



OAK RIDGE CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Virtual

February 16, 2021 - 6:00 PM

AGENDA

I. DISCUSSION ITEM(S)

- a. Briefing on Arcera Shooting and District Attorney's Report - Robin Smith, Oak Ridge Police Chief
[Oak Ridger Article.pdf](#)
- b. Review of Public Comment Process for the Gateway Project - Lauren Gray, Senior Communications Specialist
[Oak Ridge Gateway Sign Virtual Public Meetings.pdf](#)
[OR Gateway_Public Meeting Presentation_DRAFT111.pdf](#)
- c. Review and Discussion of Survey on Solid Waste - Shira McWaters, Public Works Director
[Final Review-Solid Waste and Recycling Survey Report.pdf](#)
- d. Review and Update on City Programs to Address COVID-19 - Mark S. Watson, City Manager
[Covid Reporting Data Feb 3_2021.pdf](#)
- e. Update on Legislative Bills and State Actions - Dr. Amy Fitzgerald, Director of Public Affairs and Information Services
[2021 State Legislative Issues Approved.pdf](#)
[RegionalChambersLegislativeAgenda2021.pdf](#)

II. GENERAL UPDATES

DA: Officers justified in killing man

[Benjamin Pounds](#)

Oakridger



Anderson County District Attorney General David Clark won't be prosecuting the Oak Ridge Police Department officers who shot Oak Ridge resident Fred Arcera, 41, last August.

In his report Monday, Clark stated the officers acted in self defense against Arcera who Clark said had two knives and had tried to attack the officers.

"Police officers are individuals that we trust and invest with special legal authority, including the authority to use force. That force may include lethal force under limited circumstances," he said in the report.

In the report, Clark also expressed sympathy for Arcera, who he said was a military veteran and suffered from mental health issues.

"I cannot help but record my sense of tragedy that these circumstances represent as well as a sense of frustration," he said.

"While Officers (Jeremy) Phillips, (Joseph) Gibson and (Corey) Fritz fired the fatal shots, it was Fred Arcera's mental health problems that killed him.

"One cannot help but wonder if Fred Arcera had received different care or placement, whether he would be alive today and all involved would have been spared the grief and hardship that was caused," the district attorney stated in his report.

Clark gave a detailed account of Arcera's death, which he said was based on information gathered by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation and "other sources." Clark called in the TBI to investigate the fatal

shooting which is customary in shootings involving officers. The details below are from Clark's report based on the TBI investigative materials, reports, and evidence. The TBI collected initial evidence and information from people and agencies on the scene before the TBI arrived, he stated.



Clark said Fred Arcera's father Anthony Arcera dialed 911 at around 9:30 p.m. the night of Aug. 15. Anthony reportedly said his son, Fred, had lunged at him with a knife and was about to commit suicide at 115 Briar Road in Oak Ridge.

The Oak Ridge Fire Department, Police Department and Anderson County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) all came to the house, but the ORPD officers entered first. Three officers, Jeremy Phillips, Joseph Gibson and Corey Fritz, all reportedly arrived at the same time. Another officer, Larry Dowdell, reportedly was on scene for some of the incident and witnessed some of the events, but the report does not say he fired at Arcera. His in-car camera captured some of the events and the open phone line with 911 dispatch recorded some audio as well. Some firefighters also reportedly witnessed the events from further down the street.

Phillips reportedly approached the front porch with Gibson behind him, while Fritz retrieved a first aid kit from a police car.

Clark said Phillips saw Fred Arcera was sitting in a chair inside the home with butcher knives in each hand.

Clark said Phillips' responsibility was to "render the scene safe" so that Arcera could get medical care. So, he told Arcera to drop the knives.

Arcera stood from the chair, raised the knives and stepped toward Phillips while yelling, "Just f---ing kill me."

"There could be no reasonable dispute that Subject Arcera represented an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to Officer Phillips under these circumstances," Clark stated in his report. Clark's report stated Phillips fired two shots but left the house. Clark said it was unclear whether any of these shots hit Arcera.

Fritz, Phillips and Gibson reportedly stayed in the front yard after that point. Inside the home, Fred Arcera had reportedly fallen to the floor after Phillips had fired two shots. He stood back up and told Anthony Arcera, "they are just firing blanks."

"On balance, it seems most likely that Phillips' rounds struck Subject Arcera at least once and that his comment was either the result of his not realizing he had been shot or bravado," Clark said, pointing out later testimony of a bullet hole in Arcera's shirt.

Arcera then reportedly went to the storm door at the front entrance to the house looking out at officers while holding the two butcher knives.

"He appeared to strike at the front door with the knives and was saying something unintelligible," Clark said. Officers repeatedly yelled to Subject Arcera to drop the knives.

After his brief pause at the screen door, Arcera reportedly pushed open the screen door and stepped quickly onto and across the porch as he raised the butcher knives above his head while yelling, "f---ing kill me."

All three officers at the base of the front porch stairs fired their handguns.

Arcera continued across the porch and down the stairs toward the officers as they fired, Clark said. The bullets reportedly appeared to have hit Fred Arcera who fell to the ground.

An autopsy reportedly revealed Arcera died from multiple gunshot wounds. There were a total of 10 gunshot wounds, all traveling from the front to rear of the body. Toxicology revealed the presence of alcohol and alcohol metabolites, THC which is a component of marijuana and THC metabolites, caffeine, nicotine metabolites, trazadone which is a sedative, gabapentin, which is an antiepileptic and anticonvulsant, as well as risperidone, an anti-psychotic and risperidone metabolites.

Clark reported the police fired 13 rounds total based on a comparison between the capacity of the department issued weapons and the remaining rounds found in the firearms. Based on this analysis, Phillips fired six times, Gibson fired four times and Fritz three times. Fritz reportedly thought he fired twice, but Clark said it appears he actually fired three times. Phillips reportedly thought he fired four to six rounds and the evidence indicates he fired six times.

Clark said in the report all of the officers involved were Crisis Intervention Team trained and certified and that none had any history of use of force policy violations or animosity against Arcera. The CIT

training helps officers in dealing with individuals living with mental illness. Area officers began receiving the training following the 2010 shooting death of Eugene Rod Harris by Oak Ridge police. Harris also had mental health issues.

“All three officers were in the zone of danger presented by an advancing subject armed with a knife or knives. All three officers were within their legal right to defend themselves or one another,” Clark said. Clark in the report said Fred Arcera was a military veteran who had suffered from mental health issues. Arcera had reportedly stayed at a Veteran's Administration (VA) facility which released him from in-patient care the Wednesday before his death. His father reportedly traveled to Oak Ridge from North Carolina to be with his son and was worried about his mental condition.

Anthony Arcera reportedly said that his son talked about written messages on streets that were trying to communicate with him when he went for walks earlier that Saturday. Fred Arcera had reportedly swallowed pills from two prescription bottles that Saturday evening and showed his dad cuts on his wrists. Fred Arcera reportedly “lunged” at his father with the two butcher knives after his father tried to offer medical care, Clark reported. However, by the time Anthony Arcera called 911, his son was sitting down, though still holding the knives.

The TBI investigation notably revealed that Subject Arcera’s bedroom contained a plastic bucket containing blood and a knife, Clark said.

Conclusion

Clark stated that Arcera was a military veteran who had deployed to a war zone on behalf of the United States and been injured, although it wasn't clear whether the injury was in combat, the line of duty or by other means — but he was a disabled veteran.

“He was receiving mental health care from the Veteran's Administration, but, at least in hindsight,” it is obvious that his mental health issues were not under control shortly after he was released from in-patient care.

Clark included a statement regarding crime often results from drug addiction, mental illness or a combination of the two and that drug treatment and mental health services are in short supply and rationed because of the supply and great need.

“Anthony Arcera knew his son was in trouble. He believed he had been released from in-patient care too soon and traveled to Oak Ridge to be with him and ultimately take him back to his residence in North Carolina. It is hard to imagine how he could have done more for his son.”

Ben Pounds is a staff reporter for The Oak Ridger. Call him at (865) 441-2317 and follow him on Twitter @Bpoundsjournal. News editor Donna Smith contributed to this story.



Oak Ridge Gateway Sign Virtual Public Meetings

The City of Oak Ridge will hold a series of virtual public input sessions this week on the design of a new Oak Ridge gateway sign visitors and residents will pass on their way into the City.

The sign will be placed on the island between South Illinois Avenue (TN-62) and Bethel Valley Road as drivers come in off the Solway bridge heading toward the City and exit to Oak Ridge National Laboratory and Y-12. There will be two virtual sessions held on Zoom, where people can join and view the designs, ask questions and leave their feedback verbally or in the chat.

The Facebook Live stream will allow people to comment in real-time and the video can also be re-watched following the initial stream and additional comments can continue to be made.

The Zoom meetings are set for the following dates:

- Wednesday, February 17, from 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.
- Thursday, February 18, at 3 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.
- Will be streamed onto the City of Oak Ridge Government Facebook page on February 17 at 9:30 a.m. where it will remain available for comment at any time in the future

The two meetings will be audio- and video-recorded and subtitles will appear on screen for those who are hearing-impaired. The recording will be published on the City's website and captured on Facebook. Information on how to access the Zoom meetings can be found at OakRidgeTN.gov. Designs will be posted on the City website on February 17.

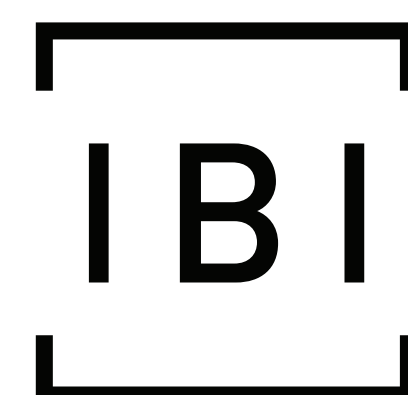
If someone does not have internet access and would like to participate in person, they are asked to contact Lauren Gray in the Oak Ridge City Manager's Office at (865) 425-3576 for assistance. Questions, comments and feedback can also be submitted via email to lgray@oakridgetn.gov by Thursday, February 18.





