



CONSOLIDATED COLLECTION EVALUATION

Public Works Commission
April 21, 2021

Study of Franchise Model: Conducted by our consultant Gershman, Brickner, and Bratton Inc. (GBB) on behalf of the City of Burlington, and South Burlington.

Study of Municipal Model: Conducted by DPW staff evaluating the creation of a municipally-operated consolidated collection program.

- ▶ There are many ways communities coordinate the collection of trash, recyclables and food scraps.
- ▶ In our City, individual residential property owners subscribe with a local hauler for solid waste services or bring their trash to one of the County's Drop-Off Centers.
- ▶ According to a survey of 461 communities nationwide, this subscription arrangement occurs only in approximately 11% of communities.
- ▶ Consolidated collection, on the other hand, is the much more common approach with 83% of the communities having the municipality either collecting waste streams itself or contracting with private haulers.

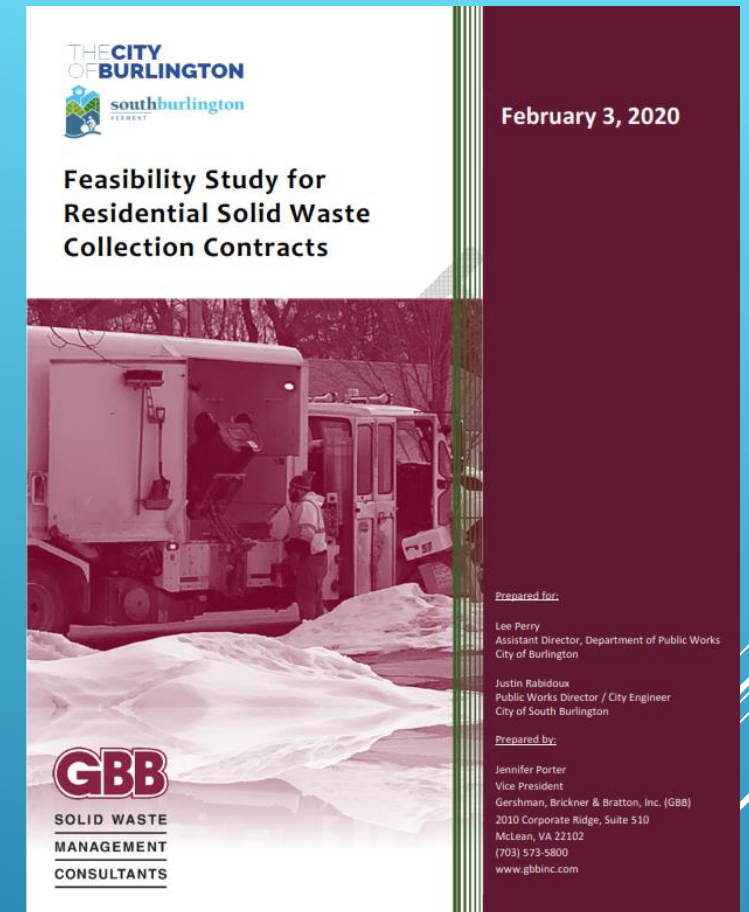
BACKGROUND

- ▶ Consolidated collection has been explored in our region for decades including a county-wide evaluation that ended in 2015.
- ▶ In April 2018, the City Council passed a resolution requesting the Department of Public Works to undertake a citywide consolidated collection feasibility study with the City of South Burlington and Chittenden Solid Waste District.
- ▶ Funding for this study were supported through the General Fund recycling budget and split between FY19 and FY20.
- ▶ The report evaluated a franchised collection model utilizing private haulers. Past materials can be found at:

<https://www.burlingtonvt.gov/dpw/Maintenance/Consolidated>

BACKGROUND

- ▶ Reduced costs to residents through more efficient collection routes.
- ▶ Reduced environmental costs of excess truck traffic (Up to two thirds reduction in greenhouse gasses).
- ▶ Reduced impacts on City infrastructure.
- ▶ Reduced litter using wheeled, covered carts by all residents.
- ▶ Reduced noise in neighborhoods by reducing excess truck traffic.

