



## SWACO 2019 Consortium Proposal

### City of Gahanna

March 29, 2018

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#### **Introduction**

Since 2005, SWACO has offered technical assistance to communities interested in working collectively to bid solid waste, recycling, and yard waste collection and disposal services, with the goal of combining the bidding power of multiple communities to obtain improved services at more competitive prices. Gahanna is part of “Consortium #1”, which consists of the cities of Bexley, Dublin, Gahanna, New Albany, Reynoldsburg, and Westerville; and the Townships of Blendon, Mifflin, Plain and Washington.

In 2017, Consortium #1 Communities rebid for trash, recycling, and yard waste collection services. While numerous bid options were made available to potential contractors, only one viable bid was received, at a price higher than the extension price available under the existing contract.

After listening to comments from haulers during the 2017 Consortium #1 bid process, discussing the results with Consortium #1 members, and realizing that the make-up of the Consortiums<sup>1</sup> is a product of when each community joined, SWACO has addressed the task of determining if there are more strategic groupings of the Consortium communities. On January 8, 2018, SWACO published a Request for Information (RFI) seeking input from the hauling industry to identify factors that may lead to more efficient and cost-effective collection services that ultimately result in the highest quality of service at the lowest cost with increased diversion.

SWACO received responses to the RFI from eight (8) waste hauling companies. The primary barriers identified to the bidding process by the haulers included:

- Too many bid options
- Too large of a consortium size
- Non-uniform service requirements by participating consortium communities
- Day of the week limitations for collection services.

It was clear from the RFI responses that bidders want a more simplified approach to bidding where communities are strategically grouped by common services into smaller sized groups, with an improved distribution of collection days. Based upon the recommendations above, SWACO has proposed to reconfigure consortium communities into smaller, more manageable bidding groups. Listed below is the bid plan for your community.

#### **Consortium Grouping**

It is proposed that the City of Gahanna be grouped with the City of Reynoldsburg for the next bid cycle, resulting in just under 20,000 serviced households. This proposal is based upon uniformity of services, number of households, geographic location, and days of the week.

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<sup>1</sup> There are currently 3 Consortiums in Franklin County

## **Current Solid Waste, Recycling, & Yard Waste Provisions**

The City of Gahanna currently has solid waste and recycling collected from each household on Tuesday. Yard waste is collected on Monday. The current waste hauler is Rumpke and the per household per month price is \$16.22 for 2018, with one last option extension year for 2019 at a price of \$16.71 per household per month. Currently, each homeowner provides their own solid waste container and Rumpke provides each household with one 18-gallon recycling bin. A second recycling bin is available upon request.

## **Increasing Recycling, Efficiency, and Community Appearance through Best Practices**

SWACO's goal is to increase recycling and divert Solid Waste from disposal at the landfill. In 2013, New Albany and Plain Township switched from 18-gallon recycling bins to 96-gallon recycling carts and increased average recycling volumes by 27.36% and 35%, respectively.

SWACO's goal is to work with Consortium Communities to move toward a uniform two-cart automated collection system wherever possible. A two-cart system is considered a "best practice" because it increases residential recycling, reduces blowing litter, beautifies communities, reduces worker injuries through automated or semi-automated collection, and significantly improves collection efficiency. In the long run, cart-based collection systems will help to increase recycling and hold down prices to communities due to the increased collection efficiency and fewer worker injuries.

## **Bidding Options**

Two (2) bidding options are proposed for Gahanna & Reynoldsburg. Upon receiving bids for both options, each community will have the ability to choose the best option for their community. The bid options are listed below:

### Option 1

The first bid option requires the waste hauler to provide every household with a 64-gallon recycling cart and provide unlimited solid waste and yard waste collection. Each household will provide their own solid waste and yard waste receptacles. The hauler will collect all municipal solid waste and yard waste left at the curb without limitation.

Bulk pickup (furniture, swing sets, appliances, and other bulky items) will be streamlined by providing an option such as scheduled collections, minimized number or collections per month, etc.

All collection days will remain the same.

### Option 2

The second bid option requires the waste hauler to provide every household with a solid waste cart and a 64-gallon recycling cart. The bids will include pricing for various solid waste cart sizes (35-gal, 64-gal, and 96-gal). Each community may choose to provide their residents with one standard solid waste cart size or provide residents with multiple cart size options. Option 2 is defined as "cart contents only" which means that all solid waste must fit into the collection cart for it to be collected. Solid waste placed on the ground will not be collected by the contractor. If a resident needs additional space for trash, they can move to a larger cart size (if offered by the community) or choose to purchase a second cart.

Bulk pickup (furniture, swing sets, appliances, and other bulky items) will be streamlined by providing an option such as scheduled collections, minimized number or collections per month, or utilizing a monthly fixed collection schedule. (Same as Option 1).

All collection days will remain the same. (Same as Option 1).

As previously indicated, two-cart systems result in improved community appearance and less blowing litter. Many communities conclude that community appearance is significantly improved as a result of adopting a two-cart system.

Without two-cart system:



With two-carts system:



**Contract Provisions**

All bid options will include the following basic provisions:

- 5-year bids to secure the lowest price
- A consistent set of city services included for each community
- Recycling education requirements
- Pricing options for recycling will also be offered to local business and multi-family housing developments, although neither will be required to use the service. The successful bidder will agree to provide recycling to local business and multifamily developments at the bid prices and contract directly with those business and multifamily developments that voluntarily choose to participate in the program.

## **Conclusion**

Bidding services in smaller groups with uniform services and fewer bid options is intended to result in more competitive bid prices. Utilizing best practices such as recycling carts and “cart contents only” solid waste collection will result in more recycling and better community aesthetics.

It is important to note that all solid waste and recycling collection and disposal costs are rising, so despite implementation of these best practices communities could see increased costs when compared to current prices. Nevertheless, moving to smaller consortium sizes with cart-based automated collection is intended to hold down increasing costs with significant benefits to the community.

Gahanna’s participation in Consortium #1 has been successful in obtaining competitive bid prices. The proposal to reorganize communities in Consortium #1 for this round of bidding will assist in bringing uniformity of services for all of Consortium #1 and providing strategic options for future bids to obtain competitive pricing over the next decade.