

Craig, Sondra

From: City of La Crosse Notices - No Reply
Sent: Wednesday, February 11, 2026 2:43 PM
To: Craig, Sondra; Elsen, Nikki; Janssen, Barb; Kahlow, Chris; Slezniak, Larry; Trost, Jennifer; Mindel, Mackenzie; Dickinson, Tamra; Goggin, Erin; Steele, Annette; Washington-Spivey, Shaundel; Weston, Lisa; Newberry, Aron; Bedford, Crystal; Padesky, Gary; Stine, Olivia; Northwood, Rosanne
Subject: City Council Contact Form: Questions/Clarification

Submitted on: 2/11/2026

Name: Char Wegner

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Is this related to a legislative agenda item: Yes

Agenda item number: 26-0055 and 26-0061

Subject: Questions/Clarification

I am writing on behalf of Hilltopper Refuse and Recycling, Inc referencing changes in Ordinance #26-0055 and #26-0061. In the fall of 2025, our staff worked with Nick Smaby, City of La Crosse Recycling Coordinator, to resolve concerns with dumpsters and trash/recycling totes in the city Right of Way (ROW) in the downtown area. The majority of the dumpsters and totes were moved to small areas off of the ROW, into areas along the buildings, some I believe were still considered city ROW, but approved by the Recycling Coordinator/City. Our offices have not heard any concerns from the city about dumpsters, so we thought this concern had been resolved.

Last week, we discovered that there is legislation for a permit and fee schedule for any dumpster or trash/recycling tote within city ROW. Some questions we have are:

1. Who is responsible for taking the permit out and paying the fee?
2. Are the areas that were approved by city officials that are considered city ROW, going to be subject to the permit and fees?
3. In the downtown area, there are businesses and residents. Residents who live downtown have two totes (trash and recycling), would each of the totes be subject to annual fee? Example: If an apartment had a 95 gallon trash tote and a 95 gallon recycling tote, the annual fee for both totes would be \$2,000.00? The same would be for businesses, they are required to have a dumpster for trash and another for recycling, if a business had a 2 yard dumpster for trash and 2 yard for recycling, the owners would be responsible for \$2,400.00 per year (\$1,200.00 per container) ?
4. How did the city come up with the fee schedule?
5. How would this be enforced? Example: How would the city identify which container belong to whom?
6. Would the permit fee pro-rated by calendar year?

We are requesting that a decision be tabled for 30 days, and requesting to sit down with city officials to completely understand who is responsible and the logistics of the updates to the ordinance.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Char Wegner
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