



Medford City Council
Medford, Massachusetts

MEETING DATE

November 18, 2025

SPONSORED BY

Isaac Bears, Council President,
Anna Callahan, City Councilor

AGENDA ITEM

25-176 - Resolution to Request Report on Solid Waste Collection Changes, More Engagement with Residents, and Potential Alternatives

FULL TEXT AND DESCRIPTION

Whereas, the Mayor and City Administration recently announced the receipt of a \$200,000 grant for Medford's Zero Waste Initiative; and

Whereas, as part of this initiative, the Mayor announced that her administration would reduce trash collection to once every two weeks starting in July 2027; and

Whereas, the City Council supports efforts to reduce waste, increase use of free weekly composting, and limit cost growth of waste collection that has hurt our city budget; and

Whereas, residents have raised significant concerns about the impact of reducing trash collection to once every two weeks for residents and the need for greater efforts by the Mayor to inform and engage residents regarding her solid waste collection program changes; now, therefore;

Be it Resolved by the Medford City Council that the Mayor and City Administration provide a report to the Council and residents explaining the changes they are making to the city's waste collection program.

Be it Further Resolved that the Mayor and City Administration share all resources that they are making available to residents to reduce any negative impacts of these changes.

Be it Further Resolved that the Mayor and City Administration hold a public forum to hear from residents about their concerns and explore potential alternative options to move the city towards Zero Waste goals.

Be it Further Resolved that the City Council appreciates the work of our DPW Commissioner and Planning, Development, and Sustainability Director. The Council requests that the Mayor provide

additional resources for our dedicated city staff so they have the capacity to effectively communicate with residents regarding the proposed timeline and reasoning for these changes, explore the benefits and costs of alternative timelines and plans, and outline a mitigation strategy to address any negative impacts.

RECOMMENDATION

FISCAL IMPACT

ATTACHMENTS

None