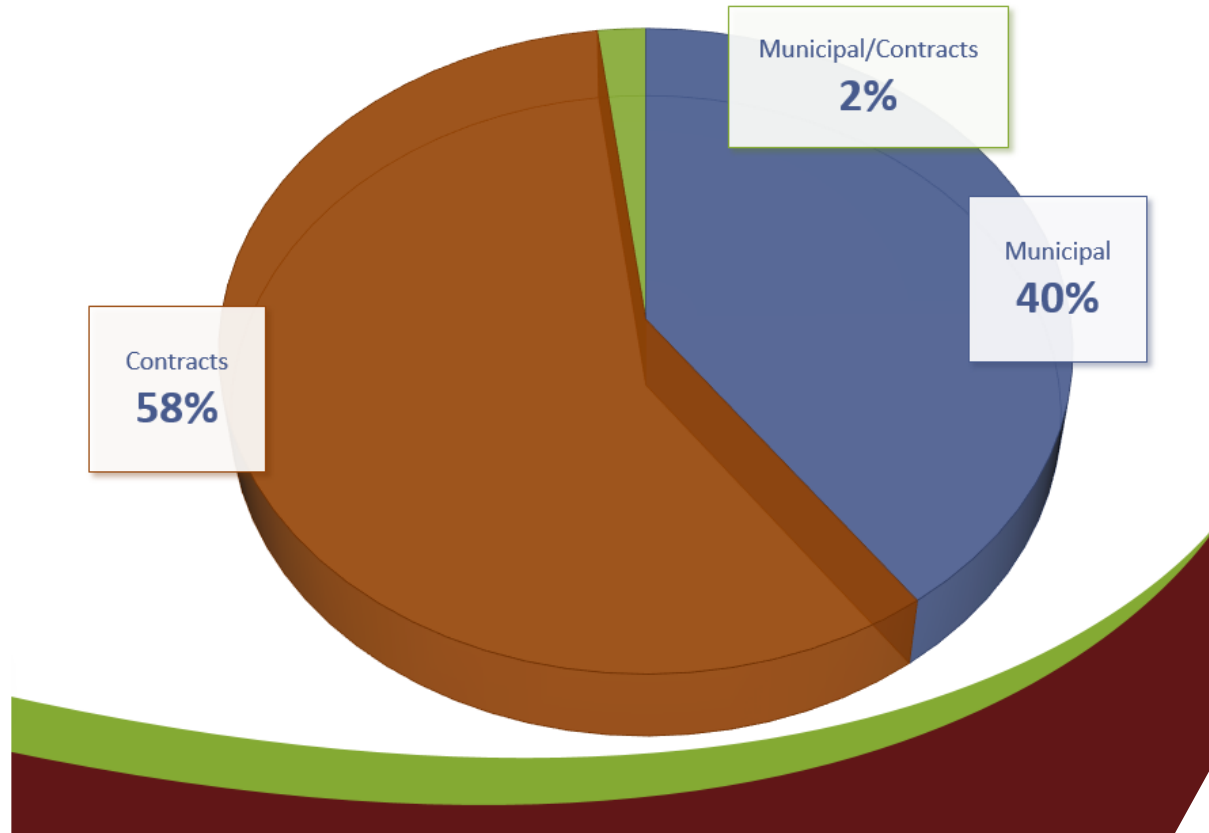


SUMMARY OF RESULTS FROM THE GBB CONSOLIDATED COLLECTION STUDY

- Increased recycling through direct and consistent education to residents.
- Increased diversion by using consolidated collection as the most cost-effective mechanism to add collection of food scraps.
- Increased safety on local roads through a reduction in excess truck traffic.
- Increased Compliance with state and local mandates.
- Bidding process could offer the opportunity for small haulers to bid for districts.
- Program could allow residents to “opt out” and self-haul to a drop off center. The “opt out” allowance could be capped.


GBB FINDINGS CONTINUED

Breakdown of the 83%: Cities through municipality / private haulers under contract



*Chart based on survey information provided by the consultant.

CITY OF BURLINGTON MUNICIPALLY-OPERATED CONSOLIDATED COLLECTION EVALUATION

- City, CSWD and GBB presented findings of GBB study based on a franchised model to the City Council's Transportation, Energy & Utilities Committee (TEUC) in Summer 2020
 - TEUC requested supplemental study of a municipally-operated model
 - City staff completed the analysis and developed a conceptual budget over the fall and winter
 - Presented to the TEUC in March 2021
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- ▶ A municipally-operated consolidated collection model can provide similar environmental and cost benefits that were outlined in the GBB study of a franchised model.
- ▶ The City would need to create a new division or department to support a municipally-operated collection program.
- ▶ Projected to require 14 new full-time employees, ranging from CDL licensed drivers, manger, customer service/billing personnel, fleet technician, and public outreach/enforcement specialist.
- ▶ Upfront Capital Cost between 5.9M and \$6.7M
 - ▶ \$1.4M for fleet vehicles
 - ▶ \$3.6M - \$4.0M for a facility
 - ▶ \$900K - \$1.2M for equipment, toters, etc.
- ▶ Billing / customer services would need to be provided – explored conceptual option of using Water Resources' Harris Flexi-bill software

STAFF FINDINGS FOR A MUNICIPALLY-OPERATED CONSOLIDATED COLLECTION MODEL

Options	Municipal Model 195-201 Flynn Ave 0% Opt Out	Municipal Model 339 Pine St. 15% Opt Out	Municipal Model 339 Pine St. 25% Opt Out	Franchise Model 0% Opt Out	Franchise Model 15% Opt Out	Franchise Model 25% Opt Out
Households Served Weekly	13,005	11,054	9,754	13,005	11,054	9,754
Resident Annual Cost	\$414.38	\$457.30	\$494.92	\$410.03	\$422.98	\$422.80
Resident Monthly Cost	\$34.53	\$38.11	\$41.24	\$34.17	\$35.25	\$35.23

**The consultant ran the franchise model originally at 0% and 15% opt out. City staff has updated the costs based on updated tip fees and made some initial assumptions on the 25% opt out but are awaiting confirmation from our consultant. The overall cost figures for this 25% opt out scenario are preliminary.*


Current Subscription Monthly Price Range Data Collected By Consultant:

64 Gallon Weekly Trash/Recycling: \$28-\$49

*These costs do not include the pick-up and disposal of food scraps.

COST ASSUMPTIONS & COMPARISON

NEXT STEPS

- ▶ April 27: TEUC Meeting - Update
 - ▶ Additional Research on Operating Models
 - ▶ May 19: DPW Commission Meeting – Council recommendation
 - ▶ May 25: TEUC Meeting – Council recommendation
 - ▶ June: Council presentation with GBB and recommendation
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THANK YOU!

If you have any questions, please call or email Lee Perry at

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