

STAFF REPORT

DATE: February 5, 2019

TO: City Council

FROM: Robert A. Clarke, Director of Public Works
Stan Gryczko, Assistant Public Works Director
Richard Tsai, Environmental Resources Manager
Jennifer Gilbert, Conservation Coordinator

SUBJECT: Solid Waste Program Yard Material Pile Collection Service Options

Recommendation

1. Receive feedback from solid waste service customers and Commissions on yard material pile collection schedule alternatives; and
2. Based on feedback and Council discussion, select a yard material pile collection schedule for implementation; and
3. Direct staff to work with Recology and return within the next few months with an amendment to the Agreement for Collection and Handling of Solid Waste and an Ordinance update to the Municipal Code to implement the chosen collection schedule.

Fiscal Impact

The current yard material pile collection service costs around \$610,000 per year, and constitutes about 5.7% of the contracted cost with Recology-Davis. Each week of yard material pile pick-up costs approximately \$25,000 to \$35,000. The outreach, community meetings, and advertising that will be part of a new yard material pile collection schedule can be accommodated within the Solid Waste program budget (7701).

Council Goals

The development of recommendations for the yard material pile collection program does not address a specific City Council goal.

Background

Loose-in-the-street yard material pile collection service was provided weekly until mid-2016, with the introduction of the organics cart program, after which collection service was reduced to once-per-month for the majority of the year and weekly from mid-October to mid-December. These collection service adjustments (a reduction of about 63% of loose in the street yard material pile service) have been the source of significant feedback from the community. Attachment 1 shows the most recent yard material collection, customer usage and enforcement data.

During recent discussion at the Utility Rate Advisory Commission (URAC) regarding rates for the solid waste utility, the current collection service levels were assessed and possible reductions in yard material pile collection were reviewed as a potential way to reduce overall program costs, or as a method of encouraging a slow phase out of the service. No formal recommendation to Council resulted from these discussions, and staff suggested further review and outreach.

At the October 30, 2018 City Council meeting, Council directed staff to reach out to Recology to work out logistics and possible cost implications of alternative yard material collection schedules discussed by councilmembers during the meeting. These alternative schedules would result in cost containment for the service, and potentially a way to provide more efficient delivery of services. City Council requested that staff hold one public meeting to review and discuss the selected options with the public. In addition to inviting the public to the meeting, Council requested that staff invite the various City Commissions to attend the public meeting, and if any commission desired to provide formal feedback, they could agendaize the topic during commission meetings in January. Staff was asked to bring feedback from the public meeting and City Commissions to Council with the Proposition 218 notice protest hearing on February 5, 2019.

At a follow-up Council presentation on December 4, staff presented the possible schedules for each alternative yard material collection modification requested by Council. After reviewing the options presented, the Council selected three options to bring to the public meeting. Each of these options is further described below:

Option	# of Pick-ups Per Year	Description of Loose-in-the-street service
A	16	Once per month pick-ups from February to September, then every other week pick-ups from mid-October to mid-January
B	15	Once per month pick-ups, with two extra weeks of pick-up in the fall and one in the spring
C	12	Once per month pick-ups only

Calendars illustrating the pick-up schedule for each option are presented in Attachment 2.

City staff posted notification for an Open House that was held on January 7, 2019, and invited the city’s commissioners to attend. All documents included in the Open House were posted on the city’s website for review. For those unable to attend the meeting, an email address was provided to receive all comments on the alternative schedules, as well as the current service levels until January 21, 2019.

Yard Material Pile Collection Alternative Open House and Community Feedback

A Community Open House was held on January 7, 2019 from 6:30 to 8:00 PM at the Veterans Memorial Center, to solicit feedback on the three schedules. More than 70 people attended the Open House, including members from several city commissions and Councilmember Carson.

At the open house, posters were placed around the meeting room that showed each of the three collection options chosen by Council (16, 15 and 12 pick-ups per year), along with the current collection schedule of 18 pick-ups per year. Also included was a “Future Considerations” poster, which listed other issues that have come up regarding yard material collection: costs associated with capitalization of new equipment, stormwater quality impact, and bicycle safety. In an effort to provide a summary of the feedback received at the meeting and ensure clear indication of alternative preference, open house attendees received a sticker to “vote” on their preferred collection option. Originally, staff intended to provide voting options only for the three collection options selected by Council (16, 15 and 12 pick-ups per year), and directed attendees looking to endorse the current schedule to submit their comments in the “General Comment”

box. However, after several residents placed stickers on the current collection schedule poster, staff provided a voting sheet for the current collection schedule and placed signs to indicate that voting for the current schedule was an option as well. By the end of the open house, there were 17 votes for the current schedule, and 3 general comments received in support of keeping the current schedule. Of the responses submitted electronically to the city, 16 supported continuing the current schedule. There were also 34 responses received that indicated a preference for the current schedule rather than the options presented (but did not *specifically* support maintaining the current schedule), while also advocating increasing collection.

Comment cards were provided at the tables for the 16, 15 and 12 pick-ups per-year options, to receive specific comments on each proposed schedule. “General Comment Cards” were provided as well, initially so that feedback could be provided on the current schedule, but also intended to capture comments on other collection options, and feedback on any other topic related to yard materials collection and street sweeping. Attachment 3 to this report contains a transcribed list of all the comments City Staff received in writing from the Open House, and from emailed comments submitted to the City during the comment period.

The chart below shows the results of the feedback and “voting” from the open house and emails received by city staff before January 22.

Proposed Collection Schedule Alternative	Votes Received at the Open House	Votes Received via Email	Total
16 Pick-Ups Per Year	32	19	51
15 Pick-Ups Per Year	4	2	6
12 Pick-Ups Per Year	9	1	10

Commission Feedback

Staff attended January meetings for the Bicycling, Transportation and Street Safety Commission (BTSSC), the Utility Rate Advisory Commission (URAC), the Tree Commission (TC) and the Natural Resources Commission (NRC) to receive feedback on the yard material collection service alternatives. The feedback received is included, in summary form, below.

Bicycling, Transportation and Street Safety Commission

During the discussion of the item at their meeting on January 10, 2019, the primary focus of the BTSSC in reviewing the alternatives of the collection schedule was the safety of City streets and the safety hazard potentials that yard material piles can cause. Public comment on the item included the description of multiple cycling accidents caused by the yard material piles, and the lasting impact of those accidents on the riders. When discussing the lack of accident reports around the yard material piles in the streets, there was an agreement on the lack of a good way to report, or to even keep track of pile and bicycle collisions. Specifically, there was a good deal of discussion on how most accidents go unreported due to the uncertainty of how and where to report the accidents, especially when the accident is not the result of a crime that is reported to the Police Department.

After the discussion, the BTSSC unanimously passed the following motion, as feedback to the Council on the yard material pile collection alternatives:

Keeping street safety as a paramount consideration of this body, the BTSSC recommends the City Council switches yard material on-street collection to 12 pickups with a concentrated weekly schedule as appropriate, with the ultimate goal being a phase out of the program and to support an educational program for property managers to better manage their waste on site as a complement to the termination.

Utility Rate Advisory Commission

The URAC held their discussion on the yard material collection alternatives proposed by the Council on Wednesday, January 17, 2019. The discussion focused on the importance of providing a transition plan should the Council intend to phase out or discontinue the service. A transition plan would be important both to assist the residents wishing to maintain the service, and to provide a plan for yard materials after the service is no longer available. The commission indicated that it would also not be appropriate to look at the yard material collection in isolation, as city trees, and the debris created by those trees, are a large contributing factor to the community frustration with the current service, and before phasing out the service, further review and analysis of the needs of these customers should be completed.

After the discussion, the URAC unanimously passed a motion, as feedback to the Council on the yard material pile collection alternatives including an introductory paragraph.

“Over the past several years, the costs for city utilities has been increasing steadily, including the cost for our solid waste utility’s Loose in the Street program (LITS). While appreciated by many as a convenience, the LITS program has two major drawbacks. The first downside is environmental: the LITS program vehicles cause GHG emissions as well as wear and tear on our streets, and the debris left in the streets causes pollution of our groundwater. The second downside is its price tag: the cost of the program itself, and the nearly one million dollar cost to replace the equipment which is near the end of its useful life. However, there are many combinations of alternatives that could be considered in place of LITS, including: a strategy to maintain city trees; more effective street sweeping including no parking days; access to more recycling bins for leaf drop season, providing information/preferred vendors regarding street waste pickup on demand, etc. We are confident these and other creative solutions can work effectively to obviate the need for LITS. In consequence, we encourage the City Council to allow URAC, other commissions (NRC, Tree Commission) and staff to investigate other options to LITS over the next 6-8 months. In that light, the URAC has approved the following recommendation to the City Council:

In light of the cost of the LITS service and age and replacement cost of the LITS collection equipment, the URAC recommends the Council direct the URAC and staff to collaborate with other appropriate commissions to collaborate on a transition plan to phase out the current LITS collection program.

Tree Commission

The TC discussed the proposed yard material collection schedules at their meeting on Thursday, January 17, 2019. While there was no official motion made, it was mentioned by commissioners that the 12 pick-ups per year was not sufficient, but the 18 pick-ups was more than what was needed. Commissioners suggested that 15 or 16 pick-ups were ideal, with most of the pick-ups focused on November through January. They also added that a more comprehensive look at the GHG impacts of the service, and potential impacts from service changes, might go a long way to

help customers understand the environmental impact of running the collection equipment more frequently than needed. They advised looking into the possibility of different pick-up schedules for neighborhoods with larger tree canopies, and providing pick-up only when needed.

Natural Resources Commission

The NRC discussed the yard material collection alternatives proposed by Council on Monday, January 28, 2019. While the commission did not reach a consensus on support of the options presented by Council for consideration, the Commission was in support of a careful phase out approach to ending the service. Many commissioners voiced concerns with ending the service without careful planning, or creating a schedule which would cause confusion for customers (with further limiting and staggering the service). There was also discussion on the concerns brought by customers about the maintenance and care of street trees, which was also brought up in public comment on the item.

After the discussion on the item, the NRC unanimously passed the following motion, as feedback to the Council on the yard material pile collection alternatives:

In light of the environmental considerations of the Loose in the Streets (LITS) service and the age and replacement cost of the LITS equipment, the Natural Resources Commission (NRC) recommends that City Council direct staff and appropriate commissions to collect data and study whether and how this program continues. The NRC endorses substantial reduction in pickups in the current program (such as 12/year), which should be distributed throughout the year, with scheduling as per community needs and data-driven information (such as more pickups from October to February).

Common Themes Received from Public Feedback

When reviewing the feedback received, there were some commonly repeated suggestions, ideas and concepts. A significant portion of the feedback received from customers was about the timing and frequency of street sweeping service. Of the 238 comments received (from the open house and via email) and presented in Attachment 3, 36 mention street sweeping. Other main themes that emerged included the frequency of the yard material pile pick-up service, the timing of the fall pick-up, eliminating the service, keeping the service, and bicycle safety. These themes are discussed in more detail below.

1. Offer street sweeping the day after pile pick-up

Prior to July 2016, streets were swept weekly, on the day following yard material pile pick-up. After the start of the Organics program, streets were swept once per month, the week following yard material pile pick-up. The week delay is necessary to reduce costs for the overall service. On-street pile collection service requires four Recology drivers, two for the Claw vehicles and two for the rear loader trucks. Recology drivers utilized for the yard material pile collection are drivers of regular collection routes (collecting trash, recycling and organics). On yard material pile pick-up weeks, their collection routes are shared with other Recology drivers (who work overtime in order to service all accounts), allowing them to perform the pile pick up service. The following week, two of these drivers go back to their regular service routes, while the other two perform street sweeping service. This staffing schedule ensures maximization of staffing resources while ensuring the costs to perform these services remain low. Based on discussions with staff, Recology estimates that sweeping the day after pile collection with the current schedule (all yard material pile pick-ups occurring in the same week) would require 2-3

additional drivers in order to cover sweeping while pile collection was still occurring in other areas of town. Sweeping the day after pile collection would increase cost.

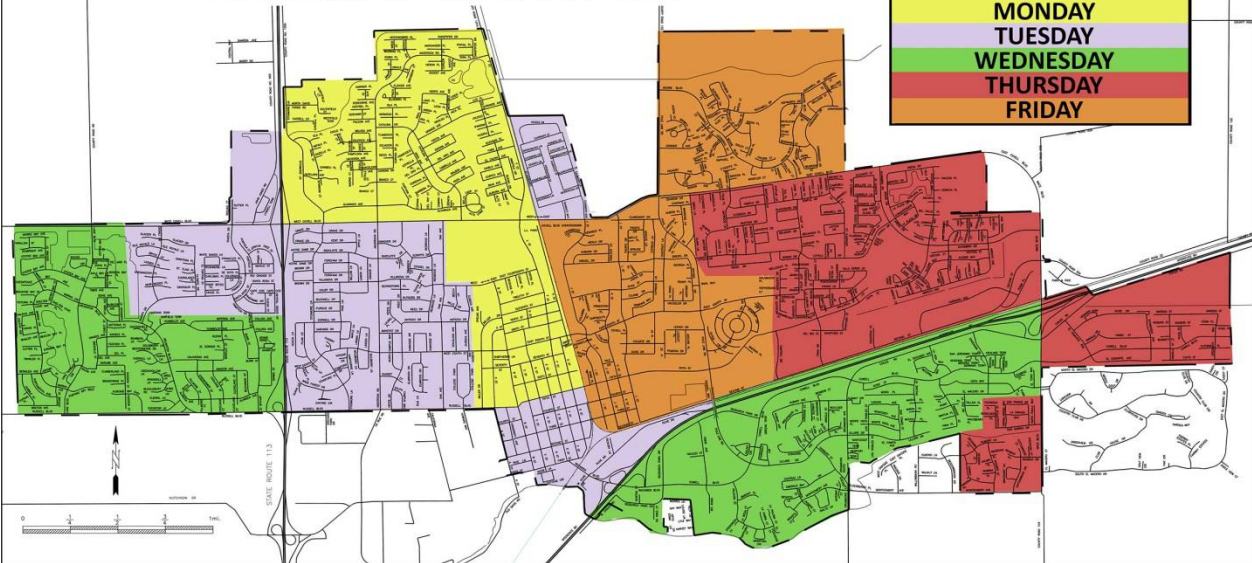
2. Alternate yard material pile pick-up with street sweeping

Several comments were received that suggested that yard material pick-up occur over two weeks, on alternating days, with street sweeping occurring immediately following each pile pick-up day. Based on discussions with Recology, it appears that this type of schedule would not contribute to overall cost savings. If yard material pile collection and street sweeping is spread out on alternating days over two weeks, (as with the previous paragraph) additional drivers may be needed so regular service is not interrupted (e.g. four drivers needed one day for pile pick-up, two the next day for street sweeping, then four drivers for pile pick-up, then two drivers for street sweeping, etc.). The schedule would also likely result in increased costs for “call-backs,” where Recology may need to provide special pick-ups outside of the normal collection schedule, which can also impact program cost.

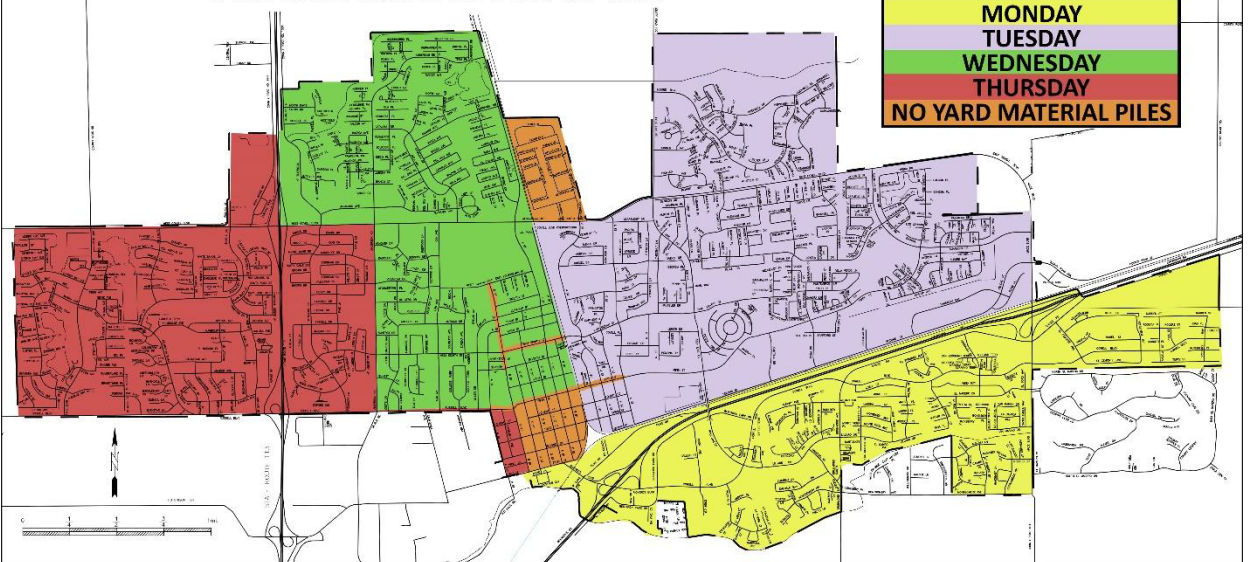
Another concern with alternating days of pile pick-up with street sweeping is the significant logistical difficulty in multiple collections occurring in the same time frame. Yard material pile pick-up and street sweeping service is most effective on days where there are no carts set out to be serviced. Recology vehicles that provide pile pick-up and street sweeping service need to drive down one side of the street in a straight line without cart obstruction. Recology trucks, on the other hand, provide cart service where the arm of the truck can extend out and retrieve the cart for dumping, and service can be provided in conjunction with other collections.

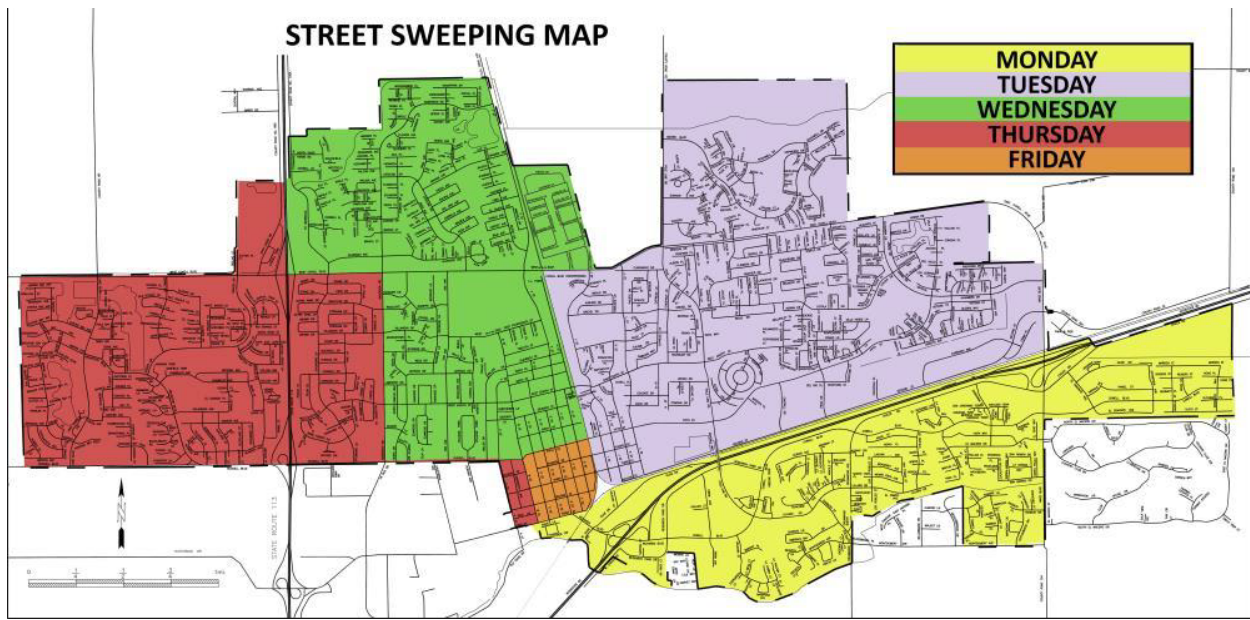
Due to the difference in the angle of access required for different service types, and to take advantage of limited curb space, garbage, recycling and organics service collection is purposefully scheduled at a different time than yard material pile or street sweeping service areas (see the maps below). Unless the service still occurs on the same day of the week as is currently performed, any method of staggering pile pick-up service can result in impeding the service because of carts and piles being out on the same side of the street at the same time.

SINGLE-FAMILY PICK-UP SCHEDULE



YARD MATERIAL PILE PICK-UP MAP





3. Utilize vacuum trucks instead of the Claw and/or street sweepers

Several comments were received at the Open House and through email about the possibility of discontinuing use of the Claw and/or the street sweeper in favor of a Vacuum truck to pick up yard material piles, with the possibility of less debris being left on the street, leading to overall cleaner streets.

