



Recommendation for Action

File #: 20-2884, **Agenda Item #:** 4.

8/27/2020

Posting Language

Approve an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 20200409-061 to end the fee waiver for extra trash that is unstickered beginning on September 7, 2020.

Lead Department

Austin Resource Recovery

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is attached.

Prior Council Action:

Council approved Resolution No. 20200326-092 directing the City Manager to identify and evaluate options for reducing utility bill impacts for customers affected by the coronavirus pandemic.

Council approved Ordinance No. 20200409-061 waiving unstickered extra trash fees during the coronavirus pandemic.

For More Information:

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Additional Backup Information:

In response to the Council resolution directing the City Manager to identify and evaluate options for reducing utility bill impacts for customers affected by the coronavirus pandemic, and due to difficulties that residents might experience in purchasing extra trash stickers from grocery stores during this time period, the department waived fees related to extra trash picked up from the curb.

If approved, this ordinance reinstates the fee imposed for extra trash fees. Extra garbage placed at the curb must be handled manually, requiring staff to exit the collection vehicle in order to properly collect and dispose of the bags. This typically is a manageable task. However, the department has seen such a large increase in the number of extra garbage bags, resulting in significant delays in completing scheduled daily collection routes. This increase in garbage requires additional staff time and, as a result, increases the department's costs. The department recommends reinstating the fee to protect the health and safety of ARR operational staff and to cover the costs associated with the large number of bags being left curbside by City of Austin residential customers.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Health and Environment.