



Memorandum

To: Fair Haven Governing Body
From: Brush Committee (GB Members: Mayor Lucarelli, Councilpersons Rodriguez and Koch)
Date: April 08, 2021
Re: Brush Committee Recommendations

To: The Fair Haven Governing Body and Community:

Since May 2020, a dedicated group of Fair Haven Community members and Borough Officials have met on a regular basis to review the Borough's brush collection and disposal operations, including the brush storage and grinding/removal at the Borough's Hendrickson Avenue site. The "Brush Committee" circulated a town-wide survey to get input on the operation and the results of that survey were shared with the Community via various communication platforms.

The survey did confirm that Borough residents are generally quite pleased with both the frequency and quality of our brush collection service. A synopsis of the Brush Committee's overview and recommendations, as follows:

Ideas that were considered by the Committee but not being recommended at this time:

- Eliminating brush pickup all together
- Completely closing the brush facility
- Replacing curbside brush pickup with a "green can"

- Installing a new access road to the brush site through Fair Haven Fields to avoid brush site related truck traffic on residential streets.
- Relocation of the Borough's brush facility to Ridge Road, noting that this could be pursued in the future, but it would require various levels of state and local approvals.

Committee Recommendations:

- Keep the current brush site on Hendrickson open and operating for Fair Haven only
- Terminate the Interlocal agreement with Rumson for utilization of our brush facility.
- Change the process for Brush gridding and removal:
 - Consider using quotes for this service, if appropriate and utilize local vendors, if possible.
 - If the quote process is not an option, consider revising Bid Specs for future brush grinding bids, to include the following as options.
 - Limit the size of trucks that can be used to remove ground brush.
 - Limit time of access to and from the brush site to avoid trucks entering the site during school arrival and dismissal times.
 - Triple grind a portion of the brush, to have a pile available for residents near the Fair Haven Fields Community Garden.
- Improve communication of brush pickup schedule and how it works.
 - Consider distributing stickers for trash cans that list trash and brush zones and schedules.
 - Landscaping vendors are required to register with the Borough annually and they are provided with a brush collection schedule. Landscapers who put brush out at the wrong time are to be notified. The legality of fining landscapers would need further review by the Borough Attorney.
- Increase enforcement of brush and leaf pickup schedules. Residents that put brush out at the wrong time are to be encouraged to bring it back onto their property until the proper time. The Code Enforcement Officer will issue two warnings, which may be followed by a summons and a fine.