

Date: June 7, 2024
To: Nicole Kowalski, Council Member At -Large
Cc: Hudson City Council, Thomas J. Sheriden, City Manager, Kevin Powell, Public Works Director
From: Frank J. Comeriato, Jr., Asst. City Manager – Operations
Re: City of Hudson Glass Recycling

At the Tuesday May 28th City Council Workshop Council Member Nicole Kowalski asked that City staff look into an alternative option for Hudson residents to recycle glass other than through the current recycling program required to be offered by the City’s licensed refuse haulers.

Due to the volatility of glass recycling markets, City staff, in corporation with the City’s Environmental Awareness Committee, had looked at options for City glass recycling in 2022. There were two vendors that were looked at. Owens-Illinois (O-I) Glass, and Repeat Glass Co. Repeat Glass operates as a relatively new glass collection company in northeast Ohio. O-I is both a glass collector and a manufacturer of new recycled glass products.

The City of Akron is working with O-I and opted to place five glass recycling dumpsters around the City for public use. The City of Akron is responsible for collecting and transporting the materials to a central drop off location where it is then transported by O-I Glass to their recycling facility for the manufacturing of glass bottles and jars.

Repeat Glass Co. offers both a community drop off and curbside program for recycling glass. At this time, curbside service has a monthly customer charge of \$7.00. This price point is being revised and will eventually be a tiered pricing schedule. This option does come with costs to the City and the potential need for amendments in the codified ordinances removing the glass requirement from the current recycling program offered by licensed haulers operating residential services in the City. It also requires a large number of 64-gallon collection carts (not dumpsters) with a pickup schedule of one time per month at a cost of \$252.00/month to service twelve (12) carts. Repeat Glass would also solicit Hudson businesses to participate in their glass recycling program.

Below are some considerations regarding utilization of a third-party vendor for glass recycling services.

- Repeat Glass Co. was approached in 2022 regarding recycling services for the downtown Hudson merchants. Business owners were polled considering this service. They expressed the following concerns:
 1. They did not want the time and expenses of employees separating glass from single stream recycling materials.
 2. They thought the price point was too high just for glass recycling (approx. \$65.00/month)

There was no interest in participating in the program.

- O-I Co. requires that the City service the dumpsters and transport the glass material to another location for pick up. As such, the City would be required to utilize additional staff and equipment on a regular basis to handle and transport materials.
- Both O-I Glass and Repeat Glass require the City begin to remove the “glass” requirements from the recycling materials list that the local haulers must take per City code. Thereby making it possible for them to increase the volume of material taken.
- Repeat Glass offers public drop off collection bins and residential curbside service for glass. However, this arrangement would add additional trucks in residential neighborhoods and an additional fee to residents for this service.
- O-I will not service dumpster(s) in the City of Hudson as they are headquartered in Perrysburg Ohio.

Recommendations:

Implement a pilot program with Repeat Glass to provide 12 - 64-gallon carts for public drop-off glass recycling, with a onetime per month service at a cost of \$252.00/month. Locate the carts in the rear parking lot of City Hall adjacent to the existing electronics recycling container. A second option is to purchase a dumpster such as the one in the photo below at an estimated cost of \$2,500-\$3,000 and place it in the rear of the City Hall parking lot for public drop off. Each option’s frequency of service will depend on the volume of glass we get from the public, which is yet to be seen.

If the pilot program is successful we plan on relocating the carts and the operation to the new Public Works site when completed. This will be a more appropriate location and allow staff to better manage the area and hours of operation.

Program options and pricing:

1. 12 carts picked up every 4 weeks w/ a 30% discount (\$21/cart) - **\$252/mo**
 2. 6 carts picked up every 2 weeks w/ a 15% discount (\$25.50/cart) - **\$306/mo**
 3. 3 carts picked up every week w/ no discount (\$30/cart) - **\$360/mo**
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1. 1 Dumpster every 4 weeks - **\$220/mo**
 2. 1 Dumpster every 2 weeks - **\$415/mo**
 3. 1 Dumpster every 1 weeks - **\$750/mo**
- (Note: glass credit of approx. \$30.00 per haul)

Sample Carts



Sample Dumpster

