

Dear Mayor Jensen and Assembly Members:

This letter is in response to the Sanitation Department Rate Study discussion at the March 2nd Assembly meeting.

We have not seen this study, but understand it presents 4 options:

1. Keeping the recycling program as is and raising rates
2. Scrapping the entire in-place program
3. Making a drop off location for recyclables
4. Flexing the current program to reflect current market changes

We would like to discourage Assembly members from making quick decisions to determine the future of our community recycling program. Hasty decisions include those based on "the price of the day" of recycling products. It is projected that we, as a Nation, are near the bottom of the low market recycling commodity prices.

<https://www.waste360.com/legislation-regulation/happy-anniversary-national-sword>

<https://www.waste360.com/business/swana-report-national-sword-impact-and-solutions>

The majority of communities are holding to what programs they have worked hard to implement, and will wait for the upswing of the recycling market.

We encourage you to think about being flexible with our current recycling program that was started in 2016. We would propose a residential program that is on a bi-monthly pick up schedule and collects only higher valued recyclables such as cardboard, aluminum, tin, & plastic 1 & 2. Business collection could vary, based on the overall recycling needs of business in our community.

We thank you for your time and consideration of the above information. We look forward to reviewing the rate study and supporting the continued need for recycling and reducing waste in our community.

Sincerely - The members of "Reduce Plastic Use Petersburg,"

A local group to provide education to the youth and all in our community; stressing the importance to reduce the use of plastics. Reduce, Refuse, Reuse, Recycle.

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