



**CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS**  
**Committee of the Whole Agenda Communication**

**Meeting Date:** February 8, 2021

**Prepared By:** Ray Forsythe, City Administrator

**Agenda Item:** Recycling Glass Considerations, PDC Services, Inc.

**Explanation:** There have been a few resident recent requests for a follow up on Glass Recycling as the previous discussions resulted in mixed recommendations from Council Members and it was determined that it would be reconsidered once the impact of COVID was better known.

GLASS: The approved contract provides for every other week collection to approved recycling materials. Glass was not included as an approved material because the market is not sufficient to cover the costs of collection and recycling. PDC has provided the following option for Washington Residents to drop off glass at a City owned location:

**GLASS ONLY QUOTE:**

- \$75/month rent for a 25-yard covered roll-off for “glass only” drop-off.
- \$225/pull for each time the glass dumpster is full and needs to be swapped out.
- \$10/ton processing fee. (It will likely have 2 to 3 tons in it).

Estimate: \$330/month for 1 container. If the container fills up more often it would cost an additional \$255 per container during the month. PDC estimates that it could fill 2-3 times per month which would be a total of \$840/month if 3 containers were filled per month or \$10,080/year.

The City would need to provide the location of the drop-off. PDC Recommends a visible location such as Walmart/Menards/Kroeger parking lot or another location central to Washington. Another option would be behind the Police Department near the Street Department facilities.

The City would also have to police and maintain the area. PDC will only haul and drop off the glass dumpster. City Staff would be responsible for disposal of any non-glass materials, waste and household materials that could be left at the site by residents.

**Fiscal Impact:** This additional recycling option is not budgeted. Glass Recycling is estimated at \$840/month, however, it could vary depending on demand. Funds are available in the current budget for a pilot project but would have to be budgeted in the FY 2021/2022 Budget.

**Recommendation:** Staff continues to receive periodic requests to add a local glass recycling option. PDC has indicated that there continues to be residents who place glass in the recycling carts which are disposed of in the landfill as this method of recycling is cost prohibitive. Staff's concerns include the ongoing maintenance of the site and challenges if residents dispose non glass materials at the drop off location and the impact to staffing. The site would need to be well lit and ideally monitored by video surveillance.

**Action Requested:** Discussion by the Committee of the Whole and guidance on establishing a trial glass recycling program.

Date Prepared: 02/05/2021