

2026 SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Collections Update

Larius Hassen, Director

February 3, 2026



Transitioning Heavy Trash to Schedule Service

- The previous system was not sustainable at a citywide scale
- Crews were driving every street whether trash was set out or not
- Delays and backlogs impacted neighborhoods
- Residents asked for more predictability and accountability



How Residents Request Heavy Trash Collection



Call 311 to Schedule a heavy trash pick-up.



SWM will call/email the resident with an appointment



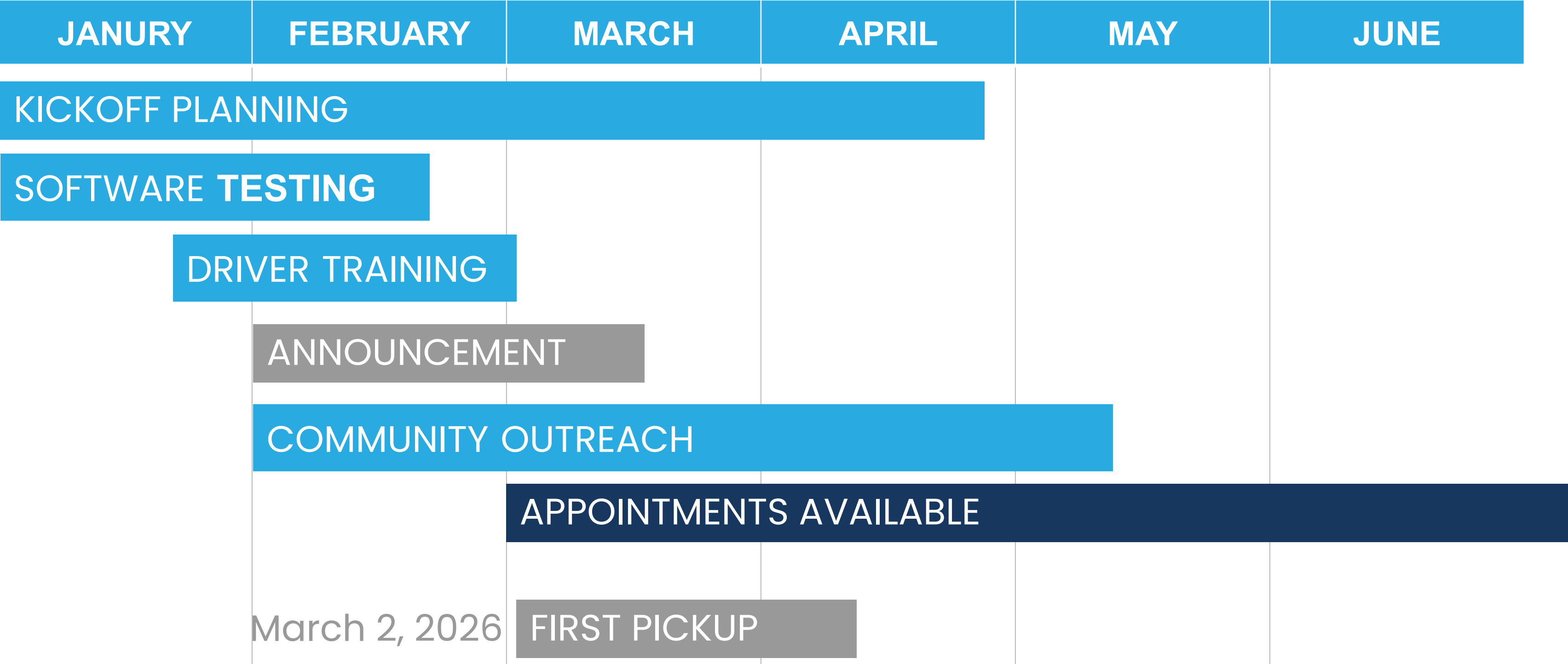
Daily Assigned Appointments Out for Collection



Customer Service Verifies completion with photos and resident is notified

- Call 311 to submit a service request
- The request is reviewed and scheduled
- The resident is notified of the scheduled date
- Collection is completed within five (5) working days of the schedule date provided
- Each address may request up to four (4) collections per calendar year

IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE



Residential Drop-Off Centers

Neighborhood Depositories

North – 9003 N Main 77022

Northwest – 14400 Sommermeyer 77041

Northeast – 5565 Kirkpatrick 77028

Southeast – 2240 Central Street 77017

South – 5100 Sunbeam 77033

Southwest – 10785 SW Freeway 77074

Tuesday – Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Recycling Centers

Westpark Center – 5900 Westpark 77057

Tuesday – Saturday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Clear Lake/Ellington Airport – 246 Loop Rd. 77034

Open 7 days a week: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Kingwood – 3210 W. Lake Houston Pkwy 77339

