



**CITY OF VENICE**  
FLORIDA  
401 W. Venice Avenue • Venice, Florida 34285

**Edward F. Lavallee**  
City Manager


Office: (941) 486-2626 Ext 24006 • Fax: (941) 480-3031

Email: [elavallee@venicegov.com](mailto:elavallee@venicegov.com)  
[www.venicegov.com](http://www.venicegov.com)

**Interoffice Memorandum**

**City Manager's Office**

**TO:** Mayor and City Council Members

**FROM:** Edward F. Lavallee, City Manager 

**RE:** Solid Waste & Recycling Stakeholders Group

**DATE:** September 21, 2016

---

The Solid Waste & Recycling stakeholders group has been meeting to address short- and long-term operational and fiscal issues of the Solid Waste & Recycling Department. That Department is an Enterprise Fund and, therefore, supports its operation with revenues derived through its fee structure. Among the immediate concerns addressed by the stakeholders group is revenue and expense streams. It has been determined that current revenue totals will not support long-term viability of the Department. As an interim solution, the Stakeholders Group recommended to City Council a 5% across-the-board increase in fees. This recommendation was reviewed by City Council at the September 13, 2016 meeting. Prior to that meeting, the Stakeholders Group addressed City Council citing its strategy to recommend a short-term revenue increase of 5% while developing a plan to address the longer term solutions.

From discussions with the Public Works Director and in reviewing the presentation made by the Stakeholders Group, the following is a summation of relevant points:

- The stakeholders group was initially presented with a number of topics for examination and analysis:
  - future automation of the functions of solid waste and recycling collection and disposal
  - possible land purchase to relocate the Department
  - institution of a pilot project to test fully automated collection in selected neighborhoods
  - replacement schedules for vehicle replacement
- The projected time-line for the stakeholders address to the issues above is six months into the fiscal 2017 year. These issues will likely have an impact on future decisions concerning fees and level of service for residential and commercial customers.

The current recommendation for a 5% rate increase does not address the equity or balance of the existing rate structure. It is simply an interim measure to provide a short term revenue increase to support the Department and allow time for a more detailed analysis of the broader operational issues cited above.

EFL/jg