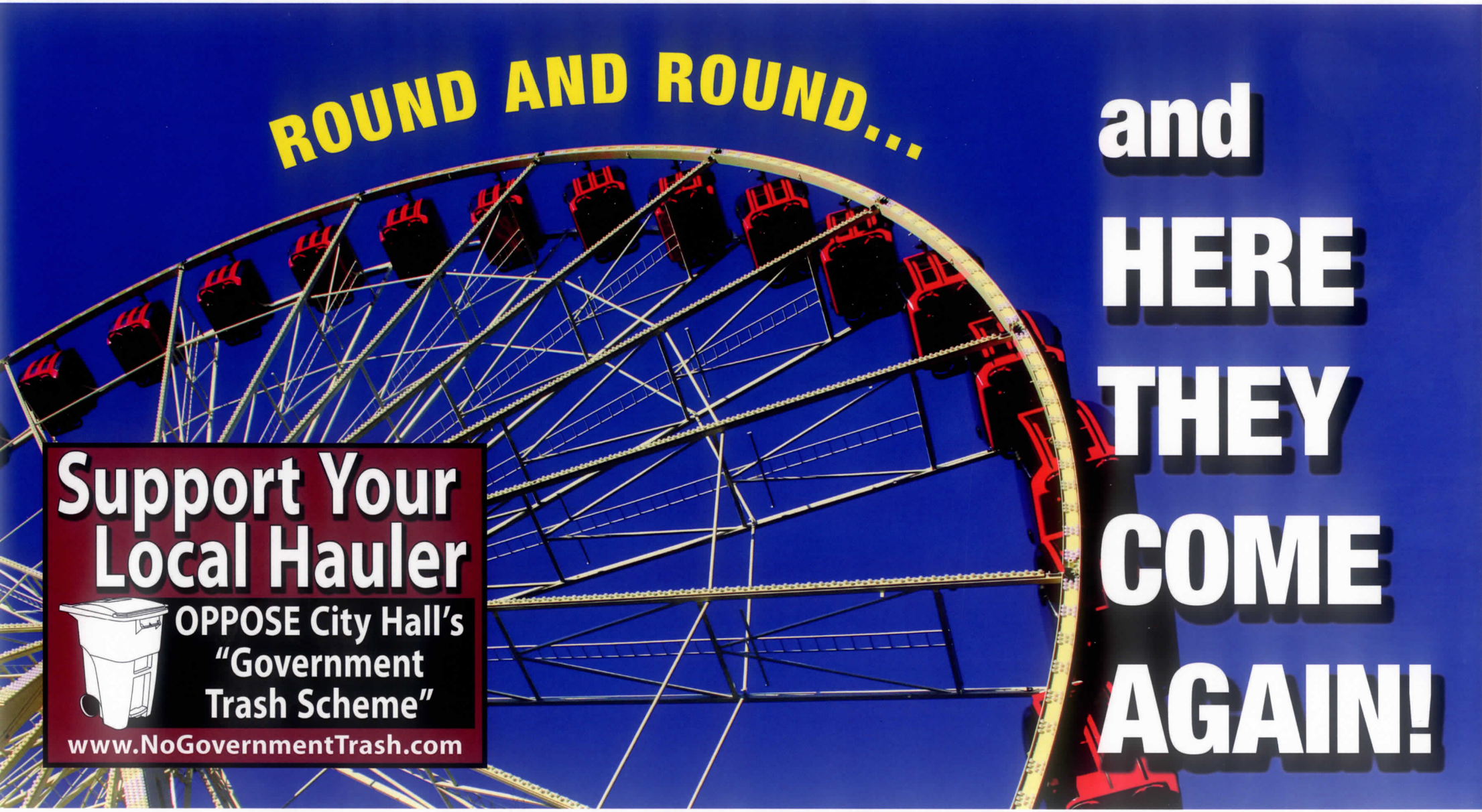
Anoka City Council votes 4-1 to ram through Government Trash Collection before required public vote



The public is invited to join City Council and Haulers on Monday, January 5th at 6:00 p.m., City Hall

Anoka City Council ignores Charter, votes 4-1 to start taking away your rights

Prepared and paid for by
Garbage Haulers for Citizen Choice
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Anoka Residents:

Here we go again. In early December 2025, with NO prior public notice, Mayor Skogquist called a special city council meeting to restart the long and expensive process to institute Government Managed Trash Collection. A scheme to kick out our trusted solid waste haulers in the city and replace them with a city-owned or city-picked hauler from who knows where.

Yes, this is the same scheme that voters rejected twice, after the city council spent more than $100,000 of your money attempting to ram it through.

On Monday, December 15th, the council voted 4-1 to spend more staff time and more of your money to move this forward to a planned November 2026 vote. (Jeff Weaver was the only NO vote.)

So, what has changed?

In short ... nothing. The city readily admitted that nothing has changed since the voters rejected their trash scheme last year. Solid waste trucks are still the safest vehicles on the road, customer service is excellent, and Minnesota winters continue to be the primary cause of road damage.

Why spend another $100,000?

The thinking, as Councilmember Scott put it, is if the city council keeps putting this on the ballot over and over again, they could get lucky and it might pass. Another reason cited was Mayor Skogquist's brother having collected 61 signatures on an online petition in support of government managed trash collection, out of a city population of 18,000.

When questioned by Councilmember Weaver, city staff admitted that they had no clue how much money they spent on this in 2024, and no money has been budgeted for another battle in 2026.

Council Ignores Charter Amendment:

In August 2024, Anoka voters amended the city charter, requiring voter approval before the city council tries to take away your right to choose your own hauler. 74% voted YES.

Today, the city council claims that they can spend your tax dollars and staff time, plus force haulers to give them a price-fixing monopoly agreement, BEFORE calling a public vote.

The city council is making a mockery out of federal laws that have required free market competition for the past 135 years.

What can I do, and how can I speak out to stop this insanity?

1. Attend the public meeting on Monday, January 5, 2026. Starting at 6:00pm, the city council and solid waste haulers will debate the issue. At 7:00pm, the city council will take public comment.

2. Call your city council members and share your thoughts. Erik Skogquist, Sam Scott, Heather Rostad, and Brent Campbell voted YES to move this forward. Jeff Weaver voted NO.

3. Email city manager Greg Lee your thoughts. He will forward your email to all city council members.

Sincerely,

John M. Kysylyczyn
Executive Director
Garbage Haulers for Citizen Choice
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ANOKA CITY OFFICIALS

Mayor Erik Skogquist
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Council Member Brent Campbell
(763) 486-8430

Council Member Heather Rostad
(612) 849-0202

Council Member Sam Scott
(612) 695-5896

Council Member Jeff Weaver
(763) 421-5522

City Manager Greg Lee
glee@ci.anoka.mn.us

You Voted NO on Government-run Trash Collection in 2024 —
THEY DIDN'T LISTEN!

HEAR THE REAL STORY FROM THE HAULERS at
6:00 PM Monday Jan. 5, 2026, Anoka City Hall

The Anoka City Council will hold a regular meeting afterward at 7:00 p.m.
Public comment will be heard. LISTEN AT 6 PM, SPEAK AT 7 PM