

# MEMORANDUM

Department of Public Works



**DATE:** April 11, 2023

**TO:** Mayor and Council

**THROUGH:** Ashwini Kantak, Acting City Manager *Ashwini Kantak*

**FROM:** Christian Di Renzo, Public Works Director  
Elaine Marshall, Deputy Public Works Director

**SUBJECT:** Neighborhood Clean-Up Program Activity Summary for 2022 and 2023 Schedule

This memorandum provides a summary of the Neighborhood Clean-Up events (aka Dumpster Days) that occurred from May through September 2022 and outlines the schedule for the upcoming 2023 events.

## **Background**

The Neighborhood Clean-Up Program was re-launched in 2021 in collaboration with Milpitas Sanitation INC (MSI), hosting four events at various locations in Milpitas. Due to the COVID-19 Shelter-in-Place Order and changing public health guidelines, staff worked with MSI to design events that could be COVID-compliant and maximize social distancing. In its second year, the Neighborhood Clean-Up Program completed an additional four events, from May 2022 through September 2022.

This report provides an update on the voucher program that was implemented in conjunction with the Neighborhood Clean-Up Program as an alternative option for residents who could not book appointments for the events but were nonetheless interested in being able to haul their materials directly to a landfill facility.

At the June 21, 2022 City Council meeting, the Mayor and City Council approved the assignment of the Franchise Agreement between the City of Milpitas and MSI to Waste Connections, Inc. Both the continuation and expansion of the Neighborhood Clean-Up Program and the landfill vouchers were included as solid waste service enhancements when this assignment of the franchise agreement was approved.

## **Summary of Neighborhood Clean-Ups from 2022**

Four Neighborhood Clean-up events were held on Saturday mornings, from May through September 2022, at Milpitas Community Center, Pearl Zanker Elementary School, and Cardoza Park (two events). The sites were chosen for logistical reasons and to allow for proximity throughout the community, and the events were open to all Milpitas residents, regardless of the type of residence (apartments, mobile homes, etc.). Residents were able to dispose of items such as furniture, appliances, construction and demolition debris, and other bulky items. The City also partnered with the San Jose Conservation Corps to collect E-Waste, mattresses, and tires. Household Hazardous Waste (such as batteries, light bulbs, used paint, etc.) was not accepted.

Outreach for the Neighborhood Clean-Up Days was conducted via social media (Facebook and NextDoor), as well as through Milpitas Matters, Milpitas Connected, and Sustainable Milpitas (e-newsletter).

Residents were asked to register in advance of the event and were assigned a specific 15-minute time slot to dispose of their items. This helped to manage the flow of participants and minimized mass gathering of participants and potential queuing at the event. Staff involvement at the Neighborhood Clean-Up events included verifying Milpitas residency, confirming the resident had an appointment, directing traffic flow and vehicles to specific debris containers, and monitoring materials placed in each bin to ensure no hazardous materials were disposed of during the event.

MSI delivered and removed debris boxes for each of the events and processed all of the material collected. Participation and materials data is itemized below:

Dumpster Day Total Summaries for 2022					
	May	June	Aug	Sept	Total
Residents Served	139	127	135	124	525
Debris Boxes Provided	10	10	10	10	40
Debris Boxes Filled	9	9	10	8	36
Tons of Debris	12.62	14.11	15.18	10.27	52.18
Tires	47	6	72	23	148
Mattresses	43	36	71	33	183
E-Waste (lbs)	3,360	1,128	1,896	1,819	82,03

#### **Upcoming Neighborhood Clean-Ups for 2023**

Due to the popularity of Neighborhood Clean-Ups, six events are being scheduled for 2023 (an increase from the previous four). The dates are:

- May 20
- June 10
- July 15
- August 12
- September 23
- October 14

The format of the Neighborhood Clean-Ups will remain the same with 15-minute slots designated per household. Residents will be able to sign-up via an online link, or by calling the City of Milpitas Solid Waste team at (408) 586-3341 or via email to [MilpitasRecycles@milpitas.gov](mailto:MilpitasRecycles@milpitas.gov). In addition to MSI, the City will continue to partner with the San Jose Conservation Corps for collection of tires, mattresses, and E-waste disposal.

Staff is currently confirming locations for each Clean-Up Day and plans to hold the events at Cardoza Park, Milpitas Community Center, and a Milpitas Unified School District school site. As with past events, outreach for the Neighborhood Clean-Ups will be conducted via social media (Facebook and NextDoor), as well as through Milpitas Matters, Milpitas Connected, and Sustainable Milpitas. Staff is working on the Sign-Up Genius link for 2023 and will post the link to social media about a month prior to each event. Additionally, staff maintains an email interest list of Milpitas residents who want to participate in future Neighborhood Clean-Ups and will email the list when the Sign-Up Genius links are live.

### **Voucher Option**

In conjunction with the Neighborhood Clean-Ups, staff collaborated with MSI to launch a coupon/voucher program as an alternative for residents who need to dispose of large bulky items. The voucher is available to all Milpitas residents, including those living in apartments, condos, mobile homes, etc. This option allows for more flexibility for residents since the vouchers can be used any time that the facility is open.

The voucher program began with a partnership with Mission Trail Waste Systems Transfer Station (MTWS). However, the MTWS facility is not open on the weekends and is thus not a convenient option for many residents. Beginning in 2023, MSI began a partnership with Zanker Road Landfill, which now accepts the vouchers and is a closer and more convenient option for Milpitas residents.

Outreach regarding the availability of vouchers is conducted through the City's social media account on Facebook, through City newsletters, and on the City and MSI websites. Vouchers can be requested by calling the City of Milpitas Solid Waste team at (408) 586-3341 or via email to [MilpitasRecycles@milpitas.gov](mailto:MilpitasRecycles@milpitas.gov).