

Subj: **Issue #52 Will Cost UA Residents Millions of Dollars**
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Dear Friend:

The Upper Arlington community has been in debate for many months over the City's change in its solid waste services. On November 4, 2008 residents will be asked to vote on Issue #52. If it passes, this initiative could cost residents millions of dollars.

Brief history

City Council's fiscally prudent decision to privatize solid waste services came following more than 18 months of detailed study, and was made in order to realize the resulting cost and service benefits that come from contracting with a professional solid waste provider.

Organizers of the initiative have connections with the Teamsters Union, which represented the City's former solid waste workers. These individuals collected more than half the signatures required to place this initiative on the ballot.

Issue #52 is fiscally irresponsible

The City of Upper Arlington wants voters to understand that Issue #52 requires the City to pay unspecified contract damages to Inland Services Corporation, with no limitation on the dollar amount, putting the City and resident resources at great risk.

If the City returns to the former solid waste delivery system, estimates indicate the first year's transition costs would exceed \$8 million, not including the potential costs for other damages due to Inland, which could also be significant. This represents more than four times the current costs for providing solid waste services, when compared to the City's current contract with Inland of \$1.7 million per year.

Initiative organizers want residents to believe they would be refunded an annual \$30 fee - yet there is no refund obligation within the initiative. The reality is residents would not see any cost savings by returning to the former method of solid waste delivery, but would be required to pay additional costs.

Upper Arlington's current solid waste program is successful – why put the community's assets at risk?

The current solid waste management system is successful and cost-effective, allowing residents to maintain a level of control on their solid waste expenditures, while encouraging good environmental stewardship through recycling collection at no additional charge.

The City continues to monitor Inland's performance. Each week, collection is consistently on time with high success rates in achieving an effective and comprehensive delivery of service to more than 12,000 households, through an approach that is good for residents, our community and the environment.

Help inform voters that Issue #52 puts the community at great risk
Please help City Council and City Administration let other residents understand these risks if Issue #52 passes by sharing this email with others.

For more information on the City of Upper Arlington's solid waste program, visit www.ua-ohio.net or contact the City Manager's office at (614) 583-5040.

Sincerely,

Virginia Barney
City Manager



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