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Stratham Announces Upcoming Changes to Curbside Collection Program

Town to Move to Automated Collection Program in 2021

The Town's Select Board is pleased to share an update concerning the future of the Town's curbside collection and disposal program. The planning and preparation for this change has included the formation of a resident committee (the Curbside Collection Advisory Committee – CCAC), review of collection and disposal systems, a survey assessing preferences of the community, and finally, a competitive proposal process.

Since proposals were received in late summer and reviewed with the CCAC, staff have worked to refine program details and prepare a new contract. After reviewing proposals, the CCAC and staff unanimously recommended moving forward with our current vendor to offer a new automated curbside collection program. The final program resulting from the competitive proposal process is reflective of feedback, concerns, and ideas of the community and varies significantly from program details proposed during previous consideration.

As gleaned from the public survey conducted by the CCAC, a major driver in the program is the community's commitment to recycling and the desire to ensure recyclable materials are lidded when placed at curbside to prevent debris from littering our community. In addition, an automated option will assist the Town in better absorbing future cost increases by managing labor costs.

Summary of New Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Program

- The new program will include weekly pick-up of both trash and recycling and take place over four collection days (Tuesday through Friday). Our vendor, Casella Waste Management Systems, will own, maintain and deliver the new carts.
- Residents living in single-family homes will receive one 95 gallon cart for trash and one 95 gallon cart for recycling. Residents living in townhomes and condominiums will receive one 65 gallon cart for trash and one 65 gallon cart for recycling. **Residents do not need to take any action to receive these carts.**
- Residents who wish to utilize their own automation-compliant carts (including 32 gallon carts or other sized carts that meet standards for automated collection), can do so as long as they register those carts with the Town's new "Sticker Program". Residents who register their own carts, will not be delivered new carts. Deadline to register to use your own carts is January 5th. See below for more information.

• The Town has been awarded a grant of \$51,200 from The Recycling Partnership due to its commitment to recycling and using lidded recycling carts. This cash grant will directly reduce the Town's collections costs over the course of the 6-year contract with Casella.

Key Dates

All of these dates and more information can be found at www.casella.com/StrathamNH.

- The new Tuesday through Friday collection schedule will begin January 12th.
 - Please visit www.casella.com/StrathamNH to find out your street's collection day.
- Trash and recycling carts will be delivered beginning the week of January 18th.
 - Carts will be delivered with a printed brochure about recycling as well as a calendar of 2021 holidays impacting pick-up days.
- The automated-curbside collection program will begin on **February 2nd**.

Resources and More Information

The Town and Casella have worked to make the information you will need as clear and accessible as possible. In addition to this summary, the following resources are available.

All documents associated with the rollout of the new program can be found at: <u>www.casella.com/Stratham-NH</u>

Casella has created a dedicated phone number for residents of Stratham who have questions or need clarification about the program. **For questions, please call (603) 898 3680**.

At the website, you will find a **Frequently Asked Questions document**, which will provide more information about the program.

For information about recycling receptacles you will no longer need, please see the Frequently Asked questions document.

At the website, you will also find the **Registration Form for the "Sticker Program"** (Privately-owned Cart Use Program).

Program brochures, holiday schedule, and information about recycling can also be found on the website.