

# Single Hauler Resolution of Intent Public Hearing

## Trash, Recycling, and Yard Waste Service

**Council Goal 2.3.C.**

Investigate a single hauler trash, recycling and leaf removal program.



# What We're Doing Here Tonight

- ▶ Public Hearing on Resolution of Intent to consolidate residential trash, recycling, and yard waste.

## Reminders:

- ▶ Tonight is to receive public comments.
- ▶ No decision has been made at this point.
- ▶ No action taken this evening.
- ▶ This process can be stopped at any time.
- ▶ This is a statutory process.
- ▶ Program details are unknown (price, container size, day of week pickup, etc.)

# What is the Resolution of Intent?

- ▶ Required by state statute
- ▶ Official announcement of the City's intent to consider adoption of an organized trash, recycling, and yard waste collection service
- ▶ Provides notice to all "interested persons in the planning and establishment of an organized collection service within the City, including all licensees or other persons operating solid waste or recyclables collection services"
- ▶ Establishes purpose and goals
- ▶ Indicate source of funding for program
  - ▶ Most likely a Solid Waste Fee assessed on residents' property tax bill
- ▶ Information for public engagement
  - ▶ Notice of public meetings
  - ▶ Merriam.org/trashservice
- ▶ Establish a date for the public hearing on the Organized Collection Service Plan
  - ▶ December 9, 2024



# Purpose and Goals

- ▶ Provide the highest level of service to residents
- ▶ Oversight of a predictable contract
- ▶ Decrease resident cost of said services
- ▶ Reduce quantity of trash, recycling, and yard waste trucks from Merriam streets
- ▶ Decrease vehicle emissions, noise pollution, and degradation of city streets
- ▶ Increase public safety through decreased truck traffic throughout the City

# Steps We've Taken to This Point

- June 24, 2024** 2024 Citizen Satisfaction Survey Results Presentation
- July 8, 2024** City Council Directs Staff to Proceed with Single Hauler Process
- July 16, 2024** Notice of Public Hearing and Resolution of Intent Published
- Aug. 26, 2024** Public Hearing on Resolution of Intent to Consolidate
- Ongoing** Public Communication

# 2024 Community Survey Results

Merriam should implement a City-wide contract to provide trash/recycling services.

**36% Strongly Agree**

**29% Agree**

**19% Neutral**

**17% Disagree**

How should we prioritize the initiative?

**21% Highest Priority**

**23% 2<sup>nd</sup> Highest Priority**

**13% 3<sup>rd</sup> Highest Priority**

**43% Lowest Priority**

# Public Communication

## Highlights

### MERRIAM NEWS

#### Community Survey Results Show You Love Merriam

Merriam residents recently completed a community survey to let us know their thoughts about City services and leadership. The feedback helps shape decisions made by City leaders to ensure Merriam continues to thrive for generations to come.

City leaders feel we've built something truly special in Merriam – a place where neighbors look out for each other, our streets buzz with energy, and the spirit of unity runs deep.

We got the survey results back, and you spoke loud and clear – you love Merriam, too!

- 93% of our residents said they were satisfied with the overall quality of City services.
- 92% were satisfied with the overall quality of life in the City.
- 80% were satisfied with the overall value received for tax dollars and

We're so grateful to our community and the opportunity to serve you! You can see full survey results at [merriam.org/survey](http://merriam.org/survey).

#### City Looking into Single Trash Hauler

Based on the 2024 Community Survey results, the City Council is exploring using a single trash hauler in Merriam. A single trash hauler means one trash company would pick up all residents' trash, recycling, and yard waste. The goal is to lower residents' yearly costs for this service and reduce the number of trucks on City streets. City leaders are still in the discussion phase, so here's how to get involved:

**Let Us Know Your Thoughts**

Scan the QR code, or visit [merriam.org/trashservice](http://merriam.org/trashservice) to learn more about single trash haulers, fill out a form to give feedback, and find a timeline of what this process looks like, including next steps and opportunities for public input.

**Attend a Public Hearing**

Join us at the Aug. 26 City Council meeting, where we'll have a public hearing for a resolution of intent to organize collection service.

#### New Cancer Institute at AdventHealth Shawnee Mission

In May, Mayor Bob Pape and City Councilmembers attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony of AdventHealth Shawnee Mission's new \$76 million Cancer Institute. Photo courtesy of Johnson County Post.

MERRIAM HIGHLIGHTS & RECREATION

## Webpage

Home / Residents / My Home / **Trash & Recycling**

### Trash & Recycling

#### City Looking into Single Trash Hauler

Based on the [2024 Community Survey](#) results, the City Council is exploring using a single trash hauler in Merriam. A single trash hauler means one trash company would pick up all residents' trash, recycling, and yard waste. The goal is to lower residents' yearly costs for this service and reduce the number of trucks on City streets.

