



Conor Baldwin  
Chief Financial Officer

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Eileen Donoghue, City Manager *EMD*  
**FROM:** Conor Baldwin, Chief Financial Officer *[Signature]*  
**CC:** Kara Keefe Mullin, Assistant City Manager  
**DATE:** September 27, 2018

**SUBJECT: MOTION RESPONSE: 9/11/2018 – C. Kennedy - Req. City Mgr. Review  
Trash Contract And Discounts For Seniors.**

When the City Council adopted Chapter 270 (*Waste and Recycling*) of the Code of Ordinances in September of 2008, a discounted fee for seniors was established in Chapter 150 of the Code (*Schedule of Fees*). According to the Solid Waste & Recycling office, the intent of the discounted rate at the time was to offer both a trash cart smaller in size at a rate less than the standard annual fee charged to single family homes. The rates for a 68 gallon trash cart for a single family home is \$125 per year, whereas the senior rate for a 32 gallon cart is \$32 per year. This rate represents an approximately 74.4% discount for a container half the size of the standard cart. The Solid Waste & Recycling Division of DPW reports that out of a total of 23,376 existing customers on city pickup, there are approximately 1,624 (7%) customers who take advantage of the senior discount program.

The City Ordinance currently does not contemplate a senior fee for a 68 gallon barrel. Furthermore, the DPW does not have existing inventory of full-sized carts sufficient to service the entire senior customer base, currently. At a rate of \$70 per barrel, the capital investment to build the inventory to offer full sized carts to seniors would be approximately \$113,680. However, as the city is currently nearing the end of the contract period with our existing vendor, such a program and a bulk purchase rate for new carts could be part of the negotiations for the subsequent contract period. The City Council could then amend Chapter 150 to include a new, discounted rate for a full-sized barrel for seniors. Amending the senior discount fee by only \$2.54 per month could generate enough additional revenue to fund half of the purchase of the new, larger barrels.

Several solid waste & recycling matters are currently before the City Council's environmental subcommittee and this new, senior discount program could be added to the list for consideration and deliberation by the body.