REPORT TO COUNCIL 18
City of Sacramento

915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2604
www. CityofSacramento.org

Workshop
October 23, 2007

Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

Title: Voluntary Containerized Green Waste

Location/Council District: City Wide

Recommendation: Receive and File

Contact: Edison Hicks, Integrated Waste General Manager

Presenters: Edison Hicks, Integrated Waste General Manager

Department: Utilities

Division: Solid Waste

Organization No: 3361

Description/Analysis

Issue: The purpose of this workshop is to update the City Council on the status of the Voluntary Containerized Green Waste program. This report provides a brief history of the program to date, public outreach to implement the program and the current status of the program.

HISTORY

On August 24, 2004, City Council authorized Solid Waste Services to begin advertising and implementing a Voluntary Containerized Green Waste Program (Resolution 2004-691). Since implementing the program 48,388 residents will have opted to have containerized green waste service. This represents 37% of the residential customers serviced by the City of Sacramento, Department of Utilities, Solid Waste Services collection fleet. Approximately another 5,000 containers are scheduled to be set out by the end of Fiscal Year 2007/08, bringing the total number of green waste containers throughout the City to 53,388, or approximately 41% of the total residential customer base serviced by Solid Waste Services collection fleet.

Since implementing the Voluntary Containerized Green Waste program a total of 1,546 have opted to not participate in the program. This is 3% of the 49,934 invited to participate in the program.

Public Outreach

To determine what areas had the most interest in green waste containers and develop routes, Solid Waste Services included in a utility bill an interest card. This card asked if the resident was interested in participating in a Voluntary Containerized Green Waste Program. The resident was asked to fill out and mail back the card. Solicitation of interest was also done via the Internet on the department's website. A copy of the utility bill insert is included as Attachment 1. The interest cards were later used to develop routes. Over 30,000 responses were received via US Postal Service mail or over the internet and recorded on a map to show where it was best to start the program. This information was used to develop the initial Voluntary Containerized Green Waste Collection routes.

Other outreach efforts included:

- A 30-second TV advertisement produced by Com Cast.
- Community workshops to explain how the program works and answer questions from the residents.
- Inclusion of the Voluntary Containerized Green Waste program in printed materials produced by Solid Waste Services and distributed at public events and community meetings throughout the city.

A common concern expressed by residents is what they will do during leaf season and other times of year when high volumes of green waste are generated due to leaf fall, pruning in the spring and fall clean up. In response to this concern the program included loose in the street collection service during these times of the year from the start. The program was first implemented in North Natomas. Since then green waste containers can be found throughout the City in all the Council Districts:

Council District 1	12,834	Council District 2	3,380
Council District 3	3,822	Council District 4	1,585
Council District 5	6,202	Council District 6	6,281
Council District 7	6,141	Council District 8	8,143

Current Status:

By November 2007, there will be 48,388 green waste containers throughout the city. Attachment 2 is a map of the City showing where the Voluntary Containerized Green Waste and Loose in the Street Green Waste Programs are in the City today. Solid Waste Services plans to set out another 4,000 green waste containers between now and June 30, 2008. At that time approximately 41% of the residential customers receiving collection services from the City will have volunteered to participate in the containerized green waste program.

Two common problems encountered to date include:

- Not understanding when to set out green waste loose in the street vs. the container.
- Contamination of green waste by mixing garbage with the green waste in the container.

To address these issues Solid Waste Services is continuing its public outreach efforts in both printed materials and community meetings prior to implementation of new containerized areas.

Policy Considerations: Implementation of the Voluntary Containerized Green Waste Collection Program contributes to the City Council policy for sustainable neighborhoods.

Environmental Considerations: Acceptance of this report is not a project as defined by CEQA. Benefits of the Voluntary Containerized Green Waste Collection program include:

- Lowering the risk of flooding in local streets by reducing green waste piles that clog the gutters during the rainy season.
- Reducing the likelihood that green waste from piles may be washed down the storm drain.
- Improved streetscapes due to the absence of large piles of green waste.
- Lower sweeping frequency because of less green waste residuals.
- Safety regarding green waste piles in the bike lanes.

