



# WILDWOOD

## Administration and Public Works Committee

August 5, 2023 Meeting

E-Recycling Event

### **Background**

The City had previously held annual public electronic waste and shredding events before the pandemic. These events were popular, often with 900-1,100 vehicles attending in the 3-hours of operation. In previous events, document shredding was provided by Shred-It, and this service was free to attendees. Shred-It provided special vehicles that shred documents securely on site. Electronic waste collection was conducted by MRC. Certain items were free to dispose of, and larger item disposal required a disposal fee paid to MRC.

The Boy Scouts, local clubs, high school volunteers, and City staff helped to manage residents and incoming materials, and Wildwood Precinct was present to manage traffic. The City offered drinks, bagels, and snacks to volunteers.

Previous events have diverted as much as 33 tons of electronic waste and recyclable paper material from going to the landfill. It provided a secure way for residents to dispose of documents and electronics. The City had likely spent up to \$7,000.00-\$8000.00 in vendor fees and staffing on these events. Most associated costs for this event have, in previous years, been paid for by the City.

### **Recommendation**

St. Louis County offers Municipal Solid Waste Grants to its communities and will cover most of the expense for a community e-waste and shredding event. Most applications are approved unless costs go above \$25,000.00, in which case they must be approved separately by the county council. St. Louis County estimates that costs will be \$8,000.00-\$10,000.00 per event which is consistent with expenditures from previous events held by the City. The Solid Waste Grant has a rolling deadline, and applications are required at least 4-months from the planned event date. However, most vendor services are scheduled for 6-months to a year in advance. After the event is completed, funds for vendors, advertising materials and postage, public safety staffing (including overtime), and staff pay (not including overtime) will be reimbursed to the City. The City is requesting to seek financial assistance from St. Louis County by way of the Solid Waste Grant in order to hold a public electronic waste disposal and shredding event. The Department recommends moving forward with the grant application, and if grant funding is secured, scheduling an e-recycling event in 2024.