

Craig, Sondra

From: J Olson <olsonapartments@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 11:31 PM
To: ZZ Council Members; Reynolds, Mitch
Subject: Large Item Pick Up - needs further amendment

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Dear Council,

I want to thank CM Woodard for offering the budget amendment to restore large item pick up to City services next year, and after speaking with him I understand that the only way he could muster support was to specify September as the month of service provision. I am happy the service is being potentially restored but utterly gobsmacked at why, why you would want the service provided FOUR MONTHS after the point in time thousands of people in community actually need it? Nobody's leases end in the first month of a new school year, 99% end in May and a small handful at the end of July.

This is like scheduling a pregnant woman to see her OB-GYN but not until four months after she gives birth. Or getting a haircut four months after your job interview. Or seeing the dentist four months after your tooth cracked. If your car gets a flat tire, do you wait four months to service it?

I really want to know who thinks the wisest time to provide large item pick up in a college town of 12,000 students is during the first month of the new school year and four months after everyone has moved out. I want to understand how they think this adequately services the needs of the students, and how this helps landlords who are working hard to provide clean, beautiful housing and neighborhoods for these young people and paying in enormous amounts of property taxes that are supposed to be used to support my ability to do business successfully in this community. I drove past the orange thing in Burns park and am disappointed my tax dollars are going towards renting "public art" I don't care to see, but we can't get large item pick up during the month its actually needed and on top of that I'm also supposed to pay new fees to dispose of yard waste next year? This is not good stewardship of the taxpayer dollar. Don't worry I'm not running for Mayor.

My big concern here is that someone specifically wants to choose a month that obviously the service is not going to be used, and the low numbers will be used to justify ripping the service back out of the budget come 2026. At least that seems to be the classic political strategy being attempted.

Since we always compare La Crosse to other communities, if you look at Madison, they provide unlimited pick up during their student move out, which you need to understand Madison has always been 99% Aug 1 to July 31st lease terms, which is different than La Crosse (we are almost all June 1 to mid May):

10:38



If you live in the student move out area, you will not be required to complete a work order for free large items from August 5, 2024 until the morning of Friday, August 23, 2024. Large item collection crews will be roving the student areas during that time.

During this window of time, you will not be required to submit a work order to have couches, chairs, box springs, mattresses, bookshelves, tables, and other free large items picked up from the curb.

If you need a large item picked up after or before this window of time listed above, you must create a work order.

A list of items that may require depending on who collects your recycling can be found on the Large Item page.

If your large item is not listed, and it is also not an electronics item that must be recycled by state law, then it can be collected at the curb without a work order in the student move area during the window of time noted above.

What if you do not live in the student move out area? The normal large item work order requirements still apply.

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And in Milwaukee, there is a similar program to take care of the students during their move out, and they have lease terms on the same time frame as La Crosse. 6 cubic yards is more than the "five item" limit we had currently imposed. It's actually quite a lot:

10:28



UWM REPORT



Here's what to do if you need to unload that heavy furniture or other bulky household items during move-out:

- Regular Garbage [Collection Day](#): 1 cubic yard of bulky items (the size of a recliner) may be put at your regular collection point for pickup on your regular day.
- [Project Clean & Green](#): A city-wide program that offers coordinated clean-up. Collection crews will be near campus from May 17-21 and will collect up to 6 cubic yards per property of unwanted furniture, mattresses or household items, and garden/yard debris in paper yard waste bags.
- Contact DPW for a [Special Pickup](#): Place items at your collection point and then request a special pickup online or call [414-286-2489](tel:414-286-2489). Fee is \$50 for 1-4 cubic yards and \$150 for 4-6 cubic yards.
- Take items to a [Drop Off Center](#): Drop off bulky waste items at a Drop Off Center (fees may apply). You can also dispose of

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And I also wonder about this new fee for the brush site—if you have a small mom and pop local landlord who only owns 2-3 rentals, are they going to have to pay \$1,500 to use the brush site from now on? What if you are an owner-occupied rental and live in one of the units? What about residents who hire the neighbor's kid to help with fall leaf removal because he has extra barrels and a pick up truck? It's just way too easy to blow leaves into the street to avoid having to pay an astronomical fee so you need to make sure you get answers to these questions. The water department can explain what goes horribly wrong with the storm drains when people just shove it all in the street, as what happened under Kabat when the leaf pick up was once a disaster a few years back. I think CM's Happel and Janssen were on Council with me back when that happened and can share what they remember from that time.

Thanks for listening,

Jessica Olson