Commission/Committee Action: None

Rationale for Recommendation: This is an update on the Voluntary Containerized Green Waste Collection program. There is no recommendation or action required by the City Council.

Financial Considerations:
One of the primary reasons for implementing the Voluntary Containerized Green Waste Collection program was over all cost savings compared to loose in the street. A containerized route can service 1,500 homes per day with one piece of equipment and one driver. Loose in the street collection routes are 900 homes a day using two pieces of equipment and two Solid Waste workers.

From July 1, 2007 through September 2007 the total labor cost to collect 80,000 homes per week of green waste loose in the street was $124,827, compared to $28,376 to collect 41,389 homes in the Voluntary Containerized Green Waste Collection program. The cost savings realized from the Voluntary Containerized Green Waste Collection program result in an overall cost savings to individual customers.

Attachment 3 shows by program type and container size the cost of the Voluntary Containerized Green Waste Collection Program vs. Loose in the Street Green Waste Collection Program.

Other potential financial savings through expansion of the Voluntary Containerized Green Waste Collection Program include street maintenance due to less damage by the claw when collecting loose in the street green waste.

Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD): There are no Small Business Development issues.

Respectfully Submitted by: _____
Edison Hicks
Integrated Waste General Manager

Approved by: _____
Gary A. Reents
Director, Dept. of Utilities

Recommendation Approved:

_____
for Ray Kerridge
City Manager

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ATTACHMENT 1

Yard Waste Recycling Program

I understand that I will be required to place my yard waste in a container provided by the City of Sacramento. I agree to place material loose on the street only during those times designated by Solid Waste Services. I agree to place my container on the street, not on the sidewalk or in bike lanes. I agree to place my containers three feet apart and six feet from any obstruction.

I _____ want to participate in the KEEP SACRAMENTO CLEAN Yard Waste Collection Program. I am the property owner and I am requesting that you provide my residence at:

