



MT. LEBANON
PENNSYLVANIA

January 10, 2014

Thomas Kelley
Public Works Director
Municipality of Mt. Lebanon
710 Washington Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15228

MUNICIPAL BUILDING
710 WASHINGTON ROAD
PITTSBURGH, PA 15228
PHONE (412) 343-3400
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Re: Pay-As-You-Throw Evaluation

Dear Mr. Kelley:

On November 25th the Mt. Lebanon Commission recommended that a panel made up of residents, staff and Environmental Sustainability Board members be convened to evaluate the feasibility and practicality of establishing a Pay-As-You-Throw program for municipal solid waste collection and disposal.

Attached for your information is a policy paper on the Pay-As-You-Throw concept. Also attached is a sheet providing background information leading up to the commission's decision. There is also a brief mission statement and action plan that should be used to guide your efforts.

You should complete your evaluation over the next six months and be prepared to provide your recommendations to the commission during their discussion session on July 15th. To facilitate your efforts we are pursuing a technical assistance grant through the State Department of Environment Protection. If the grant is approved then the engineering firm of Gannett Fleming will be assisting you on the items listed in your action plan.

Public Works Director, Tom Kelley, will be in contact with you to arrange for your first meeting. At your first meeting, please develop a monthly meeting schedule through July 2014 and we will arrange for evening or weekend meeting space in the municipal building.

Thank you for serving on this panel.

Sincerely,

Stephen M. Feller
Municipal Manger

Attachments

Pay As You Throw Evaluation

Background:

In mid-November of 2013 Commission President Matt Kluck, requested Manager Feller to appoint a study panel to evaluate the Municipal Solid Waste and Recycling bids submitted through the SHACOG bid process, and to recommend the most beneficial contract for the community. The panel members included: William Mathews, Kathleen Hrabovsky, Andrew Baram, Andrew McCreery, Keith McGill and Tom Kelley. Members of the panel were provided copies of the bid evaluation document prepared by Tom Kelley along with Pay As You Throw (PAYT) cost/savings estimates prepared by Andrew Baram. The panel met on November 21st and discussed the options provided in the bids and PAYT. The panel made a brief presentation to the commission during the discussion session on November 25th and recommended the contract be awarded to the low bidder Republic Services and that PAYT be evaluated during the first 18 months of the new contract. If at the end of the study PAYT proves to be a beneficial and practical alternative then it will be pursued. The commission recommended that the same panel with an additional member from the community conduct the evaluation of PAYT options. At their adjourned meeting on November 25th 2013 the Mt. Lebanon Commission awarded the solid waste and recycling contract to Republic Services at a five-year cost of \$10,185,000 and reaffirm their intention to continue to investigate Pay As You Throw (PAYT) options over the next 12-18 months.

Panel Members:

William Mathews, Mt Lebanon Resident
Kathleen Hrabovsky, Chairperson, Environmental Sustainability Board
Andrew Baram, Member Environmental Sustainability Board
Andrew McCreery, Finance Director
Keith McGill, Municipal Planner
Edward Reese, Mt. Lebanon Resident
Tom Kelley, Public Works Director

Mission of Advisory Panel on Municipal Solid Waste and Recycling:

Advise the Commission and staff on the feasibility of pursuing PAYT options for Mt. Lebanon.

Action Plan:

- Evaluate current Mt. Lebanon municipal solid waste and recycling program.
 - Current program design and annual cost.
 - Annual recycling performance vs. annual MSW output.
 - Steps and actions that could increase recycling and decrease MSW.

- What is Pay As You Throw and how is it different from our current municipal solid waste collection system?
 - What are the benefits and costs associated with PAYT?
 - What are the barriers to implementing a PAYT program?
 - Is PAYT a good fit for our community?