



DeKalb County Government

Manuel J. Maloof Center
1300 Commerce Drive
Decatur, Georgia 30030

Agenda Item

File ID: 2020-1350

Substitute

11/03/2020

Public Hearing: YES NO

Department: Board of Commissioners

SUBJECT:

Commission District(s): All Commission Districts

A Resolution to request that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provide technical assistance to evaluate injury risks associated with the extensive deployment of large Sanitation Roll Carts.

Information Contact: Commissioner Jeff Rader

Phone Number: 404-371-2863

PURPOSE:

The CDC National Institutes for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) has confirmed the need for an investigation to evaluate injury risk associated with large Sanitation Roll Carts as anticipated in the Sanitation Division's 95-gallon Garbage Roll Cart Exchange Project. The evaluation will yield important information that should inform the structure of the program and potentially identify alternatives to the current structure. CDC requests a formal application for Technical Assistance from DeKalb County to initiate the investigation.

NEED/IMPACT:

Since advancing the automation of residential sanitation collection with "Rolling Forward to One", DeKalb County has increased the amount and weight of garbage accumulated for collection by shifting to a weekly cycle, and has standardized collection in larger roll cart containers. While these practices have resulted in increased operational efficiency and occupational safety for sanitation collectors, the use of larger roll carts collected less frequently have increased the physical burden of residential customers in moving the roll carts to the curb on the one remaining collection day per week. In particular, older, physically weaker, and smaller customers may be put at risk by the weight and ergonomics of large containers and environmental factors including local topography. With another increase in roll cart size to 95 gallons, it is imperative to evaluate the safety implications of the larger carts for customers. NIOSH confirms the need to evaluate the equipment and departmental policies and can make recommendations in response to a formal request for technical assistance.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No fiscal impact

RECOMMENDATION:

To approve a request for technical assistance from CDC to evaluate injury risks associated with the extensive deployment of large Sanitation Roll Carts.