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Subject: 8-15-17 Work Session Item B1- Most Urgent Request: Please postpone presentation of recommendations until all stakeholders have been heard.
Date: Monday, August 14, 2017 2:03:00 PM
Attachments: [8-14-17 URGENT COUNCIL REQUESTS.pdf](#)

Mayor and City Council Members:

Item B1 on your Council work session agenda tomorrow is the planned presentation by City staff of the recommendations of the Waste Management Policy Working Group. I'm writing with **5 urgent requests** regarding this planned presentation:

Request 1: *Please postpone formal presentation* of the Waste Management Policy Working Group recommendations to Council until all stakeholders have been heard, as originally directed by Council in [discussion](#) and by [resolution](#).

Request 2: *Please request that the Working Group convene again* to discuss and consider forthcoming input from the Zero Waste Advisory Commission, the Environmental Board, the Electric Utility Commission, the Water and Wastewater Commission, and other boards and commissions on the proposed revisions to longstanding Council policy and precedent concerning the posed policy questions *before* presenting final recommendations to Council.

Request 3: If Council proceeds tomorrow with the presentation of the Working Group recommendations, please also review, at a minimum, [TDS' policy recommendations](#) and [TDS' initial response to the first draft of the Working Group recommendations](#).

Request 4: Now or later, please ask City staff and/or the Working Group and appropriate citizen boards and commissions to develop a specific recommendation on [City staff's proposed Policy Question #8](#) regarding commercial competition.

Request 5. Please additionally take *3 minutes* to read [a brief synopsis](#) of a current conflict between TDS and City staff that provides additional context.

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[A full explanation for each of these 5 requests is attached for your review.](#)

Most importantly, **please do not allow Council to be rushed into considering changes to decades of City precedent and City Council policy by the supposed urgency of a few pending contractual decisions as presented by City staff.** It would be a simple matter to extend, as necessary, current City waste contracts long enough to allow for full Council consideration of these critical long-term policy and procedural issues. Austin deserves no less.

Please also note that you can find all meeting videos, complete meeting transcripts, and all documents submitted during the Working Group process on [the TDS website](#).

Thank you for your attention to these urgent requests. As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at 512-619-9127 (m).

Sincerely,
Bob Gregory
President & CEO
Texas Disposal Systems