City of Annapolis
Solid Waste System Changes

“New Trends in Waste Management”
2013 MML Fall Conference
October 18, 2013
Managed Competition For Collection Services

Competition between incumbent City workers and private contractors to provide the following collection services:

- Refuse
- Recycling
- Yard Waste
- Bulk Waste
- White Goods
- Street and Park Cans

Disposal is through Anne Arundel County contracts.
Managed Competition Timeline

- City Council approval to proceed: November 14, 2011
- RFP issued: December 1, 2011
- Proposals received: January 9, 2012
- Evaluation Committee proposal review: Jan 12 – Feb 8, 2012
- Mayor’s budget presentation to City Council: Mar 12, 2012
- Council approval to contract: May 21, 2012
- Transition: September 10, 2012 (20 employees displaced)
System Changes

• Refuse collection decreased from twice per week to one (1) day per week.
  o Increases in recycling had reduced the need for two collections per week
  o Has led to roughly 15% increase in recycling
  o Concerns about increased rodents due to longer storage have not been observed
  o Important to stress the use of a tight-fitting lid on cans
System Changes

- Yard Waste collection increased from every other week to once per week.
  - Successful proposer offered weekly yard waste collection every Wednesday as a cost saving alternative
  - Yard waste must be in a container or sealed bag, or bundled and tied
  - Yard waste is taken to AA County’s Millersville landfill where the product is reused
System Changes

- Curbside leaf vacuuming was eliminated.
  - Leaves were swept to the curb, then collected by City via vacuuming equipment
  - Leaves blew from curbs and often ended up in the storm drain system
  - Unlimited bags and containers of leaves can be put out for the weekly yard waste collection
  - Reduces the nutrient loading on our water bodies.
System Changes

- Bulk waste is collected weekly instead of quarterly.
  - Small bulk waste is placed at the curb for weekly refuse collection.
  - Large items and white goods are collected every Wednesday via call-in appointment.
  - Reduces the outside storage of large items awaiting quarterly collection.
Benefits of System Changes

- Approximate cost savings of 30%
- Monthly recycling tonnage has increased by 15%
- Increased yard waste collections
- Increased bulk waste collections
- Better control of fall leaves, keeping them out of the water bodies
- Improved reuse of the green waste
Disadvantages of System Changes

• Perceived service reduction due to less frequent refuse collection and elimination of leaf vacuuming
• Perceived customer service reduction due to contracting out the collections
Future Enhancements

- Purchase 64-gallon Toters for residential recycling
- Increased public education and outreach, especially to non-English speaking citizens
- Mandatory recycling ordinance
- Pilot project for collection of food waste by an Eastern Shore composting company