE plastic can be remanufactured indefinitely, but only 1% of it is currently recycled.
  - SUCCESS!** Over 300 lb of our 500-lb goal turned in, in only 2 months!
- We're crafting multiple forms of outreach and demonstrations to help people zero in on reducing contamination in waste streams, and get it recycled more easily.