While a vacuum truck is efficient at picking up leaf piles, they are not built to manage piles of larger items, such as branches, which can damage the machinery. Cities that use leaf vacuum trucks to pick up leaf piles typically instruct residents to keep branches and larger debris separate from grass clippings, leaves and “lighter weight yard debris.” These cities often offer a different type of collection system for these larger items (cart collection, bagged materials, bundled debris, etc.) As a large portion of what is picked up in yard material piles is tree pruning, bushes and branches, the use of vacuum equipment will not be able to replace the services offered by the Claw, and could only be used as a supplemental collection, which would most likely increase costs to customers.

In the past, Davis Waste Removal has tested vacuum vehicles as an alternative to street sweepers, but there were issues with sticks and branches becoming stuck in the vacuum pipe, necessitating frequent stops to clear the debris. Given that sticks and small branches are found in the street on sweeping days, a vacuum sweeper was determined not to be an effective way to clean the city’s streets.

4. Use cost savings from reduced yard material pile pick-ups to increase street sweeping frequency.

Staff has had discussions with Recology on the proposed yard material pick-up schedules and using the savings from reduced pick-ups to offset the costs of increased street sweeping. These estimated costs are provided later in this staff report. The cost for both services is partially determined by the amount of material collected and the associated per ton fees at the compost facility (both on-street yard materials and debris collected by street sweepers are taken to compost facilities). Based on the cost estimates received,

street sweeping can be increased over the current 12 times a year schedule without additional cost if the frequency of yard material pick-up is decreased.

5. Requirement to have City street trees on private property and tree debris management

Several comments were received regarding the requirement to have City street trees on private property, with the management of the tree debris being the responsibility of the property owner. Twenty-nine comments received from the Open House and email included concerns around the maintenance of city trees.

6. Eliminate the yard material pile pick-up service

The suggestion to eliminate the yard material pile collection service was repeated in the comments received, and the reasons for eliminating the service were varied. Some commenters mentioned the duplicative service of both organics carts and yard material piles, some mentioned bicycle safety and stormwater quality. Some commenters hoped this would reduce rate impacts on customers, others saw it as a messy and unnecessary service. In all, 18 comments requested that the service be terminated.

7. Do not eliminate the yard material pile pick-up service

There were 49 comments that specifically requested to keep the service and not consider its termination, without a particular vote as to frequency of collection. The reasons for keeping the services included concerns about the number of tree-lined streets with voluminous leaf debris (many of these trees being City street trees), the ease of on-street yard material pile service (especially for seniors), and the insufficiency of the organics carts to handle tree pruning debris.

8. Increase the number of pile pick-ups

City staff received 30 comments that specifically requested additional pile pick-ups rather than reducing the number of pick-ups per year. Aside from requests for more frequent pick-up in January (see the next bullet below) there was a clear consensus of when these additional pick-ups would be most needed. Depending on the types of trees, the method and timing of pruning employed, whether or not the customer also composts debris onsite, etc., there are a wide variety of factors which contribute to the customer's determination of when additional yard material pile collection service is needed. One potential method of addressing this type of concern does currently exist. A customer may order an additional organics cart for approximately \$5.60 per month to assist during those months where pruning or other yard debris occurs. The additional cart may be ordered once per year and can be returned when not needed. As an example, a customer may order an additional cart in January and return it in April only paying the additional fee for the months the cart is kept.

9. Extend the fall weekly pick-up into January

Of the comments that mentioned changing the schedule and/or increasing the number of pick-ups, there did seem to be a consensus that more pick-ups were needed in January. Both bi-weekly and weekly options were mentioned, but most comments focused on late leaf drop, the collection of Christmas trees, tree pruning and storm debris. In the comments received by staff, 46 comments included the suggestion to extend leaf collection (a small number of the total did include requests for spring collection).

10. Keep the current schedule

As already outlined in this report, there were 36 comments and votes, both at the Open House and via email, indicating that customers preferred the current schedule to the three proposed collection schedules. Some commenters stated that the current collection system suited them well. Others stated that they preferred to have 18 collection dates a year rather than any fewer number, regardless of when they were timed.

11. Bicycle safety

While many comments mentioned bicycle safety, the feedback was varied. 13 commenters considered the piles to be a safety concern to cyclists (6 of which identified themselves as cyclists), while 11 others (7 of whom identified themselves as cyclists) said that the piles were a non-issue, or were less of a safety concern than having organics carts on the street. As stated in the comments received from the BTSSC during their discussion on the topic, there is little data available on reported incidents between bicycles and yard material piles.

12. Enforcement

Eleven comments received mentioned enforcement related to yard material piles, either lamenting the lack of enforcement, stating that enforcement would alleviate various problems (such as bicycle safety) or stating that the enforcement is too strict. Enforcement has been difficult for staff to administer since the start of the hybrid organics program due to challenges with determining who is responsible for illegally placed piles, etc.

Cost Data from Recology

Recology has provided estimated costs for each of the proposed yard material collection schedules, provided in Attachment 2:

Yard Material Collection Costs

Estimated	Current Schedule 18 Pick-ups a year	16 Pick-ups Per Year	15 Pick-Ups per Year	12 Pick-Ups Per Year
Cost of service per account	\$3.23	\$2.72	\$2.55	\$2.04
Cost reduction from current	no change	\$0.51 reduction	\$0.68 reduction	\$1.19 reduction

The idea has been brought forward of taking the 12 pick-ups per year schedule and clustering most of the pick-ups in the October – January timeframe, rather than having one pick-up per month. Recology has indicated that this can be done for roughly the same cost as the once-per-month 12 pick-up schedule as long as the street sweeping schedule does not change and remains monthly, year round. Recology had indicated to staff that street sweeping cost would increase if the 12 sweeps are also clustered in the October – January timeframe. Staff will be prepared to answer elements that contribute to the cost increases at the City Council Meeting.

The original collection options retained street sweeping at 12 times per year, year round. Due to feedback received, staff asked Recology to provide estimated costs to increase the frequency of street sweeping service, see the chart below.

Street Sweeping Service Costs*

Estimated	Current Schedule (12 Sweeps Per Year)	16 Sweeps Per Year	15 Sweeps Per Year	12 Sweeps Per Year
Monthly Cost Per Account	\$2.48	\$2.87	\$2.69	\$2.48
Cost increase From Current Schedule	No change	\$0.39	\$0.21	No change

**These estimated costs are for street sweeping that does not occur during the same week as yard material collection service.*

Based on the service cost data provided by Recology, the City can choose to reduce the frequency of yard material collection while increasing street sweeping while still seeing a slight reduction in the cost of service, as long as street sweeping service does not occur during the same week as loose in the street service. Recology has stressed to staff that these services cannot be considered as “a-la-carte”. Challenges with staffing, operations, equipment, tipping fees, etc. all come into play when cost estimates are run, and each difference scenario has to be considered as a whole, not in pieces, as different collection services affect one another (i.e. street sweeping schedules can affect yard material pick-up schedule costs). Actual cost savings will be determined after negotiations with Recology on updating the hauling agreement to accommodate a change in service.

Of the three collection schedules proposed by City Council, Recology has indicated an operational preference for the 16 pick-ups per year option. They believe that this option would be the most cost effective option to provide the loose in the street service. This option would also aid in equipment maintenance and driver scheduling.

Next Steps

Should Council decide to select an alternative yard material pile collection schedule this evening, staff will work with Recology and return with any necessary amendments to the current waste hauling contract based on the changes, as well as updates to the city’s Municipal Code. Staff will also prepare an outreach campaign to notify customers of any changes in the collection schedule. In addition to the typical forms of outreach used (social media, website, press release, utility bill insert, etc.), staff is already in the process of piloting an online notification system where customers can enter their address and sign up to receive email notifications the week of their area’s collection date.

Tentative Timeline for Modifications to the Yard Material Collection Schedule

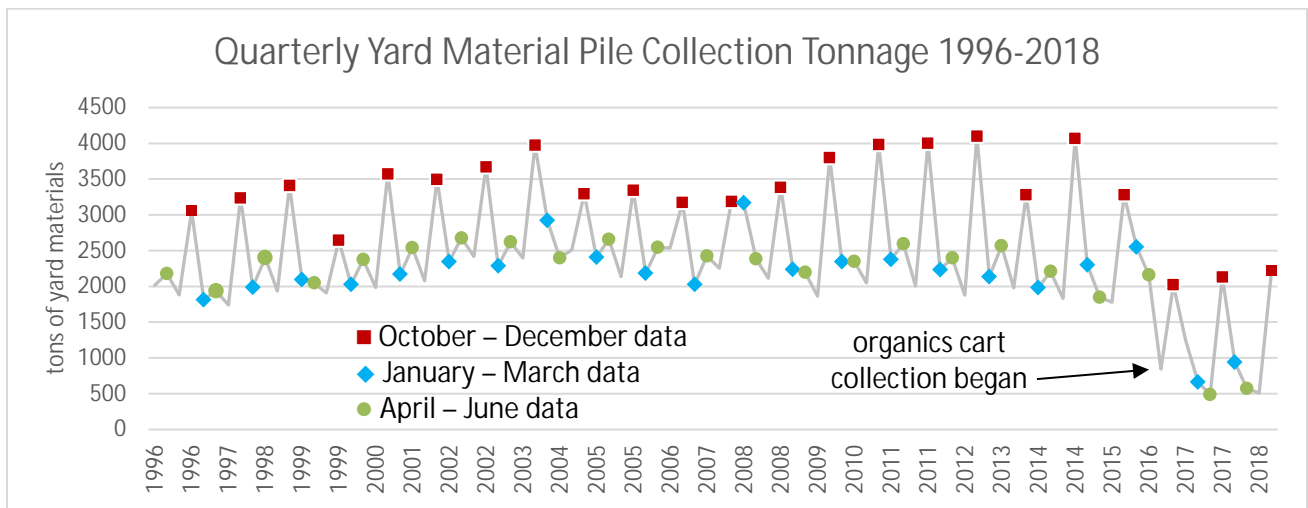
Date	Action
February - March	Staff prepare updates to the waste hauling agreement and Davis Municipal Code Chapter 32
March	Updates to the waste hauling agreement and Municipal Code brought to City Council
April	Modified collection schedule is implemented

Attachments

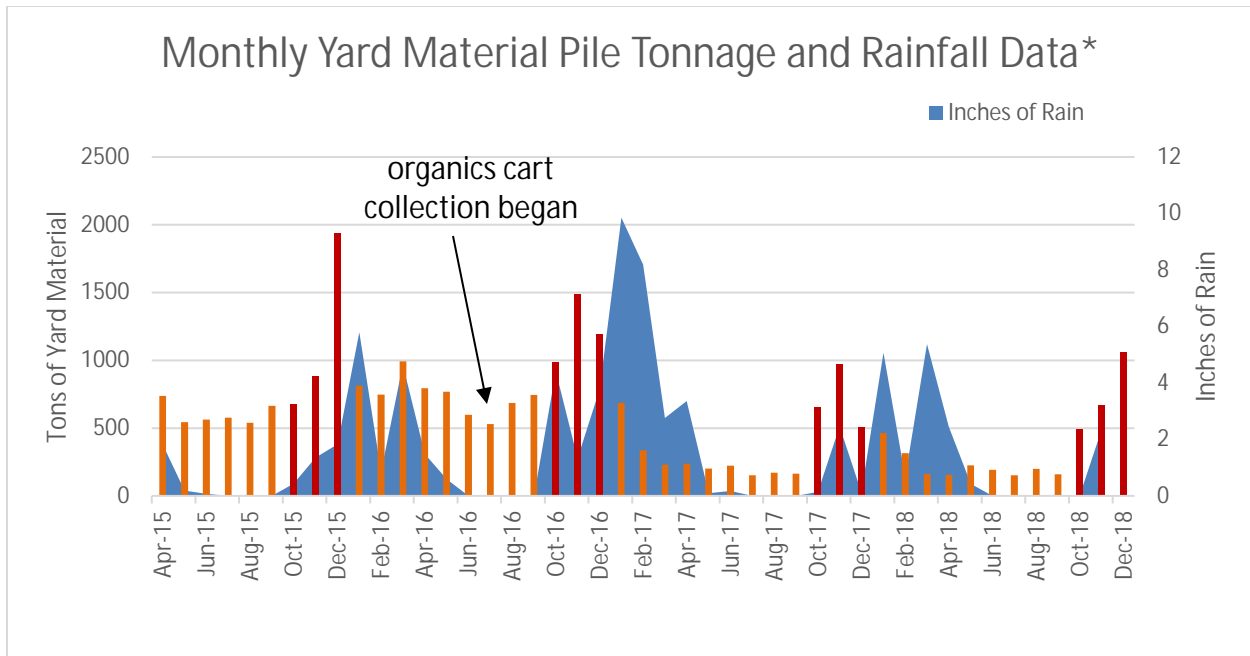
1. Yard Material Collection Data, Service Usage and Enforcement
2. Proposed Collection Schedules
3. Feedback Received on Proposed Yard Material Collection Schedules

Yard Material Collection Data

In order to examine the appropriate timing and frequency of yard material pile collection, staff reviewed the contractor’s quarterly hauling data going back 22 years to see possible fall and springtime collection trends in the tonnage of on-street yard material collection (month by month data was not available until April 2015, with the signing of the updated waste hauling agreement). The chart below shows the quarterly tonnage of yard material collected via on-street piles, with the clear “peaks” of collection, the 4th quarter, highlighted by the red dots. The hauling data shows that the largest tonnage of yard materials is collected during this quarter (the months of October, November and December), supporting the current schedule for more frequent pick-ups from mid-October to mid-December. The 2nd quarter tonnage (the months of April, May and June), highlighted with green dots, does show a slightly higher tonnage than the summer months, but springtime and winter tonnage (highlighted with blue dots) are typically very similar. The winter tonnage has been slightly higher than the springtime tonnage last four years. The collection data shows that the only time of the year with a significant increase in tonnage occurs in the 4th quarter.



The chart below offers a monthly look at the yard material pile tonnage and rainfall data (4th quarter tonnage is highlighted by red columns). This allows a clearer look at monthly patterns of yard material tonnage. Rainfall data is included to compare the effect of rain on the weight of the yard materials (piles sitting out in the rain are heavier, increasing the tonnage for that particular month).



*The NOAA website did not have the December rainfall data available as of the date of this report, possibly because of the Federal government shutdown.

As the chart shows, the months with the most yard material tonnage do not necessarily equate to the months with the highest rainfall. This data also clearly shows the decline in the use of the on-street piles with the introduction of the organics carts. Again, there is no significant increase in tonnage of yard materials during the spring. On-street yard material pile collection service is intended for collecting excess materials that would not otherwise fit into the organics carts. With that goal in mind, any collection in addition to the once-a-month collection should occur when the most weight is set out. As such, the collection data does not support adding additional collection in the spring.

Customer Participation in On-Street Yard Material Pile Collection

Since January 2017, Davis Waste Removal (and now Recology Davis) has kept track of the number of parcels (of all customers) setting out yard material piles during collection week. This data is presented in the chart below. The fall weekly collection data is highlighted in green. One week of pile collection in January 2018 was not counted.

Number of Parcels with Piles Set Out on Collection Dates

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	TOTAL	Overall Participation
Week of Jan 2, 2017	478	641	769	756	2644	19%
Week of Jan 30, 2017	496	613	677	696	2482	18%
Week of Feb 6, 2017	201	188	202	195	786	6%
Week of March 6, 2017	395	546	364	319	1624	12%
Week of April 3, 2017	408	613	448	480	1949	14%
Week of May 1, 2017	351	493	457	458	1759	13%
Week of June 5, 2017	320	476	485	521	1802	13%
Week of July 3, 2017	305	442	397	464	1608	11%
Week of Aug 7, 2017	335	457	445	439	1676	12%
Week of Sept 4, 2017	289	415	404	412	1520	10%

Week of Oct 2, 2017	488	498	578	497	2061	15%
Week of Oct 16, 2017	404	494	539	452	1889	13%
Week of Oct 23, 2017	416	395	412	330	1553	11%
Week of Oct 30, 2017	448	444	445	524	1861	13%
Week of Nov 6, 2017	442	482	443	329	1696	12%
Week of Nov 16, 2017	437	409	399	357	1602	11%
Week of Nov 20, 2017	442	413	453	323	1631	12%
Week of Nov 27, 2017	505	594	639	574	2312	17%
Week of Dec 4, 2017	632	708	845	575	2760	20%
Week of Dec 11, 2017	807	520	506	398	2231	16%
Week of Jan 8, 2018	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data
Week of Feb 5, 2018	475	578	450	368	1871	13%
Week of March 5, 2018	326	277	262	284	1149	8%
Week of April 2, 2018	365	382	358	246	1351	10%
Week of May 7, 2018	345	545	551	556	1997	14%
Week of June 4, 2018	413	524	469	469	1875	13%
Week of July 2, 2018	526	492	345	403	1766	13%
Week of Aug 6, 2018	382	441	466	424	1713	12%
Week of Sept 3, 2018	374	518	383	414	1689	12%
Week of Oct 1, 2018	447	408	396	411	1662	12%
Week of Oct 15, 2018	355	396	400	484	1635	12%
Week of Oct 22, 2018	456	396	400	395	1647	12%
Week of Oct 29, 2018	527	522	507	465	2021	14%
Week of Nov 5, 2018	600	604	585	437	2226	16%
Week of Nov 12, 2018	574	544	529	443	2090	15%
Week of Nov 19, 2018	524	512	413	224	1673	12%
Week of Nov 26, 2018	519	506	602	558	2185	16%
Week of Dec 3, 2018	607	945	901	976	5195*	37%
Week of Dec 10, 2018	581	660	842	575	3633*	26%
Week of January	630	940	900	924	4384*	31%
*Due to the unusually large amount of material set out in the street, Recology was not able to perform pick-up service within the typical four days. Pick-ups continued though Saturday and Sunday to ensure that all piles were collected.					Average	15%
					Minimum	6%
					Maximum	37%

Please note that this data only addresses the number of *parcels* that use the service, not the extent to which the service is utilized. There is no differentiation between small piles of leaves that could fit into the organics cart as well as large piles from tree pruning.

The overall participation in the yard material pile collection program shown in this data never exceeds 37%. The City has 15,817 accounts (14,812 residential accounts and 1,005 commercial accounts). To take a conservative look at participation, the chart above compares the number of parcels using the service each week to a total of 14,000 of accounts to see the participation percentage.

December – January saw an usually large amount of material in the street, requiring Recology to extend pick-up service through to Saturday (and even Sunday as was the case the week of December 3) in order to ensure that all piles were collected. This has occurred in the past and is not the first time that there were more piles than could be collected within the typical 4 days. This can happen when rain, wind and lower temperatures all coincide to knock down deciduous tree leaves all at once.

Enforcement

The table below shows the number of enforcement actions for these violations (piles placed out on the wrong day, piles that were too large, piles placed in the right-of-way, etc.).

Yard Material Pile Enforcement Actions

	Reminder Door Tag	Formal Reminder Letter	Notice of Violation	Fine	Total Enforcement Actions
January 2017	62	0	0	0	62
February 2017	0	0	0	0	0
March 2017	0	0	0	0	0
April 2017	228	0	0	0	228
May 2017	273	35	0	0	308
June 2017	132	2	0	0	134
July 2017	272	34	2	0	308
August 2017	60	7	2	0	69
September 2017	131	15	3	1	150
October 2017 – December 2017	No violations issued				
January 2018	106	0	0	0	106
February 2018	106	0	0	0	106
March 2018	39	0	0	0	39
April 2018	103	0	3	0	106
May 2018	99	0	0	0	99
June 2018	22	0	1	0	23
July 2018	105	0	6	1	112
August 2018	95	0	2	0	97
September 2018	106	0	15	2	123
October 2018	0	0	0	0	0
November 2018	0	0	0	0	0
December 2018	109	0	18	1	128

In 2017, the enforcement process consisted of sending two reminders before a formal Notice of Violation. If the violation occurred for a fourth time, then the situation was sent to the Police Department Code Enforcement team to issue a fine. This enforcement plan was truncated in 2018 to consist of only one reminder notice before a formal Notice of Violation.

The Environmental Program Specialist currently works closely with Recology on enforcement. Recology will notify City staff if there are problems with yard material pile placement that affect collection service. However, Recology drivers cannot take additional time out of their collection routes to leave violation notices for City code violations. In addition, having more than one crew doing active enforcement can lead to customers’ receiving multiple violation notices for a single issue, as occurred in 2016, when the City enlisted Police Department volunteers to assist Public Works staff with enforcement of piles.

Attachment 1: Proposed Yard Material Collection Schedules

Proposed Yard Material Collection Schedules

16 Pick-Ups Per Year

- Monthly pick-ups from February to September
- Bi-weekly pick-ups from mid-October to mid-January
- Second January pick-up allows for easy holiday tree collection
- Extra pick-ups in the fall for leaf drop season
- Approximately \$50K - \$70K per year savings over the current collection schedule.
- Cost savings could potentially be applied to increased street sweeping services.

