

December 16, 2014

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To: Mayor Lund, City Manager, and all council members;

My Husband (Ken Hughes) and I (Carol Hughes) would like to go on record as being against the single collection garbage plan the city is proposing.

At the original meeting you had regarding this plan, we spoke to 4 different people and got 4 different answers to our questions, so not everyone of you is on the same page, which makes us think nobody knows what's going on or you are trying to put something over on us.

Your main reason to do this was to save on replacing the roads due to damage to them from the garbage trucks. You had some studies there, but I guess I'd say the proof is in the pudding. We have resided in Fridley for over 50 years and the city replaced our roads in 2008, (part of it at our expense), not because they were in poor condition, because they weren't, but because they wanted the same concrete curbing uniformly throughout the city. So this argument doesn't make sense. They talked about all the stopping and starting of all these trucks and the damage that occurs because of that. No matter how many trucks you have through the area, you still only have 3 stops and starts; one for your garbage, one for your recycles, and one for yard waste. That will not change if you have one hauler or 5. (We usually have 3 in our area.) We still only have 3 stops and starts in front of our house.

Another reason was for safety of people walking and kids going to school. I don't think I've ever heard of anyone being run over or even hit by a garbage truck. EVER!!!

Our reasons for not wanting it is it will increase our garbage bill by about 85%. It also takes away our right to choose who we want and our ability to negotiate a price with our hauler.

Please see that all people in the salutation of this letter get a copy. I have enclosed 6 copies for your convenience. Please read this at the next council meeting when this subject is discussed.

Thank you for your time in this matter.

Carol Hughes
Ken Hughes

Carol and Ken Hughes