



21 September 2016

The game changer - less waste, less cost, less time

The City continues to innovate in bulk waste reduction, having recently become the first local government to adopt new technology to recycle compacted verge hard-waste. This is a game changer for the management of waste collected in bulk rubbish collections, and follows the appointment of two new contractors for the collection and disposal of hard waste.

West Tip Waste Control's state-of-the-art Resource Recovery Plant will enable the City to recover all household furniture including white goods and metal products including degassed fridges, stoves and washing machines. These would previously have been deposited in landfill.

The City appointed new disposal contractors, West Tip Waste Control, in the new financial year following a competitive tender process, providing the City access to the new technology.

The City of Nedlands Mayor Max Hipkins said: "the implementation of this new technology is a significant technological and financial achievement for the City.

"The City's waste management service is in a strong position and continues to make savings for the City's ratepayers by achieving cost effective outcomes.

"The competitive tender process for the bulk collection and disposal services has managed to achieve projected savings of approximately \$65,000 (excluding gst) annually, in comparison to last year's budget, due to improved procedures. Residents' waste charges have now remained unchanged since 2013."

The new technology enables the City to separate waste which previously could not be separated. Waste from collection vehicles will undergo an initial inspection at the plant for non-conforming items, followed by a pre-sort procedure where oversized items are extracted. They are then fed into the Resource Recovery plant where it will undergo a multi-stage segregation process.

Using various technology, the resource recovery plant sorts and cleans the mixed waste so that they can be recovered for re-use or recycling, instead of being sent to landfill.

As a result, the process not only saves on disposal costs, but provides for material recovery of high value streams where previously there had been minimal resource recovery. Approximately 765 tonnes of hard waste can now be diverted from landfill and recycled each year. This will put the City a significant step closer towards achieving the state government's 65% diversion target by 2020.

The City has also appointed a second contractor, Cleanaway, to undertake the initial bulk rubbish collection and deliver the items to West Tip Waste Control's site. The new contract will reduce the collection times from eight weeks to a four week period. The reduced collection time is expected to reduce the instances of illegal dumping within the City's boundary as well as improving visual amenity during collections.

The City's latest achievement builds upon previous accomplishments in waste reduction, including the three bin collection system which saw the City become one of the leading metropolitan authorities within the state for resource recovery at source, with a 49% diversion rate.

"The City is one of the top performers in achieving high diversion rates, low waste rate components and strong customer satisfaction outcomes. This new technology will further boost its recovery rates and support the achievement of state government's targets," added Mayor Hipkins.

The bulk collections will start on Monday 14 November and run to Friday 9 December. The City asks all residents to place their bulk collections into five separate piles on the respective verge area one week prior to collection, in accordance with the City's bulk waste collection conditions.

Statistics

- Each year the City collects approximately 900 tonnes of hard-waste and 850 tonnes of green waste from bulk rubbish collections.
- Separate collections for e-waste and mattresses during bulk collection time.
- The City is currently diverting approximately 49% waste from landfill via the green-waste component and 1% from e-waste and mattresses.
- A further 50% of the bulk hard waste has been deposited in landfill to date.

ENDS

About the City of Nedlands

The City of Nedlands is situated 7km from Perth and stretches from the banks of the Swan River to the edge of the Indian Ocean. A population of over 21,000 live in the suburbs of Nedlands, Dalkeith, Mt Claremont, Swanbourne, Karrakatta, and parts of Floreat and Shenton Park.

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