16 Pick-Ups Per Year

2019

April							May							June						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4							1
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31	²³ / ₃₀	24	25	26	27	28	29	

July							August							September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					

October							November							December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				

2020

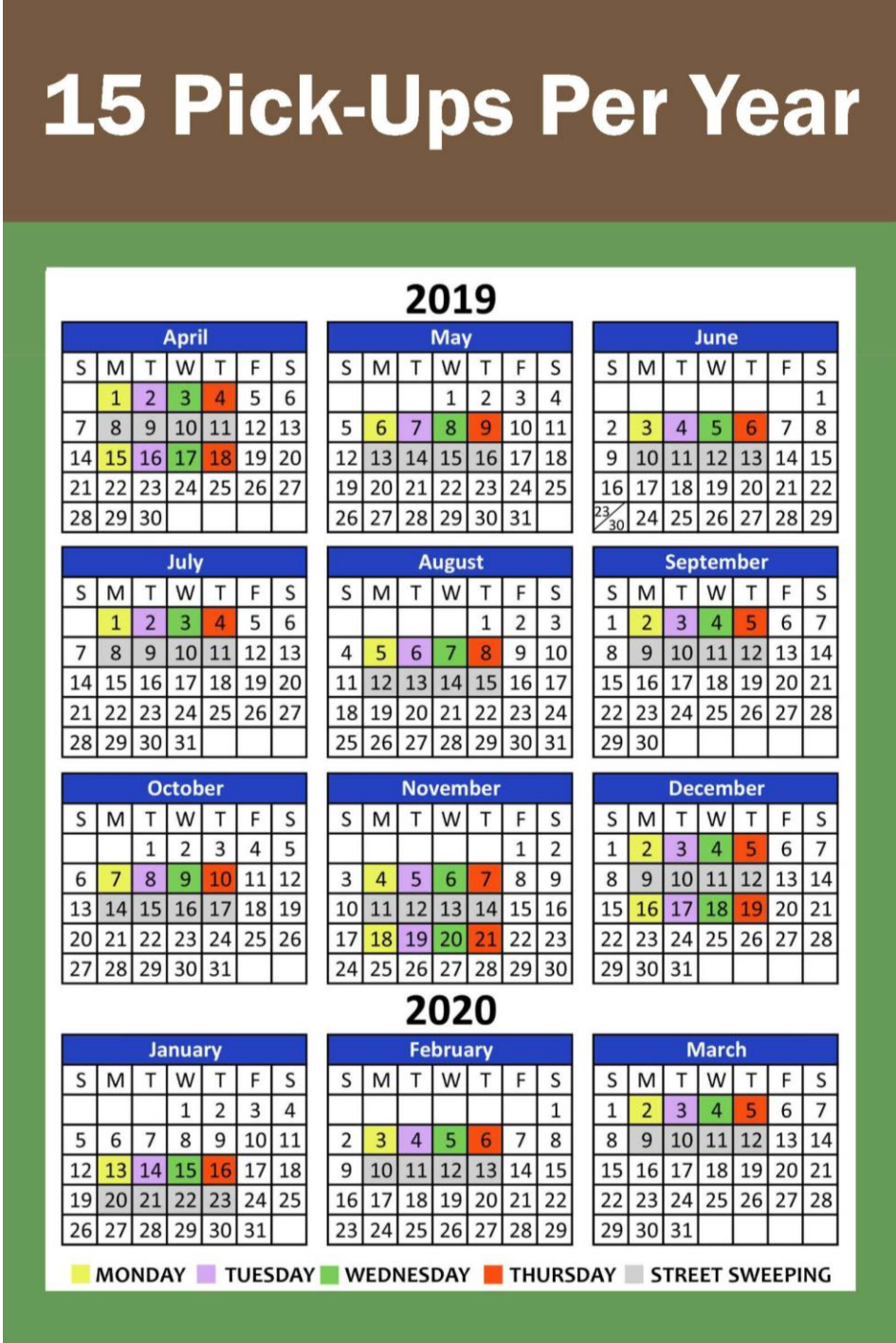
January							February							March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4							1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	29	30	31				

■ MONDAY
 ■ TUESDAY
 ■ WEDNESDAY
 ■ THURSDAY
 ■ STREET SWEEPING

Attachment 1: Proposed Yard Material Collection Schedules

15 Pick-Ups Per Year

- Monthly pick-ups year round
- Two extra pick-ups in the fall
- One extra pick-up in the spring
- Delayed January pick-up allows for holiday tree collection.
- Extra pick-ups in the fall for leaf drop season.
- One extra pick-up in the spring.
- Approximately \$83K - \$103K per year savings over the current collection schedule.
- Cost savings could potentially be applied to increased street sweeping services.



Attachment 1: Proposed Yard Material Collection Schedules

12 Pick-Ups Per Year

- Monthly pick-ups year round
- Delayed January pick-up allows for holiday tree collection.
- This option provides the greatest reduction in cost, approximately \$150K - \$170K per year savings over the current collection schedule.
- Cost savings could potentially be applied to increased street sweeping services.

12 Pick-Ups Per Year

2019

April							May							June						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4							1
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31		23 30	24	25	26	27	28	29

July							August							September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					

October							November							December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				

2020

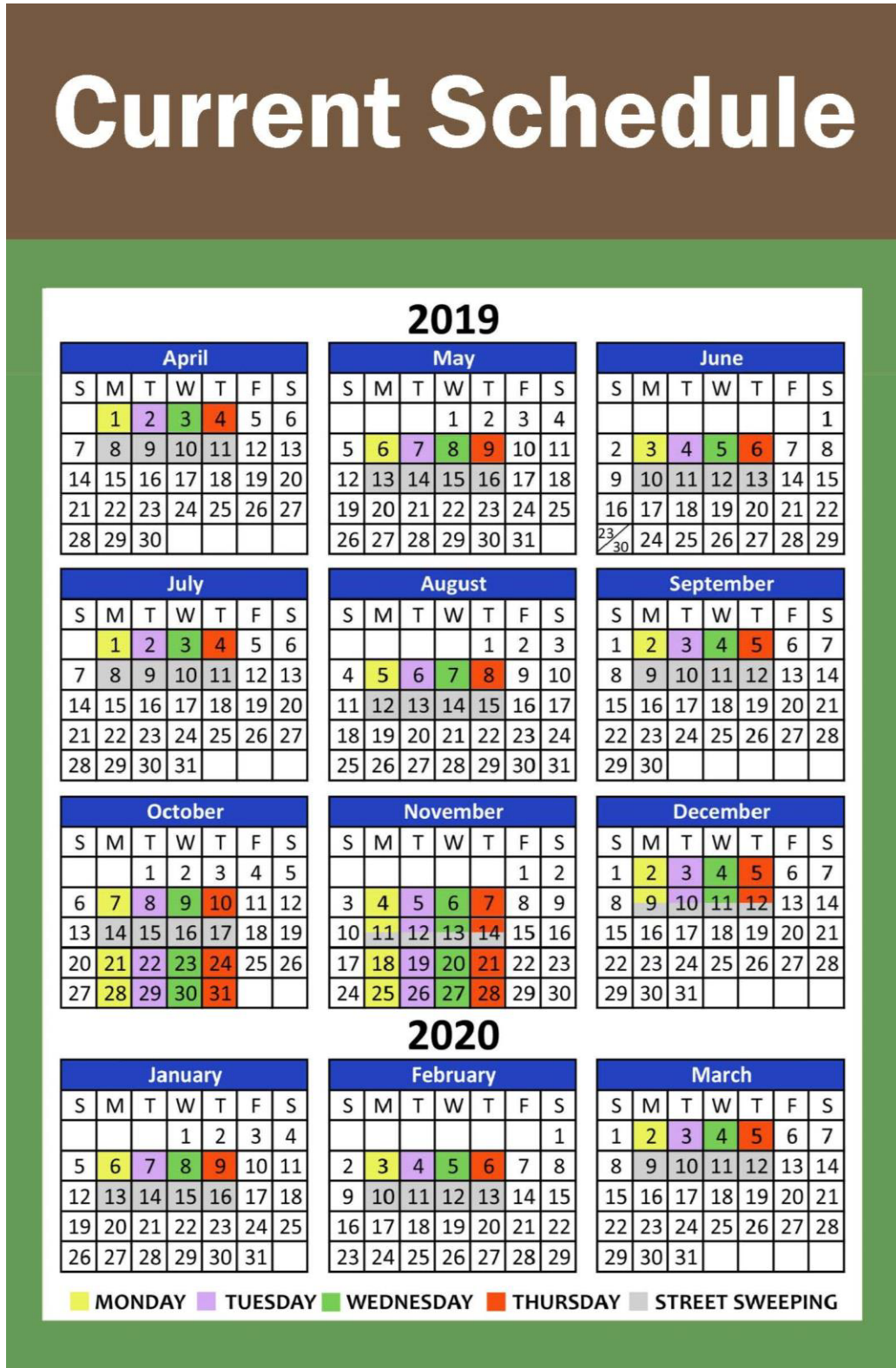
January							February							March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4						1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	29	30	31				

■ MONDAY
 ■ TUESDAY
 ■ WEDNESDAY
 ■ THURSDAY
 ■ STREET SWEEPING

Attachment 1: Proposed Yard Material Collection Schedules

Current Schedule

- 18 pick-ups per year
- Monthly pick-ups from January to October
- Weekly pick-ups from mid-October to mid-December
- Costs are included in the proposed solid waste rate increases (approximately \$600K - \$650K per year).



Feedback specific to The 16 Pick-Up Per Year Collection Schedule

Written comments received at the Community Open House

- Also bad, too confusing and who does it benefit? Gardeners over rate payers and vulnerable road users? Let's do what is best for a citizens. Eliminate LITS.
- Spring may need extra pick u, probably better use than extra street cleaning since debris will be on the street longer than we used to when there were more frequent pick-ups.
- This is the best option because it provides the most frequent pick-ups in the fall when they are truly needed.
- 16 – 18 pick-ups of leaves in an older neighborhood is totally inadequate! The leaves are piled in the streets, blocking the gutters and when wind storms " __ __" this week, they were blown back over the street again! The gutters were blocked and leaves are pushed into the drains. There are piles of leaves against the street dividers--all slippery and dangerous. So we are to pay more for less service? I'd rather pay more for more service –claw, " __" street sweeping. We are encouraged to care for the street trees for the climates sake. Perhaps we should eliminate the trees and plant cactuses instead!
- We have a city – county heritage oak tree (~100 feet tall) that drops it's leaves all winter, sometimes even into March. This schedule is the minimum that would be acceptable to handle it's leaves as well as the trimming + cleaning of our shrubbery on our ½ acre lot. We live in the city limits in XXXXX adjacent to the South Davis Drainage channel.
- We have a deep (~145') lot + thus many fruit trees which need to be pruned when dormant- i.e, now. We also have ~ 1 dozen rose bushes that need their annual pruning – It is totally impossible to try to stuff all this into the organics can. We need street pick up!
- This is an exercise in futility. Because city will just do whatever is cheapest!!
- I require 21 to 22 annual pickups each year. We live in a mature 1970's neighborhood with lots of very tall trees. Specifically twice a month pickups in April, May, June, July, August, September. We are willing to pay a higher rate in Davis for adequate services.
- You will need to allow residents to store leave piles in the street for 2 weeks during the leaf drop season for this schedule to work. The 16 pick-ups extends the season which is needed to mid-January. Better to leave the current 18x and extend weekly to mid Jan.
- NOT ADEQUATE, INCREASE THE PICK-UPS, NOT DECREASE.
- Please, please trumpet 1) The need to respond if the citizen wants to prevent the rate increase. 2) The option of approving the city's plan to increase the rates by doing nothing.
- Ridiculos! Not Enough! We need 24+ pickups minimum to handle the enormous tree leaf fall + pruning of trees. Otherwise residents will be forced to consider removing trees! Terrible! Save our Trees, Save The Claw! Extend Oct through Feb.
- Consider going to per-pick-up pricing and use GPS (like parking tickets) to register trash, recycling, and yard waste pickups. That lets people let pickups as needed and will reduce labor and upkeep costs.
- Why are you limiting the options to a decrease of current pick-ups schedule? Most people want more frequent pick-up.
- I am trying to work with the new system! My concern is possible citations! Mow + Blow guys get confused every winter, leaving piles in the street when p/u is no longer active! How does

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Attachment 2: Feedback received on Proposed Change to the Yard Material Collection Service

the citation system work? How can citations be avoided when Oct thru Dec or Jan P/U is biweekly? I garden @ 4 other homes and I am trying my best to follow the sched!

- I believe that the 16 pick-up schedule is the closest to the current schedule that has served us well. I am sorry to see the current schedule disappear.
- 18 pick-ups did not do it because too many leaves fall from December 15 for another month. 16 times may get them we have to account for old neighborhood with old BIG trees.
- Of all the options this option makes the most sense to me. To make it easier for people to remember when is pick-up. Consider switching ALL months' first LITS pickup to 2nd week.
- 1. We need more leaf pickups in older neighborhoods with large street trees. 2. Our leaf supply exceeds our bin especially in fall + winter. 3) The Claw was invented in Davis and deserves exhibition and emulation.
- This is not an adequate option but is the best of the three that allow "voting". Major winter pruning has to wait for cold weather and continues through mid-February. Weekly pick-ups mid-December to mid-February would be ideal, with monthly the rest of the year. We also need street sweeping 2x-month.
- City tells us not to plant evergreens because of water usage. So we don't! That means lots of leaves. We need the claw frequently + regularly. I really resent having to save piles of leaves on my parking pad so that I don't inconvenience the City! We leave in Central Davis. The lovely trees are essential to the ambiance of our town. City needs to help care for those trees.
- 19 wasn't enough (16 still not enough) 16 pickups per year will leave the older areas with many trees unable to cope. We already struggle with the current 19 per year leaving too many piles in the street in second half of December- really from early Dec depending on Calendar.
- Need to expand to at least 18 2x/mo Oct – Mar, 1x/mo April - Sept. Leaves not biggest problem; tree branches, grape/wisteria vines, berries are biggest problems. Leaves are composted.
- I live in XXXXX in far west Davis, and am actually on the path sweeping team. By far we get most leaf – drop starting October through December, so that's when it would be best for us to have bi-weekly pickups. And don't get rid of the claw, as sometimes we generate 20 x 5 ft piles of greenery that would never fit in a Bin! Thanks for asking for community input!
- This is the best new option but it is not adequate for leaf drop months and fruit tree pruning season. What will happen to all the leaves + debris in the week between pickups! The streets are already swimming in leaves, even with weekly pickups. Go back to every week from Nov 1 – the middle of February. The carts don't begin to hold leaves & prunings.
- Terrible idea as it confuses further. Time to eliminate LIT entirely.
- Is this the best we can get. We are currently at 18 pickups per year. We need more, please! I am willing to pay more to get services back we need weekly street sweeping and regular leaf pick up.
- This extends Dec pickups 2x per week until early Feb. Currently the frequent pickups stop too early. Main pruning is in Jan + Feb. This scheme will work best of the options presented.
- Yes! Many Davis residents have mature landscaping with trees that drop a whole lot of leaves AND require significant pruning every year. Therefore, not only should the current pick-up schedule be maintained, there should be pick-ups in January for the pruning since that is the right time of year to prune. It is reasonable to cut pruning to 5 foot lengths to put in the street but NOT to get it into an organics bin!

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Attachment 2: Feedback received on Proposed Change to the Yard Material Collection Service

- None of the above should be an option-Streets are filthy – We went from weekly to 18 pickups and new trucks are needed + costs going up.
- A 40yr Davis resident. I have been encouraged to plant and maintain trees with the efficient leaf + branch pickup. Without this service I would need 10 yard cans per week during season. Charge me more, without leaf pickup, I will be forced to remove trees.
- With the number of trees in our yard, even with 16 pickups per year, will still have excess leaves and trimmings. While leaves come down mainly in the fall, trimming trees and bushes is a year round activity.
- This pick up schedule is necessary during the months that the organics cart is inadequate to contain all of the leaf drop during November and December. Maintenance of the tree canopy by homeowners requires this level of support by the city.
- Yes! It is the very least we should get with a rate-scheduled increase.

Comments received via email within the comment period

- I favor 16 pick ups, or more per year. Contain costs by reducing hours of City staff that don't have enough work to justify a full time salary.
- i vote 16 pick ups/year. pls excuse brevity (broken wrist)
- As someone who won't be able to attend the community meetings on the subject, I wanted to write in to express an opinion on the proposed yard collection changes. I greatly appreciate the council's efforts to contain costs and find alternative, lower cost options. I also think the community involvement process is being very well handled. Thank you! As someone whose property has a tremendous amount of leaf drop in the fall, the proposed 12 pickup option would be insufficient to me, and I am voting for the 16 pick-up option. If there is a pick-up once a month and we are not allowed to put piles on the street far advance of the pick-up date, one winds up needing to have a giant pile of debris somewhere on their property, which is hard to manage, and worse, once it rains moving a wet pile of leaves is far more difficult than removing the original dry pile. I am opposed to the 12 pick-up option, or any other option that uniformly spreads the collection times over the year. Absent one-off events, it is only in the Fall when the amount of organic debris gets so heavy that I cannot fit it into our compost bins at weekly intervals and rains threaten a mess. A sensible approach from my perspective is one that leads to more pick-ups during the leaf drop period. Even twice-weekly compost bin pickup could be considered.
- It is unclear from the City of Davis Newsletter, emailed December 21st, whether the 3 options being discussed are for bulk pick-up by the "jaws" or pick-up of the brown-lid compost containers. If the 3 options refer to the jaws, the 16 day option will best meet the actual leaf-fall and holiday tree need. The other 2 options will not. If the 3 options refer to the compost containers none of the 3 options are at all adequate. Weekly pick-up of the compost containers is necessary to avoid stench and unhealthful conditions due to kitchen waste being composted. The Newsletter should be reissued to clearly explain which of the two pick-up services are in question. The graphic that accompanies the Newsletter shows both a container and a pile of yard waste.
- Of the 3 options proposed for refuse collection changes, I much prefer the 16 pickups per year. It will be the most useful to gardening needs, and it's an easy to follow schedule. I'm assuming this is with the claw. I also like that this plan may provide increased street cleaning services, since there are loose leaves in the street all year

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Attachment 2: Feedback received on Proposed Change to the Yard Material Collection Service

round. The streets have been a mess all year. Besides being unsightly, I'm sure lots of this loose stuff blowing around ends up in the drains.

- The 16 pick-ups per year proposal is the one I would like to see implemented. I think bi-weekly during the fall leaf season continuing into January is sensible. My tallow tree drops quite a bit into January especially as the weather warms a bit each year.
- Please keep the claw. I would be happy with the 16 pickups annually with bi-weekly mid Oct to mid January. We live in a neighborhood with many trees and no greenbelts and sparse parks. Individual households bear the full costs of our urban forest. We have large yards, large water bills and large trees. Our ash tree is at least 60 feet tall and drops all its leaves in January. Our neighbors fan palms drop large treacherous fronds weekly. The landscape was planted with the assumption of maintaining the existing street pickup.
- I understand that the city needs to cut costs concerning the LITS program. I vote for 16 pickups per year. It has been a challenge under the current plan but I would rather deal with a reduction in service in order to continue the LITS program.
- I've been reading that the city is looking to cut costs for the LITS program. I would rather deal with a reduction in service in order to continue the LITS program, so my vote is for 16 pickups per year.
- I am unable to attend your open house on January 7, 2019 so I would like to add my voice in this discussion. I am particularly in favor of the 16 pick-ups per year plan. We have family in Eugene, Oregon where there are only 2 pick-ups scheduled in the Fall and it is awful for the home owners. I would never want to see our town with all the trees devolve to such a minuscule level. I truly believe that with all the trees in town, the 16 pick-up makes the most sense. Any less and none of the organic trash cans would be enough to keep the streets clear.
- We would like to voice our opinion that the claw pick up program NOT be cancelled. We feel it is a necessity for being able to maintain both our yard and our office building. We would not be able to keep large trees pruned and may have to consider cutting trees down if there is no option for branch removal. Two of the largest trees at the office are cork oak and were planted by the city many years before we purchased the building. We also massive amounts of leaves that cannot possibly fit into cans. We are proud that the city of Davis have many large and mature trees. It would be a penalty to own such trees if they cannot be maintained. We would prefer reducing the service to 16 pick ups a year if the savings would keep the program running.
- We are property owners at XXXXX, Davis, and have been at the same address since September 1970. We vigorously encourage the retention of the Yard Materials Collection Service, especially the 'Claw', and strongly favor the 16 pick-ups/year option. We are puzzled why Recology and the City want to eliminate this year-round service (while we are still paying for it – see top of page 2 of the recently mailed notice of proposed increase to solid waste service fees). If the equipment is aging, good business practices suggest buying new and amortize over many years. We have a small yard, grassless, with some shrubs and no large trees except for the city street trees. Our street trees, planted by the city, are Zelkova serrata or Chinese elm. We have mounds for leaves from November to January that in no way can be contained by your suggested options. Our small yard cannot accommodate by mulch or backyard-composting the enormous amount of leave generated by these trees. Our neighbors and we use the organic cart but it is sadly inadequate for the volume of leaves we experience. Many property owners do not have children, yet pay

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Attachment 2: Feedback received on Proposed Change to the Yard Material Collection Service

school taxes. Some property owners are not near green belts or parks, yet we all pay these fees. Same with the library fee. This is what a community does – everyone shares the burden for all. We all pay for services we don't use so opposition to the claw service by people with no yard waste or trees is self-serving. With or without the pick-up, yard waste and leaves will still clog water sewer drains. Fertilizer and chemical run-off from yards will still happen. Most residential streets do not have bike lanes. For those that do, maybe they should be treated differently for yard waste pick-up. Davis is known for its lovely trees. To encourage property owners to remove them is shortsighted. Trees give essential shade in the summer, put oxygen into our environment and give a sense of community.