Currently, residents choose their trash service provider through an approved list and negotiate costs with the company. With a single hauler, the City negotiates and locks in a predictable rate for many years. Every resident would be required to have trash service.

We're still in the discussion phase, so here's how to get involved:

**Let Us Know Your Thoughts**

[Submit Questions or Comments >](#)

#### Tentative Timeline (Subject to Change)

[City Council](#) meetings are held at Merriam City Hall on the second and fourth Monday of each month, beginning at 7 p.m. All meetings are open to the public.

[July 8 City Council Meeting](#)  
Single Hauler Waste Service Discussion | [Presentation \(PDF, 2MB\)](#)

**Aug. 26 City Council Meeting**  
Public Hearing for a Resolution of Intent to Organize Collection Service

**Oct. 14 City Council Meeting**  
Consider adopting the Resolution of Intent to Organize Collection Service

**Dec. 9 City Council Meeting**  
Public Hearing and Consider Organized Collection Service Plan

**April 14, 2025 City Council Meeting**  
First Reading of Ordinance Establishing Organized Collection Service Plan

**April 28, 2025 City Council Meeting**  
Second Reading of Ordinance Establishing Organized Collection Service Plan

## Social Media

City of Merriam, KS - Government  
Published by Jenna Gant  
July 16 at 2:59 PM

#### City Leaders Looking into Single Trash Hauler

City leaders are discussing whether to use one trash company across Merriam. There would be a negotiate rate, and every resident would be under the City's contract for trash service.

The goal of a single trash hauler is to lower residents' yearly costs for this service and reduce the number of trucks on City streets.

Talks for the switch started after the 2024 Community Survey results showed overwhelming support for a single trash hauler.

**Get Involved**

Tell City leaders what you want. You can ask questions or submit comments through an online form at [www.merriam.org/trashservice](http://www.merriam.org/trashservice)

You can also attend a public hearing at the Aug. 26 City Council meeting.

The City Council will determine if they should pass a resolution of intent to organize collection service. Even if the City Council passes a resolution of intent, the City could back out of pursuing a single trash hauler at any time throughout the process.

Learn more and view a tentative timeline at [www.merriam.org/trashservice](http://www.merriam.org/trashservice)



Grow your business by boosting. [Explore how >](#)

[Boost post](#)

NEIC Chamber and 65 others  
41 comments 20 shares



# What We Heard

**188 Responses**

**35% Support Single Hauler**

**21% Conditionally Support Single Hauler**

**20% Do Not Support Single Hauler**

**24% Neutral/Commentary**



# Themes

- ▶ Price
- ▶ Eco
- ▶ Traffic
- ▶ Provider
- ▶ Choice
- ▶ Senior
- ▶ Logistics
- ▶ Yard/Compost
- ▶ Bin Size
- ▶ Recycling

# Next Steps

**Oct. 14, 2024**      **City Council Considers Resolution of Intent to Organize Collection Service**

If the City Council adopts the Resolution of Intent...

**Late 2024**      Staff Develops an Organized Collection Plan (staff recommends a Single Hauler Committee – residents & councilmember representatives)

**Dec. 9, 2024**      City Council Considers the Organized Collection Plan (Public Hearing)

**April 2025**      First and Second Reading of the Ordinance Establishing Organized Collection Plan

**Oct. 2026**      18-month window to terminate individual service contracts expires



# What is an Organized Collection Plan?

- ▶ Public Planning Meetings
- ▶ Staff recommends a Solid Waste Committee to assist in developing the plan
- ▶ Outlines the process and contents for a Request for Proposal
  - ▶ Definition of whom service will be provided to
  - ▶ Expectations for collection – frequency, restrictions, scheduling/routes, etc.
  - ▶ Container management
  - ▶ Customer service expectations
  - ▶ Insurance requirements
  - ▶ Billing expectations - Most likely a Solid Waste Fee assessed on residents' property tax bill
- ▶ RFP Evaluation Criteria
- ▶ Implementation Timeline
- ▶ Detailed justification for program assessments

# Next Steps

**Oct. 14, 2024**      **City Council Considers Resolution of Intent to Organize Collection Service**

**If the City Council adopts the Resolution of Intent...**

**Late 2024**      Staff Develops an Organized Collection Plan (staff recommends a Single Hauler Committee – residents & councilmember representatives)

**Dec. 9, 2024**      City Council Considers the Organized Collection Plan (Public Hearing)

**April 2025**      First and Second Reading of the Ordinance Establishing Organized Collection Plan

**Oct. 2026**      18-month window to terminate individual service contracts expires



**Questions for Staff**

**Conduct Public Hearing**