GATEWAY MONUMENT

FEBRUARY 2021

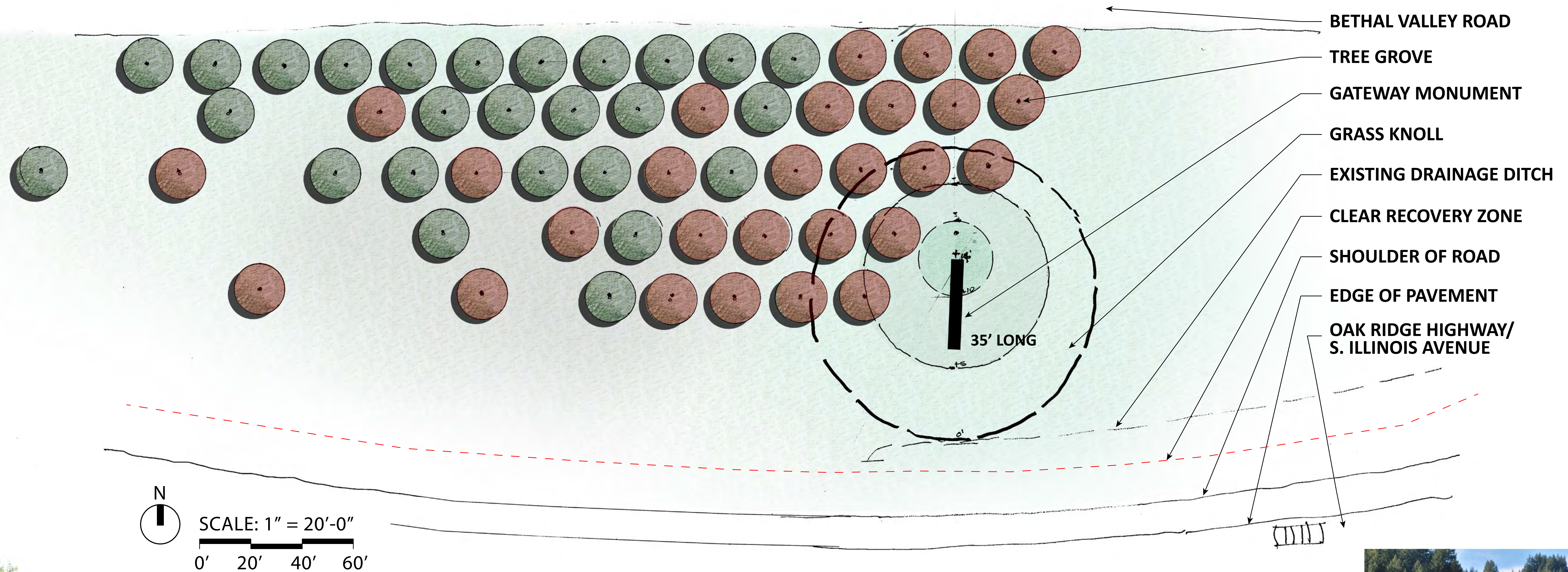


PLACEMAKING





EXISTING SIGN



HIGHTOWER WILLOW OAK



OCTOBER GLORY RED MAPLE

OAK RIDGE GATEWAY MONUMENT

SITE PLAN
FEBRUARY 2021

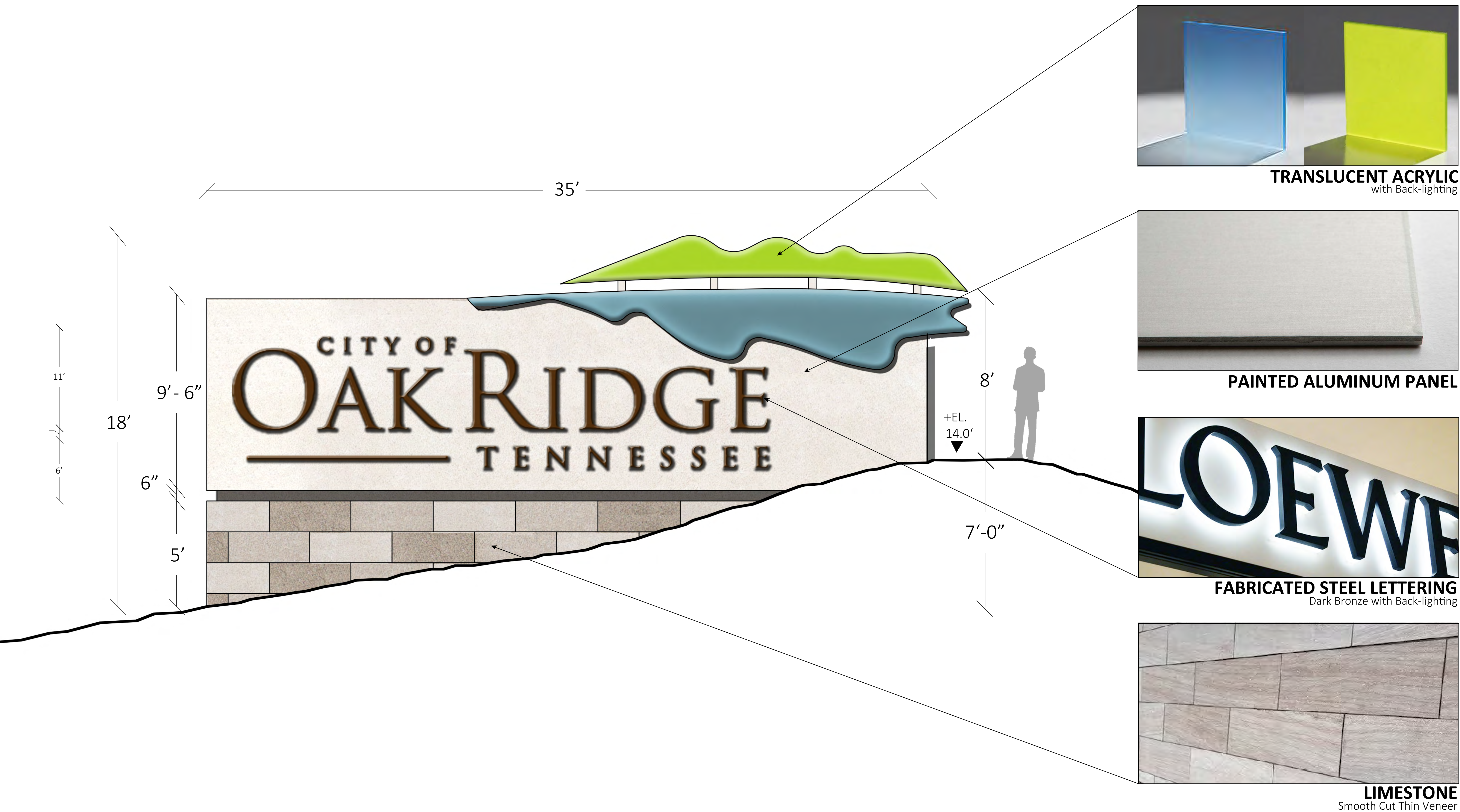
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0' 2'-6" 5' 7'-6"



PLACEMAKING

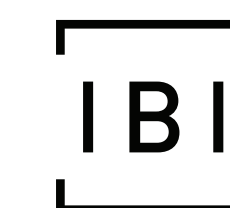
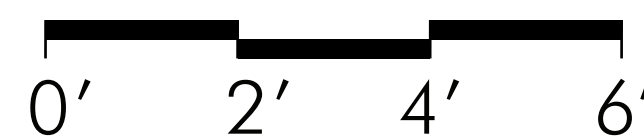




OAK RIDGE GATEWAY MONUMENT

SIGN MATERIALS
FEBRUARY 2021

SCALE: 1"= 2'-0"



PLACEMAKING





WILLOW OAK, *Quercus phellos*



RED MAPLE, *Acer rubrum*



RIVERSTONE



LAWN SOD



EXISTING DRAINAGE DITCH

CLEAR RECOVERY ZONE

EDGE OF SHOULDER

EDGE OF PAVEMENT

OAK RIDGE HIGHWAY/
S. ILLINOIS AVENUE

BETHEL VALLEY ROAD

OAK RIDGE GATEWAY MONUMENT

PERSPECTIVE VIEW
FEBRUARY 2021



PLACEMAKING





Solid Waste and Recycling

Survey Report



Executive Summary

The survey completed is about household trash (solid waste) and recycling services. The goal of the survey is to help the city understand the needs and requests from the citizens of Oak Ridge. This will help to build the foundation of our request in preparation of the proposal for bidding.

The information was collected through a survey with multiple questions regarding current and possible future services associated with solid waste, recycling, and the convenience center, and leaf, brush and bulk trash pickup. The survey was mailed to 300 randomly selected customers. The survey was mailed out in the middle of December with 100 citizens participating.

The survey has five (5) categories. The first category asks specific questions about the household trash pickup. The second is about the recycling program, with specific questions asked. The third category is about the convenience center use, operation and number of days it should be open. The fourth is about leaf and bush pickup. The fifth category is about household bulk and trash, with specific questions asked to gauge these services.

The results of the survey are presented herein.

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Section 1 Household Trash

Several questions were asked so customers could respond regarding household solid waste trash pickup. Questions asked included the following:

- How many bags of trash generated in one week?
- If they take the trash can to the curb.

Results of Survey

The results indicate that the majority of households (80%) generate between one to four bags of garbage per week, with the remaining 20% generating lesser or greater amounts. Based on this information, 95 gallon trash cans are recommended to adequately hold the trash bags until pick up.

Approximately 60% of the survey results indicated that citizens sometimes or always take the trash can to the curb. This is good, since backdoor trash pickup is generally limited to certified handicapped homes in other communities.

