



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Subject: Continued Efforts Regarding Delayed Waste Collection Services

The City of Los Banos understands how vital solid waste service is for the health and safety of our community and recognizes the seriousness of the issues that have been ongoing with Republic Services. Under the current contract, Republic Services is obligated to provide an acceptable level of service and has repeatedly failed to do so.

In our ongoing efforts to gain compliance with the contract, on March 31, 2021 the City issued a Notice of Default to Republic Services based on their repeated failures to provide an acceptable level of service. This is the necessary first step in a larger process to hold them accountable for the service issues experienced by our community. The City is taking steps to enforce the contract for past violations and for violations occurring each day going forward.

"I understand our residents' frustrations as a business owner and resident, too. I have experienced the delays at my residence and my business. This is not acceptable and I will continue to work with my fellow Council Members, the Mayor and City staff to ensure our citizens are taken care of."

~Ken Lambert, Council Member – District 1

Current status: On Monday, April 12, 2021 Republic Services began the work week with staffing levels sufficient to collect all waste in our community. Currently, the staffing levels remain consistent and Republic Services has committed to continue the sufficient staffing levels through the end of the contract. They are working normal routes and ask that any excess waste to be collected be placed in up to three additional garbage bags and set beside the waste bin on regularly scheduled pickup days.

In order to assist in keeping our community healthy and safe, the City's Public Works Department has assigned two separate teams of staff who are out monitoring our routes, picking up trash and cleaning areas around dumpster enclosures, as needed.

"As of this afternoon, we believe Republic Services has made significant strides in their residential waste pickup, and those efforts are certainly welcome. We continue, however, to monitor and work to improve the services for those who pay for dumpster waste collection as we are aware they are not yet where they should be. Overall, though I appreciate the steps Republic Services has taken to address the ongoing issues, staff remains guarded and will continue to monitor and work to improve their daily operations."

~Gary Brizzee, Acting City Manager

We ask for your continued patience with City staff and remind you to call City Hall at 827-7000 extension "0" to report delays in the servicing of your waste collection.