## Memorandum



DATE July 5, 2019

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

## **SUBJECT Storm Debris Collection Update**

This memo is to provide an update on storm debris collection following the storm event on June 9, 2019. As a reminder, the City suspended its normal bulk and brush trash collection service for the month of July to focus on collecting storm debris. This memorandum is our weekly progress update for your information.

We continue to estimate that the storm may have created over 70,000 tons or about 500,000 cubic yards of storm related debris, mostly from tree damage. For perspective, our average monthly volume is about 14,000 tons for bulk and brush, with an eight-year peak of 26,000 tons collected in May 2019.

Since the beginning of collecting Week 2, on June 12<sup>th</sup> after the storm, City of Dallas and contract crews have collected over 6,800 loads of debris. In the last 20 working days alone, it is estimated that crews have collected almost 300,000 cubic yards of debris, which is almost triple an average monthly total. Of the almost 300,000 cubic yards, about 3,400 loads or approximately 175,000 cubic yards have been taken to the temporary staging and grinding site near IH-635 and US-75.

A grinding contractor is in place at the temporary site and is actively working to reduce the size of the vegetative debris to provide greater hauling efficiency. The contractor estimates being able to grind approximately 10,000 cubic yards per day. Additionally, this week we began hauling some of the ground debris from the site and we anticipate utilizing additional contracted hauling services next week to increase ground debris hauling capacity. The ground debris will be utilized as wet road base at the McCommas Bluff Landfill or other beneficial uses or reuses at the landfill.

Attached is a map which reflects those areas where collections have been completed since June 1 or areas we estimate to be completed by the end of the day today, Friday, July 5, 2019. We have continued to follow our established brush and bulk collection areas for route sequencing (weeks 1, 2, 3, 4 with each numbered week beginning on a Monday). However, due to the volumes created by the storm event, each collection week continues to run long.

All Week 2 areas were completed early last week and we have a goal to complete all Week 3 areas by the end of day Monday, July 8th. We will begin collecting in some Week 4 areas on Monday, July 8th. When we complete Week 4, we will move to Week 1 areas. We anticipate that by the end of July, we will return to collect debris not set-out for collection during our initial sweep.

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Additionally, we have added 10 contractor crews, for a total of 35 contract crews assisting with storm debris collection. This should allow us to maintain or increase our collection capacity as we begin to see longer hauling times from upcoming collection areas. The contract crews are in addition to assistance we are receiving from Code Compliance collection crews, as their schedule will allow.

As a reminder, the City has suspended normal brush/bulk collection for the month of July to focus on **storm debris collection**. To assist with collection efforts, the City also requests that residents place tree debris, branches or shrubbery separate from other storm debris such as damaged fence panels or bagged storm/vegetative debris. Clean tree and green waste may be collected separately and taken to temporary processing sites nearby to expedite the overall collection process. Mixing or comingling storm debris or continuing to place out non-storm debris will slow citywide collection efforts.

Residents may also utilize the City's transfer stations or McCommas Bluff Landfill during designated days to self-haul debris (visit <a href="www.dallaszerowaste.com">www.dallaszerowaste.com</a> for information on transfer station and landfill operating hours and restrictions). Code Compliance will not issue citations for storm debris related items. Sanitation Services is planning to return to their normal bulk and brush waste schedule in August.

We ask for patience from our customers as the magnitude of the debris created by the storm is extensive and all areas of the city are affected. We appreciate your help communicating this message.

If you have any questions, please contact me or Kelly High, Director of Sanitation Services.

Joey Zapata

**Assistant City Manager** 

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