



202300951

Jeff Cramerding
Councilmember

MOTION

Short-Term Upgrades for the Yard Waste Removal Program

WE MOVE that the Administration prepare a report in the next forty-five (45) days that outlines the cost, feasibility, and timeline for solutions to improve the City's yard waste disposal program. Solutions to be considered should include, but not be limited to:

- Amending or updating the current contract with Rumpke to provide for more initiatives as it relates to separated yard waste, including restricting yard waste or compost from being placed in the sanitary landfill, including as an alternative daily cover.
- Educating property owners as to their responsibility under C.M.C. 729-88 to separate yard waste and the issues with commingling yard waste with garbage or recycling
- Incentives or enforcement mechanisms that can be utilized to encourage property owners to be more conscientious with their commingled waste.
- Any other recommendations to improve the program in the next cycle of collections.

BACKGROUND

In September 2022, City Council submitted a motion to the Administration requesting a report on the City's current yard waste disposal program. In the subsequent report (Item No. 2023-00558), the Administration outlined current laws and regulations around the collections and acceptance of residential yard waste, as well as details of the City's current contract with Rumpke as it relates to yard waste.

Cincinnati requires that property owners separate their yard waste from their garbage and recycling, and our citizens are compliant and diligently doing their part to build a greener Cincinnati. However, in the administration's report, it was brought to light that much of the yard waste that is source separated ultimately ends up in a landfill with regular waste. Residents expect and encourage us to achieve significant sustainable goals. There is more that can be accomplished if the City is to pursue progress and innovation, particularly in the climate and sustainability space.

Therefore, it is the desire of Council to dedicate yard waste towards a greener and more proactive end use than is currently pursued in the current program. The City should continue to work with the Solid Waste Committee, the County, and other partners on longer term solutions to produce the best possible yard waste and food waste programs.

M. J. ...

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