

## Joe Kickel

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**From:** Joe Kickel  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 18, 2019 3:45 PM  
**To:** Joe Kickel  
**Subject:** RE: Questions and Recommendations



**Joe Kickel**

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**From:** Susan Efroymsen [<mailto:susanefroymson@gmail.com>]

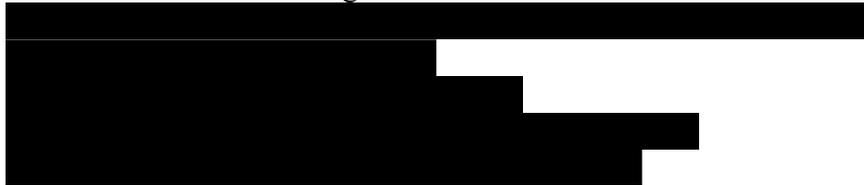
**Sent:** Monday, September 9, 2019 6:12 PM

**To:** Constance Johnson; Joe Kickel; Jordan Davis; Tony Torres; Susan Clement; John Blackwell; Davida Russell; Collette Clinkscale; Hope wright

**Subject:** Fwd: Questions and Recommendations

I composed this in my husband's computer, hence the forward. It only went to my phone then you. Joe, please double check my list. I think I'm missing someone that should be there

----- Forwarded message -----



I had this list of questions after last meeting swimming around in my head, but now that John has done a fine job of summarizing, I'd like to consider these questions within his context.

Before I go into that, I'd like to remind everyone that this is dirty business. Not because it's garbage, but because it's political. The very first letter we received asking us to evaluate two options regarding carts went into the cons on each option, making it clear that no matter which we chose, she wouldn't be entirely happy. We will not be able to make everyone happy and will get complaints no matter what we choose to recommend. Another way to say that is that we will be blamed for our decision by those who disagree with it. This we know. To avoid being scape-goated or having council ignore our recommendations, we will need to be solid on all the

parts we recommend, have strong reasonings and numbers we can defend. Right now, we have too many loop holes in our numbers for me to feel confident. (I am frustrated, for example, that knowing the vehicles have a ten year life cycle did not prompt their replacements to be already budgeted in making not replacing them look even more appealing than it should, but that's not the fault of the task force, just the reality we have to deal with)

To do that I think we need to have the flow chart filled in with movable details. This way we can modify parts to the options as John listed them, within their color coding, and see as we add or subtract options, how that effects the bottom line. Can you therefore put these numbers on the chart in a dynamic way so that on Thursday, we can consider various options and save them side by side before we go back to the default and then see in real dollars how options effect outcome. There should be hard and soft numbers.

Additionally, we have not been getting clear answers from City Staff. Too much guess work. We need clarity. Do we have more answers regarding the questions raised last time? Those numbers should be plugged in . Sandy Moran, master recycler, indicated that the organizations on the sheet she distributed, have the answers because it is their job to study them. So where the city may not have them noq, we need the city to reach out and get the county averages and use that to plug in the numbers so that we have a round guess over the decade.

Perhaps we need someone from Finance to be able to talk about funding options. Certainly we need more clarity from County, EPA and related consortiums about grants available. They have said all we need to do is call. That clarity is available and we'd be irresponsible to make any recommendations without all the answers we can get in our hands. That of course goes with the understanding that these will be round numbers and will only reflect past history. They are still a better indication of our future reality than just guessing will give us.

Let's say we consider the option of graduating the timing, keeping some old trucks, purchasing some over a three year period, and having new containers only for recycling at first and go area by area – a slow move to automation - how would such a delay in replacing trucks while moving to automation be affecting the budget?

What grants are available for containers? When do they have to be applied for? Do we have to make the conversion the same year they apply or could we have the phase in option on purchasing once the grant is secured or would we be leaving money on the table? IF so how much?

And those BWC numbers? Again, the county should have access to what other municipalities have saved be automating?

Also, we discussed that other cities have experienced a rise in cost and complaints after the initial contract wore off? I would assume again that the consortium with the county can quantify that for us. The fact that it IS an

amount doesn't make it a LARGE amount, until we know it is. Can we even answer the question now of whether keeping things in house would allow us to control costs as well as quality and services offered without it?

Right now we have too many variables to even consider this option. Further, this information is necessary to evaluate all the options and make a proper comparison.

Regarding the EDUCATION piece: I think we all are excited about that part, but I'd like to propose that we should not tackle it at this time.

Because what we'd be educating about is dynamic. Since it is going to change multiple times over the next few years and beyond, we cannot hammer down anything with finality anyway.

Because we already have enough good ideas on the table as a start such as stickers on containers and magnets or even a plastic magnet frame for the kitchen with an inserted part that can be changed and printed in the Focus for when the rules change

Because we don't have adequate information nor time to seek it as to what the public or private school in the area will allow in terms of input.

Because we don't have a marketing strategist on our team or even a graphic artist

Because we don't have price points and won't be able to get them in time anyway

And mostly because we'd be reinventing the wheel. The consortium already has standards and information for us to draw on.

In short, I think we need the time remaining to focus on the mandate of recommendation, and should not spend that time walking into the above details. That does not mean we should ignore this important component. I believe our recommendation regarding education should therefore be as follows:

We understand the difficulties in reaching the variety of home owners and need to have better compliance. To do that we MUST have better education about (fill in the blank). Therefore we strongly recommend convening a small group that includes someone who can address the school's input, an educator, a marketer and/or graphics person and a handful of people on this commission including those up to date on the current recycling demands and protocols to put together that piece for the city in a more timely manner, meaning closer to implementation, and giving that thought process the time it deserves We further assume that any education piece will come with changeable magnets as reminders for the kitchen and possibly stickers that also get replaced periodically and that room should be left in the budget for this.

I think that group could be closer to seven than 15 and that a wise and solid recommendation could be accomplished in a matter of hours, not weeks. I would volunteer to be on it, and with the passion I've seen on this task force, I assume others would as well.

I think the above is enough to be as thorough as we can from here on Education for now and gives the clear message that we would like to emphasize it and see it done right without detailing it at this time, giving us more time to get the central piece hammered out.

Respectfully,

Susan Efroymsen



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