- I am responding to the city's potential modifications to the current yard material collection service. I am fortunate to reside on a street with beautiful, large city street trees in my front yard. These two trees are mostly responsible for my leaf piles for yard material collection service by Recology's "claw". I do not have the capacity to compost onsite, the elimination of this service would be a negative impact. Reduction of this service has already proved to be challenging. I am in favor of maintaining the current frequency, however if I am faced with having to select one of the three options listed on the city's agenda, I am strongly in favor of the option providing for (16) pick-ups per year.
- My wife and I were unable to attend your Community Open House on January 7, 2019 regarding "Yard material collection options", however, we would like to voice our support for the option of "16 pick-ups per year". Since you cannot tell trees when to shed their leaves, it seems to us that extending the pick-up dates to mid-January makes more sense than the other proposed options. Especially, as it appeared that given this year the fall weather remained unseasonably warm for a longer duration the leaves were continuing to fall into December. Have you noticed how many piles are in the streets waiting to get picked up since the last pick up in December?
- I am delighted to see that none of the proposed claw change proposals are to eliminate it. I can live with all the proposals, though I am partial to the 16 times/year proposal as I think this proposal meets our needs as a city the best. However, whichever option is decided upon, I would like to strongly suggest you implement one change that costs nothing and will make all our streets cleaner as well as reduce the debris that ends up in our storm drains: change sweeping to follow the day of LITS pickup. Currently and with all the proposals, LITS pickup happens throughout the city during one week and sweeping happens the following week. That allows a full week for residual debris from the claw to languish in the streets, blowing around and washing into storm drains. The streets look dirty and the debris is a safety hazard to anyone on small wheels (roller skates, skateboards, wheelchairs, strollers, etc.). When it rains, this debris is more easily washed into storm drains because there is no pile holding it in place. Sweeping on the day after LITS pickup requires nothing more than a schedule change at Recology and is how sweeping used to be done prior to the organics cart implementation. All the current proposed schedules currently look like this:

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	^ sweep	^ sweep	^ sweep	^ sweep		

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Attachment 2: Feedback received on Proposed Change to the Yard Material Collection Service

I would like to recommend that you insist on them looking like this:

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		< sweep		< sweep		
		< sweep		< sweep		

In both diagrams above, there are 4 days of pickup and 4 days of sweeping that happen over two weeks, so there should be no additional labor, time or equipment needs to perform the functions. However, the latter diagram proposal ensures that the debris does not languish in the streets for a week. It seems like a no-brainer and nothing but a win for everyone. I also think there will be secondary benefits to implementing this change. Sweeping the day after claw pickup is how it 'used to be' when we had the weekly claw pickup. It's satisfying to see the pile picked up and then the remaining debris swept immediately after. Because the streets then look clean, people are more inclined to contribute to keep them that way. Over the past two years, I've seen a change when I walk my dogs, like people feel like 'what's the point' w.r.t. sweeping sidewalks, etc. because there's just crap languishing all over the street anyway. I don't know what the cost is to add a few additional days of sweeping, but I also think that in the months where there is an extra claw pickup, there should also be an extra day of sweeping so the above proposed schedule can be kept for consistency, but more importantly, so our streets are kept to the same level of cleanliness post claw pick-up year round and so there isn't loose small particulate debris flying about into storm drains and posing a hazard for cyclists and small-wheeled users. I would support the extra sweeping even if it meant the loss of a claw pickup in October or perhaps eliminating claw pickup entirely during summer months (July, August) and using the savings from that to do more frequent sweeping in summer as there seems to be a lot of dry dust blowing about in summer.

- I would vote in favor of the 16 pick-ups per year. With the climate changes pushing leaf-fall and end-of-year pruning later and later, having pick-ups through December and January is most useful to me (why is an extra pick-up in April even considered?) To some extent, I can adapt to any pickup schedule, but I definitely need at least one a month - the bins are not enough. Don't eliminate our claw!
- I am unable to make it to tonight's meeting discussing potential changes to street yard waste pick-ups. We are on a quarter-acre central Davis city lot, on a corner, with over 20 trees, several of them city trees. We spend money and time on our garden and we do fill up our organics bin with yard waste most weeks. In addition we have a 4 x 4 x 4' compost bin and we use a mulching electric mower. However, with the number of trees on our lot, including multiple fruit trees that need winter pruning, we definitely need street pick-up. At the present I don't think the fall pick-up schedule goes long enough into the season. I think a good alternative could be the 16 pick-ups a year, with bi-weekly schedules in the fall and in January (a change from now). I do wish we had more street sweepings. If water quality is one of the issues cited for no street piles, leaves and such still do fall in the street and many folks do not rake or pick them up. Also, please note, that raking items into a street pile is easier for older and less able people to do as compared with trying to pick stuff up to put into the bin and then move that bin.

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Attachment 2: Feedback received on Proposed Change to the Yard Material Collection Service

- I attended the city workshop on yard material collection but was disappointed with the limited options presented. I believe the present service providing collection of large amounts of green waste is essential if we are really serious about wanting to live in a verdant city with gardens, trees and vines. We have a large vegetable garden along with 18 different fruit trees, vines and berries at our home. Consequently there is a huge amount of green material which comes from pruning and collecting leaf material. We have 3 different compost bins and these are actively used. But the yard material, especially tree branches, rose clippings, berry vines and grape vines far overwhelm the limited organics bin space. One of the limitations of the present schedule is the timing. Most of our needs for street pick up occur during the winter months— November through February. Once a month street service is adequate for the remaining months. So I would favor 16 pick ups with once a month pick up March through October followed by twice monthly pick up from November through February. I also wish to comment on some of the rationales for limiting or eliminating street waste pick ups. We are very active cyclists in the community, in fact rarely do we find we need a vehicle for travel within our city. We have never found the street wastes to be a severe problem or danger. Certainly no more so than the large waste and recycling bins. With modern bike lights allowing good visibility at night the yard wastes and trash cans can be easily avoided. Another rationale proposed by some is that street waste will enter our sewer system. We live in village homes and the community was designed so that street water run off goes into swales in our common areas. Thus little water ever goes into the city sewer system. In summary, we urge the city to maintain the present system of large volume branches, vines and other excess green material being picked up from the street. The present schedule simply needs to be modified in order to correspond to the larger demand in the real winter months of November through February. We hope that we will continue to be able to enjoy our garden activities without having to resort to hiring an expensive landscape service which would be required if the street waste collection were curtailed.
- Regarding the timing of yard waste pickup, the schedule does not match the critical weeks when residents are doing major pruning and leaf-drop cleanup. By my observation, the seasonal heavy demand occurs mostly from the first of December to the end of February. Yet, the weekly schedule applies primarily in the Fall outside the window of primary residential owner need. I would support the 16 pickups per year if the bi-weekly window was set at December through February to better match residential owners' pruning and cleanup habits. Contract gardeners and maintenance firms, of course, are another matter, but these folks are supposed to haul off waste they create. I would also like to express my concern with vehicles blocking access to pick-up piles, esp in cul-de-sacs. I live next door to a person who insists on parking a pickup truck along my residential frontage facing into the curb rather than parallel (this despite the fact the neighbor has 300 feet of frontage to my 30 feet). On numerous occasions, this practice of face-on parking has obstructed the early-morning yard waste pickup. Regardless of what option the City approves, the City also needs to police parking regulations for any of the schedule options to be effective.

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Feedback specific to The 15 Pick-Up Per Year Collection Schedule

Written comments received at the Community Open House

- Insane schedule eliminating Oct pickups and adding April. We are drowning in leaves in the fall.
- Not nearly enough! We need 24+ at least or residents will be facing removing trees! Terrible! Save the Trees! Save the Claw! Extend through October → Feb. also.
- PLEASE ADD PICKUPS IN SPRING!
- Still too expensive.
- Not Adequate.
- Way too many! I could use one pick-up in January or Feb when I prune our fruit trees. I could use an extra bin in December for leaves I can't find room for on my property that don't fit in one bin.
- No street side p/u for up to 3weeks after x-mas is pretty ridiculous. I do like having options for multiple seasons. → Spring pruning + petal drop. I have a magnolia that causes as much green waste in the spring as it does in the fall.
- Horrible, most leaves fall after Dec 15.
- We do not need an extra pick-up in April. Current schedule is the min we need.
- This option gives an extra pick up in April which doesn't make sense.
- Why April instead of January?
- Need to extend 2x/mo through February or March, ie 18x/year.
- Extra pick up in April is too late. Starting 2x per month pick up in Nov. could be ok, but need more frequent in Jan + Feb more than in April.
- Having a monthly pick up is necessary. But weekly is what we need!
- Like extra spring pick-up for pruning.

Comments received via email within the comment period

- Thank you for collecting feedback on this issue. I frequently make use of the claw and I also appreciate your efforts to reduce costs and save the city money. While I support all the reduction options, I think the 15 pickups option would best support my needs.
- We favor the 15 pickup/yeqr option. The extra week in January is not useful. And having 2 pickups in October is before significant leaf fall. Once per month is not adequate for fall leaf pickup. One week in the past season, I put out the equivalent of 4.5 organic bins of leaves, and put out significant leaf piles for two more weeks beyond that. I pickup leaves for several very large trees, as well as half a dozen smaller trees. Eliminating leaf street pickup is not a viable option for us, nor is mulching (one of our very large trees is a walnut, which has toxic tannins in the leaves). Davis is a city of trees. Street pickup for a couple months of the year is the price of having the beauty, shade and carbon dioxide absorbing value.

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Feedback specific to The 12 Pick-Up Per Year Collection Schedule

Written comments received at the Community Open House

- ABSOLUTELY NOT, LUDICROUS. DO NOT IGNORE THE CITIZENS OF DAVIS.
- Go back to the weekly schedule. The streets become covered with debris and as a result, very slippery when wet. This material is carried down the storm drain. Proper clean-up is the price for having mature trees and landscaping.
- The Streets will be unparkable all Fall. This is absurd. We need 21 pickups, per year weekly from mid Oct thru Dec. Will not approve of waste rate increase for reduced service.
- Of the three options, this is the best one provided. However, I'd like to see the program phased out with increased street sweeping.
- This is by far the least desirable of the 3 options. We must have weekly pick-ups in the fall.
- If all pick-ups will be phased out, then this plan would help wean us - rather than "cold turkey". The graph on Collection Tonnage shows how our habits have already changed with the addition of toters.
- Absolutely not! Not nearly enough! Save the Trees! Save the Claw! Extend through Oct – Dec also!
- This works for me.
- NOT ADEQUATE.
- The explanation says "cost savings could potentially be applied to increased street sweeping services". Not that they will be. It means don't count on it.
- Completely inadequate and out of touch with what the residents need. This will result in leaf piles in the street for weeks. Enforcement will be impossible or punitive. You can't expect people to hold green waste for that long.
- What will all the leaves be placed? This would be very anti Tree.
- Totally inadequate to meet needs of single-family homeowner.
- Not enough – Main needs in Dec → February for those of us with lots of trees & bushes that need pruning. Hard to stockpile pruning on site or to get them into bins. I have way too much to get into 1 bin per month during Nov to end of January.
- Closer, but wrong 12 months. If we must have LITS until we stop for good, then the 12 months belong bunched together, weekly, from Nov-Jan gets leafy drop + xmas trees. People can plan big garden jobs for winter, and get used to no LITS the rest of the year.
- This is not enough pickups.
- I can support the 12 pick-ups per year if the savings of 150-170k/year will be used to offset the cost of new equipment in 3-5 years. I understand this won't cover the whole cost but 150k for 5 years should yield 750k at the minimum in 5 years which should offset most of the cost of new equipment.

Comments received via email within the comment period

- In response to your request for public input on the question of how many claw pickups per year, please record my recommendation for only 12 pickups per year with monthly pickups year round. My large organic cart takes care of my needs 10 months of the year.

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General Feedback

Written comments received at the Community Open House

- Who benefits from our current and proposed LITS system? The issues we face with our current LITS system: -- Loose piles in the street endanger bicyclists and discourage bicycling; the piles consume precious car parking; the contents of those piles are washed down storm drains, and the piles make our town look and often smell like a garbage heap. --Confusion about LITS pickup schedule. While we may have just 18 pickup weeks per year, the variable pickup schedule is confusing enough that piles are regularly found on the street almost every week of the year, making enforcement a challenging, full-time job. -- Redundancy costs more, and confuses customers further. Since deployment of the organics bins, property owners have been paying for two separate organic waste collection systems. This costs more and creates more diesel and noise pollution while the redundancy also causes confusion regarding proper use of the bin on LITS days. Piles that easily fit in the bin are being placed in the street. Because many people don't see an advantage to increased waste diversion through use of the organics bin, they feel that they are now being asked to spend more for what they perceive as reduced service. -- Equity in rates. We are subsidizing the small percentage of households that use the service on any given pickup day. Is the LITS system a relevant, cost-effective, efficient and safe way to achieve our diversion goals today? It would seem that the well-known negative impacts of our LITS system far outweigh the perceived convenience and usefulness. My challenge to the city is to consider who benefits from the LITS piles. The current and proposed schedules all prioritize the convenience of a few at the detriment and expense of all. We endanger our most vulnerable road users, and we contribute to air, water and noise pollution while we subsidize those with large and productive gardens. Below I propose two alternative schedules that can help reduce the negative impacts of loose piles and decrease the financial inequity. Both alternatives eliminate confusion and lower the cost of service. Unfortunately, neither of these options is currently being presented by the city for consideration and comment: 1. First choice: Terminate regular LITS pickups. This is where we are ultimately headed, so it would be most effective to just pull the Bandaid off quickly and stop wasting the significant time and money being consumed to study how best to compromise in the short term. 2. Second choice that only helps in the short term: 12 weekly pickups per year. Consecutive weekly pickups over winter (November, December, January), and no pickups the rest of the year. This helps with leaf-drop season as well as Christmas tree pickup. For the remaining 40 weeks of the year, property owners learn to use their organics bins properly. This allows three months of convenience for large pruning projects. Regardless of what update we make to the LITS program (and assuming that my #1 choice is not selected) a sunset provision should be included to make obvious that all regular LITS pickups will end on a certain date. Maybe after all this we still have a few LITS pickups per year, but those would be like the "bulky waste" pickups of the past that were rare occurrences noticed as special events. In the meantime, everybody finally learns how to deal with their yards more efficiently like the citizens of almost every other community in CA has done.
- Weekly-Pick up – Next day, sweep.
- The past use of weekly yard waste pickup + street sweeping was the gold standard. We Do Not need to move on the Base Metal.

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Attachment 2: Feedback received on Proposed Change to the Yard Material Collection Service

- 1) Currently we are getting less service for more cost. Have/has anyone considered the cost for status quo (pre-bin)? 2) The bins aren't really working. 3) The Traffic Dept. safety projects appear to increase debris in gutter/storm drains. Any corridation?
- Instead of replacing the claw with another claw-consider a vacuum like machine which could clean all streets/curbs.
- I made an error- I don't want 16 pick-up, if you increase fees I want 18 please. Please forget my wrongfully placed blue sticker.
- As someone who gardens & has 35 dwarf fruit I can't fit my cutting in the containers. I also worry about people storing cuttings on their driveway and having them get dry + creating a fire hazard.
- Typical Davis, Don't give a table for current. Make it that we don't keep the current schedule. We don't need a second pick up in January, just drive around and see how many trees are out there. Our rates increase and less service.
- The current system is adequate. Dec 2018 a lot of leaf piles + xmas trees were left on the street. Add rain...What a mess!
- 1) Many Davis residents have mature landscaping with trees that drop a whole lot of leaves AND require significant pruning. There should be pick-ups in January since that is the right time of year to prune. 2) I grew up in Davis riding a bike. Since when are bike riders not required to watch where they're going? Bike riders are just as likely to ride into an organics bin as a yard material pile if they don't watch where they're going! This is a silly argument for eliminating yard material piles.
- I would advocate for zero pickups. Everything with maybe the exception of picking up Christmas Trees should go in the containers. As a bike rider, I worry about running into leaf and branch piles that are not easy to see at night. Plus, environmentally, keeping the leaf piles off the street (and out of storm drains) is a better option.
- I disagree organic in storm-water reasoning. There is not visible effort by City to clean pedestrian safety zones or city non-resident streets. The debris is significant year around. What happened to street sweeping? Also the occasional street sweeper doesn't clean corners with safety edging.
- Need more frequent street sweeping// Bins are dangerous for bikers-branches stick out and are not visible at night. (sit higher than bike lights shine)-have never had problem riding past piles//Leaves fall *all* year, not just in autumn//Bins are too small to hold all clippings, yet are too big to easily move, especially for shorter/older folks.
- We rarely utilize the yard material collection service as we can typically fit all of our yard materials into the organics bin. We do like the Jan tree pick-up.
- Please consider phasing out on-street pile collection and increasing street sweeping.
- Eliminate street piles and pile pickup and institute effective vacuuming of streets where leaves fall on streets with serious enforcement of requirements to move cars on vacuuming days.
- Please get rid of the claw and increase street sweeping.
- Jamestown, North Carolina removes*curbside material using a truck vacuum system. One track w/a wide hose, vacuums the yard waste (no big wood). One machine picks up the material and vacuums the street clean. One pass. *As of 4 years ago, I wonder if they still do this.
- Weekly- Pick up- next day Sweep.

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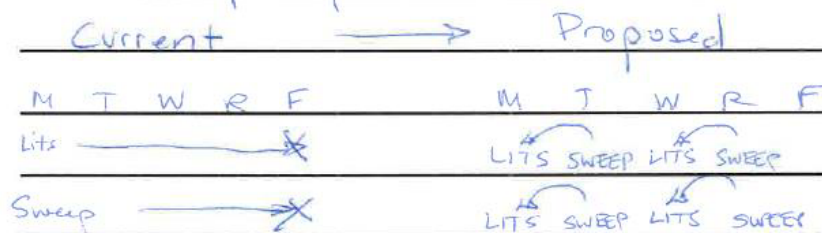
- Costs: Is the estimated 3 – 5 years a real cost or is there information concerning the likelihood of some of the equipment outliving the expected failure rate. There are many examples of overly-cautious capital equipment replacement schedules resulting in – operational savings in private and public businesses.
- People who put debris in the bike lanes should be warned, given 24 hours to remove the pile, and be cited if they fail to do that. I rarely drive a vehicle in Davis, but put 1,500 to 2,000 miles a year on my in-town errands. If these piles were in the vehicle lanes would we have this conversation?
- Lifting yard waste into the carts which are chest-high is difficult for those of us who are short and /or aged. Can only sweep some material into carts before tipping up to take the additional material and the wear + tear on back, neck + arms is significant.
- We fit most of our yard debris into our toter. We also try to rake the gutters clean and make piles for the claw. If the goal is really to phase out street piles completely-who is going to clear the streets of leaves, sticks, and branches?
- The streets just seem dirtier since we adopted the 18 pick-up schedule. With the sweeper coming a full week after pick-up, the street and curb are full of leaves again. I'd like to see pick-up and then sweeper a day or two after.
- A concern of future state actions requiring limiting piles is solving a problem which does not currently exist (and may never exist) is not a good use of our dollars.
- I support the current schedule with a modification (see 2 below) 1) Why are you holding this meeting at the same time as the College Football National Championship Game? (I'm here during half-time). If you want to hear from as many people as possible you should have another one of these before February 7th. 2) Weekly pick-ups should be from Oct. 15 to Jan 1 (lots of leaves still haven't fallen by Dec 15) 3) I live on XXXXX Drive and we have large yards so you should keep the pick-ups the same. We are a tree city!!! Many times I have to borrow multiple neighbor's bins and it still isn't enough.
- My back of the envelope calculation is that it's somewhere near \$30k /week of pick-up. So the current 18 weeks of pickup could be expanded to 26 weeks all bi weekly for ¼ million\$. Do that & cancel enforcement actions and it'll be a near wash.
- This feels like a step to eliminate the claw pickup service. *Consider cost comparison of a vacuum replacement instead of the claw replacement. *At minimum keep the current schedule but consider asking voters on fee increase for pick up/sweeping every week like we used to have.
- I prefer 16 pick-up per year as our streets are filthy. However, my primary concern is that you must coordinate the green waste pick-up on the street with street sweeping the day after the claw/green waste pick-up occurs.
- (Reverse order) 1) Bicyclists who use adequate lights at night have no problem on most streets in Davis. 2) Storm-water and leaves etc. Infrequent street sweeping causes more problems than weekly claw pick-ups of leaf piles. 3a) New equipment: How much did the city spend on new containers for yard waste? 3b) Just get the equipment-the "claw" has served us very well.
- Bicycle Safety: 1) Most of us can safely navigate city streets w/LIS piles on our bikes even at our advanced ages (65, 75, 85) and did so when we were 8, 15 and even 6 years old. Bicycle safety is taught, not imposed. 2) Pile characteristics are not an insurmountable problem or require action by removing the piles. Awareness of the situation is imp.

