

March 8, 2007

Dear St. Clair/Macalester/Berkeley/Davern alley-neighbors,

Some people in our neighborhood who share an alley have been getting together to contract with a single garbage hauler, reducing truck traffic and pollution and obtaining group discounts. You may have read about this in recent articles in the Highland Villager. Some neighbors see this as an opportunity to support local "mom and pop" businesses or haulers who send their trash to be recycled into energy at the Resource Recovery facility in Newport (as opposed to sending their trash to landfills).

*If you'd like to decrease the wear and tear on the alley, have fewer trucks wasting diesel fuel, keep your money in the local economy, and reduce the noise and air pollution from unnecessary trucks, please consider joining me in switching to one of the locally-owned and -operating haulers that uses a Resource Recovery facility!*

Here's the current breakdown of haulers used in the stretch of alley we all share:

|                     |   |   |
|---------------------|---|---|
| Eagle/Superior/Onyx | 9 | [These haulers are all owned by French-company Veolia.] |
| Aspen Waste Systems | 5 |   |
| Waste Management    | 3 |   |
| BFI/Allied Waste    | 2 |   |
| Highland Sanitation | 1 |   |
| Pete's Rubbish      | 1 |   |
| Unknown             | 4 | [These homes' bins are unmarked or in garages.]         |

We currently have at least seven different trucks coming down our alley each week, and possibly more, considering the homes with service that is unknown!

I am proposing we get together and make a switch to the same company, one that is family-owned, operates in Minnesota only, uses the Resource Recovery facility, and offers group discounts: **Highland Sanitation**. New customers enjoy two months service free. As you'll see, if at least 15 of our 25 households switch we will also enjoy a group discount. I'll switch first...please consider joining me! I researched local companies and Highland's prices are the most competitive...even lower than my current hauler, Aspen!

Service is offered at a group rate in three container sizes: 35-Gallon (\$9 per month before taxes), 60-Gallon (\$11 per month before taxes) and 90-Gallon (\$13 per month before taxes). If you call to sign up, ask for the "block rate" and mention my name ("Joe"). **NOTE: These prices are for the block rate, which Highland generously offers us now, but assumes at least 60% will participate. The regular rates costs \$3 more, so let's enjoy these exceptional lower rates together!**

**Call 651-458-0043 to sign up or learn more about the company or its service.**

We can only make a difference if a significant number of us switch our service to a single hauler! **Note: If you decide to switch you may need to wait until the end of your current contract; call your hauler and ask them to cancel service at the end of your paid-through date, and set up service to start with Highland Sanitation then. Don't forget to ask for the "block rate" by mentioning my name!**