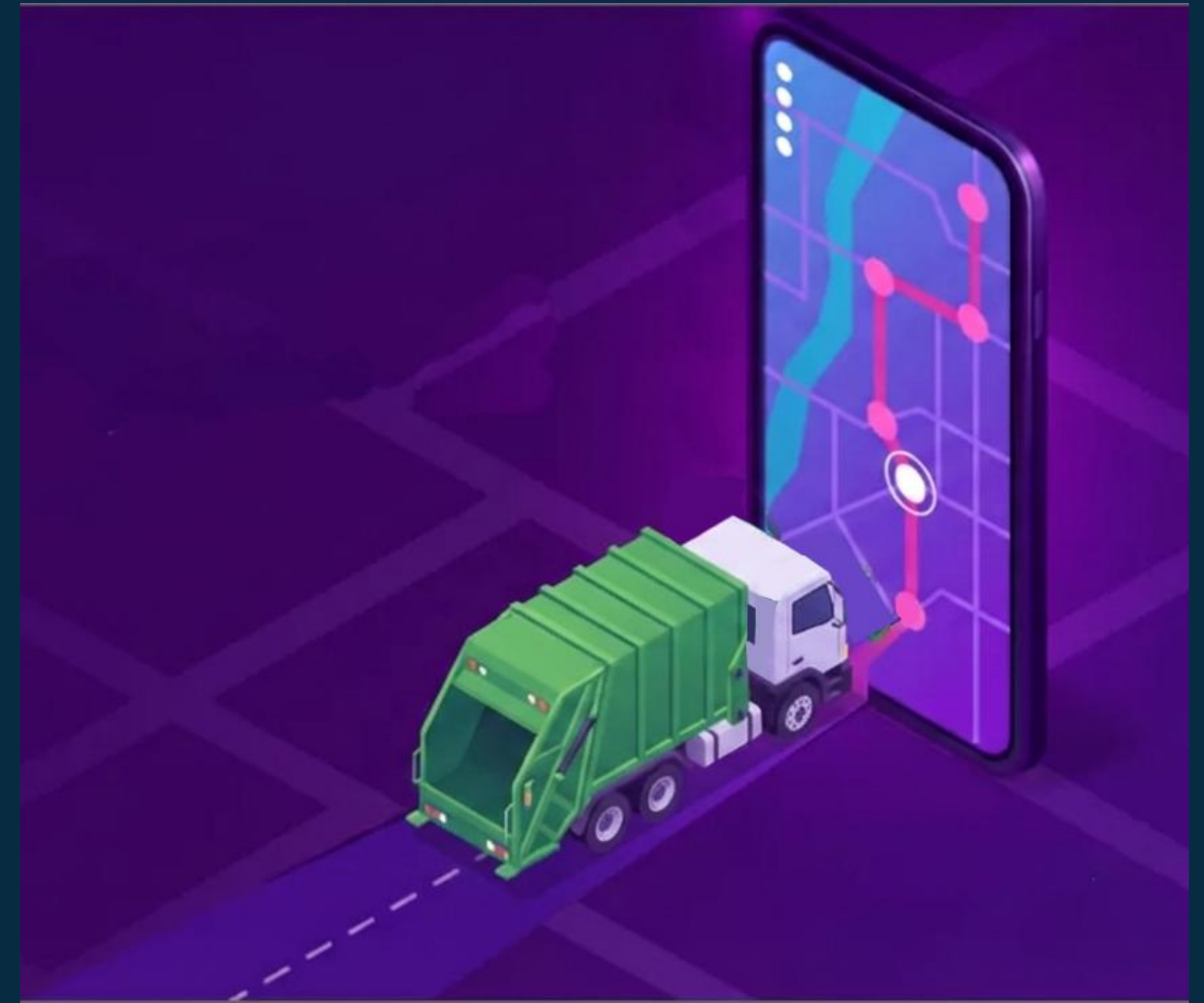
Saturday and Sundays: 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS

- Ad inserts
- Aerosol Cans
- Aluminum Cans
- Cardboard
- Cartons – shelf stable and refrigerated
- Catalogs
- Concrete
- Glass bottles and Jars
- Magazines
- Mattresses
- Newspapers
- All Plastics – All numbers and symbols accepted)
- Steel cans
- Telephone Books
- Tin cans
- Tree and yard waste
- Up to five (5) automobile tires

Process Efficiencies and Route Optimization

- Utilization of new work order system
- Accurate tracking of Service Requests
- Balanced workloads across crews – route size
- Planned refinements using performance data



Cost Survey Study

Burns & McDonnell

- Independent cost of service analysis completed
- Evaluated service models and cost drivers
- Findings under internal review



Recycling Program Update

- Contamination reduced from 49% to 38.78%
- Ongoing education and monitoring
- Midweek wait times remain elevated



Heavy Trash Contractor Update

- \$2M authorized for contractor support
- 6 Trucks are active
- Started on December 3rd, with a 2-week holiday pause
- Used 33% of funding as of 1/28/26
- Have Collected a Total of 3,255 Tons

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Landfill and Transfer Stations

McCarty Landfill (North): 9 years of remaining capacity

Blueridge Landfill (South): 73 years of remaining capacity

Atascocita Recycling & Disposal: 16 years of remaining capacity

Fairbanks Landfill: 30 years of remaining capacity

City Transfer Stations:

- 2 open transfer stations managed by Republic Services
- 1 Republic transfer station a few days per week
- 1 Waste Management transfer station in the South

Gasmer Transfer Station: Bid canceled; funding requested in FY27 CIP for reconsideration



Source: TCEQ Municipal Solid Waste in Texas: A Year in Review – 2024 Data Summary and Analysis



Grant, Staffing, and Communications

- Grant funding supports a multifamily recycling pilot with Council Member Kamin's office
- Additional funding opportunities under review
- Approximately 28 employees hired in FY26 (3 separations)
- Ongoing public communication through website, 3-1-1, social media, and community meetings





QUESTIONS

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