

Solid Waste Container Policy

Metro Council Public Works Committee

September 13, 2022

# Solid Waste Containers

#### **Problem**

- A large majority of carts on the street were deployed in 2003 and are past their life expectancy.
- Previous demand for recycling carts was increased by the recent mass recycling cart roll-out and the move from smaller bins.
- Citizens do not take care of and show responsibility for their carts.
- We consistently run out of carts before the end of the fiscal year.

### Result

- Angry residents
- Increased litter
- Increased reports of missing/stolen/damaged carts
- Creation of a new container policy based upon current ordinance

# Cart Care & Responsibility Agreement

#### Your new garbage/recycling cart will be issued under the following terms and conditions.

- Lost or stolen garbage/recycling carts must be replaced by the property owner at cost. (Carts may be replaced for free if eligible based on low income.)
- City-issued garbage/recycling carts must remain at the property when a resident/business moves. (If you purchased an additional cart, you may move it to another address within the service area as long as the number of carts at the new property does not exceed the limit.)
- Garbage/recycling carts must be removed from the set-out location by 4 p.m. the day after collection. This helps prevent damage and theft of carts.
- Report damaged garbage/recycling carts to Metro311. Repairs will be made on collection day.
- Garbage/recycling carts must be positioned at the edge of the curb or alley and at least three feet away from other carts, walls, buildings, poles, etc. Sidewalks must not be blocked.
- Garbage/recycling carts must not be overloaded. Maximum weight is 200 lbs and lids should be able to close.
- It is recommended that residents make note of their cart serial numbers.

I have read and agree to all terms and conditions.	
Signature:	Date:



## Replacement Carts

Replacement carts must be purchased, with a few exceptions to include **low-income status**.



## Purchasing Portal

Require cart purchases through Louisville Metro Business Portal

- Carts will be tracked as assets and assigned to an address
- DocuSign capabilities
- Requires registration for all cart purchases
- Streamline payments
- Track inventory

## Potential System Improvements

Cart inventory/audit to better understand on-the-street location, age, and condition

Staffing to allow us to charge according to § 51.403

Organized replacement system for carts that are 10+ years old to improve efficiency and reduce annual maintenance cost (proactive instead of reactive)

Adequate funding needed to keep carts in inventory

# Utilize Grant Possibilities

Matching funds for recycling cart grants

## Closing

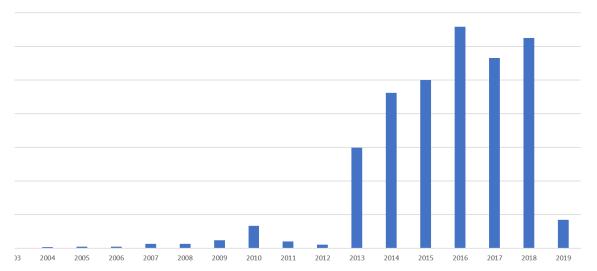
- The current age and condition of many of our garbage containers is causing us and citizens many problems.
- Continuing the current system and funding level will not improve the situation.
- We need your support for our policy changes that are intended to improve the community's awareness of their responsibility to care for existing containers.
- We need you to consider creating an annual fund that will audit the existing
  inventory on the streets so we can begin to replace the oldest carts on a
  proactive basis <u>or</u> ensure we have the funding to keep enough inventory in stock
  to keep up with the rising demand.
- We need you to consider using matching funds for grants to continue the deployment of recycling carts for those who do not have the capacity or no cart at all.

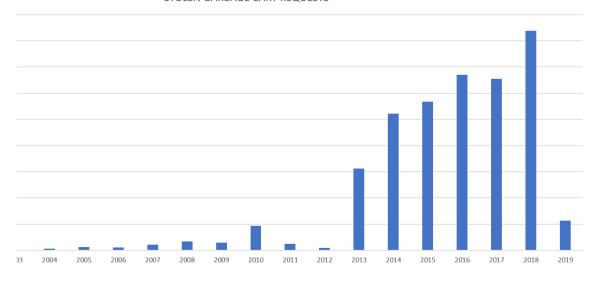


## Supplemental Slides



#### STOLEN GARBAGE CART REQUESTS





# Life Expectancy

- A large majority of carts on the street were deployed in 2003 and are past their life expectancy of 10 years.
- Ninety percent (90%) of damaged cart requests are for ones deployed in 2003.

## Cart Tracking

- Lack of searchable data within Accela.
  - ~ Cannot attach serial numbers to addresses.
  - Cannot pull detailed information/reports.
  - Street inventory does not match existing data.

## Peer City Cart Policies

## Columbus

- Carts are assigned to the address
- Carts
   replaced at
   homeowner's
   expense

#### Cincinnati

- Carts are city property and assigned to the address
- Carts must be registered and have a sticker to identify

### Nashville

- Carts are government property
- Carts
   replaced at
   homeowner's
   expense

### St. Louis

- Carts issued by city must stay at the address
- No replacements unless cart is over 5 years old