Questions were also asked regarding the importance of weekly trash pickup, providing backdoor pickup for certified handicapped homes, continuing backdoor pickup, and costs associated with backdoor pickup for all citizens. The results support the removal of backdoor pickup for all citizens and limit it to only certified handicapped homes. As shown in the tables provided herein, the majority 64% indicated that providing backdoor pickup to certified handicapped homes was very important to somewhat important. Nineteen percent were neutral, neither for nor against, and the remaining 17% indicated it was of least importance or not important.

The weekly pickup of household trash should be continued since it was overwhelmingly considered very important to somewhat important by 96% of the surveys.

Continued backdoor pickup was important to some, 40% of those surveyed. The remaining 60% fell in the neutral (28%) or not important to least important range (32%).

The cost of backdoor pickup was also ranked based on importance. The majority of the surveys viewed the cost of service as very important or somewhat important at 61%. The remaining 39% fell in the neutral category at 29% and not important to least important at 10%. This also supports limited backdoor pickup since most do not want to pay for it.

The results of the household trash survey questions are provided herein.

Survey Results for Household Trash Pickup

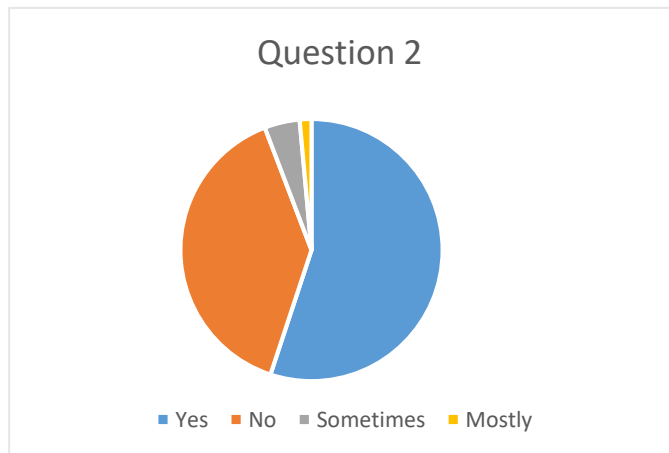
1. How many standard kitchen-sized garbage bags to you generate in one week?

Less than one bag	5	6.17%
1-2 bags	33	40.74%
3-4 bags	33	40.74%
5-6 bags	6	7.41%
Greater than 6 bags	4	4.94%



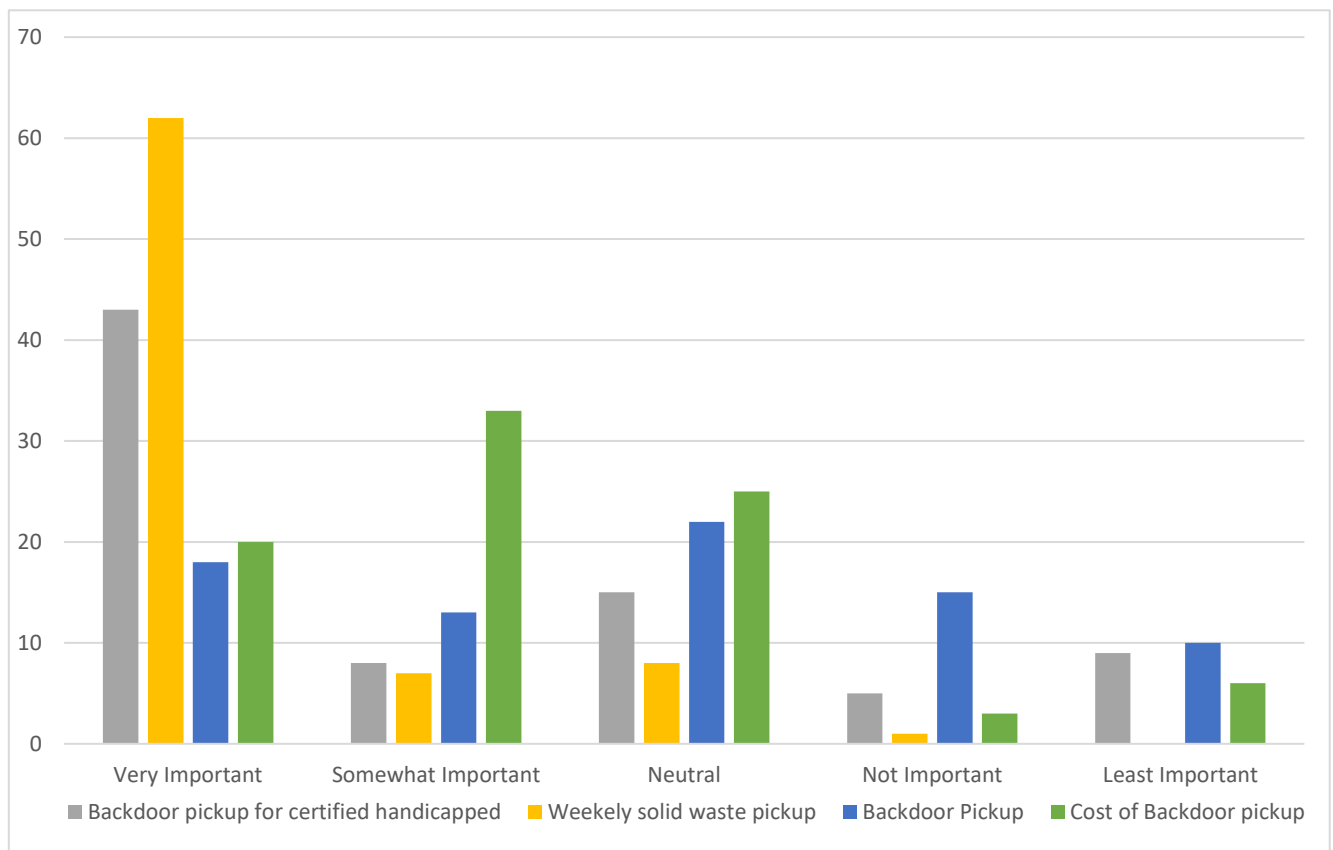
2. Do you take your trash can to the curb?

Yes	38	55.07%
No	27	39.13%
Sometimes	3	4.35%
Mostly	1	1.45%



Please prioritize the importance of the following services:

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral	Not Important	Least Important
Backdoor pickup for certified handicapped	43	8	15	5	9
Weekly solid waste pickup	62	7	8	1	
Backdoor Pickup	18	13	22	15	10
Cost of Backdoor pickup	20	33	25	3	6



Section 2 Recycling

Several questions were asked so customers could respond regarding recycling. Questions asked included the following:

- Do you recycle?
- If they had adequate opportunity to recycle?
- If they filled up the 95 gallon recycling bin on a weekly basis?
- Would you support recycling pickup on a bi-weekly basis?
- Would you support biweekly recycling if it resulted in a savings?
- Would you be interested in the City purchasing equipment to grind glass so it can be recycled?

Survey Results

It is very encouraging to see that 93% of those surveyed recycle and 81% of those think they have adequate opportunity to recycle. This is important, since communities as a whole have a responsibility to recycle to extend the lifespan of existing landfills and protect the environment. There is a direct correlation between the volume recycled and the longevity of landfills.

Approximately 59% of those survey indicate that they do not fill up the 95 gallon recycling bin, while 41% do. This could be due to the size of the household; since a larger household can generate more recyclables than a smaller household.

The majority, 65%, support recycling being picked up bi-weekly and the percentage increased to 79% if it resulted in a savings. The concern with recycling being changed from weekly pickup to bi-weekly is whether or not the households who typically fill the recycling bins would take the recyclable materials to the convenience center or throw it in with their trash, this would ultimately defeat the purpose of recycling.

The removal of glass from the recycle waste stream was upsetting too many Oak Ridge citizens. Approximately 58% support the city purchasing equipment to grind glass. The ground glass, could be used during construction, for bedding material and could be sold to generate revenue. It can be explored to see if grants could be utilized to fund the purchase of this equipment and a cost benefit analysis could be completed to see if grinding of the glass could be performed by the solid waste and recycling contractor.

The results of the survey are provided herein.

Survey Results for Recycling

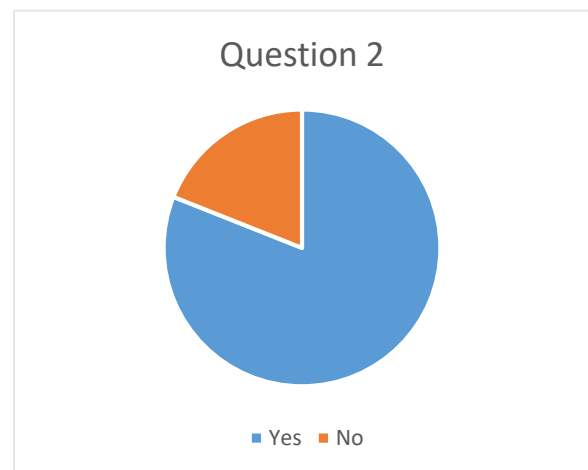
1. Do you recycle?

Yes	76	92.68%
No	6	7.32%



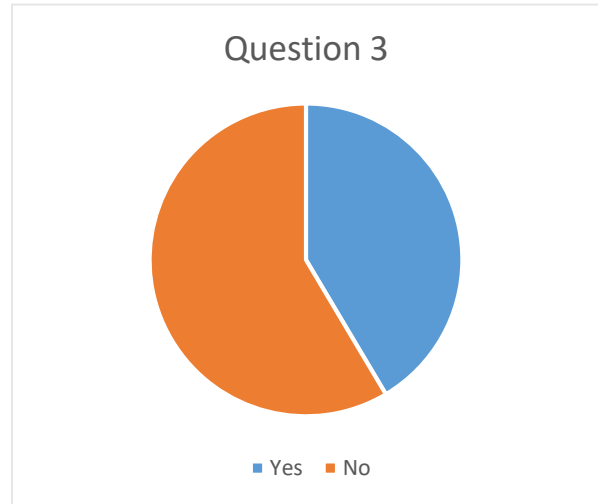
2. In your opinion, do residents have adequate opportunity to recycle?

