

# MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE



*Mayor Dan Sullivan*

November 6, 2012

Senator Johnny Ellis  
716 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Rm. 500  
Anchorage, AK 99501

Dear Senator,

I'm writing in response to your recent letter dated October 31, 2012 in reference to MOA Solid Waste Services (SWS) making a switch in refuse collection from alley way to curbside.

The program you are referring to is not a new program and was approved back in 2006 by the Assembly and then Mayor Mark Begich. SWS started implementing automated curbside collection in 2008 and have only a few remaining communities to complete our entire service area.

Automated collection is a more efficient collection system that reduces worker comp injuries, provides for more homes per route and allows for fewer collection vehicles on roadways.

The automated system is used by local refuse companies in various areas of Anchorage with no alley service provided to their customers to my knowledge at this time.

SWS has taken a pro-active approach to this issue and has met with several of the Community Councils to request their assistance in addressing the issues so that refuse collection may continue in alleys. We understand there are some residents with special needs and requirements and we're working with those residents on an individual basis.

Rogers Park and South Addition have formed committees to work with us to hopefully resolve the issues at hand. In fact, a single committee made up of representatives of both communities has been formed. Our first meeting took place on Tuesday, October 30, at our office.

This joint committee is made up of a group of residents who understand the issues and who are willing to help tackle many of the challenges. In an attempt to obtain additional support, SWS has also met with many of the agencies involved and requested assistance from them as well.

Some of the issues we are addressing are:

- Low lying phone and cable TV lines
- Non-serviceable refuse receptacles



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- Vegetative overgrowth
- Inoperative and Illegally parked vehicles
- Right of way issues
- Right of way encroachments
- Snow removal, plowing and storage
- Unsafe maneuvering

Solid Waste Services has adopted the philosophy that we will make every effort possible to comply with the wishes of our residents.

Sincerely,

Paul F. Alcantar, Director  
MOA Solid Waste Services

CC: Assemblyman Patrick Flynn  
Bonnie Harris, President, South Addition Community Council  
Bob French, President, Government Hill Community Council  
Janet Bidwell, President, Rogers Park Community Council  
Geran Tarr, President, Airport Heights Community Council

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