

## Joe Kickel

---

**From:** flipcity@att.net  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 11, 2019 6:59 PM  
**To:** Constance Golphin-Johnson; hopesear@sbcglobal.net; John Blackwell; Susan Clement; Cathi Lehn; Carin Miller; Davida Russell; Susan Efroymsen; Kelly Sisko; Joe Kickel; Tony Torres; Collette Clinkscale  
**Cc:** Melissa Yasinow; Susanna Niermann O'Neil; Steve Barker; Sandy Moran  
**Subject:** Re: RRTF

I concur with Hope that more time is needed for us to do justice to our assignment of presenting a set of recommendations that will serve to guide Council and the City Manager in their decisions, and assure residents that all options have been considered on their merits.

Our meetings are brief, and there never seems to be enough time to fully express ourselves. With the utmost respect for the talents and time of all who are serving on this project, I will offer the following observations and thoughts here, rather than in the conference room.

We've spent a great deal of our time educating ourselves about the operations and nuances of refuse and recycling collection, which was necessary and productive. Perhaps we spent more time than necessary looking at details rather than the larger picture, but we are finding our way together. Although we need to pick up the pace of our decision-making, I don't believe that three weeks will be enough time to craft a document we can all stand behind. Both John and Hope have provided reference points for progress. Can we use their two recent e-mails, along with Joe's decision tree, as a framework to check off the major items on our list before then addressing the details?

I encourage everyone to keep in mind the goal of providing exemplary, state-of-the-art services for Cleveland Heights. It is not enough for us to recommend tactics for patching up the worst holes in the system, or for choosing the least expensive options per se. We have the opportunity and the resources to become a leader in forward-looking programs and technologies for refuse and recycling. Our quality of life and identity as a City can only benefit.

One thing that everyone in our community shares is that we all generate garbage! To expect the City to bear full responsibility for this basic fact of life is inappropriate. We've discovered that lax practices on the part of both the City as well as residents have contributed to our challenges. Recognizing shared responsibility is an important doorway to reimagining our future. Yes, there are many factors that are beyond our control, but many of these circumstances are faced by every city in our county, and throughout the nation. If we can effectively educate each other, invite resident participation, foster innovative thinking and provide support for creative approaches and solutions we might be on the leading edge of developing best practices. Sure, we have to patch up the holes, but how great would it be if other cities looked to Cleveland Heights for advice and best practices?

Personally, I would be willing to devote every Thursday evening in the near future to this work, even knowing that I probably won't be able to make it to every single meeting. I will reserve nuts-and-bolt discussions for our meeting tomorrow. In the meantime, Joe has aggregated a whole lot of data about projected costs and scenarios for our review in his email message from this afternoon.

Jordan

On Sep 10, 2019, at 5:33 PM, Hope wright <[hopesear@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hopesear@sbcglobal.net)> wrote:

Hello Everyone,

It might be in our best interest to ask City Council for an extension of the October deadline. Members of this Task Force are trying hard to make the right recommendations, with as much in the way of supporting figures and resources attached as possible. Given what's still lacking in transparency and the charts that still need to be completed in a more thorough process...an extension is warranted. Especially since the contract with Kimble isn't up until later next year.

Is there a specific reason that Council wanted us to complete our directive in such a short time? They have know for quite sometime that equipment needs to be replaced as well as changes that will be forthcoming to the Kimble contract.

Short of getting an extension of at least another month, I would like to see the following happen. I apologise if it bounces around a bit....I think faster than I type!

Thanks in advance for reading this.

Thank everyone for all of your hard work and commitment to this project!

\* Keep the Transfer Station. It's grandfathered in and can't be replaced once it's gone. This is a community of unique needs and circumstances. It's not a "one size fits all" community. We are fortunate to have access to this facility.

\* Make the necessary repairs and updates to the Structure of the Transfer Facility.

\* Automate the Solid Waste/Recycling/Yard Waste pick-up method for Cleveland Heights Residents.

\* Begin to charge a reasonable fee to all business that the Cleveland Heights Refuse department has graciously been retrieving recycling materials from...free of charge. I'd suggest that this fee begin January 1, 2020. Give them ample notice to either stay with our system, or contract privately.