Yes	64	81.01%
No	15	18.99%



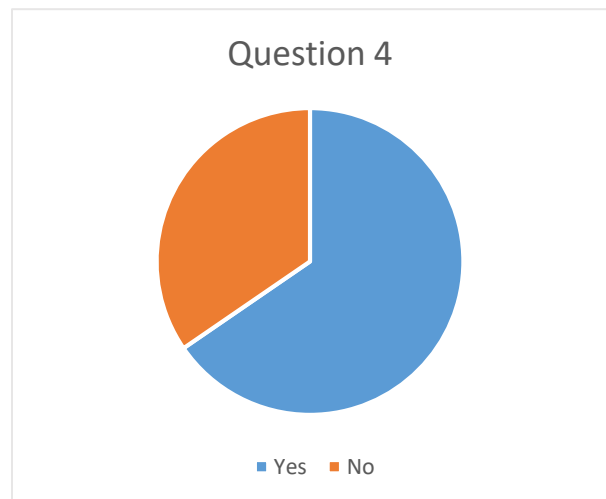
3. Do you generally fill up the recycling bin provided on a weekly basis?

Yes	34	41.46%
No	48	58.54%



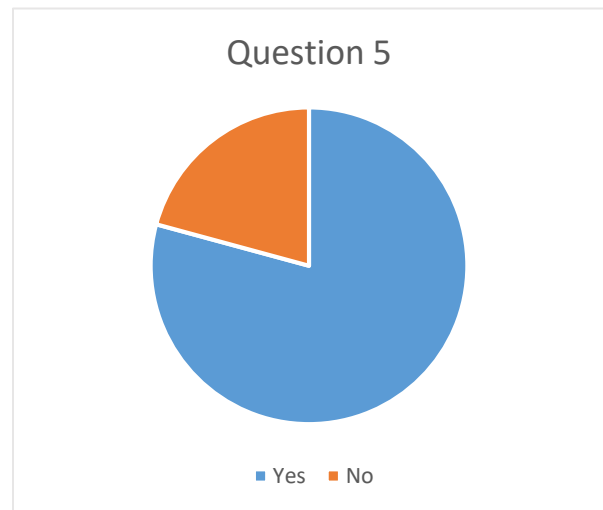
4. Would you support recycling being picked up every other week?

Yes	53	65.43%
No	28	34.57%



5. Would you support recycling being picked up every other week if it resulted in a savings?

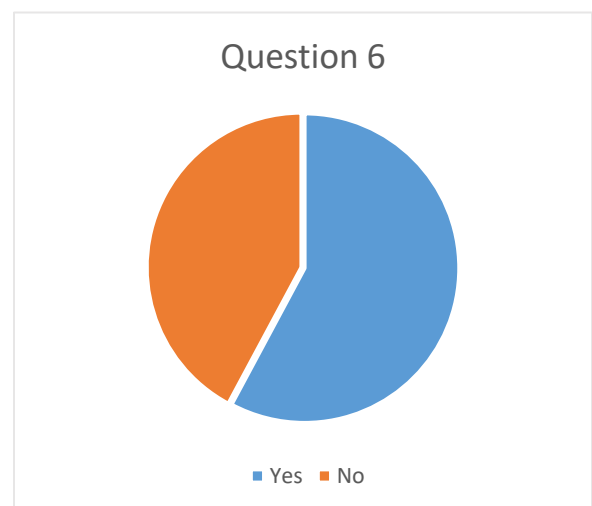
Yes	61	79.22%
No	16	20.78%



Some items that were recycled in the past, such as glass, are no longer recycled due to single-stream recycling, the damage as a result of broken glass on sorting machine equipment, and/or no market demand.

6. Would you be interested in the City purchasing equipment to grind glass into small particles for possible use in sidewalks, bedding material and other construction activities even if this resulted in increased operations cost to the City and subsequently an increased associated fee?

Yes	48	57.83%
No	35	42.17%



Section 3 Convenience Center

Several questions were asked for customers to respond to operation and services the convenience center provides. Questions asked included the following:

- What the convenience center is used for?
- How often they use it?
- How many days should it be open?
- And if they will support reducing the number of days open if it results in savings?

Survey Results

The survey shows that most citizens use the convenience center with only 6% indicating that they do not use this service. The convenience center is primarily used for the disposal of bulk items and yard waste at 38% and 20%, respectively. Approximately 13% use the center for the disposal of all items ranging from household trash to bulk. The remaining 23% indicate they use it for household trash and recycling disposal. This suggests that some of the households that generate more than 4 bags of household trash per week may be taking it to the convenience center for disposal.

With regards to the frequency of use, the majority (63%) indicate they use the center 3 to 4 times annually. Approximately 27% use the center more frequently ranging from greater than once weekly to monthly. Only 10% responded that they have never used the convenience center.

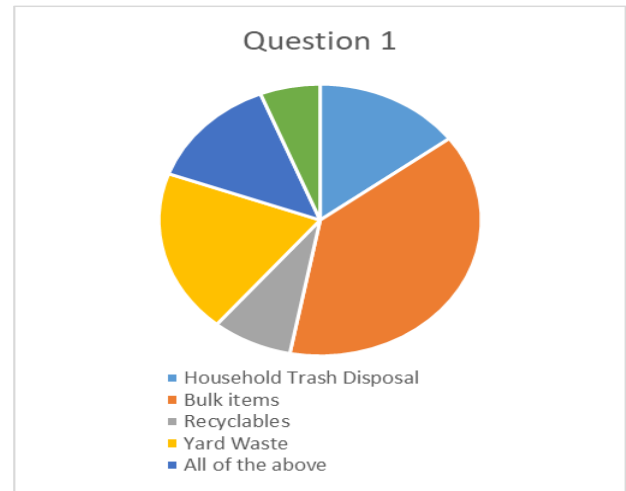
At the present time, the convenience center is open 7 days per week. It is recommended that the center be closed on Sundays since the landfill is closed on Sunday. This would allow time for maintenance work to be completed on equipment. Citizens were asked how often the center should be opened and the majority (86%), indicated 5 to 6 days per week. With 14% suggesting it should be opened 3 days per week. Many of the responses (74%) indicated they would support reduced operation days if it resulted in savings.

Most citizens view the convenience center positively and would continue using it for their needs. The results of the summary are provided herein.

Survey Results for Convenience Center

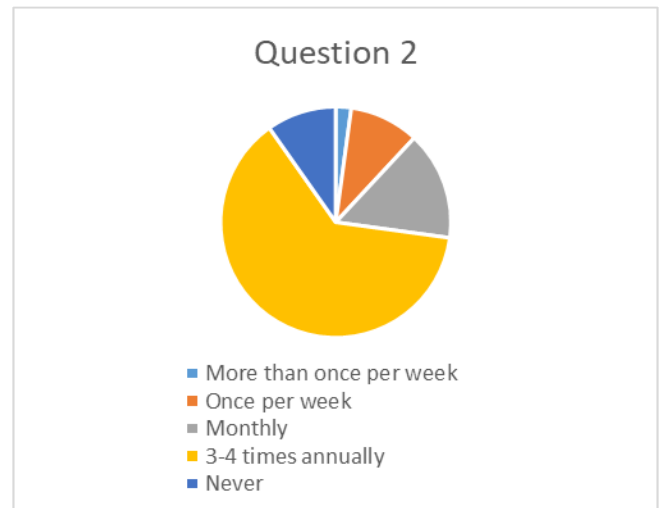
1. What do you use the convenience center for?

Household Trash Disposal	22	14.77%
Bulk items	57	38.26%
Recyclables	12	8.05%
Yard Waste	29	19.46%
All of the above	20	13.42%
Not used	9	6.04%



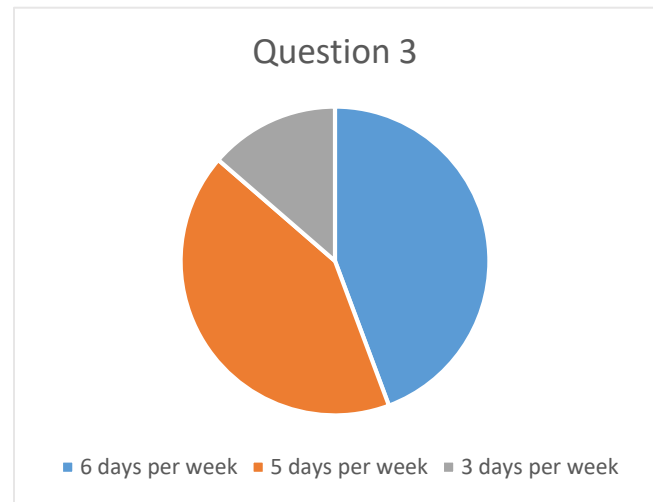
2. How often do you use the convenience center?

More than once per week	2	2.17%
Once per week	9	9.78%
Monthly	14	15.22%
3-4 times annually	58	63.04%
Never	9	9.78%



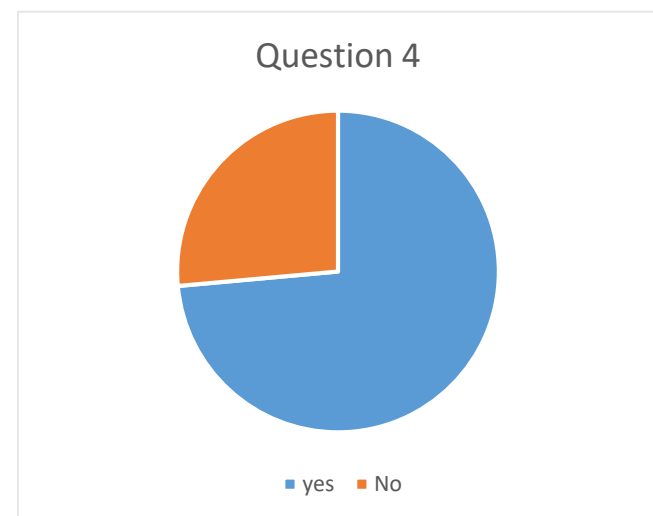
3. How often should the convenience center be opened?

