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Teamsters Local Union No. 120

AFFILIATED WITH THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS
TEAMSTERS JOINT COUNCIL NO. 32

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April 24, 2013

David Herberholz, Director
Division of Solid Waste and Recycling
309 2nd Avenue South, Room 210
Minneapolis, MN 55401

Dear Mr. Herberholz,

Teamsters Local 120 appreciates the opportunity to share our comments on the important issue of Organized Solid Waste Collection in the City of Minneapolis. As you know, the Teamsters insists that if the City issues any Requests for Proposals (RFPs) or contracts for solid waste collection in the Organized Solid Waste Collection Plan, it must include Labor Peace in those documents.

We believe the City has a vested interest in including labor peace in its contract for services of the Organized Solid Waste Plan because it is a proven method of maximizing efficiency by preventing work stoppages during organizing campaigns. Labor peace also requires that disputes surrounding the collective bargaining agreement be submitted to binding arbitration to prevent disruption of services.

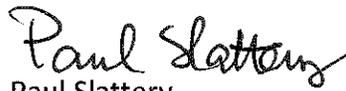
As we have discussed in our recent meetings regarding the City's organized collection system, the possibility of work stoppages would present a serious financial challenge to the City. Finding alternative means of collection would cost the City more money and present serious safety concerns with new and inexperienced drivers on our City streets. The risks of inefficient and inexperienced drivers present a multitude of concerns, including accumulation of waste and the safety of our citizens.

The risk to public health and safety associated with a disruption in the collection of garbage is of paramount importance to the City's residents, visitors and employees. A service disruption would not only affect the marketability of the City, but the accumulation of trash will result in foul odors, the attraction of pests, vermin, and rodents, and increase the potential risk for sickness and communicable disease.

For the reasons cited above, Teamsters Local 120 urges the City of Minneapolis to continue including a labor peace requirement in any request for proposals, contract, or Plan for its Solid Waste Collection.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

TEAMSTERS LOCAL 120



Paul Slattery
Organizer

cc: Heidi Hamilton, Deputy Director, Minneapolis Public Works
Minneapolis City Council Members
Minneapolis Mayor R.T. Rybak
William McCarthy, Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation

PS:sk/opeiu#12