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Attachment 2: Feedback received on Proposed Change to the Yard Material Collection Service

- Need to street sweep the streets more than one a month. Our streets are dirty where they never were before. I would consider less pick-ups if you swept the streets every week. I hope you take the feedback from tonight and not just do what you want.
- Ask voters if they will take cost increase. Does survey differentiate on responses to eliminate vs increase, if they are homeowners or renters? Or higher vs low density area. Remove bins & use the \$ for more claw/vacuum.
- A business should account for life cycle costs in their bids. Not have it left to us (taxpayer) to cover their replacement costs. Carts/bins are inadequate for yard waste on established lots for most of the year. Has there been an evaluation of the brown bins meeting their original intent?
- If cyclists cannot see obvious piles maybe they shouldn't be on a bike-Lame reasoning. Where is logic-street sweeper is a joke-they whip in & out & gone.
- There should be more frequent street sweeping by the claw, Not fewer. Current discussion ignores the demands of pruning mature trees and bushes.
- Prefer weekly p-up starting mid Oct-End of January to accommodate x-mas tree disposal + winter tree pruning. Warm fall=later leaf drop. Current schedule ending in mid-December creates big hazard in street for bikes + garbage trucks. Please extend weekly pick up into January. I'd be willing to pay more \$\$ for this option!
- Why is there no LITS option? At least \$1M savings. The Best Environmental performance Heat CO2 emission.
- Please address where the decrease in yard waste collection comes from? People cut down their trees? Switched to conifers? Hire people to take to landfill separately? Something is missing in the analysis. What?
- Bring Back Weekly Street Sweeping. Extend the current schedule to Mid-January. If you do this you will: 1) Keep leaves out of the storm drains, 2) Promote the urban forest, 3) Provide a low cost, low polluting service, 4) Reduce cost to owners of large city trees.
- This meeting was a joke- no-one available to answer questions that concern the future presence or not of the claw.
- Without weekly pick-up followed by street sweeping debris from mature trees builds up on the streets. This makes the streets very slippery when wet. Also, more fine organic debris reaches the storm drains. This is one of many problems created by less frequent service.
- The service of the claw is important in keeping Davis green. If trees that drop leaves cannot be kept, the air quality in Davis will suffer, the attractiveness of the town will decrease, and property values will go down. Am I really going to replace my full-size grapefruit, redwoods and oak?
- Solution #1 – More Street lights, Solution #2 More pick up days for yard debris- we the homeowners are paying more in taxes while getting less services- something wrong here! Build fewer developments and the city will have fewer services to provide.
- Please Fix the Sweeping, Return to sweeping the day after LITS pickup.



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Attachment 2: Feedback received on Proposed Change to the Yard Material Collection Service

This one change will do A LOT for keeping debris out of storm drains AND keeping streets clearer.

- I used to be able to have pride in the appearance of my neighborhood. The infrequent street pickups, no sweeping on the day after pickup, and piles that remain on the street for weeks have diminished that pride.
- None of the reduced collection options correspond to the feedback the city received. Why? Costs? You should have thought about it when you forced the current container program on us with a charade of public process, after you had already signed a contract w/DWR.
- Why is the city not looking at options other than the claw? New Jersey has a weekly vacuum truck pick-ups with no drama-grind up the leaves and compost.
- Having a large yard, the claw has been invaluable, couldn't believe when a few nite-time bicyclers were able to effect the severe cutback on yard waste pick-up street cleaning and sweeper almost non-existent. 16 dates as a minimum!! Keep Claws!!
- 1. Reduce carbon! Consider carbon emissions of multiple vehicles doing duplicate services. Consider eliminating the claw. 2. Make it easier to use bins by reducing cost for added bins. 3. Coordinate street sweeping better to reduce organic matter from street trees down storm drains.
- Old east Davis has the most impacted parking (Due to train station & downtown proximity). Please implement a sweeping & yard collection that acknowledges this reality. Streets are not swept in old East often because of parked cars.
- Bins haven't replaced the yard trimmings pick-up volume. Design of the South Davis Mace bike path separation is not sweepable by the street sweeper. Leaves will pile up in this bike path. Don't blame residents for organics in the water, when city infrastructure also gathers leaves (ped bulb outs) Covell curbs building up eaves, etc.
- Village homes captures nearly all water in bio-swales, so no or little storm runoff. Claw essential for large branches, fruit tree pruning, grapevines + large berry vines-piles in street danger is an education + enforcement issue.
- I would strongly recommend returning to weekly pick up + sweeping. Even if it cost more.
- When the claws have to be replaced, please consider replacing them with vacuums. This also will eliminate the need for the trucks that accompany the claws.
- I believe you need to broaden your review to audit the cost/benefits and environmental impacts of the yard containerization and composting programs, as well as yard street pick up with the claw. All three may be modified in a way that saves \$ without ending the needed collections for residents who use them. Thank you, I did not vote for any of the proposed options. You need more study before making such changes.
- Let's separate the issue into yard waste disposal and street tree maintenance clean up. This problem might be easier to solve as 2 parts.
- When you purchase a company you assume there will be increased costs to run the business. 41 ½% increase to home owners is ludicrous. The claw is an inexpensive way to keep our city clean & beautiful.
- Sacramento puts big dumpster bins in neighborhoods & residents dump the extra yard waste in fall/winter. Come up with other ideas to eliminate the claw.
- With the 16 p/u plan you are Almost to a good solution. Add another week in February to deal with fruit tree pruning making a 17 p/u sched and you will have a much better solution!

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Attachment 2: Feedback received on Proposed Change to the Yard Material Collection Service

- I'm concerned about the City Councils' "all or nothing" future view about how to handle yard material. The potential phasing out of the collection program seems to have as an option for home owners is to cut down deciduous trees. It's even one of your recommendations ("replace plants" to have less debris). Have you ever tried to put leaves + branches, etc. into a barrel? How many weeks are needed to clear the debris from the fall? Close to 8 weeks. Where are homeowners supposed to store all of this waiting for next week's barrel to be picked up? In the streets. So back to square one.
- You say "can be washed down the gutters". This only occurs if the piles are placed in the gutter. I place mine out of the gutter onto the asphalt. Just educate people on to proper pile placement.
- In my yard, I have a large & beautiful sycamore that shades the street. It drops VAST amounts of leaves, start up in August but really accelerating with fall storms. This year, it dropped most of its leaves in November & December. Without street pickup, it is not clear with to do with the leaves. They do NOT fit in the tote.
- Generally I live in XXXXX, and after workdays we often generate 20 x 5 ft worth of green waste. Not sure how we would manage without the claw to scoop it up unless another solution was offered. Thanks for asking for community input! Only in Davis!
- It is already very inconvenient for city residents to have to do their yard work on the schedule that the city sets for them. You seem determined to make life more difficult and more unpleasant for city residents.
- The 2018 schedule of 19 pickups was already too few. Those of us with many large trees have too many leaves to containerize. We need weekly claw pickup from Mid-October through all of December. We also need to keep the claw service because we cannot clip up shubs to tiny pieces to fit in one can per week.
- City Counsel should look into programs + vendors used by Woodland & West Sac. If Recology can't meet the cost offered to other communities, they should be replaced by better, cost-efficient vendor. Or has the City Council gotten in too tight w/a vendor who can't operate within the budget under which they assumed the work? Something smells...
- Why not do away with street pickup all together. Very few towns do this & it works fine. The savings would be significant (witness \$1,000,000 in 3-5 years for the pickup equipment). People will adapt to no street pickup as they have adapted to fewer pick-ups & green waste cans. This will have to happen eventually-let's do it now.
- 1) No claw at all-only green carts*, 2) Street sweeping day after street yard waste pickup instead of next week. 3) Encourage green cart use, best invention ever. * Not only can I put all my yard waste in my cart but 90% of the leaves from the two sycamore trees in my next-door neighbor's yard.
- Please restore our services to how they used to be. The city literally looks "trashy"! I will pay extra for services. It is worth it to have weekly street sweeping, leaf pickups and my favorite-the claw!
- Go back to 1981 when the claw came weekly during leaf season and the streets were swept the next day! If there is a week between claw pick-ups, leaves will still fall. When will they end up? In the gutters and storm-drains. The only strategy that avoids that is weekly pick-ups. FIND A WAY! Other cities do; why not Davis?
- Since the 18 pick-up board did not have a table and a separate comment box I did not realize this was an option. I had to peel my sticker off 16 and place it on the 18 "___".

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Attachment 2: Feedback received on Proposed Change to the Yard Material Collection Service

- All it takes is one good storm (rain or wind) to skew a group's pick-up load. Loss of a tree, more drought tolerant landscape, more people in an areas/parcel. The graph is misleading for "Quarterly Material Tonnage" b/c of rise of drought tolerant landscape w/the drought.
- There is nothing good to say about the current system. Please bring back weekly street sweeping, leaf pickup. I think people are willing to pay for it!
- 1) The city needs to increase the number of pick-ups of yard waste to 24+ annually to keep up with the enormous # of leaves + branches. 2) Extend the pick up to Oct→February! 3) Restrict grass to bins since they create the pesticide contaminates and dispose where pesticide contaminates substances are disposed of. This relieves the storm drain contamination problem. Save the Trees! Save the Claw! Elimination of the claw will only result with residents being forced to consider removal of trees which is not what we want or need. Support the trees by Saving the Claw! Tree branch pruning is critical for safety reasons to avoid breakage as well as keeping the trees health.
- Return to year-round collections. I have 2c. yards of green waste in my street today! (1/7) and another 2c that needs to get out – I have yard work/not grass every month of the year. The City used to provide this service every week that does seem like overkill-bi weekly is fine best the current system AND all alternatives are untenable. Current rates for street p/u are @= 5% of waste bill and amount to 1/3rd (17 weeks of 52) the service that the only used to provide meaning we should be paying 10% more to get equal service. Do that or at least go to bi-weekly. I recall just getting notice of a fee increase because rates haven't changed in 4 years... Ok but as demonstrated above, the city has cut total service by -10%. You're not garnering much sympathy by charging me more with one hand and cutting already inadequate service with the other.
- Need more pick-ups, especially in spring for spring leaf drop. If you do away with lits have an alternative! We need a place to dump all these city owned trees' leaf drop. Also, pick-up acorns off of sidewalks + streets. They are hazardous to walk on.
- I find it bizarre & inconsistent that the city is concerned about leaf (etc.) debris entering the storm water system. In south Davis, the storm water travels from the streets directly into the South Davis drainage channel which is a dirt ditch filled with leaves etc. From there, the water flows eastward into the Yolo Bypass. So what if there is some organics material, going into the drainage channel? The channel is itself composed of organic material. You don't need "Clean" water going into the drainage channel. Why don't you measure the level of pollutants in the current run off + see if there are in fact levels of pesticides etc. flowing into the drainage channel such that it would be necessary to restrict (even further) our "claw" pick-ups? Maybe there are no fertilizers or pesticides in the run off.
- Who benefits from our current and proposed LITS system? The issues we face with our current LITS system: * Loose piles in the street endanger bicyclists and discourage bicycling; the piles consume precious car parking; the contents of those piles are washed down storm drains, and the piles make our town look and often smell like a garbage heap. *Confusion about LITS pickup schedule. While we may have just 18 pickup weeks per year, the variable pickup schedule is confusing enough that piles are regularly found on the street almost every week of the year, making enforcement a challenging, full-time job. *Redundancy cost more, and confuses customers further. Since deployment of the organics bins, property owners have been paying for two separate organic waste collection systems. This costs more and creates more diesel and noise pollution while the redundancy also causes confusion regarding proper use of the bin on LITS days. Piles that easily fit in the pin are

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being placed in the street. Because many people don't see an advantage to increased waste diversion through use of the organics bin, they feel that they are now being asked to spend more for what they perceived as reduced service. *Equity in rates. We are subsidizing the small percentage of households that use the service on any given pickup day. Is it LITS system a relevant, cost-effective, efficient and safe way to achieve our diversion goals today? It would seem that the well-known negative impacts of our LITS system far outweigh the perceived convenience and usefulness. My challenge to the city is to consider who benefits from the LITS piles. The current and proposed schedules all prioritize the convenience of a few at the detriment and expense of all. We endanger our most vulnerable roads users, and we contribute to air, water and noise pollution while we subsidize those with large and productive gardens. Below I propose two alternative schedules that can help reduce the negative impacts of loose piles and decrease the financial inequity. Both alternatives eliminate confusion and lower the cost of service. Unfortunately, neither of these options is currently being presented by the city for consideration and comment: 1. First choice: Terminate regular LITS pickups. This is where we are ultimately headed, so it would be most effective to just pull the Bandaid off quickly and stop wasting the significant time and money being consumed to study how best to compromise in the short term. 2) Second choice that only helps in the short term: 12 weekly pickups per year. Consecutive weekly pickups over winter (November, December, January), and no pickups the rest of the year. This helps with leaf-drop season as well as Christmas tree pickup. For the remaining 40 weeks of the year, property owners learn to use their organics bins properly. This allows three months of convenience for large pruning projects. Regardless of what update we make to the LITS program (and assuming that my #1 choice is not selected) a sunset provision should be included to make obvious that all regular LITS pickups will end on a certain date. Maybe after all this we will have a few LITS pickups per year, but those would be like the "bulky waste" pickups of the past that were rare occurrences noticed as special events. In the meantime, everybody finally learns how to deal with their yards more efficiently like the citizens of almost every other community in CA has done.

- Dear Mayor Lee and Council Members: I live in the Westwood neighborhood and rely on the yard material collection service provided by the City of Davis. Our neighborhood consists of large lots with mature City Trees mandated by the City. As a result, there is significant dropping of leaves and other material throughout the year. In our neighborhood the amount of dropped material far exceeds the capacity of the provided bins. We pay for the service and appreciate the reliability of the City provided system. While others have recommended independent haulers to minimize impacts, this is not an equivalent alternative. Multiple haulers and multiple vendors will decrease reliability, increase traffic, and increase neighborhood impacts and risks to parked cars, drainage and other infrastructure. If there needs to be an alteration to the service, I encourage you to eliminate it only where there are no mandated City Trees. That would leave (no pun intended) the decision of how much yard material to produce and dispose of up to those individual residents. Maintaining the existing service in neighborhoods with City Trees avoids the incongruity of large vegetation material drop resulting from the mandated City Trees without an efficient way to remove the material. Thank you for your consideration of my concerns.

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- I worked for the State Water Resources Control Board from XXXX to XXXX and, before that I was an XXXX of the California Environmental Protection Agency from XXXX to XXXX. At that time the Integrated Waste Management Board was part of Cal/EPA. So issues of water quality and waste diversion have been part of my professional life. As I understand it, because of the high costs of the organics program, the city is now considering reducing or eliminating a program which has proved its worth over the decades: curbside greenwaste pickup using "the claw". I have asked the city for hard data in the form of an EIR or EIS or an environmental audit which would show the environmental costs and benefits of the program. The city (Jennifer Gilbert) told me that they do not exist. Such data are necessary to make informed policy decisions. Without them it is impossible to know if the kitchen composting program is environmentally sensible or simply feel-good greenwash. But it is worthwhile for the city to listen to itself: "-Place a layer of yard materials, cardboard or newspaper at the bottom of your organics cart before adding food scraps. -Sprinkle baking soda in your organics cart to reduce odors and pests. - Cover food scraps with yard materials to reduce odors and pests." Really, if we wanted a new hobby, we would have told you. "-If needed, use mild soap and water to clean your organics cart. Pour dirty water onto the grass or gravel, not on your driveway, street, sidewalk or down the storm drain." If we wanted polluted water in our front yards, again, we would have told you. In addition, I'm sure we would have told the city if we really wanted to spend \$5.00 a box for flimsy, leaking compostable plastic bags. While it is perhaps well-intentioned, the Organics Collection Program appears to contribute little to reducing Davis's environmental footprint. It stands to reason that a large proportion of kitchen waste is generated by a very limited number of institutional kitchens. The city should concentrate its food composting efforts in cooperation with the people responsible for these. Student housing and dining areas, restaurants and other eateries and senior housing and dining produce food waste in great enough quantities that composting from these places would clearly be beneficial and not simply greenwash. Common sense tells us that the vast bulk of green waste is from the yard, not the kitchen. The claw takes care of this in most cases. The composting program has added 52 additional pickups per customer per year and this has only partially been offset by reducing use of the claw. In many cases yards produce more green waste than the bins can hold. In most Davis neighborhoods with big yards, the streets are wide enough and/or traffic is light enough that curbside piles do not actually affect cyclists. In those few instances where this is not the case, the city could consider alternatives to weekly claw service. In the absence of clear and convincing statistical evidence that the composting program is beneficial, the city should consider restoring claw service for most of Davis and alternatives where necessary.

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leaves branches
since Dec 15
most Dec 15 - Jan 1



Comments received via email within the comment period

- I am writing in support of continuing the city's current yard material pile pick-up schedule. A fire safety issue Yard material pick-up for homeowners and property owners has become a safety issue in terms of fire prevention. We must be able to clear and dispose of dry brush and overgrown shrubs and trees regularly and effectively. The current carts are welcome, but not large enough for comprehensive yard maintenance. Please support the continued schedule of yard material pile collection, if not an increase during the drier late summer and fall months. While a large destructive fire similar to the one in Butte County is unlikely in Davis, a highly damaging one cannot be seen as impossible, given the right combination of very low humidity, prolonged dry season, and strong northerly winds. Thank you for your consideration, and for your service to the City of Davis.
- I just got off the phone with Recology regarding yard pile pickup and street sweeping. Our street has not had yard pile pickup for the past 2 weeks, and all of the streets in Davis look a mess because there is no weekly street sweeping during the mid-October to mid-December weekly yard pile collection. Recology told me that their contract does not read for them to perform weekly street sweeping during this 8 week yearly period, and that it is the responsibility of the home owner to sweep the street. We have never experienced such nonsense in any of the cities we have lived. Please reevaluate your contract with Recology to include weekly street sweeping during this heavy leaf season. Additionally, Recology is using the excuse of weather for the reason our yard piles have not been picked up on our scheduled day, Thursday. I have been told that this week they are behind 2 days. In the 9 years we have lived in Davis, this has never been the case. Recology is not doing a good job! The mess in the streets does not reflect Davis pride.

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- I read about the street pickup of yard waste issue in the Enterprise. I am a senior citizen who deeply enjoys my yard. I have approximately 75 fruit trees, many of them are dwarf but others are full size. I have lived in my home for more than 50 years. This yard produces a significant amount of waste, far more than can be put in the yard waste container for pickup. In fact, I find the current scheduled pickup of street yard waste schedule too short. Good tree pruning does not take place in November and early December. I understand the pressure you are under but there needs to be a viable program for yard waste pickup for people like me. I know that I am not alone in this concern. Please do not stop the waste pickup without a logical alternative. My first choice would be to continue the program and expand the pickup dates.
- We MUST keep this program in some form. As a Sr. citizen it is very difficult to cut branches into small enough pieces to fit in the trash can. My hands can not deal with that. Tree limbs will NOT fit into the bin and I can't physically cut them small enough. Also, this decision will not follow a linear result if you cancel the program. You think people will just continue to put leaves, etc. into the their yard waste bin every week. That's won't happen. Right now, I am pressed into using my weekend to clean the leaves, etc. into piles because I KNOW they will be picked up on a certain day. Without that certainty, I have NO incentive to spend my weekend cleaning up leaves, etc. I wouldn't have a problem leaving them a couple of weeks or more if I know we don't have a yard waste pick up from the street. I would not be in the rush I am now to get the job done. What's the difference leaving them on the street for weeks for the environment? They will certainly go down the drain. Now, with pick up, we can keep them out of the drain. Bottomline, we need to keep this program. I see all my neighbors in south Davis with piles in front of their house. This program is popular and useful. If you decide to eliminate the program, then citizens will need option to remove any and all city street trees from their property. I can't, at my age, deal with maintaining the trees if I have to containerize the waste also.
- My issue is that I think the city needs to extend yard waste pickup through the third week of December. Many trees haven't even lost all their leaves yet. Additionally, many people need to wait until their tree's leaves have fallen, before they can begin their branch pruning. So ending the pickups at the second week is just too early.
- Dear City Council -- please consider eliminating the claw, then recalculating the proposed waste collection fee increase in light of reduced costs without loose-in-the-street collection, which is outdated, not environmentally friendly, and inconsistent with everything that a progressive city should represent.
- I've been in Davis since 1973 and at my address now since 1986. The quality of service, especially of the garden waste, has deteriorated to an all-time low. At this point, why don't you offer leaf picks once a year in mid-May. That would save you even more, if that's the present way of thinking. Or maybe give us instructions how we can talk to our trees so that they drop all of their leaves before December. It's not only shameful, it shows bureaucratic stupidity. Not all of live in apartments or have plastic vegetation.
- I appreciate the extra leaf pick-ups in the fall/winter, as our street can generate a lot more than the bins can handle. However, the current schedule is not in sync with our leaves. Our leaf fall starts around Nov 1 and ends around Jan 15. Just now (Christmas) a lot of city trees (ash?) are just beginning to lose their leaves, yet the extra pickups are over and there are large leaf piles on the street.