6 days per week	39	44.32%
5 days per week	37	42.05%
3 days per week	12	13.64%



4. Would you support reduced days opened at the convenience center if it resulted saving money on your monthly fee?

yes	64	73.56%
No	23	26.44%



Section 4 Leaf and Brush

Several questions were asked if customers would respond regarding leaf and brush pickup services. Questions asked included the following:

- How important are the services?
- What factors are most important regarding these services?
- Are you interested in increasing these services to twice annually?
- Would you be interested in paying more for these services to be increased annually?
- Have you ever hired a contractor for this service?

Survey Results

It was surprising that 59% surveyed indicated that these services were not important, or they were neutral on these services. The remaining 41% indicated that these services were important to very important.

Timing of the service is most important at 61%, while 30% indicated the frequency of these services as important. The remaining 9% listed other such as:

- Customer do it himself.
- Written notification of the dates.
- Dates not reliable
- Do not use service.

When the question was asked if they would be interested in increasing these services to twice annual 54% indicated they were not interested, with 46% were very interested and somewhat interested in increasing these services.

When asked if they would pay more for these services to be picked up twice annually, the majority, 84% indicated they were not interested.

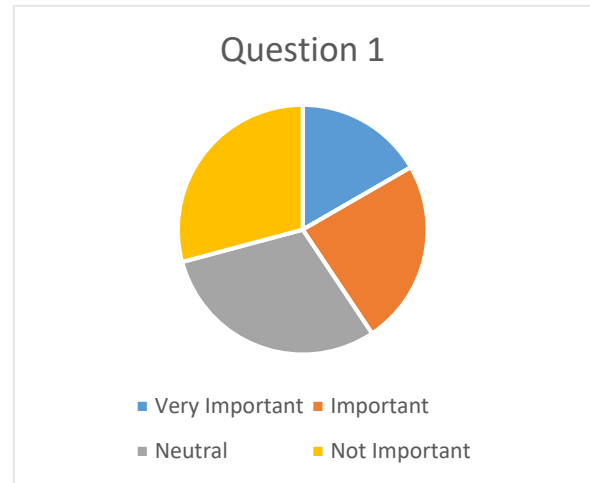
Citizens were also asked if they ever paid a contractor for these services and the majority, 78%, have not.

The results indicate that citizens are interested in getting leaf and brush picked up quicker or at different times during the year rather than increasing the service to twice annually. However, timing and frequency changes resulting in an increased cost changes the dynamics and most citizens are not interested in changes.

Survey Results for Leaf and Brush Pickup

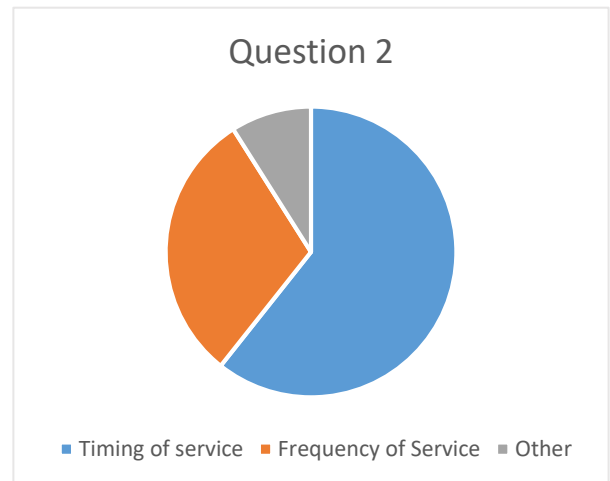
1. How important is leaf and brush pickup for you?

Very Important	16	16.67%
Important	23	23.96%
Neutral	29	30.21%
Not Important	28	29.17%



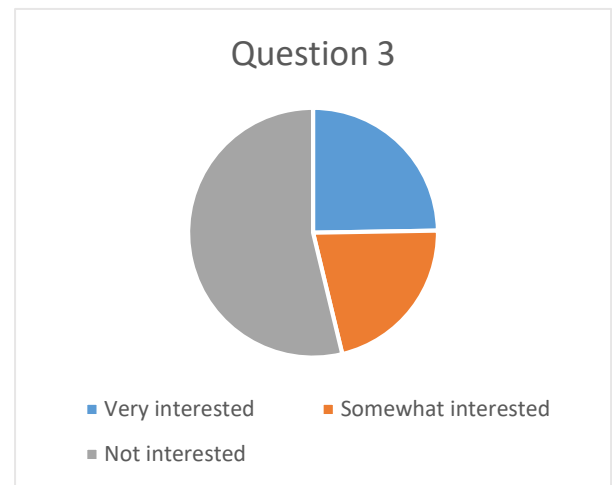
2. What factors are most important to you associated with leaf and brush pickup?

Timing of service	54	60.67%
Frequency of Service	27	30.34%
Other	8	8.99%



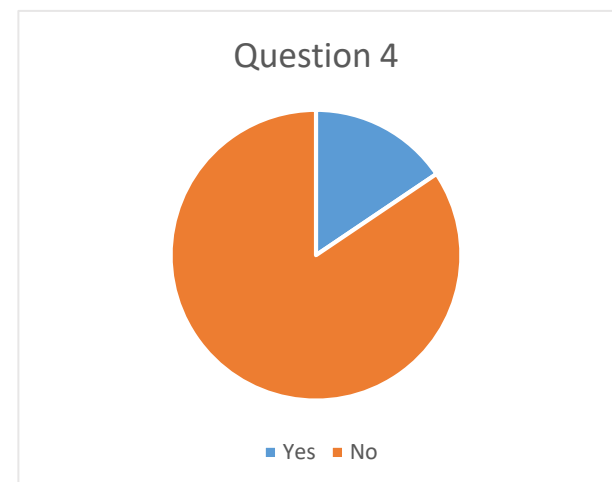
3. How interested are you in increasing this service to twice annually, fall and spring pickup?

Very interested	23	24.73%
Somewhat interested	20	21.51%
Not interested	50	53.76%



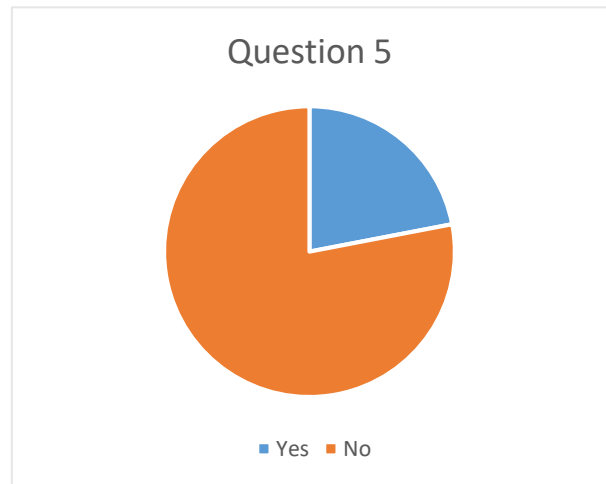
4. Would you pay more to have the pickup more frequently?

Yes	14	15.56%
No	76	84.44%



5. Do you have or have you ever hired your own contractor to complete this work on a pay-as-you-go basis?

Yes	20	21.98%
No	71	78.02%



Section 5 Household Bulk.

Several questions were asked if customers would respond regarding the bulk pickup service. Questions asked included the following:

- How important is the service?
- What factors are most important regarding this service?
- Are you interested in increasing these services to twice annually?
- Would you be interested in paying more for these services to be increased annually?
- Have you ever hired a contractor for this service?

Survey Results

It is an approximately 50/50 split on importance of this service. Approximately 51% responded that this service is very important or important to them. The remaining 49% are neutral or this service is not important to them. The use of the convenience center may be impacting the importance of this service. Bulk items had the highest percentage of disposal at the convenience center. Citizens that bring bulk items may not use or use infrequently the curbside bulk pickup. The citizens that use it may not have means to transport bulky items to the center for disposal, so it is important that they have this annual curbside service.

Surprisingly, the frequency of bulk pickup was ranked as most important rather than timing of service. This is supported by the next survey question asking if they would be interested in increasing this service to twice annually. Approximately 58% surveyed indicated they were very interested or somewhat interested in increasing this service to twice annual. The remaining 42% were not interested.

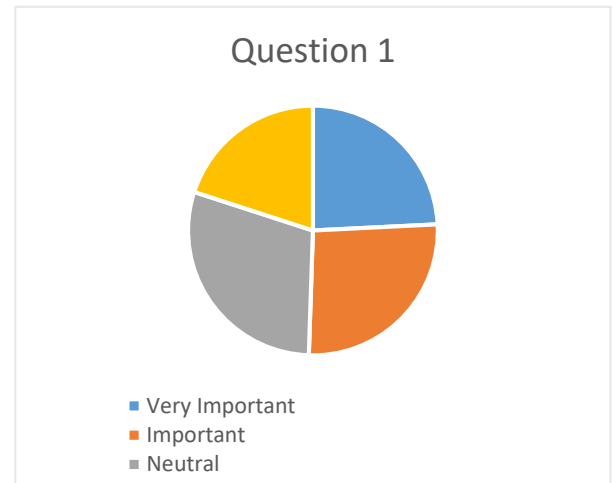
When asked if they would pay more for this service if the frequency was increased, 80%, indicated they would not. Therefore, unless the cost to increase this service had little to no impact on corresponding fees, citizens are not interested.