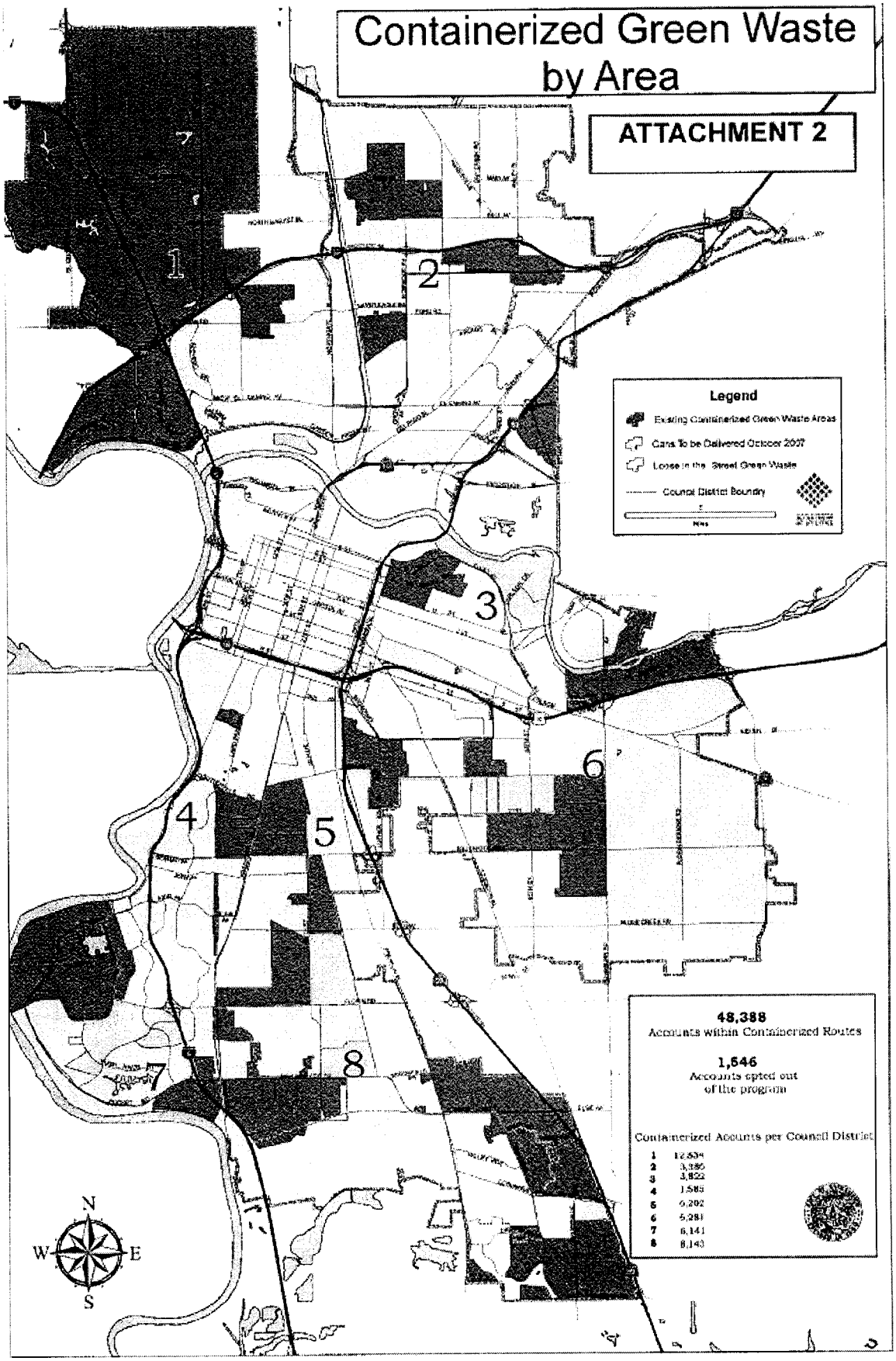
_____

with the designated yard waste container.

_____

Place Stamp Here

Department of Utilities
Solid Waste Services
2812 Meadowview Road
Sacramento, CA 95832


