

April 22, 2002

TO: Mr. Angelos Bacopoulos, General Manager, Solid Waste Management Services
And
Ms. Pam Coburn, Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards

FROM: Councillor Michael Walker

RE: **Commercial Right-of-Way --- Mandatory Cleaning Provision**

Dear Mr. Bacopoulos and Ms. Coburn,

I am writing to recommend a provision that should be included with the **Commercial Waste Collection Policy** that comes into effect September 2002.

As I am sure you are aware, other countries across the world can be a source of ideas for improvement of our own waste collection and disposal policies. In Aruba, which is known for its cleanliness, they have a policy of mandatory cleaning of the commercial public right-of-way before each day of business. The store/restaurant must sweep-up and collect any refuse that lays directly between their building and the street before the business can open for the day. If the business does not comply, the cost of the cleaning visits made by the city to do the job is added to their tax bill at the end of the year. This added expense on their tax bill goes a long way toward ensuring their compliance to the policy.

The new Commercial Waste Collection Policy obliges the business owner to take more responsibility for their waste collection/disposal through the purchase of bag-tags. The additional provision for the cleaning of the right-of-way will ensure that their attention is also given to the swift clean-up after their waste is collected. This would make waste collection a two-step process for the business: 1) preparation; *and*, 2) clean-up.

Cleaning of the right-of-way could be made mandatory for the business on every business day or only on the day following their regular waste collection, whichever is most effective. The hiring of additional By-Law inspectors is already scheduled for January of 2003; perhaps this provision could be added to their duty list.

I look forward to your comments on the merits of this proposal.

Sincerely,

Michael Walker
Councillor - Ward 22
CJS