A question that was asked if anyone has paid a contractor to remove bulk waste and 82% responded they have not. The survey results are provided herein.

Survey Results for Household Bulk

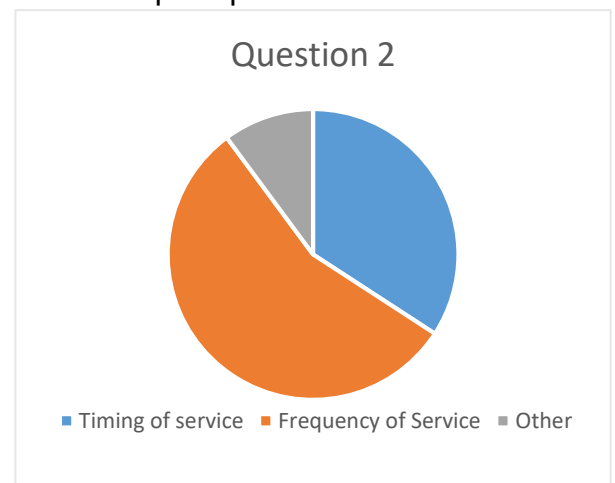
1. How important is bulk pickup for you?

Very Important	23	24.21%
Important	25	26.32%
Neutral	28	29.47%
Not Important	19	20.00%



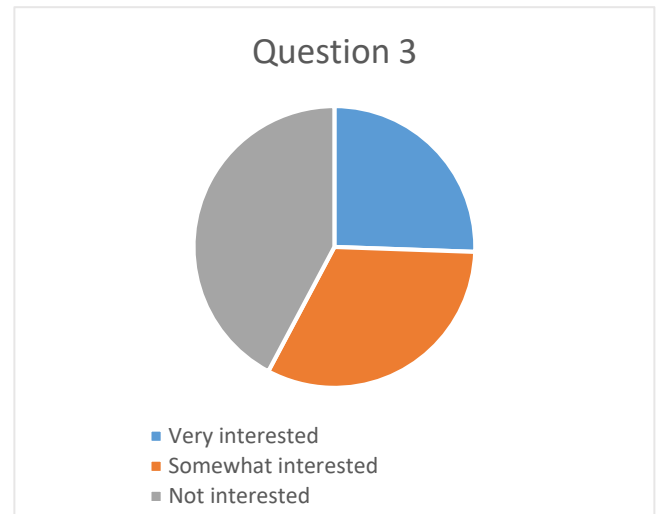
2. What factors are most important to you associated with bulk pickup?

Timing of service	27	34.18%
Frequency of Service	44	55.70%
Other	8	10.13%



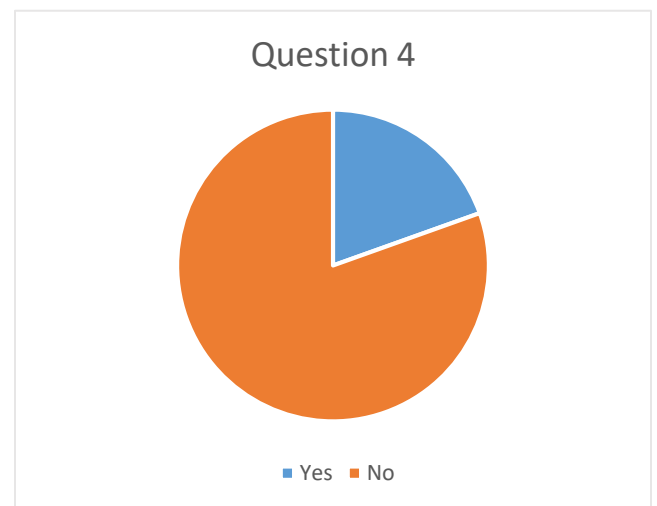
3. How interested are you in increasing this service to twice annually, fall and spring pickup?

Very interested	23	25.56%
Somewhat interested	29	32.22%
Not interested	38	42.22%



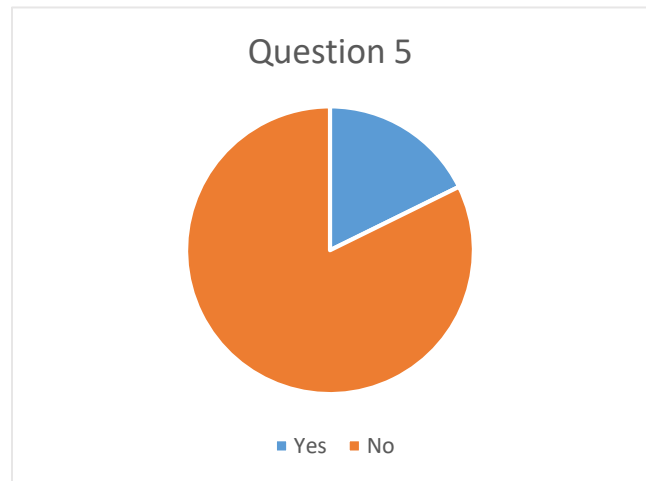
4. Would you pay more to have the pickup more frequently?

Yes	17	19.54%
No	70	80.46%



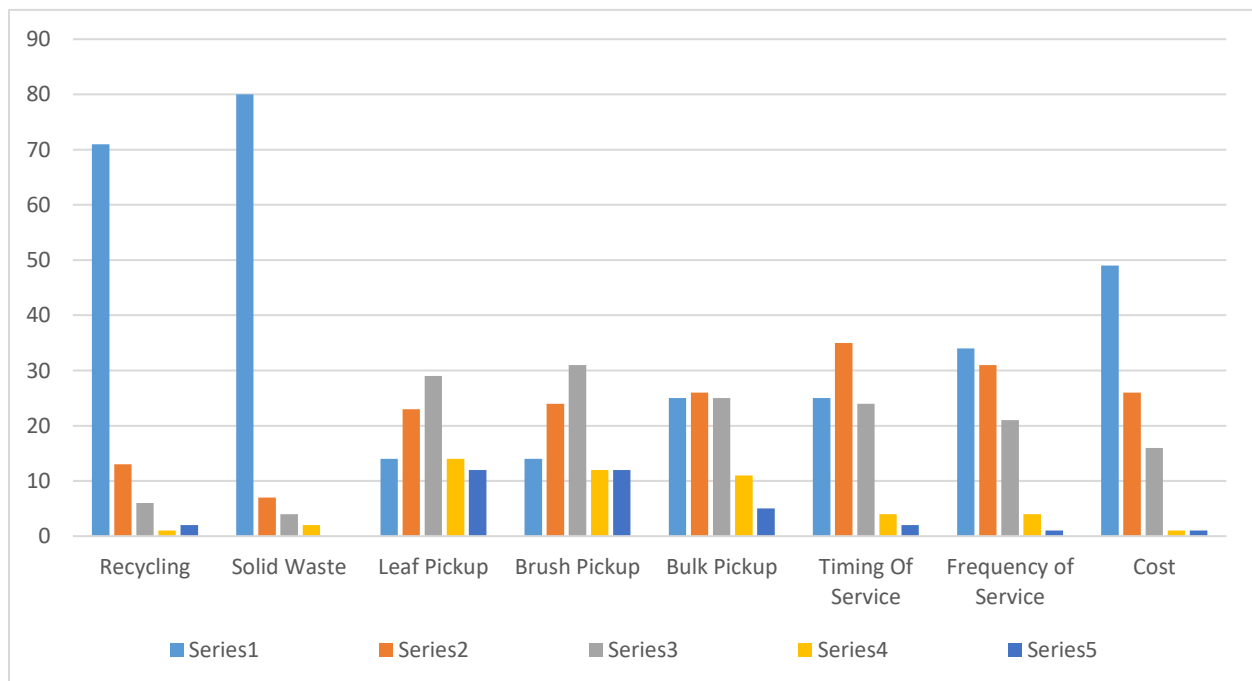
5. Do you have or have you ever hired your own contractor to complete this work on a pay as you go basis?

Yes	14	17.72%
No	65	82.28%



Please prioritize the importance of the following services:

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral	Not important	Less important
Recycling	71	13	6	1	2
Solid Waste	80	7	4	2	
Leaf Pickup	14	23	29	14	12
Brush Pickup	14	24	31	12	12
Bulk Pickup	25	26	25	11	5
Timing Of Service	25	35	24	4	2
Frequency of Service	34	31	21	4	1
Cost	49	26	16	1	1



Section 6 Recommendations

Based on the results of the survey responses, I recommend the following for consideration before bidding the contract for these services:

1. Household trash should be picked up weekly using 95-gallon trash cans. I recommend having two-line items for this service. One will be with the Contractor providing 95-gallon trash cans. The second will be for citizens to provide 95-gallon trash cans. (I believe it is advantageous if the Contractor provides the waste bin, since they will provide bins that are made to be picked up using the equipment on the trucks for disposal). This will likely be easier and more efficient than using different bins with different shapes and sizes.
2. I recommend that household trash pickup be at the curb with the exception of the 3 to 5 percent who are provided backdoor pickup for certified handicapped homes. Providing backdoor pickup service to all citizens is expensive and requires special trucks that can maneuver small driveways.
3. I do not recommend going to bi-weekly recycling pickup. My concern is that this will result in the generation of more trash which contradicts the purpose of recycling. The convenience center is available for recycling, however only a small portion surveyed indicated that they use the center to dispose of recyclables. We would be relying on citizens in the city to commit to bringing excess recyclables to the centers. If excess recyclables are thrown in the trash, it could increase costs associated with the disposal of trash at the landfill.
4. I recommend evaluating the costs associated with the purchase and use of a glass crushing machine. I was pleasantly surprised in the favorable response to this question. An evaluation can be completed in-house to determine costs and how it would impact solid waste fees.
5. I recommend bidding with two operation options for the convenience center. At a minimum it should be closed on Sundays since the landfill is closed. This will provide at least one day for maintenance on equipment at the site. The two bid options recommend are listed below and impacts on the solid waste fee should be determined before awarding.
 - Open 5 days/week Tuesday thru Saturday
 - Open 6 days/week Monday thru Saturday
6. Based on the results of the survey, I recommend continuing with the annual leaf and brush pickup, but changing the timeframe for completion or alternating the area in the City picked up first, second and last.
7. There is an interest in increasing bulk pickup to twice annually. Therefore, I recommend bidding the two options noted below and determining impacts on the solid waste fee before awarding.
 - Once yearly in the spring
 - Spring and fall pickup

