

Donna Conkling

From: Mayor
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 10:20 AM
To: Donna Conkling
Subject: Fw: Proposed Sanitation Changes

From: Sarah Smith <sarahknappsmith@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 9:52 AM
To: Mayor
Subject: Proposed Sanitation Changes

Mayor Hochvert,

I am writing to express my strong support for two of the sanitation changes currently under consideration, as detailed below.

1) Scarsdale DPW provides residents with a weekly food scrap pickup.

My household has been participating in the food scrap program for a few months now. The amount of food scrap waste that my family of five goes through is astounding, and I suspect most households would experience the same. The fact that this program has a positive use for garbage that would otherwise add to a larger waste management problem is incredible. Participating is low-cost and low-effort EXCEPT for elimination of the bagged food scraps. For a brief period we had to stop participating because my husband and I both work full time and knew we wouldn't be able to drop off our food scrap waste in a timely enough manner. It felt so bad reverting back but we had no choice. And in conversation with local friends on the topic, pickup of the waste seems to be the most significant barrier to them beginning the program. Our children are learning about responsible handling of food waste in schools, and we know this is a better way to handle this waste. Please consider setting an example for surrounding areas and our youth by supporting curbside pickup of this waste and enabling the program to grow.

(2) Shifting from bi-weekly to weekly commingled and paper recycling pickup.

Similar to the food scrap program, I believe that increasing the frequency of commingled and paper recycling pickup will encourage positive recycling behavior. We often have to prioritize trips to the sanitation facility on Saturdays over other things because the amount of recycling we accumulate exceeds what we have room to store over a two-week period. I believe my family's consumption and recycling levels are standard and anecdotally have heard of others with the same issue. I understand this will require recyclables to be brought to the curb, which seems like a very reasonable requirement in order to keep the program cost neutral.

Thank you for everything you do to keep Scarsdale such a wonderful place to live. I am hopeful these will pass and continue to improve our adherence to practices that protect our environment and quality of life overall.

Regards,

Sarah Smith

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