



## **U.A. Residents Fight To Vote On Trash Issue**

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By Denise Yost

COLUMBUS, Ohio --  
Approximately nine months ago, the Upper Arlington City Council voted to privatize the city's trash collection.

Residents then collected signatures to put repeal on the November ballot. Now, the city is fighting to keep the initiative away from voters, NBC 4's Marshall McPeck reported.

Mike Schadek started the repeal initiative that the city wants to stop.

"To be honest, I'm outraged," he said. "The fact that city council is not responsive to the residents -- and now to throw up a legal road block to try to keep us from voting -- it's wrong."

Schadek and other supporters collected more than 1,800 valid signatures.

The board of elections said that's enough to qualify, so it's on the ballot -- as Issue 52.

"There's a process in place for individuals to put something on the ballot. They didn't follow that process

and we can't ignore that," said Jeanine Hummer, Upper Arlington City Attorney.

The city said that, among other things, the language is inappropriate.

"You can't write something that is more administrative and allow the people to vote on administrative action," Hummer said.

The city promised to challenge the petition in court because it can't walk away from its five-year, private trash collection contract.

"That's not acceptable and it puts the city's assets at risk," Hummer said.

"The bottom line is the City Council of Upper Arlington and the city attorney is trying to prevent the residents of Upper Arlington from exercising their constitutional right to vote," Schadek said.

The board of elections will hear arguments from both sides at its next meeting on Sept. 8.