It is likely that the cost associated with this service may increase due to several factors including gas and oil costs, landfill disposal costs, recycling center costs, and operational costs when bid. We plan to award to the lowest, qualified bid for a five (5) year contract with four (4) five years renewals. I would like to extend special thanks to Ms. Lauren Grey for helping me prepare questions and working with me to get this out to citizens for their response. I would also like to thank Ms. Gabby Ollis for helping with the tabulation and review of data and in the preparation of this report. Should you have any questions, or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

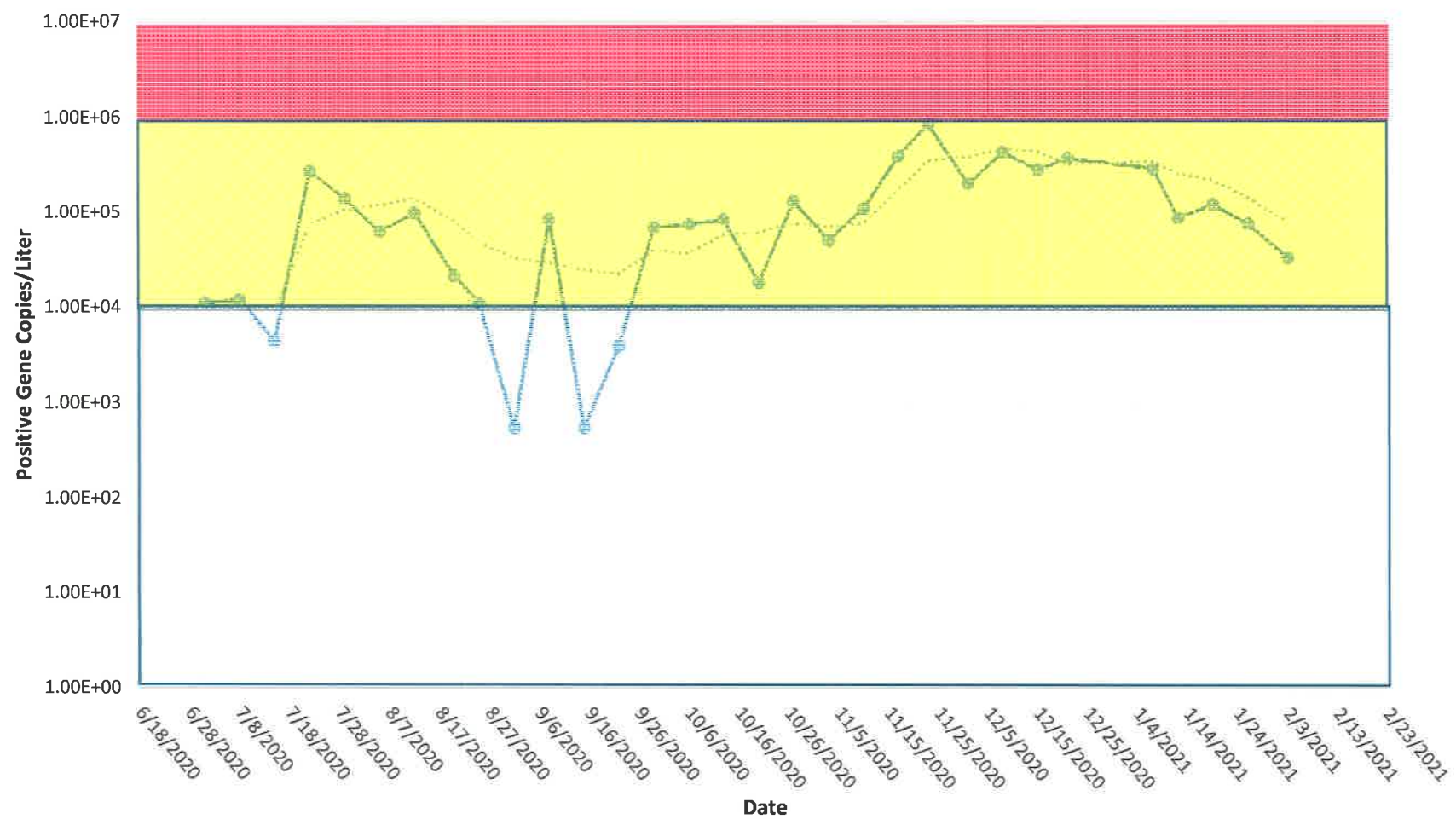
Sincerely,

Shira McWaters, P.E.
Public Works Director

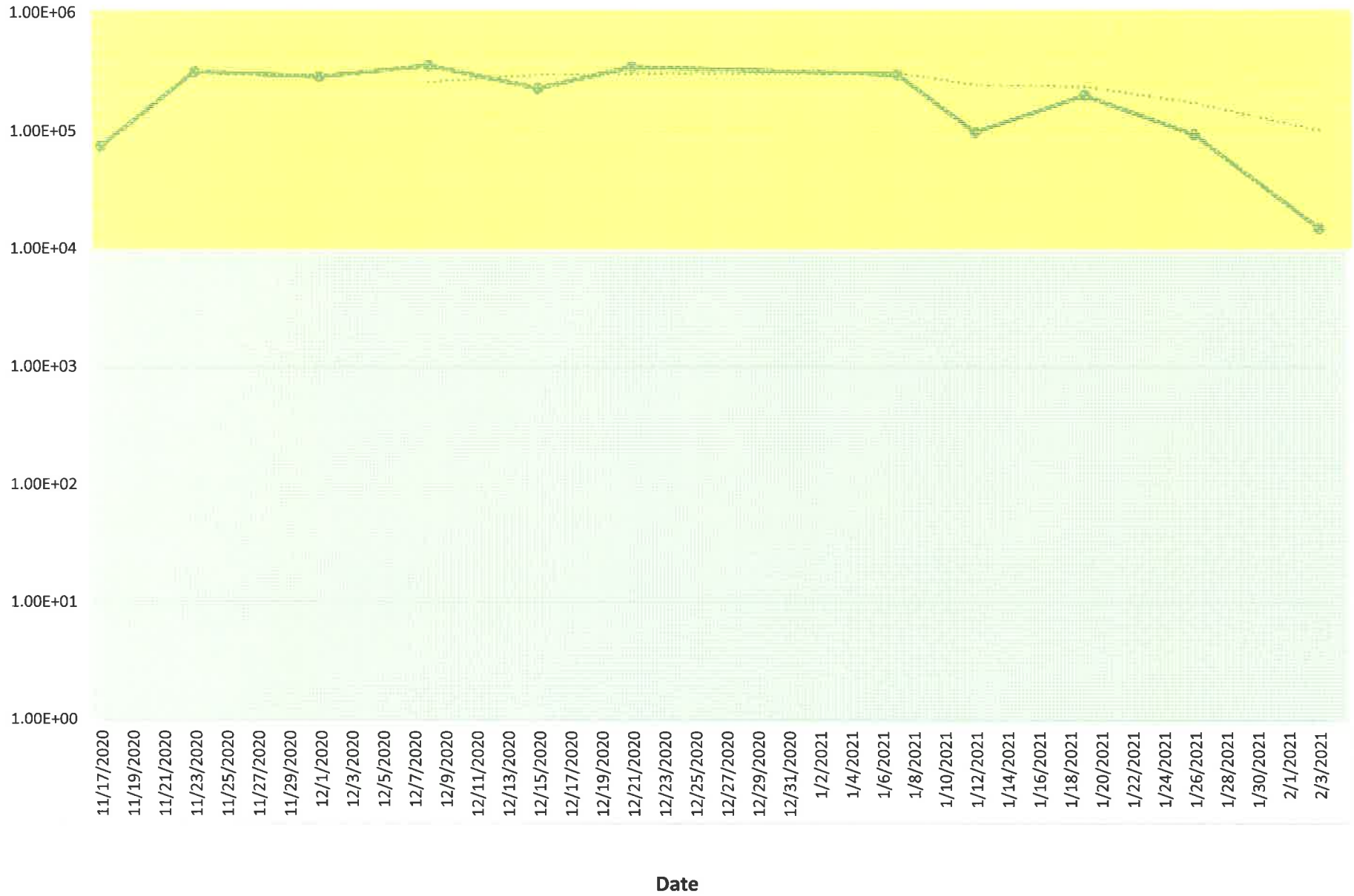
WWTP Covid Data
N Gene Concentration
Positive Gene Particles/Liter

Date	TPWWTP N Gene Concentration	Rarity WWTP N Gene Concentration
7/1/2020	11,000	
7/8/2020	12,000	
7/15/2020	4,400	
7/22/2020	270,000	
7/29/2020	140,000	5,600
8/5/2020	62,000	-
8/12/2020	98,000	-
8/20/2020	21,000	-
8/25/2020	11,000	-
9/1/2020	550	-
9/8/2020	84,000	
9/15/2020	550	
9/22/2020	3,900	
9/29/2020	69,000	
10/6/2020	74,000	8,600
10/13/2020	83,000	-
10/20/2020	18,000	-
10/27/2020	130,000	
11/3/2020	50,000	
11/10/2020	110,000	
11/17/2020	390,000	75,000
11/23/2020	850,000	320,000
12/1/2020	200,000	290,000
12/8/2020	430,000	360,000
12/15/2020	280,000	230,000
12/21/2020	370,000	350,000
1/7/2021	290,000	300,000
1/12/2021	87,000	98,000
1/19/2021	120,000	200,000
1/26/2021	75,000	93,000
2/3/2021	33,000	15,000

**Turtle Park WWTP
SARS-CoV-2
N Gene Concentration
Positive Gene Copies/Liter**



**Rarity Ridge WWTP
Sars-COV-2
N Gene Concentration
Positive Gene Particles/Liter**



Per 100k Population In Tennessee, Roane Co. TN And Anderson Co. TN

Covid

ed February 8, 2021



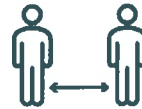
vidactnow.org/



ACT NOW!