Containerized Green Waste by Area
ATTACHMENT 2
Legend
Existing Containerized Green Waste Areas
Carts To be Delivered October 2007
Loose in the Street Green Waste
Council District Boundry
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
48,388
Accounts within Containerized Routes
1,546
Accounts opted out of the program
Containerized Accounts per Council District
1 12,534
2 3,356
3 3,822
4 1,585
5 6,202
6 6,281
7 6,141
8 8,143
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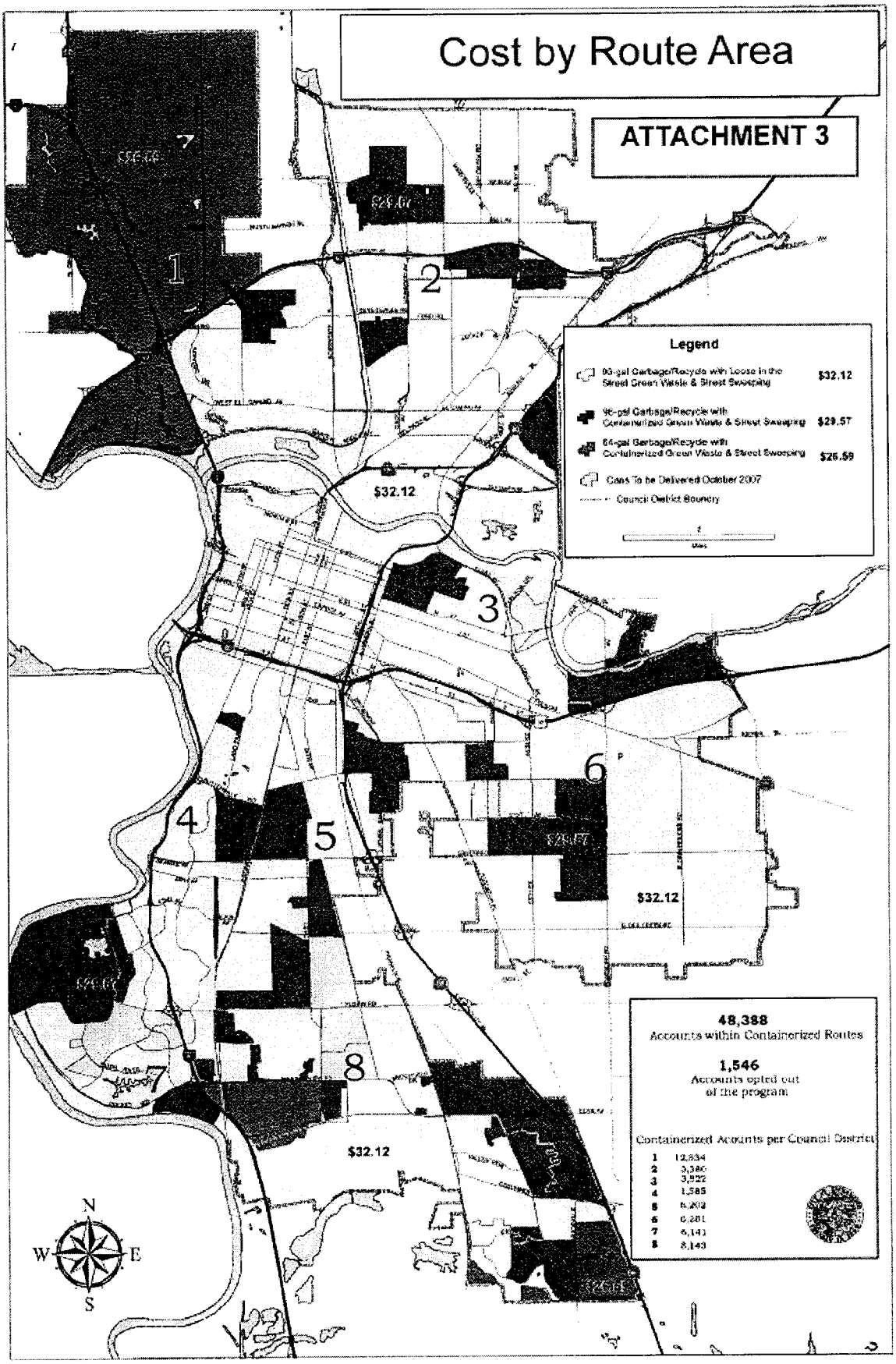
Cost by Route Area
ATTACHMENT 3
Legend
93-gal Garbage/Recycle with Loose in the Street Green Waste & Street Sweeping $32.12
96-gal Garbage/Recycle with Containerized Green Waste & Street Sweeping $29.57
64-gal Garbage/Recycle with Containerized Green Waste & Street Sweeping $26.59
Cans To be Delivered October 2007
Council District Boundary
48,388
Accounts within Containerized Routes
1,546
Accounts opted out of the program
Containerized Accounts per Council District
1 12,834
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$32.12
$29.57
$26.59
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ATTACHMENT 4

DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES
SOLID WASTE SERVICES

CONTAINERIZED GREEN WASTE WORKSHOP
OCTOBER 23, 2007

CONTAINERIZED GREEN WASTE WORKSHOP

As of November 1st 2007:

- A total of 49,934 Residential Customers Received Green Waste Containers.
- 1,546 Green Waste Containers were returned by customers
- A total of 48,388 Residential Customers have Green Waste Containers.

CONTAINERIZED GREEN WASTE WORKSHOP

OUTREACH

- Utility Bill Insert
- 30-Second TV Advertisement
- Community Meetings
- Printed Materials

Containerized Green Waste Workshop

COMMON PROBLEMS

- Not Understanding the Program
- Using the Green Waste Container as Second Trash Container.

CONTAINERIZED GREEN WASTE WORKSHOP

POSITIVE IMPACT ON ENVIRONMENT

- Reduced Piles Lower Risk of Street Flooding
- Reduce Green Waste Going Into Storm Drain
- Bike Lanes are not Blocked
- Lower Frequency of Street Sweeping Due to Less Green Waste Residuals

CONTAINERIZED GREEN WASTE WORKSHOP

THANK YOU

QUESTIONS?

DEPARTMENT OF UTILITIES
SOLID WASTE SERVICES

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CITY OF SACRAMENTO
DEPARTMENT
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