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Cc: [Bob Gregory](#); [Rick Fraumann](#); [Adam Gregory](#)
Subject: URGENT Round Rock City Council Thursday, November 4, 2021 Items H.4, H.5 & I.1
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 6:44:24 PM

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

On Thursday, November 4, if you approve Agenda Items H.4, H.5 and I.1, you will be voting to abolish the competitive open market for collection of commercial solid waste and recyclables. If passed, this vote will force all residential customers, City facilities, the Downtown Commercial District, and ALL other commercial and industrial customers within the City of Round Rock to only use Central Texas Refuse/Round Rock Refuse (CTR/RRR) for collection of solid waste and recyclables at service rates (\$) set by the City and CTR/RRR, rates which are subject to escalation at the request of CTR/RRR. All other service providers, including Texas Disposal Systems (TDS), currently serving customers in Round Rock will have their contracts with businesses declared null and void and will be prohibited from servicing any type of solid waste or recycling accounts, except at least initially, temporary construction roll-off accounts.

For decades, businesses in Round Rock have had the freedom to contract with the service provider of their choice, to negotiate rates and services, and to hire and fire a service provider based on costs or quality of service. This competitive open market has served to keep costs low and service quality high, and is of great benefit to all Round Rock businesses. Unfortunately, that open market competition will be abolished if you vote to approve Agenda Items H.4, H.5 and I.1 at the meeting on Thursday, November 4th.

Apparently, the City staff and CTR/RRR have been working in secret for months to negotiate away the rights of businesses, restaurants, multi-family complexes, churches, schools, and industry to enjoy a competitive open market. TDS was only made aware of this potential action on Friday, October 29th. This drastic and destructive change would be made without any prior public discussion, without any stakeholder input, and without any competitive bidding process to determine if any other service providers can provide better rates and services, or if such a drastic change is of any benefit at all to businesses, citizens, or to the City. Both the current non-exclusive franchise agreements and the proposed deal with CTR/RRR require the contractor to pay the City ten percent (10%) of gross revenues collected in Round Rock, so I do not see the financial benefit to the City of entering into this exclusive contract. Nor do I see why City staff chose to present this concept and secure a vote from Council to negotiate an exclusive contract with CTR/RRR on July 22, 2021 during a City Council "semi-annual retreat," which occurred the morning of the same day as an evening regular City Council meeting, which would have been much more visible to stakeholders.

It has been over twenty years since the City of Round Rock has sought competitive bids for its residential solid waste and recyclables collection contract. In October of 2019 CTR/RRR was caught landfilling recyclable material by comingling Round Rock's solid waste and recyclables in the same collection vehicle. <https://www.kxan.com/news/local/williamson-county/video-captures-round-rock-refuse-failing-to-separate-curb-side-garbage-and-recycling/> More recently, significant evidence

has been discovered and put together which indicates the landfilling of massive amounts of baled, unsorted single stream recyclables from the CTR/RRR Williamson County recycling facility. [Photographic evidence can be viewed here.](#) CTR/RRR delivers recyclables collected within the City to this facility. This is a direct violation of CTR/RRR's contract with Round Rock and other municipalities, a gross betrayal of their stated commitments to process and market recyclables, and potentially fraudulent activity. The City's current exclusive residential contract with CTR/RRR states that "neither contractor nor recyclables processor shall discard any portion of the collected single stream recycling unless they make up a de minimus amount." Should dishonest and environmentally destructive behavior be rewarded with a no-bid long term exclusive contract for all commercial solid waste and recycling services in the City of Round Rock? Absolutely not.

Should the Round Rock City Council kick all haulers, other than CTR/RRR, out of town? We urge you to vote "No".

Should the Round Rock City Council force all residential, industrial and commercial entities in the City to do business with only CTR/RRR; particularly without time for all affected entities to have the opportunity to learn the facts, and understand the impact of such a vote. We urge you to vote "No".

Should the Round Rock City Council make such drastic changes without any stakeholder input, and without any competitive bidding processes? We urge you to vote "No".

Texas Disposal Systems has proudly served businesses in Round Rock for over forty years. It is our sincere hope that we will be able to continue serving our customers in a competitive open market in the future, offering responsible solid waste collection, disposal, recycling and organic composting. It is outrageous to think TDS could be put out of business in Round Rock after forty plus years of faithful service, with less than a week's notice, and with no reason provided for the confiscation of our accounts. Please check out our history and our services at www.texasdisposal.com.

For more information on this subject and the Agenda items, please visit www.texasdisposalpolicy.com/city-of-round-rock/.

We humbly request that you vote NO on Agenda Items H.4, H.5 and I.1 at the November 4, 2021 Council meeting.

Please contact me with any questions you may have. Also, please allow me the opportunity to meet with you to discuss the services we provide to other municipalities, including Georgetown, Buda, Kyle and San Marcos. I believe a comparison of services offered in these communities, which are not included in the CTR/RRR existing or proposed contracts, would be beneficial to the Council and to all local stakeholders.

Sincerely,
Bob Gregory
President, CEO & Principal Owner
Texas Disposal Systems