FROM	NAME & TITLE	Matthew W. Garbark, Acting Director	CITY of	WALTIMORE 1797
		Department of Public Works 600 Abel Wolman Municipal Building	BALTIMORE	
	SUBJECT	City Council Resolution 21-0032R	MEMO	

April 16, 2021

## TO:

Health, Environment, and Technology Committee

I am herein reporting on City Council Resolution 21-0032R introduced by Council Members Porter, Middleton, Burnett, Bullock, McCray, Torrence, and Cohen.

The purpose of the Resolution is to invite representatives from the Departments of Finance, Public Works, and Health to discuss the feasibility of enacting a small hauler incentive program to better offset illegal dumping and litter in the City's communities. As a basis for the discussion, the Resolution outlines a suggested program that would allow for certain licensed small haulers to be paid \$75/ton of waste disposed of at the Quarantine Road Landfill. The small hauler would be responsible for maintain proper documentation "...indicating the dates and tonnage of waste disposed at Quarantine Road facility."

The Department of Public Works provides the following background information to aid in this incentive discussion:

## **Small Haulers:**

• Small Haulers Licensure – Title 7 {Waste Control} of the Baltimore City Health Code directs the Health Commissioner to regulate "...the collection, transportation, and disposition of waste by commercial haulers and other persons in the City" because of the serious health and environmental consequences of improperly managed waste materials. Subtitle 2 {Solid Waste Collection} requires large and small haulers to be annually licensed by the Department of Health and these haulers must comply with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations to maintain licensure. A small hauler is defined as a hauler that "...uses only 1 truck for which the manufacturer's rated capacity is ¾ ton or less and the gross weight of which is 7,000 pounds or less." Haulers are required to comply with all requirements under Subtitle 3 {Transporting Waste} and must keep a daily log of materials collected and where the material is disposed. No person may use the services of a hauler who is not licensed.

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• Small Haulers Pilot Program – The Department of Public Works manages and operates the Quarantine Road Landfill where haulers may bring their loads for disposal for a per ton tipping fee of \$67.50. Small haulers pay a reduced fee of \$20.00 per load and \$3.38 for every 100 pounds thereafter. The Department initiated a Small Haulers Pilot Program, from March to June of 2020, which opened the Northwest Transfer Station (NWTS) to small haulers and allowed them to dump their loads for free. The intent was to provide a more convenient location and to encourage appropriate disposal. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was felt that the program could not be accurately evaluated. The Bureau of Solid Waste suspended the majority of its services at the beginning of the pandemic. However, since the expiration of the pilot, small haulers continue to use the NWTS for their disposal needs and appreciate its convenience.

## The Value of Waste:

- Less Waste Better Baltimore operational plan This operational plan looked at the ways in which Baltimore City manages its waste stream and made recommendations on how current practices of waste disposal could transition to waste diversion processes and programs. The intent is to change the culture of throwing away waste, to one that recognizes the value of many of the materials that are tossed (e.g. recyclables; food recovery programs; composting; fix-it clinics for electronics and small appliances; reuse of textiles; paint stewardship).
- <u>Citywide Recycling Carts</u> One of the first Less Waste Better Baltimore recommendations to be implemented is the citywide distribution of recycling carts to residents who receive curbside collection service. This new initiative will expand the opportunity to recycle to all neighborhoods, which should remove significant amounts of materials currently being disposed rather than recovered and repurposed. The City is able to provide this service thanks to grants from the Recycling Partnership and a loan from the Closed Loop Fund.

## **Community Education and Buy-in:**

• <u>CHM Pilot Community Cleanup program</u> – The Mayor recently announced a community cleanup pilot program in partnership with DPW and Coldstream Homestead Montebello (CHM) Community Corporation. Funded through a combination of a Community Catalyst Grant and a Weinberg Foundation Grant, the program will initially focus on the Tivoly Redevelopment Area. Three (3) residents of CHM will be hired to remove trash and debris from streets and alleys and will be prepared to apply for full-time employment

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- with DPW upon completion. The program will track tonnage collected, number of resident-created 311 SRs addressed, and property values over time.
- BMore Beautiful Say Yes! Program The BMORE Beautiful program is a youth engagement grant that supports neighborhood organizations and non-profits by funding opportunities for youth to engage in activities that directly impact the aesthetic and connectivity of the neighborhood. The program is administered by the Environmental Control Board and its purpose is to "…encourage youth to engage with community members to foster lasting relationships with neighbors, develop a sensible work ethic, and build neighborhood pride through beautification projects, community service, and outreach."
- Community Cleanups The Department offers up to four (4) roll off containers per year per community organization to encourage neighbors collectively clean their neighborhoods, which can be requested as a "Community Pitch-In Event" through 311. The Volunteer Clean-Up Event service request is available for any resident, business or organization to register their clean up event and request bag collection from the City. Likewise, the Mayor's Spring and Fall Cleanups galvanize cleaning efforts all around the city.

The Department of Public Works will have representatives present at the hearing to provide additional information and answer any questions the Committee may have on City Council Resolution 21-0032R.

on behalf of Matthew W Garbark. 4/19/21

Matthew W. Garbark Acting Director

MWG/MMC