

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

OFFICE OF THE INDEPENDENT BUDGET ANALYST REPORT

Date Issued: September 23, 2011

IBA Report Number: 11-56

City Council Docket Date: September 26, 2011

Item Number: 200

Preliminary Statement of Work for Landfill Operations – Updated Report

The first proposed Landfill Operations PSOW was reviewed by the Rules Committee on May 18, 2011. The most recently updated Landfill Operations PSOW was reviewed by the Rules Committee at its July 13, 2011 meeting. The Committee forwarded the PSOW to the full City Council without recommendation, and requested staff to provide further information in response to Committee questions.

IBA report 11-56 provides an update to the IBA report 11-39, entitled “Preliminary Statement of Work for Landfill Operations.” IBA report 11-56 provides a brief summary of the managed competition process, issues for the Council to consider at the September 26, 2011 meeting, and information on next steps in the managed competition process. The report covers information on landfill operations activities that are not part of the managed competition process, fee booth activities, changes to the PSOW and items discussed at the July 13, 2011 Rules Committee meeting.

Additionally, during our review, we identified several activities in the Functions and Services section for which the PSOW does not include specific performance standards or service levels – for example: environmental standards and regulatory mandates; and standards for landfill cover processes that maximize landfill lifespan while meeting regulatory requirements. To ensure retention of current service levels related to landfill care, the Council should consider clarifying, as part of a motion, that all current service levels must be maintained.

Based upon the changes that have been made to the PSOW in response to Committee concerns and our most recent review of the revised PSOW for the landfill operations, including reviewing service level data and performance measures, the IBA recommends approval of the PSOW with the following considerations:

- To ensure retention of current service levels related to landfill care, Council clarify, as part of a motion, that all current service levels must be maintained (or enhanced) by the chosen service provider. A list of examples where this would apply is provided on page 3 of this report.
- Based on staff’s reference to the achievability of the .55 to .60 compaction level and the associated benefit of extending the life of the landfill, Council consider increasing the compaction level standard from .50 to .55 or .60.