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- I was writing with a suggestion on the Yard Material Pickup- Why not spend \$5-10,000 to assess which neighborhoods would need pickups more frequently, and which neighborhoods could live with having less pickups. Provide bi-weekly for high demand areas and monthly elsewhere. You could do a visual drive-by inspection to determine which areas had more trees and would be higher demand areas. Might be a bit of money to invest to determine the high demand areas, but I think it would be money well spent. Adjusting the schedule of the yard collection pickup route according to the demand for pickup services would seem to be the most cost efficient and save millions long term.
- None of the suggested proposals are acceptable! We promote trees and bicycling in the City of Davis. If you don't collect more often during the leaf drop and post holiday season you put the bicyclists at risk. You also risk homeowners removing any of their front yard trees to minimize the need to try to squeeze yard materials into the bins. Here is the solution. Monthly claw pick up from January to mid October. Weekly from October thru January 1. Come around and fine people who do not abide by the yard materials in the street during the monthly pick up period. These fees will generate revenue to pay for any additional costs associated with the added few weeks of weekly claw pickup. As it is now, our streets are littered with the yard materials during the summer months and are both smelly and a road hazard.
- I urge the City of Davis to take a compressive look at what to do with yard waste pickup, including street sweeping, rather than the incremental approach they seem to be taking. In July 2016 the City made major changes to City services with the stated goals of diverting waste from the landfill, improving storm water quality and improving bicycle safety. These changes included the introduction of organic charts, a major reduction in claw pickup of loose yard waste, and a 3/4 reduction in the number of times that our streets are swept. At that time we were told that our current rates would cover this change and in fact I recall one City communication that stated we could save money by going to a smaller garbage can due to the diversion to the organic can. Now 2 years later we are being told that our rates have to increase because the City cannot pay for this program, that the changes were temporary, and that there will be further reductions in services. While the City has done a survey and review of the claw program this analysis left out important factors, which I pointed out to the City months ago. Most notably it did not look at the impact of the massive reduction in street sweeping or the number and length of time loose piles are on the streets outside of the normal collection period (5 days before claw pickup). Lastly, the City's report made fairly clear that there is little enforcement done by the City. When I look at how this program has performed against the 3 stated goals it is clear that there has been a diversion of waste, which I applaud. However, it is not at all clear that this program has been successful in either increasing storm water quality or increasing bicycle safety. As I go around town there are piles on the streets for weeks with large placements being made by various gardening services at homes and apartments. While there are less piles most of the year, some of the ones that are there are there for weeks at a time. I am not sure having these piles out there have really significantly improved bicycle safety. But even more troubling is those long lasting piles decompose and cause even more of a mess and worse runoff. Added to that is the fact that our streets are not swept and there is generally a week between pile pickup, which is always incomplete and leaves a mess, and sweeping to pick up that mess. Much of the materials that would have been picked up by the street sweepers are now running off into the storm system. I invite people to look at our streets

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right now. The City has ended its weekly pickup and the next claw pickup is the week of January 7th. Yet there are loose leaf piles throughout the streets and they will be there for up to 3 weeks. I don't see how this is meeting the City's goals. I urge the City to look at this program comprehensively including street sweeping services and how address the problem with loose yard piles being placed on the street for weeks at a time. You should not just further reduce use of the claw without also looking at street sweeping and enforcement of the requirement that piles not be out more than 5 days before pickup. If you proceed as you propose now, the net result will be piles placed out longer than they are now and the streets will be even more dirty than they are now, which are the worst that I have seen in in my 32 years living in Davis.

- My question has to do with enforcement. Cutting the number of pick up dates over the past year has resulted in many piles left for literally weeks with no penalty. Have you driven down **Oak Ave**? Yes, violators do get a "notice" but it amounts to nothing, no incentive not to put out whenever we prune. My neighbors and I have decided that it is easiest to ignore and just put things out. A further problem is dumping by tree services - twice I have seen a tree service put a pile in front of my neighbor's house and drive away as it is easier for them then disposing of the waste. Last time I called 911 and was told that nothing could be done as by the time they got there they would be gone (true). So, my fear is that if collection services are further reduced we will have piles (and then wind blown debris) left out pretty much all the time but only collected on an infrequent basis with no means of enforcement. People are not stupid - if no penalty for making piles, why not? Certainly easier than trying to cram stuff into the cart which is WAY too small to fit even a fraction of the debris from my trees. I'm sure the powers which be are aware of this but have no means/budget to enforce things.
- As we grapple with how best to use the city's resources on this issue, I would like to see some consideration given to the varying needs for yard material pick-up in different parts of Davis. I live on XXXXX St. which has many hackberry and other large, mature trees (most planted by the City of Davis) which at times dump more leaves in one week than I am able to fit in the largest green bin. Also, during the heaviest leaf dropping weeks, leaves blanket our street and gutters, not just people's yards. Decreasing the street pick-up schedule to every other week in autumn would be a real problem in our neighborhood. There are other areas of Davis where this is not the case and where a monthly street pick-up year round might suffice. Not only are there fewer large trees in front yards in some newer neighborhoods, many backyards in these areas are substantially smaller, as well. Please consider a solution which meets the varied needs of different neighborhoods, rather than trying to implement a "one size fits all" policy which will penalize those of us living in hackberry territory.
- Yard material doesn't fit in my bin from mid-September to mid-December, along with a few miscellaneous weeks with big gardening projects. Yet, I have never left the material on the curbside due to 1) cost to the city, 2) carbon footprint of the collection equipment, 3) wind scattered leaves, 4) hazard to night bicyclists, and 5) unattractive. For these reasons, I'd like for the city to eliminate the curbside yard pickup. Those who generate excess material can hire a service instead rather than being subsidized by the rest of us. Or they might use some combination of coping mechanisms. I cope by borrowing neighbors' bins. When unable to round up enough neighborhood bins, I stockpile. I left an unplanted dirt area for

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this purpose. Or they might consider a chipping machine, backyard composting, and/or eliminating some of the producers of yard material.

- Regarding your notice about options for yard waste pick up, I think the current schedule is great!!! I like that we have pick up each week during the fall . There are too many leaves to JUST use the compost carts. Mine fills up so quickly and there are loads of leaves left over. Thanks for considering this option also.
- As a resident of Stonegate, I am in support of keeping the claw in use at its current schedule - 18 times per year. In fact, i really liked it when it ran each week, so this is already an adjustment for us. I wonder why they claw stops running in mid-December, as the dried Christmas trees need to be picked up around new years....? It is very hard to stuff a dead Christmas tree into a yard waste can. Given that we are a tree city USA, I believe the city should continue to invest in helping residents manage the substantial leaf fall and foliage die-off each year. For seniors like myself, bending over and stuffing the leaves and trimmings into a can is very daunting.
- This will be a somewhat condensed correspondence. My hope is that you will be able to find an opportunity to insert the elements of fire fighting science into the discussion of this issue. It seemed to be missing or hard to find in the news description of the consequences of altering the current "removal" program primarily on the basis of affordability I was not able to attend the public forum that addressed the Yard Waste Removal program and the proposed changes that appeared to lessen or reduce the overall number of "pick up" days each year. Our family is a survivor of the Oakland Hills fire in '92. Lost everything and rebuilt and still not over it. Paradise and Santa Rosa are not abstractions to us. Many of us now consider yard waste as Urban Wildfire Fuel. It is the material that enables houses to ignite neighboring houses. Yard Waste is found between houses and in back yards that, with traditional firefighting equipment, is difficult and time consuming to extinguish from the street. The annual total tonnage now removed from Davis through the present plan is significant but should be increasing. Rural areas are familiar with terms like Safe Zones, Circles of Safety around structures because they are effective for helping to slow the spread of fire to all buildings. Seems like continuation of a plan for low or no accumulated yard waste in Davis should be a common goal here as well. Davis has an interesting partnership with its citizens wherethrough convenience and affordability, yard waste is moved out from between homes to the streets and taken away. Seems like any changes to the current Davis plan that is more burdensome, less convenient, more costly to the individual homeowner might result in less participation by its citizens. Issues of possible "dump fees", more extensive gardener services, larger street piles due to fewer pickups as proposed might not encourage the present level of Urban Wildfire Fuel removal we have now. The Fuel that burns and is difficult to suppress threatens our entire City. Lets get it out of here.
- I sincerely hope the City does a comprehensive assessment rather than the incomplete assessment that has been done so far. The program has been in place for a short time and the City is already saying that the City can't afford the program, it must raise rates, and it must further cut services. Incremental incomplete work does not work. The study did not look at all at street sweeping, people's compliance with the schedule for pile pick up, the impact of the changes on water runoff and on bike safety. Drive around the City and you will see piles everywhere and pickup is not until next week.

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- I am not able to attend the meetings scheduled on pick-up of waste. I like the current system of pick-up each week at my home and monthly pick-up on the street and weekly pick-ups of waste on the street during the leafing season. Thank you. Anything less would be disastrous for me since I always have a lot of garden and other waste and wouldn't be able to handle it otherwise.
- I would like to request not ending or changing the yard material collection service in Davis.
- Executive summary: I can support reduction in LITS service if and only if the City sets aside the full amount of the saved money to buy new LITS equipment as the current trucks age out. Reducing service will also extend the life of current equipment. I like the LITS system. A tree does not fit in a trashcan, and I believe that if we eliminate LITS, trees will gradually go away in this town because of the material removal cost/hassle that is shifted to property owners, especially landlords. I don't see that as a desirable outcome. Full comments: I am concerned about the city moving away from LITS. There was an article recently – maybe in the Enterprise, not sure – with some suggestions of how we could manage without street pickup. The more absurd suggestions that I recall were: Everyone else uses cans – never a good reason to do anything. - Use leaves as mulch – way too many to do that, plus leaves don't work as mulch because they blow away in the slightest breeze. - Hire private service to cart away tree branches. I have looked into that and the cost is approximately \$200 per load. Very few residents could afford this multiple times per year – it is the city shifting cost to us, and unmanageably high costs at that. - Have plants that don't need pruning. Really? – the City is suggesting that we get rid of trees in this town? The chances that that will save money in the long run are low, and it is among the most spectacularly ridiculous suggestions I have heard yet coming out of this discussion. As a resident, I find the in-street pickup to be fantastic. It allows me to do big pruning without having to try to put a tree into a trashcan, which is fundamentally impossible. Even smaller plants such as the heavenly bamboo generate branches that are too big to put into a trashcan effectively. When I removed my sunflowers in the Fall it was mid-month, and I used 5 trashcans – mine and my neighbours' – and managed to contain about half of them. The problem of getting large prunings into trashcans simply doesn't work, and to shift the cost and onus onto the residents will gradually cause people to get rid of their trees (particularly landlords) because of the time/money burden. The City needs to seriously consider whether this is a consequence it wants. As a bicyclist I have no problem with piles in the street. I see no difference between a leaf-pile in the street and a trashcan in the street – either way the path is blocked. The leaf piles are actually usually easier to deal with because they have fuzzier edges, and you can usually go slightly over, or around them on the curb side. Personally, I don't have a big need for street pickups for leaves – getting leaves into a trashcan is no problem. We have about a dozen trees, three of them large, but the leaves tend to come down at different times, so they fit easily into the trashcan, and it's just an easier problem than branches. Concerns have been raised with regard to cost, and run-off into the drains: With regard to run-off, it only rains in this town roughly December through March. So run-off is a non-issue for most of the year. During the months when it is raining, pick-up could be limited to once a month, and that would be manageable. If there were a political will (and I don't see one), the run-off could also be managed by physically modifying the drains. In addition, the run-off problems happen with or without LITS. Even if there is no street pick-up, leaves, branches and trash blow into the street during the winter, and these will find their way into the drains in exactly the same

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way that any material from the street piles might. I find this argument (and all the others, really) somewhat specious, and have honestly never been able to figure out exactly what the real underlying issue is with the yard trashcans. (My best guess has always been that someone's brother-in-law owns the company that makes the trashcans, and wanted the large contract...). In terms of cost, as I mentioned above, there is a cost associated with removing these materials either way, and the question is only whether the City carries it and provides an easily accessible service, or whether individual residents need to face it, with additional hassle every time we do yard-work. In general, people find less pain from a cost that is spread out evenly, vs one that arrives occasionally, and the former is likely to give the better outcome (for example, people happily pay for a car, with a monthly cost of probably \$500 - \$1000 (payment, gas, insurance, repairs, fees), but complain about a \$30 one-time train ticket). As a result, I believe that if the City abandons this service and shifts the cost directly onto the residents, trees will disappear in the same way that trains have... Any of the options in the paper would be fine. My primary need for pick-up is in the Spring: March – May, when we do the most gardening, so my highest preference would be additional service during that time, and monthly otherwise. Whichever option is chosen, as a resident I would only support a service reduction if the City then set aside all the money saved in order to buy new equipment when this equipment ages out. Otherwise, when the equipment gets old, there will once again be hand-wringing about the terrible cost. I see nothing in the history of Davis that makes me believe that the City could be organized enough to actually do this, but that would be my stipulation for any reduction.

- I am a resident of Davis living in southeast Davis. My yard backs up to El Macero and contains a portion of the grove of Valley Oaks that runs along the northern boundary of El Macero and southern boundary of Davis east of Mace Boulevard. I also have fruit trees and shrubs. For me the ability to leave yard cuttings in the street to be picked up by the claw is essential and I am willing to pay increased rates to retain it. I do think the current 18 pick-ups schedule of once a month plus weekly in the fall is adequate, but I would recommend that the weekly pick-ups in the Fall not start until November and continue until the end of December. If cost considerations require a reduction in pick-ups to 12, I would recommend that the fall weekly pick-ups be reduced by 3 by suspending pick-ups every 3rd week, e.g., in 2018, Oct 29, Nov 19, and Dec 10. The remaining three reductions in the pick-up schedule could be in April, June, and August. I would appreciate your support of continuing the yard waste pick-ups by the claw.
- I will not be able to attend your Open House on this topic, but I would like to comment on the proposed collections schedules. I think at the very least, there should be once a month collection year round. You may also want to consider only doing weekly pick-up from about mid-November to mid-January, about 8 collections per year. This is the peak season for leaf fall and pruning. The rest of the year, the collection bin should be enough even with a large garden. Going to 8 pick-ups a year may also help you save money. Just some thoughts.
- Since the drought several years ago I have been conserving water, so my yard doesn't produce all that much biomass. I can put the street tree leaves into the bin in batches. If it will save money and improve storm water quality, let's phase out the claws and the rear-loading dump trucks - and not spend more money to replace them.
- I live in an older house, build in 1972, in Stonegate. The original owner of the house was an arborist who carefully planted trees to optimize the aesthetics and energy efficiency of the

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home. We now have remarkable (some say it contributes to the higher than average value in the neighborhood) trees surrounding our home, providing shade for ours and our neighbor's homes. We have 2 giant zelcovas hugging the home from the front and back, 2 very large Chinese pistaches, who, placed with one of the zelcovas out front efficiently block the majority of daytime sun from reaching our home. We also have 1 very large gingko and a coniferous wall blocking the late day sun. I am not exaggerating when I state that we do not use our air conditioner more than 10 days a year--even then, only on those stretches where we have 100+ highs for many days in a row. With a combination of the shade the trees provide and use of our whole house fan, we can usually keep the house cool enough through the day. I also use our sunny morning sun about 7 months out of the year to dry all the laundry. We try very hard to conserve energy and our trees are a big part of that equation. Of course, we have lots of leaves and sticks--some days in November and December we will have 6 5ft piles lined up along the curve in front of our home (where by the way, we also don't have a greedy lawn--just trees and other more sustainable options). Cutting back the collections in the spring and summer are fine--in fact we can easily get our usual trimmings into the bin and don't mind doing it--or planning around the monthly pick up with pruning. If you reduce the pickup--please reduce it only in those months where it is reasonable for homeowners with lots of shade trees and little grass who are doing the right thing to begin with.

- We understand that the city is considering changes to the use of the "claw", in reference to pickup of yard waste. We support extending the period of time that these pickups are performed, through the month of January. This would coincide with the dormant period of trees and other plants, which require/benefit from pruning during that period. Note that this generates a large amount of green waste, which doesn't fit into the bins. In addition, there are often remaining, larger stockpiles of leaves into January. Note that (at least) part of the reason that street pickups are needed is due to the city-required trees in front of houses. However, the bulk of the need is likely generated by trees and plants elsewhere on properties, including backyards. It would be unfortunate if the city takes steps which make it more difficult to maintain green space and shade. Many streets do not have significant bicycle traffic, so that is often not a concern.
- I am writing to comment on the proposal to limit street yard material pick-up more than it is now. About two weeks ago I left a message with your office after I had called Recology, and they referred me to you. I said that December 10 (the last street pick-up week) is not "mid-December" and that that was the reason there were, and indeed still are, so many piles of leaves in the streets. A week later would have been December 17, much closer to "mid-December." I was not called back, which is of course understandable with the holidays, but still, I never received an answer. There are still leaves on trees and tree trimming, for most of us, will be in January. I have pondered the fact that my 90+ year old neighbor can barely pick up her leaves to put them in her cart, though she can sweep them into the street. Even if she had someone to do her yard maintenance, the cart would not hold all the leaves in the fall. Where should those extra leaves sit until the bin is no longer full? I think the "claw" vehicles are essential. I have told the city about at least five houses in my immediate neighborhood that have cut down or do not have city trees. Do we really want people to cut down and not plant trees? No, we do not.
- I am a Davis resident who lives in the el Macero Estates neighborhood. I do not have a gardener. My front yard is mostly drought-tolerance natives with some fruit trees, while

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my backyard consists of a large vegetable garden and fruit trees to provide local produce, and a small grassy area for my kid to play in. In summary: --The green waste bin is wonderful, keeping leaves, grass and weeds from blowing over the street. --Monthly claw pickup works well from March through September, and could probably be extended through October. --The majority of leaves and big yard waste from pruning happens from mid/late October through mid February in my garden. I therefore would propose shifting the current more frequent claw pickup back by about a month to extend more through the winter months. --Bi-weekly claw pickup in fall/winter would be sufficient for me. --I oppose getting rid of the claw pickup. I could not manage getting rid of my winter yard waste from pruning in the green bin only. Two additional comments: --I would gladly purchase local compost from the City of Davis to support local composting. --I don't think a lot of yard waste goes down the gutters in my street. The bigger problem is balls, shoes, and other kid and dog toys accidentally falling into the gutters. Could the city install screens in front of the gutters to prevent this? It would go a long way keeping trash out of our streams!