WEAR A MASK



STAY 6 FEET APART



AVOID CROWDS

US COVID-19 Cases Caused by Variants

Updated Feb. 8, 2021

[Print](#)

COVID-19

B.1.1.7	690	33
B.1.351	6	3
P.1	3	2

Emerging Variant Cases in the United States*†



B.1.1.7

Number of Cases

0 to 0

1 to 50

101 to 150

201 to 250

Filters

Variant B.1.1.7 ▾

Data Table



Download Data (CSV)

The emerging variants CDC is closely monitoring have mutations in the virus genome that alter the characteristics and cause the virus to act differently in ways that are significant to public health (e.g., causes more severe disease, spreads more easily between humans, requires different treatments, changes the effectiveness of current vaccines). It's important to understand that genetic mutations are expected, and some variants can spread and become predominant while others subside.

To maintain a limited number of colors and allow for an easier comparison between states, the data ranges have changed from 1-40 to 1-50.

*The cases identified above are based on a sampling of SARS-CoV-2-positive specimens and do not represent the total number of B.1.1.7, B.1.351, and P.1 lineage cases that may be circulating in the United States and may not match numbers reported by states, territories, tribes, and local officials.

†Numbers will be updated on Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday by 7:00 pm.

Learn more about [Genomic Surveillance for SARS-CoV-2 Variants](#).

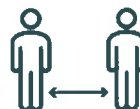
Last Updated Feb. 8, 2021



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P.1	3	2

Emerging Variant Cases in the United States*†



B.1.351

Number of Cases

0 to 0

1 to 50

Filters

Variant B.1.351 ▾

Data Table



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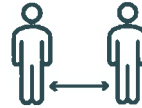
Last Updated Feb. 8, 2021



ACT NOW!



WEAR A MASK



STAY 6 FEET APART



AVOID CROWDS

US COVID-19 Cases Caused by Variants

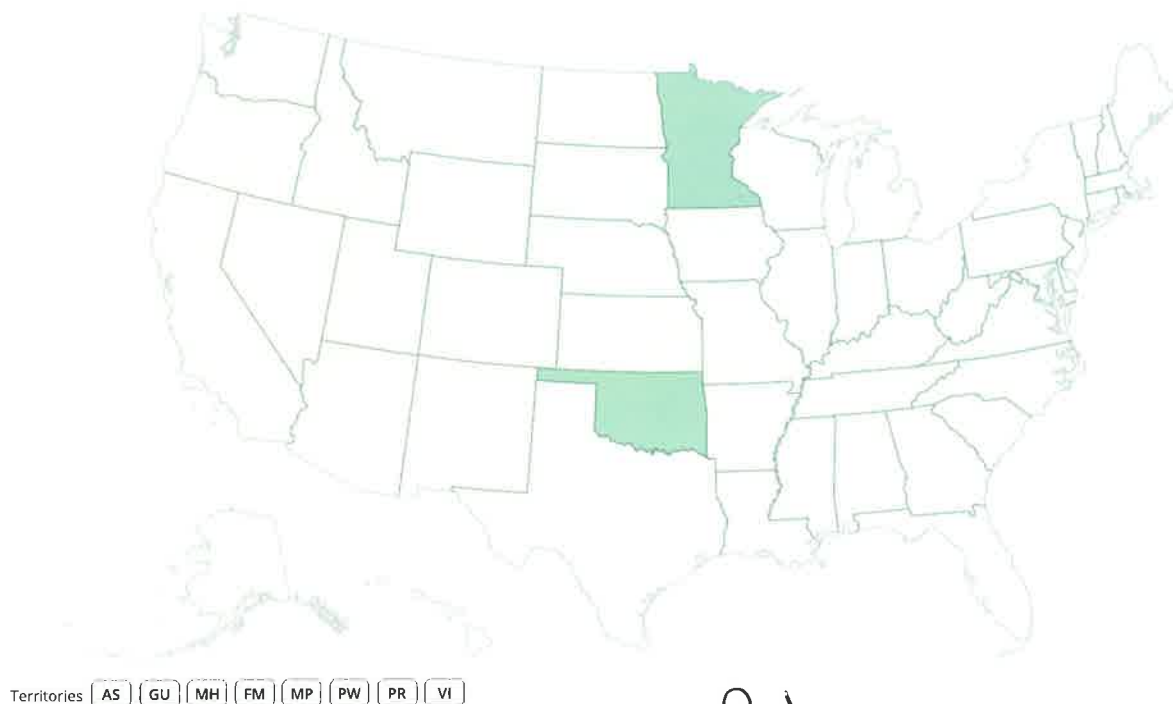
Updated Feb. 8, 2021

[Print](#)

COVID-19

B.1.1.7	690	33
B.1.351	6	3
P.1	3	2

Emerging Variant Cases in the United States*†



Number of Cases

0 to 0

1 to 50

Filters

Variant P.1

Data Table



Download Data (CSV)

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Last Updated Feb. 8, 2021



City of Oak Ridge, Tennessee 2021 State Legislative Agenda

- (1) Continue funding and support for the proposed general aviation airport in Oak Ridge.
- (2) Request that the Tennessee Advisory Council on Intergovernmental Relations (TACIR) work with affected cities to review and recommend reforms to the state's grant management requirements.
- (3) Reform emergency authorities granted to municipal governments so that city officials can make decisions they deem necessary to promote the health and safety of their communities. Such reform should include authority to determine when to hold electronic meetings, and to issue public meeting notices electronically.
- (4) Support funding for the Edgemoor Road construction project, and work with City officials on final designs to incorporate pedestrian and bicycle traffic.
- (5) Ensure Oak Ridge's participation in TDEC decisions related to federal facilities in Oak Ridge.
- (6) Review myriad sales tax exemptions and sunset those which are outdated. Legislative action is especially critical now to help local governments maintain Pre-K-12 education and other essential services.
- (7) Oppose legislation that includes local preemption; require local opt-in/opt-out choice on legislative initiatives, such as the new law authorizing prohibition of smoking on public playgrounds.
- (8) Oppose legislation that forces local governments to take on unfunded mandates/fiscal liabilities.
- (9) Oppose school voucher programs and urge the General Assembly to limit implementation until impacts are systematically examined and mitigated.

2021 **REGIONAL** LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

BLOUNT COUNTY, KNOXVILLE AND OAK RIDGE CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

For three decades the Chambers of Commerce of Oak Ridge, Blount County and Knoxville have worked together to develop a regional legislative agenda to identify state issues of importance and increase job and business growth in the region.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

To attract, retain and expand business in our region, we:

- Support local governments' continued ability to promote economic development and affordable housing through public/private partnerships (TIF, PILOT, and Housing Tax Credits) and encourage the State of Tennessee to promote and support these efforts.
- Support the enhancement of infrastructure and training incentives, and the establishment of technology-driven incentives.
- Support the continuation of Tennessee's Right to Work status.

EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

To ensure a high-quality, capable workforce in the future, we:

- Encourage the State of Tennessee to implement a "Work in Tennessee" initiative to attract skilled and educated workers to our State to meet the needs of our existing and future employers.
- Support continued implementation in elementary, middle and high schools of the TN Ready standards, assessments, and their use in evaluating educators' effectiveness, with the exception of at least the 2020-2021 school year when teachers should be held harmless because of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Support an accountability model for Tennessee school systems that includes a measure of quality career and technical education, including industry-recognized certifications, work-based learning, dual enrollment and post-secondary opportunities, to help reach the state's goal of 55 percent of Tennesseans by 2025 holding post-secondary credentials.
- Support continuation of Tennessee Promise, Tennessee Reconnect and other initiatives that encourage attendance and completion of post-secondary training.
- Advocate for increased funding of public education, particularly to address learning loss resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, lack of Internet access and to eliminate disparities among socioeconomic groups.
- Support targeted assistance and educational opportunities for workers dislocated by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Oppose any state action that would result in mandating the election of school system superintendents.
- Enhance infrastructure and training incentives and establish technology-driving incentives.
- Seek to increase access to quality, affordable childcare.
- Support processes and policies to ensure funds allotted to the state and region through the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act are administered equitably, efficiently, and creatively by the East Tennessee Local Workforce Development Board.

HEALTH CARE

To encourage a healthy workforce while not creating financial burden on employers, we:

- Support health policies, particularly those addressing mental health, substance abuse and addiction, which improve the welfare of the state's workforce.
- Seek to make permanent state law that requires reimbursement of telehealth services at the same rate as in-person services as a method to expand delivery of medical services and close disparities in access to health care.

INFRASTRUCTURE & TRANSPORTATION

To provide the infrastructure needed for business to succeed, we:

- Support efforts at the local, state and federal level to increase investment in wired and wireless broadband networks to improve education, medical care and economic opportunities for all Tennesseans.
- Support efforts to recruit low-cost air carriers to McGhee Tyson Airport.
- Support the efforts to develop the Oak Ridge Airport.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP & SMALL BUSINESS

To create a healthy ecosystem for entrepreneurial growth, we:

- Support restoring state matching funds for award recipients of the federal Small Business Innovation (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs.
- Support allowing local governments to identify business license applications where the applicant has self-identified as a minority owner, where upon verification, allows for the delivery of targeted resources aimed at eliminating disparities.

