



CITY OF SYRACUSE

# FACT SHEET

## ROLLING OUT LIDDED RECYCLING CARTS

In 2023, the City of Syracuse embarked on a transformation of solid waste collection investing in neighborhoods, residents, and city employees. The program involved giving residents uniform covered trash carts on wheels, each holding 96 gallons. This initiative yielded cleaner neighborhoods, no cart related injuries that required treatment, and approximately \$150,000 saved on disposal fees since the beginning of the cart program.

Before Trash Carts



After Trash Carts



*The pictures show the success of the trash cart program. Recycling carts will continue that progress.*

### COVERED RECYCLING CARTS WITH WHEELS

Similar to the trash cart program, we are currently planning a program to supply residents with new recycling carts. They will also have covers and wheels. This initiative comes as OCRRA discontinues its blue bin program throughout Onondaga County. While these blue bins have been utilized across the county for three decades, their open design has significantly contributed to litter problems in neighborhoods. The goal of the program is to provide residents with convenient, easy to use recycling carts while meeting industry standards and best practices. These changes aim to improve services, reduce costs, and ensure worker safety.

#### Goals

- Provide the right tools and education to encourage more residents to recycle
- Deliver better service to residents by giving them one container to easily fit all of their recycling
- Create safer work environments for recycling crews by eliminating the need to bend down and pick up bins from the curb
- Promote a cleaner city

#### Benefits

- Cleaner environment and neighborhoods
- Reduced workplace injuries
- No additional cost to homeowners
- Proven model used across the nation
- Reduction in the amount of waste sent for disposal

#### Next Steps

- Optimize sanitation route schedules and efficiency
- Collaborate with the Common Council to consider program options
  - Frequency of recycling pickup
  - Warning and enforcement