\* Come up with a fee structure and implementation process to deal with customers who do not comply with Cleveland Heights/Cuyahoga County, Solid Waste, Bulk and Recycling procedures. " Compliance Collections" ....these fees need to be collected monthly. Not tacked onto individual taxes or rental property yearly permits.

\* Offer pick-up of small bulk residential cleaning out twice yearly. Spring Cleanup and Fall Cleanup. Residential only... not apartment move outs. In place of this, a "No Fee" drop off of bulk items could be offer at the Transfer Facility, twice yearly. Sort of like the community shred day.

\* Purchase new Automated Trucks on a rotating basis over 5 years. For the immediate future, purchase 2 New Trucks, and Retrofit the two trucks that currently have some life left in them. Then, on a scheduled plan, purchase the additional trucks, to also include the replacement of the 2 trucks previously retrofitted.

\* Still allow for residential pick up of bulk items but by appointment only and with a reasonable fee attached. The fee needs to take into account the cost of type of item, gas, employee, truck use, insurance, etc...paid for in advance. People who want to put dining room chairs out on the tree lawn (or various other items) could still do so. However, the city should not pick them up on trash day. If it's not a specific bulk pickup day...then the residents should be aware that they will have to retrieve the item from the tree lawn. There are a lot of social media resources out there for residents to use to "Recycle" used furniture, clothing, lawnmowers, etc. If a resident doesn't have access to social media, many of the local coffee shops, libraries and community centers have bulliten boards for posting items on. I know we have all enjoyed the wonderful tree lawn treasures that we've found over the years. But the city should not be responsible for disposal of the items on a weekly basis.

\* Purchase the necessary Solid Waste and Recycling bins. Citywide. A complete rollout is needed. Rolling out the program over a long period of time, will make the transition drawn out and perhaps, more difficult to adjust to.

I had considered the possibility of recycling being collected every other week. However, we are a community that is big on recycling. Most do it incorrectly, but with proper education, that will change. So, weekly is best. Besides, there will be a lot of people who will put the cans out every week anyway. It could lead to confusion and extra runs.

\* As a gesture of good will towards the citizens of Cleveland Heights, it might be a good idea to not charge the residents for the first set of new carts. Especially since the \$11.20 monthly fee we pay now, will More than likely be in the \$18-20 a month fee. Replacement carts could come with a fee attached. The carts still will need to be taken care of and belong to CH.

\* Eliminate Refuse and Recycling service to all rental units greater than 4 per building. They can hire a private contractor. This may require an ordinance.

\* Institute an ordinance requiring both residential and rental property move-outs to use a dumpster or bag. It can't be placed on the tree lawn. Bags or dumpsters have a two week limit. Arrangements for pickup need to be made at the time of rental or bag purchase. Renovation of property should also require either a bag or dumpster and a permit with a time limit on how long the bag or dumpster can stay on-site.

I know that the bags are available at Home Depot. However, it would be in the cities best interest to sell the bags. This way they can keep track of each one and ensure the proper placement of the bag on site, as well as the timely pick up of it. I'm not saying that we should pick them up. There's a number on the bag to call for pickup. At least if people have to go through our Refuse department, they can keep track. I would also suggest that anyone using a dumpster have to have a permit and that the refuse department is notified, so that they can keep track of the placement and length of time that the dumpster is on a residential property.

\* Yard Waste....educate the residents.

\* EDUCATION (this will be critical, time consuming and complicated)

Hire a full time person to organize ongoing monthly community education regarding the refuse, yard waste and recycling rules. Especially, during the Spring, Summer and Fall seasons. Notification in the twice a year Cleveland Heights magazine isn't enough.

This person should also be required to see to it that all Business, Realtors and Rental/Property Management companies active in Cleveland Heights, are notified and clear on the rules for Refuse and Recycling...on an ongoing and follow up basis. This person would also be tasked with finding grants to help defray costs associated with anticipated changes to Cleveland Heights Refuse and Recycling, as well as finding ways to involve the community in drop off recycling-wish-cycling events.

Another thought...something in the way of an ordinance needs to be made to require renters and their agents to sign a document stating that they are fully aware and will be compliant with the Refuse and Recycling procedures. A rental agent could even make the expenses of a move-out bag, be deducted from the units security deposit.

There's so much more that I'd like to say...but I think this is enough for now.

Thanks again for reading!

Hope Wright

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)