- I think the claw ought to be kept and the number of weeks expanded, ideally to the old year-around system. The claw is one of the more useful services the city provides. It's easy to fill a 96-gallon bin quickly some parts of the year. Yard waste is more than raking autumn leaves. Pruning isn't just in the fall. Weeds like Galium have to be removed in the spring. My loquat and my laurel trees shed leaves all year around, and every year I rake up the tinder-dry leaves in the fall and just before the Fourth of July. Without the claw, we have to store the extra yard waste for weeks -- a nuisance at best, a fire hazard at worst. I have to spend a lot of time debranching branches -- cutting them by hand into small straight pieces. I resent this waste of my time, and I'd rather not have to buy a chipper and store it. Presumably the city assumes that Real Davisites all hire people to do their yard work, and the yard maintenance services have chippers, or haul away the yard waste themselves so it is counted as private waste, not City of Davis waste. How many of those involved in this decision -- council members, commission members, staff -- do their own yard work? Bike safety is a flimsy excuse. I've commuted by bike daily since 1979 and had no problem (though I agreed with the decision to ban on-street yard waste on 8th -- too narrow, too much traffic). The old weekly claw meant weekly street sweeping, not monthly. Now, instead of piles of yard trash that are easy to see, we have broken glass in the bike lanes. Now, instead of branches sticking out into the bike lane at ankle or knee level, we sometimes have branches sticking out of the bins at eye level. The fix is in. This was clear months ago, when the city did the online survey and offered a very narrow range of options ("with minimal service changes to the current three-cart system"). The decision is made, and we're allowed to tweak it slightly, just like in Windows, where Microsoft makes the decisions, but graciously allows users to change a type font or a background color.
- We respectfully submit the following comments for consideration of the future of the City of Davis "Loose in the Streets" waste program: As Davis homeowners for the past 24 years, we would like to comment on the proposed changes to the City "loose in the streets" (LIS) waste pickup program. There have been several concerns voiced by those opposed to continuing the program. One is that improper placement of yard waste in bike lanes is a safety hazard. A common-sense solution to this issue would be an educational program for residents clearly explaining where waste piles may or may not be placed, followed by some sort of enforcement program. A second objection centers on citizens who use the LIS

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program as opposed to using the organic cart for their yard waste. A common-sense solution to this issue would be to require that organic carts be used and full before the LIS program can be utilized. Once again, an educational program followed by an enforcement program could be launched. A third objection centers on water quality issues that some claim result when lawn clippings are placed in the LIS waste piles. A common-sense solution to this issue would be to require lawn clippings to be placed in organic carts and not in LIS waste piles. Notably, as lawn areas continue to decrease as water conservation efforts continue to increase, the concerns about yard clippings will subsequently naturally decrease. In short, solutions exist to allow the LIS program to continue. As homeowners with extensive tree plantings throughout our property, including "heritage trees" approximately a century old, it is impossible to place all limb breakage waste in small organic carts, therefore the LIS program is invaluable in such situations. It should be noted that tree plantings, unlike lawns, are encouraged for many sound environmental reasons. Consequently, we strongly encourage the City of Davis to modify the LIS waste program as needed to assure its long-term environmental and financial sustainability in order that it can continue to serve as a valuable service to city property owners.

- I would like you to continue with the current collection schedule. I have a lot of yard materials each month and depend upon these pick-ups.
- Thank you for accepting comments on the proposed changes to the yard collection schedule. I am in favor of reducing the collection frequency to 4 times a year (monthly during Sep-Dec) and am open to eliminating the service entirely.
- Our city need the pick up to continue November through Mid January! There is no way those large piles I see in the streets will fit in a bin. For the rest of the year, what about a fee for service on certain days like when an extra pick up is needed for garbage or recycling?
- As a homeowner who has moved to Davis almost 40 years ago, I have seen numerous changes in the city services, in particular the garbage pick up. (Did you know we used to have twice weekly pick up in the summer?) One of the most obvious things about our city is the abundance of trees and gardens which not only soften and beautify our landscape, but cools our homes and shades our cars in the summer, thus increasing our real estate. While the organic refuse bin may be sufficient for those homes with low growing or evergreen bushes and plants, many of us have deciduous trees and/or fruit trees, all of which have a need for yearly pruning of large limbs (which do not fit into the organics bin) as well as about a three month period of leaf fall. If this is too unsightly for some, the solution is not to get rid of the Claw, but to Increase Its Use during those months. The city could probably do just fine not having the Claw as often during the summer. But November thru April, the city should have twice monthly Claw pick up. Global warming is not going away. If the city insists on only having the organics bin for green refuse, many people will feel having trees are prohibitive (not only the usually work to prune and rake, but then also having to try to fit everything into a bin.). Many people will get rid of their trees, to the detriment of our health (carbon footprint anyone?), our pocketbooks (more air conditioning in homes and cars), and our sanity (ever hear of forest bathing?). Whatever happened to the City of Davis that Gave me three trees to plant on my property? That City will sure be making it difficult if not impossible to maintain those trees with only an organics bin. Just because 'other cities are doing it' is not a good excuse for us to change what works for us. We are not lemmings. Do not decrease the Claw.

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- This is to provide comments on the current yard material collection program, and proposed changes. We live at XXXXX Dr., so our comments are from the perspective of having lots of big trees and a quiet street. -- The current program (one yard waste container, two months of "claw" pickups) works well for us. We supplement it with a couple of compost piles in the back of the yard. -- About all that goes in the yard waste piles in front of our house from mid-October to mid-December is leaves from the two huge city trees in the front yard (both hackberries). At peak leaf drop, we can have a couple of leaf piles two or three feet high, and five or six feet long. One extra yard waste container would not be large enough to contain such. Plus, it is a lot easier to rake the leaves into piles than to lift them into a bin, or move them to the backyard for an even-larger compost pile (which would then have too many leaves). To reiterate -- it is just the city street tree leaves that go in the street leaf piles at our house, and likely many neighbors as well. -- If "claw" pick up was abolished, we would want to have a second bin, but only for two months of the year. We would not need it the rest of the year, and would not want to store it or pay for it the rest of the year. -- If "claw" pick up is continued, a clear date for last pick up needs to be set. The city materials I saw said last pick up would be mid-December, and lots of yard waste was put out around here around that time but not yet picked up. -- Is a possible solution to continue street pick up of yard waste only in the older
- We prefer to retain the current 18 pick-ups per year schedule. We have a largish lot in the Stonegate subdivision, and during the height of pruning season, which runs late November-February in our area (depending on weather), it is pretty nearly impossible to fit all trimmings and pruning into the yard waste container. We do all our own yard work, as do many other homeowners in Davis, so we don't have a landscaper who is paid to haul away yard trimmings...we pay the City to do that! We also pay the City to sweep the streets...something which happens with insufficient frequency, hence our streets and gutters are always full of debris. We have no lawn front or back, so no grass clippings. At least 90% of the leaves that fall from our many mature trees go back into our garden as mulch...we only put out for pickup those leaves that fall into the street or gutter. We have lived in this home since September 1979, and have noticed a decided reduction in City services over the years, yet the cost is constantly increasing. Obviously this situation is working against the best interests of the homeowners of Davis...and we are very frustrated that our City Council is so consistently unresponsive, and continually reducing services and increasing costs. I suspect the City powers-that-be have long since decided which "option" they are going to choose...and these public meetings are just going through the motions for show.
- I am writing to support the current yard waste collection to remain as is OR a proposal, yet to be seen, that adequately addresses the removal of yard waste/ compost with special emphasis on appropriately managing the leaves from deciduous City street-side trees from October-December each year. My concerns--Greenwaste bins are not large enough or easy enough to use to manage the leaves of city trees in neighborhoods with good levels of tree canopy. Because of this we need to continue to have some sort of service to manage the leaves each fall. -Composting or "leafing" them on the landscape is not a reasonable strategy for most urban lots with one or more fully mature tree. - A requirement that greenwaste collection will be limited to bins only will have the result of residents such as myself no longer bothering to rake the leaves from sidewalks and streets alongside my house because I would have nowhere to put them and no incentive to do so. Instead they

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will just stay in the street, block storm drains causing flooding, decompose in place, make street sweeping impossible and increase both hazards to cyclists and walkers as well as increasing stormwater pollution. - Decreasing leaf management services will further disincentivize the planting of street trees. A robust tree canopy is not only incredibly valuable to the city in regards to carbon sequestration, managing the urban heat island effect, prolonging the useful lifespan of asphalt roadways, and cleaning our air, trees along roadways provide traffic calming and are a key indicator of walkable, healthy communities. Lastly, urban trees are the most cost effective climate change adaptation strategy, as outlined in numerous recent studies. I will speak out against any plan that makes it harder for people to live with a city tree in their front yards. Solutions- I urge the city to spend more time thinking holistically about the multiple goals (cost effective service, clean streets, compliant stormwater, bicycle safety, AND streets shaded by large stature, leafy, deciduous trees) and come up with new solutions that meet all of the needs. Please spend more time talking all the departments that need to have input and see what they have to say. Instead of the claw, the city could implement a leaf vacuum followed by street sweeping for 3 months of the year. Perhaps this matched with bi-weekly greenwaste bin pickup would meet most needs more effectively. Even with a large sized garden and actively composting everything we can in the yard bin, my family hardly ever fills it up (only during rose pruning and leaf drop). Perhaps additional bins could be provided upon request for gardeners when they need them, then picked up again?

- My name is XXXXX. I have lived in Davis since 1973 (46 years), and I have been a home owner since 1976 (43 years.) I have always held Davis in high esteem for many reasons, and one reason has been the amazing system we have had in place for Solid Waste and Recycle. I have been here long enough to remember back in the days when garbage was picked up 2 times a week in the summers "to keep the fly population down." And there was "the claw" and the street sweeper that came weekly, all year long. When I sent each of my 3 children (who were educated on the variety of things to recycle) off to college, they actually taught all their roommates about recycling, as we – in the city of Davis - started making this a lifestyle practice much earlier than the rest of California. I have faithfully gone along with the increases in cost as they have occurred over the years, however with it, there has been an underlying frustration that services were declining as we no longer had weekly pick-ups from the claw or weekly street sweeping. Now, we are being informed about an increase of our monthly fees by 41% in the next 5 years! And, services will not be improving at the same percentage! As a person on a fixed income (retired now) this is very concerning to me. We need more claw pick-ups and more street sweeping, not less. I live in Central Davis, and the trees (hackberries – yes, they are dying off slowly) are very well established. (This means many, many leaves!) Along with them, several Mulberry trees are in the area, and they do not lose their leaves until Dec/ January, but weekly pick up ends early December! We have had to deal with leaves blowing in the streets, our yards, sidewalks and other areas for long periods of time because they are only "picked up" once a month, but a lot is still left behind. This makes very messy, dirty looking street and sidewalks. A couple of weeks ago I over-heard a conversation going on between 2 women about the city of Davis. As the conversation went on, one woman was doing most of the talking, and she was a resident of Davis. She said she "hated Davis" because it had "become such a dirty town." She went on to criticize it, and did not have anything positive to say. But her part about calling Davis "dirty" stood out to me, and as I thought about it,

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she is right. The way the streets and outdoor areas look now are not anything to be proud of. Between people who let their yards go back during the drought time,(and have never put effort into them again,) to the messy leaves/ piles that blow in the wind all over – it is not very pleasant looking in several areas. Even the City does not bother to clean up their areas very often (look at downtown!) since the piles only get picked up once a month. Yes, we have the compost bins and they are used in our neighborhood! But in the months of leaves falling in the areas with very established shade trees, the bins are not big enough. So, what is my purpose in writhing this? 1) I would like to see the Yard Material Collection increase in the fall to weekly pick ups by the claw and weekly street sweeping. It would be good to extend the pick-ups through mid – January at least. 2) Re-evaluate the cost/ increase. It is very concerning. Recology Davis is looking pretty money hungry, wanting a lot more money for a lot less service. I am not impressed. I hope that our city will return to the things that contribute in making it a great place to live, and I appreciate you help in doing so.

- I am not able to make it to the meeting tonight, but wanted to voice my concern about the street pick up. My husband and I have lived in Davis 9 years, we are transplants from MI. In our communities there, they have street pick up 2x a year and the rest of the year residents, young and old have to bag their leaves and cut and the big branches to fit regulated size. This option would save city customers money, as well as CO2 environmental impacts from the trucks driving around.
- Is the LITS system a relevant, cost-effective, efficient and safe way to achieve our diversion goals today? It would seem that the known negative impacts of our LITS system outweigh its perceived convenience and usefulness. My challenge to the city is to consider who benefits from the LITS piles. The current and proposed schedules all prioritize the convenience of a few at the detriment and expense of all. We endanger our most vulnerable road users, and we contribute to air, water and noise pollution while we subsidize those with large and productive gardens. The proposed schedule changes will not solve the problems caused by loose piles, nor will the new schedules benefit most people in the city of Davis. I propose two alternative schedules that can help reduce the negative impacts of these piles and decrease the fiscal inequity. Both of my alternatives would reduce the number of piles by eliminating confusion, and both would lower the cost of service. Unfortunately, neither of these options is currently being presented by the city for consideration and comment: 1. First choice: Terminate regular LITS pickups. This is where we are ultimately headed, so it would be most effective to just pull the Bandaid off quickly and stop wasting the significant staff resources being consumed to study how best to compromise with redundancy in the short term. 2. Second choice that only helps in the short term: 12 weekly pickups per year. Consecutive weekly pickups over winter (November, December, January), and no pickups the rest of the year. This extends leaf-drop coverage and provides convenient Christmas tree pickup. For the remaining 40 weeks of the year, property owners learn to use their organics bins properly. This allows three months of convenience for large pruning projects. The issues we face with our current LITS system: --Loose piles in the street endanger bicyclists and discourage bicycling; the piles consume precious car parking; the contents of those piles are washed down storm drains, and the piles make our town look and often smell like a garbage heap. --Confusion about LITS pickup schedule. While we may have just 18 pickup weeks per year, the variable pickup schedule is confusing enough that piles are regularly found on the street almost

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every week of the year, making enforcement a challenging, full-time job. --Redundancy costs more, and confuses customers further. Since deployment of the organics bins, property owners have been paying for two organic waste collection systems. This costs more and creates more exhaust and noise pollution while the redundancy also causes confusion regarding proper use of the bin on LITS days. Organic material that easily fits in a bin is instead being placed in the street. Because many people don't see an advantage to increased waste diversion through use of the organics bin, they feel that they are now being asked to spend more for what they perceive as reduced service. --Fiscal Equity. We are subsidizing the small percentage of households that use the service on any given pickup day. Regardless of what update we make to the LITS program (and assuming that my #1 choice is not selected) a sunset provision should be included to make obvious that all regular LITS pickups will end on a certain date. Maybe after all this we still have a few LITS pickups per year, but those would be like the "bulky waste" pickups of the past that were rare occurrences noticed as special events. In the meantime, everybody finally learns how to deal with their yards more efficiently like the citizens of almost every other community in CA has done. With money saved from the termination of the LITS program, we could supply extra no-cost organics bins to those with large disposal needs.

- I hope Recology retains its current schedule of 18 times per year for the LITS program. I live in an established neighborhood and have the following on my property: 6 trees which are 60+ years old, 7 trees which are 20 years old, and several bushes which are 20 years old. All are deciduous. My gardener comes once a week and at one point produced 15 (yes, that's 15!) neat piles of leaves. Without this program, or even with a reduction, I would be forced to obtain far too many yard waste containers. What a sight in my otherwise beautiful and well-maintained yard that would be..to say nothing of the absurdly long line of containers which would appear on the street each week.
- According to the information displayed at the Jan.7 city event, we are facing huge upcoming capital costs for equipment and probably a ban on street pick up by the state due to pollution and other concerns. We are one of very few towns using street pick up for green waste, and it looks like the writing is on the wall. Perhaps you should consider one to two years of once per month pick ups to allow people to adapt to the changing circumstances, and then stop the street pick up. Most other communities manage, and we have pretty easily adapted to the organics carts.
- The City appears to be mustering arguments for reducing and eventually eliminating street pickup of yard waste. The views of bicycling advocates, those who are concerned about storm drains and waterways, and those who monitor the costs of city services are being given prominent positions in this matter. And the views of all of these advocacy groups line up with what appears to be the City's desired direction. I commute to work on the UCD campus and do all business in the City by bicycle-- I do not own a car. Debris piles in the street are, to put it simply, a non-issue for bicycle safety. Bicycle advocates have made far too much of this. The overwhelming safety concern for bicyclists is the movement of cars in and out of parking spaces and the sudden opening of car doors into bicycle lanes. I urge the City not to use the complaints of a small, vocal subset of bicycle advocates as a pretext for reduction or elimination of street pile pickup. A concern for bicycle safety is not a serious argument for changes to the pickup program. Lost in all of these arguments for reduction or elimination is the fact that large, mature trees and shrubs are community amenities, providing shade, animal habitat and a sense of place. Proper care of trees and shrubs

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requires regular pruning and debris cleanup, and it is absurd for the City to suggest that the volume of biomass produced can be contained in compost bins, or accommodated by infrequent pickups of street piles. Another recurring argument for reduction or elimination is that Davis is one of the few cities in California still doing street pile pickup. Davis should be a city that places high value on trees, shrubs and other plantings, and consequently Davis can be different from other cities in its approach to yard debris. CONTINUE STREET PILE PICKUP AS IT IS.

- I am writing to voice my strong opinion that the yard waste program NOT be discontinued. This is an important and very helpful service. The flyer that was sent in the Fall mentioned that many other cities do not have this service, perhaps as a justification for discontinuing it. That is not valid reasoning. Do we want to drop to the lowest common denominator of other cities? Many other cities do not have green belts; should we abandon ours so that we can build more? Many other cities do not have bike lanes. Should we abandon ours so that cars can rule? Many other cities do not have central farmer's market. Shall we eliminate ours so that we can be more like them? There was a suggestion to compost on site. I already do, but if I don't have enough room to compost all leaves on site. Also I cannot compost larger items like branches. There was a suggestion to have my yard service take care of this. I don't have a yard service. Nor do I own a pickup truck such that I could transport yard waste. Any solution that relies on the individual surely is collectively more expensive than the current program. My preferred option is to keep the program as is: weekly in the fall and monthly the rest of the year. To make an informed decision about reducing service we really need to know about the costs of the different options. On our street, XXXXX (off XXXXX Blvd), which is only a block long, the piles in the street of yard waste have become a tremendous nuisance. On one side of the street is a large apartment complex--XXXXX--and because the curb on that side of the street is painted red for a fire lane (since the street is not wide enough), the landscape maintenance company seems to believe that it is a perfect spot for a large pile of leaves. For the past two weeks there has been a 50 yard long pile sitting there causing traffic problems and blocking the fire lane. this pile not only fails to conform to specifications but I see companies drive up and dump off more and more yard waste into it. It was only removed yesterday. If the city is going to continue with these on-street piles, it must do a better job of educating the landscape workers. they don't appear to know anything about the rules. I would much prefer if yard waste were collected by means of the carts only. Residents with large amounts of yard waste could be offered additional carts to fit the extra volume; these carts very rarely cause problems such as impacting bike lanes or fire lanes, and are left in the street for shorter periods of time than green piles. If this costs the apartment complexes more money so be it, at least it will stop them from disrupting their neighborhoods.
- I am a daily bike commuter. I have a terrible time avoiding large, loose piles of leaves and sticks in the street, especially on narrow roads such as Simmons. At times, I have to ride outside of the bike lane to avoid the piles on busy corridors like 8th Street, and at night this is quite hazardous. I would like to see these loose piles permitted only on weekends or once a month. It also disturbs me that the leaves are collecting all the toxins from the street (oil, other car fluids) before being composted. I have many large trees at the property I rent, and I am able to put the leaves in my large compost container. When the deluge begins in the autumn, I also store a pile next to my compost bin. I think most Davis

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residents could do the same. Thank you for considering other options to street pile collection.

- I use my bike regularly for transportation in Davis, and wanted to share my thoughts about the green pile collection program. I have not had any problems with the green waste piles. On occasion I have had to enter the automobile traffic lane. I use caution and have always felt safe. I believe if these piles are picked up weekly it would make it much safer to travel around Davis. I am all for the green waste piles.
- I am writing in response to a recent call for feedback regarding the in-street green waste pick-up by the claw. I understand the city is looking into cost saving measures and is soliciting public comment. We love the claw and would be very disappointed to have its services completely discontinued. We would be amenable to a decrease in the number of yearly pick-ups; monthly would be fine with us. We compost most kitchen waste on site and have embraced the organics can (we call it "the chicken bone can") for other compostable items, despite being early skeptics. However, there are times and things that simply aren't well suited to its use and the option for street pickup is very helpful. Although we remember "the good old days" of weekly visits, we are willing to be more organized and generate yard waste on more of a schedule. So, please don't take away the claw completely!
- My backyard is probably larger than average for Davis, and I do my own tree pruning and leaf raking. I have appreciated and used the LITS (loose in the street) program (the claw) for over three decades, but now I have learned how to use the brown-lid cart. As a result, I would be OK with eliminating the LITS program. Considering all the options for only reducing the number of LITS pickups, I would vote for the fewest number of LITS pickups per year. Some Davis residents don't know how to keep a reasonable distance between parked cars and LITS piles, and there are people who don't seem to notice that the straight jaws of the claw can't reach into the curved part of the gutter pan between the street and the sidewalk. Even in front of my house, where I make neat piles away from cars and away from the gutter, the LITS system usually makes the street messy, so I typically have raked and swept the street after the claw has gone by. Scheduling the street sweeper the day after the claw works only in theory, because wind blows the residue around, and parked cars get in the way of the sweeper.
- It is my understanding that the City of Davis is considering doing away with our longtime yard waste street pickup program. I am writing to urge you in the strongest terms to retain this service. One of the appealing aspects of Davis that sets it apart from many other cities in our area are the beautiful street trees and well-maintained yards throughout. However, these trees and yards generate a great deal of yard waste that needs to be disposed of. This can be disproportionate burden, as leaves may not end up in the yards with the trees that produced them. For example, my house is located at a bend, on the south side of the street. Many of the leaves from trees up and down our street are deposited in our yard by the prevailing fall north winds. Although we do compost much of our green waste, there is no way that our compost heap can process all of the leaves that end in our yard. We depend on the regular city yard waste street pickups to remove these leaves, and would be very upset if they were discontinued. I urge you to continue regular yard waste pickup by Recology, with extra service in the fall leaf period (in our neighborhood, from mid October to mid January).

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- I heartily agree with Patricia Ostini's comments in her article "Special to the Enterprise". See below. Commentary: Facts, not assumptions By Patricia Ostini Special to The Enterprise Yes, Davis is a bicycle town. I support our system of dedicated bike paths. I am proud of our bicycle museum. I support those who make trips using bicycles, as long as they follow traffic rules and ride responsibly. My kids got around Davis on bicycles — to school, to dance class, to clay class with Clarice, and every school day to daycare at the Round House. It was wonderful to be able to give them this freedom. Our community should support all modes of transportation, including walking, and consider safety in making policy and fiscal decisions. But decisions should be based on facts and not on rhetoric, no matter how superficially appealing, and not on assumptions or misconceptions. The contention that LITS green waste piles are a danger to bicyclists has been repeated in The Enterprise more than once. In an attempt to discover any underlying facts, I recently asked the city of Davis for any documentation or reports it has regarding bicycle accidents or injuries caused by yard waste piles. My request included anything generated by commissions, such as the Bicycling, Transportation and Street Safety Commission. I received nothing on the bicycle issue. Certainly, there could have been minor scrapes which were undocumented, but speculation on this point should not be the basis for a decision on the continuation or reduction of the LITS program. It has also been reported in the Enterprise that most cities in California have container-only collection of green waste. Again, I have been unable to find any factual data to support this contention. My request to the city for any documentation on this point resulted in nothing. And if that is indeed true, why would it matter? I have been a Davis resident since 1977. My adopted city for so many years was a leader among cities, not a follower. It used to be proud of this distinction. If continued green waste pick-up makes sense for Davis, let's continue it. Many Davis residents seem to believe that the LITS program is prohibitively expensive. It is important to consider the cost not just as a dollar amount but as a percentage of the total trash fees. At a city-sponsored open forum last night, I learned from city staff that the current LITS program which uses the "claw" constitutes less than 1 percent of current trash fees. There has also been discussion recently of the impact of loose leaves and other materials in the streets on potential groundwater contamination. There is currently no evidence that any tests of Davis water have been performed which suggest that Davis risks a violation of standards regarding water quality caused by loose green waste put out for collection. On Nov. 26, in a document which can be found on the city of Davis website, the Davis Natural Resources Commission stated that it has no objections to continuing the LITS program as it is currently operated. There are so many additional aspects to this issue which perhaps others can address, such as the value of a tree canopy to wildlife, the benefits of landscaping on property values, the difficulties those with decreased mobility have in hoisting materials into composting bins, the expense of paying for private pick-up of materials which do not fit into the bins, which many cannot afford. Yes, Davis is a bicycle town. But it is first of all a community, one in which seniors like me support families by voting yes every time we are asked to fund our schools. There is no need to divide our community into factions. We certainly can find ways to ensure that bicyclists have safe transportation lanes, while still meeting the needs of other members of our community who enrich our town with trees and other plantings. I urge Davis citizens to look into this issue further, discover the facts, and let the city know your questions and concerns.

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- As a twenty five year resident of our City, I have watched many changes take place. Although many have been beneficial, some are troubling. It seems to me that the current proposal to raise garbage pick up rates falls into the latter category. When the city changed garbage pick up companies, it was with an assurance that service would not deteriorate and rates would stay the same or increase slightly over time as needed. It appears that the service provider has a different definition of "slightly" than mine. I do not support the currently proposed rate increase. In addition, I would like to see a better solution to the ongoing problem of yard waste pick up via the claw. The City planted trees that drop massive amounts of leaves each year after the pick up schedule gets reduced. This leads to a homeowner quandary. The choice is to either clean up the leaves and pile them in the street (after the bin is full), in violation of the 5 day rule or to leave them where they lay. This problem could possibly be solved by allowing homeowners to have an additional yard waste bin (at no additional cost) or by changing the pick up schedule to reflect the actual leaf drop schedule. I have seen a suggestion that the City transition to a vacuum truck for leaf and yard waste pick up. This could result in increased pick up with no effect on the number of personnel. I would like to see more creative and innovative solutions proposed before simply raising the rates.
- I attended the information night at the Vet Memorial, and voted on my choice for yard materials pickup. I did not have time to fill out a form while I was there to comment on the street sweeping. In all the years I have lived in Davis, I have never seen such messy streets! I feel as though I live in the slums. We certainly need to do a better job of keeping our city clean. Frankly, I would be happy to pay more taxes, as the citizens of Woodland voted to do, in order to keep up with the leaves, Christmas trees, etc. that accumulate in the Fall and into the Winter (January). The number of times of sweeping the streets needs to increase dramatically during the Fall, and into January. Also, I have seen some sweeping occurring on Saturdays. That is a horrible idea, since "everyone" is home that day, and the streets are lined with cars, making it impossible to sweep next to the curb, where the leaves, etc. accumulate. Thanks for "listening" to my ideas. I welcome any news from the city council, etc. on decisions that have been made regarding these matters.
- I use my bike regularly for transportation in Davis, and wanted to share my thoughts about the green pile collection program. I have encountered many green piles obstructing the bike lane, forcing me to merge with traffic which often felt unsafe and uncomfortable. Sometimes, green piles spill naturally into the bike lane; other times, it seems that they are placed there by negligence or ignorance, in spite of a City ordinance prohibiting this. I would much prefer if yard waste was collected by means of the carts only. Residents with large amounts of yard waste could be offered additional carts to fit the extra volume; these carts very rarely impact bike lanes, and are left in the street for shorter periods of time than green piles. As you make decision about the "loose in the streets" green piles collection program, please consider the safety and comfort of cyclists as an important priority.
- We are longtime residents of Davis and live in an established neighborhood here. The people in our neighborhood maintain their trees and yards well, and make effective use of the city's yard waste pile pick-up program. We have already adapted to a reduced schedule of yard waste pile pick-up. Most of us have long since gotten rid of our lawns, but the sheer volume of yard waste that accumulates from maintaining trees and reasonable landscaping makes us reliant on street-pile pick-ups in order to make our yard maintenance feasible.

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We are concerned that without this service continuing, we will not be able to keep our trees or the landscaping that makes Davis the place that it is. It would be a shame to have to get rid of trees because we have no cost-effective way of managing their waste (pruning and leaves). Many of us do our own yardwork. Most of us do not own trucks. The City's yard pile pick-up service is our only cost-effective way of getting rid of our yard waste. You cannot put the pruning from a full-sized tree into a yard waste bin, even if you fill it repeatedly over the course of several weeks. In the meantime there is no place to put the pruning if you cannot put it in the street. The argument that yard waste piles are a hazard to bicyclists seems ridiculous to us, as properly placed piles do not take up any more room along the street than parked cars. If we must get rid of yard waste piles for safety reasons, then we should also prohibit the parking of cars in the street. If yard waste piles are indeed causing a hazard to bicyclists, then it seems the solution would be for the city to aggressively enforce existing regulations regarding the size of the piles. With regard to the concern about run-off into storm drains, these concerns must be balanced against the specter of trees and plants being replaced by rock, concrete and wood chips. We are willing to pay for the necessary management of storm drains as well as the cost of yard pile pick-up in order to keep our city beautiful and our air healthy. We believe that most citizens who own and manage their own property in Davis share this perspective. We need to continue at least monthly yard pile pick-up throughout the year, and weekly pick-up during the leaf and pruning season. It is our earnest hope that those who make such decisions will recognize this ongoing need and will be willing to face their responsibility to provide this necessary service for the sake of the residents of Davis.

- I am a resident of City of Davis. I am asking the Solid Waste and Recycling Program of City of Davis to change the leaf off season yard material piles collect time as "Beginning the third Monday in November through mid-January, yard material piles will be collected every week. During this time, piles may be set out 7 days before a scheduled pick-up day". Following are my reasons. 1. In Davis, the foliage period for most deciduous trees is way late than mid-October. You can find a lot of deciduous trees have almost full leaf-on even in middle of November. Most people will not trim their trees till tree leaf-off. 2. The City of Davis has contracted out the street yard material piles collect. I believe that city is trying to reduce the program cost and provide better service for us. But, the current yard material piles collect schedule need be changed. We want the service to be provided at the time we needed.
- We are writing regarding the proposed changes to the street-side pruning and leaf pick-up schedule. Fewer pick-ups are going to have a strong and negative impact on our household, and, I imagine, many others in this city full of street trees and backyard trees. It has been a real struggle, since the changes instituted in 2016, to cope with the autumn leaf clean-up at our address. Given our nearly 50-year-old fruitless mulberry, as well as our neighbor's across the fence, and the city oak in front, and leaves from across the other fences and that blow from up and down the street, there is an overwhelming volume of leaves that need raking and a place to go. One hour of raking just the leaves from our mulberry fills our green bin. This begins in earnest in September and goes straight through, at an ever-increasing pace, to January. The current reduced schedule of limited weekly pickups from mid-October to mid-December is already inadequate. So too is the monthly street-sweeping, which leaves our streets messy and debris-strewn between sweepings. Those of us who already hire an arborist for tree-pruning try to schedule the work for the week

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before monthly pick-up or, failing that, pay the extra fee to have it hauled away. There is no similar way of dealing with four months of leaf-fall that needs near-constant raking, a place to go, and weekly pick-up. We are strongly opposed to any further reduction of the services you provide. In fact, we would favor an extension of the weekly pick-ups to begin in September and continue through the end of December, and a proportionate increase in rates.

- I agree that reducing the use of the claw would reduce costs. I STRONGLY OPPOSE removing the use of the claw totally. CITY-OWNED trees, perhaps, drop the most leaves produced in Davis. WE LOVE OUR TREES but do need a way to have the leaves recycled rather than trying to do it in our own back yards. Between the two large trees that my neighbor has in her yard (where at least half of the leaves end up in my yard) and my own two trees in the back yard, my compost heap is already composting a great deal of leaves. But I cannot get the front yard leaves to my backyard easily (I'm 68 years old, female and have no one to help me) so it's easier to rake them into the street for pickup. Once-a-month claw pickup would be great IF Recology can then handle the enormous piles that will be in the streets. AND, if a "law" was put into place that gardeners had to carry the leaves they pick up during their job and take it to a composting center or place, that would save LOTS of piles in the street that potentially block bike riders. So I think there are some ways to work this all out without completely getting rid of the claw entirely.
- Gentlemen: Please accept this protest letter re: Possible reduction of LITS program for green waste pickup.
- We are writing to strenuously object to the proposal to reduce or eliminate the collection of yard waste from its current schedule of 19 collections per year. The compost bins are inadequate to contain all of the yard waste, especially in late fall and early winter when our street trees lose their leaves. We live on XXXXX Drive which is lined with beautiful old Zelkova trees which are nearly 50 years old. They are highly prized by the neighborhood, but drop an enormous amount of leaves beginning in late October and have just finished about the 2nd week of January this year. There are more leaves than can be contained in a single bin any given week. The collection of the yard waste is essential to keep the streets free of very large piles of leaves in November and December. As well, the collection of Christmas trees and heavy pruning of fruit trees, roses and bushes that begins in January generates materials that also don't fit easily into bins. We understand that a second bin can be requested but at further cost. Gardeners that currently do not take leaves away would also up their rates to dispose of the materials they collect. And do not forget that many of the Davis citizen's cannot afford gardeners and the task of lifting leaves into the bins is back breaking work for the elderly. We would prefer to see the weekly schedule extended into January and absolutely prefer having the street sweeping take place in the same week as the pile pickups. Delaying the street sweeping to another week seems to completely defeat the purpose of keeping debris out of the storm drains. The estimate that we have been given is that the collections cost between \$1.41 and \$2.18 per collection per customer. Using the upper end of this range, this translates to \$41.42 per customer per year for 19 collections. This appears to be a reasonable amount to pay for this service. Recology has proposed a price increase of 13.5%. Applying this factor to the yard waste pick up gives a cost of \$47.01 per customer per year, which is still affordable to most. Raising the rates by that increase and simultaneously reducing our pickup schedules would be very hard to justify, giving Recology a poor reputation in Davis. While we do understand that Davis is

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one of few cities that maintains a yard waste pickup from the streets, we don't believe this detracts from the beauty, or the safety of our town, and in fact encourages us to keep our street trees and vegetation. We urge you to retain the existing yard waste collection schedule, which we feel is important to maintain the appearance of our neighborhood, and the city as a whole.

- The hybrid system of collection of yard waste has been serving our community well since 2014. We had a goal to increase the total tonnage of organics diverted from the landfill, mostly in the form of kitchen organics, and to provide a vital Loose in the Streets or LITS service to resident who have large trees and or large lots. The diversion achievement came with large costs to the residents both in reduced LITS, and street sweeping services. To add an organic cart LITS street piles were reduced from 52 weeks to just 18. Street sweeping reduced from 52 weeks to just 12. Even with cuts in service the monetary short fall in revenues for providing this service is \$90,000 per month Positive qualities of LITS and perhaps some Wrong assumptions. Low cost - Current cost based upon the figures from the public works: 16,000 customers (single family, multifamily, commercial) pay for a service that cost \$50,000 to \$70,000 for two pickups. Doing the math works out to be \$1.41 to \$2.18 per pickup for each billed account. This a very efficient system of collecting yard waste, and it was developed right here a UCD Savings not there - According to city staff the cost of 2 pick-ups citywide is \$50,000-\$70,000. Of that cost 25% or \$12,500-\$17,500 is paid to the Yolo County Landfill. The weight costs are not going away by reducing the frequency of pick up, the loads will still have to be picked up. Total tonnage may even increase if the materials to be removed sit around for two weeks and absorb moisture (weight=cost) before being removed with a bimonthly service schedule. A more realist potential savings for reducing the pick up by 2 would be \$37,500 to \$52,500, not \$50,000 to \$70,000 Organic carts are expensive. - According to Recology Davis the manufacturing and delivery of the organics carts is \$70.00 each. If the number of carts needed are increased by 50% that would be a cost of \$70.00 x 8,000 carts = \$5.6 million dollars vs \$1 million for new trucks and tractors. It takes longer to load multiple carts than to load the same volume of materials by LITS adding to the labor cost. Labor and material cost will go up with the reduction/elimination of LITS Bike safety. - We have had many years of reduced LITS service to support or disprove that the piles are a danger to cyclists. No data has been presented. Of the regular cyclists I have ask about safety, piles were not a concerned. Storm drains concerns. - We have had years of LITS service to disprove that the piles are a major contributor to organic entering the storm drains, although no data has been presented on either side. Currently the California State Water Board is concerned with trash/plastic entering the water ways. A few years back they were concerned about grass like materials, but that issue has mostly been eliminated with the hybrid system. On January 6th the biggest rain down pour of the season hit Davis at 3:30 PM. On either side of the entrance to the 14th Street library where big piles of pear leaves. The leaves where not in the gutter, the gutters where filled with water rushing to the nearest drain inlet, and not a single leaf was in the rushing stream. Piles do not move when properly placed in the street. Environmentally friendly - The LITS service is supportive of the urban forest. In this era of climate warming, we need to encourage residents to maintain and expand the tree canopy. The city can do its part by maintaining this low cost, low hassle, tree supportive, LITS service. If you increase the hassle of holding on to materials to meter out in limited cart space and or increase the cost of private contractors having to start hauling the yard

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waste people will respond by making choices of what should have negative affect on growing anything large in their yard. From an air quality traffic stand point Recology is much better at hauling yard waste than a fleet of pick-ups and trailers heading to the landfill. Savings can be available elsewhere - We currently have weekly cardboard service. Please investigate reducing the frequency of this service and use the savings to extend the current 18 LITS pick-ups to 20. Maintaining clean streets and yards - Cities of Modesto, San Jose, Winters, Woodland, and Turlock (seasonal), Sacramento (seasonal) use this system with normal garbage rates with no plans of eliminating service. Supported by Davis residents - The LITS system is supported by most Davis residents, see results of the 2018-yard waste survey. The major complaint was the leaf drop season pick up ends too soon. Conclusion - I have spent many hours contacting, asking question, obtaining facts from Davis Public Works, Recology Davis, Public Works of San Jose, Public Works Woodland and Yolo County Landfill Green Waste Specialist. The reasons given by the Davis City Council to reduce or eliminate LITS service does not stand up to the facts. They seem to be based mainly on assumptions. I find your efforts to reduce service to be short sighted and without merit, and I ask you to make no changes in the LITS program. Please take actions that will boost the sustainability of our community. Your actions will affect the sustainability of our landscaping for generations to come.

- As a homeowner whose backyard borders the greenbelt between XXXXX Lane and XXXXX, I am particularly concerned about the possibility of the city ending the collection of yard material piles. Behind my open back fence are several greenbelt sycamore trees which drop an ENORMOUS amount of debris (leaves and branches) particularly during the fall months into my back and front yard areas. These trees were planted on both sides of the bike/ped path directly behind my fence and that of neighbors despite concerns voiced by new homeowners at the time XXXXX was being developed. Hours of clean up time is required by myself and that of a gardener at my expense to clean up after CITY trees! It is inconceivable to me, that the city could even consider eliminating this service to those of us who have properties directly adjacent to greenbelt trees. These lots that back on this greenbelt are only 50' wide x 85' feet in length so one can easily imagine the amount of clean up that is required from 50 ft. tall sycamore trees irresponsibly planted two feet from back fences, not to mention the months it takes for the city to respond to requests for tree trimming to keep limbs off clay tile roofs that are vulnerable to cracking. This month I spent \$338 for gutter cleaning to remove debris from CITY TREES-- from not only the sycamores, but greenbelt redwood trees as well one of which still hasn't been trimmed eight months after my initial and follow up requests. I value the collection of yard materials piles because it is an absolute necessity for those of us who own properties impacted by city trees. I urge the Davis City Council to make the morally responsible choice to maintain the collection of yard materials piles.
- I agree that reducing the use of the claw would reduce costs. I STRONGLY OPPOSE removing the use of the claw totally. CITY-OWNED trees, perhaps, drop the most leaves produced in Davis. WE LOVE OUR TREES but do need a way to have the leaves recycled rather than trying to do it in our own back yards. Between the two large trees that my neighbor has in her yard (where at least half of the leaves end up in my yard) and my own two trees in the back yard, my compost heap is already composting a great deal of leaves. But I cannot get the front yard leaves to my backyard easily (I'm 68 years old, female and have no one to help me) so it's easier to rake them into the street for pickup. Once-a-

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- On behalf of XXXXX, I would like to express a preference for Option 1, the proposed schedule that reduces fall pick-up to bi-weekly and extends pick-up later into the winter. We see no need for an additional collection in April, and have no opinion about the various stagger options. XXXXX has what may be an unusual situation regarding green waste collection, both with regards to the bins and the street piles. We are a 26-household community of attached units on a bit under 3 acres in XXXXX, Far West Davis. I am on the XXXXX Landscape Committee and manage the 50-tree orchard on the site. We are self-managed and do most of our own landscape work, thus do not have a landscape service to haul or chip our yard waste. We have only two green waste bins for 26 families. We have had some difficulty adapting to the current schedule of pick-ups, but have managed with careful planning of landscape work, intensive use of our two green waste bins, on-site composting, and temporary storage of yard waste piles on our site. Reducing pick-up to bi-weekly in the fall will be a challenge we will do our best to meet. The most difficult time to manage the yard waste, especially bulky items like tree branches, is in the late fall and winter. Most of our leaf drop and much of the pruning occurs between Thanksgiving and January, so continuing the bi-monthly street pick-up longer into the winter would be the most useful for us. I will have much more to say at an appropriate time about eliminating the use of "The Claw" entirely, which would have more challenges for us.
- I was not able to attend the community open house and given the importance of the proposed changes I'd like to suggest you consider holding another open house – preferably on a Saturday - so that people unable to make the previous one might attend. I understand this is outside of normal staff hours but I for one would be grateful to have the chance to talk with someone who has studied this issue. My current preference would be to bi-weekly pickups year round; which I understand is not on the list of options being considered. Frequent street pickups are a city service that I highly value. This is one of the city services that I would prioritize. I think that one of the reasons we live in a generally nicely gardened city is that removing yard waste is relatively made easier. My hope is that we could find a way to continue this service indefinitely into the future. My fear is that it is being managed to encourage support for phasing it out in the near future. Some of the questions I have: --Where can I get more information about the costs associated with this service and with the other waste and recycling programs? --Where can I get actual data about bike accidents associated with yard material piles as well as other causes of bike accidents in Davis? --Does the city have a plan for helping home owners with city tree leaves and branches? Will it be made easier for nuisance city trees to be removed? We have three on or near our property that will only be more difficult to deal with under the proposed changes. --Is there any information available on city enforcement actions related to yard materials and organics carts? Warnings and citations issued? --Are the staff reports on yard material collection available for review on-line or at the library?

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