

Monday, May 12, 2014

## Trashaway-Republic Contract Coming Soon



The City of San Angelo extended its trash hauling/landfill operation contract in 2004 for a ten year period. With less than a year left City Council **considered re-uping** with Trashaway-Republic. Two months later Council directed staff to seek competitive bids. City Council minutes stated:

General discussion was held on whether to have an exclusive or open market contract and whether to base the contract term on the life of the site or fixed term. Mr. Kelton suggested separating the landfill and collection function as two separate contracts with the same term to maximize negotiations. In conclusion, Council directed staff to conduct a request for proposal. Mr. Kelton noted this process would allow staff to know the true value of the City's asset and what is best for citizens. He noted upon review, the proposals maybe rejected and staff may **renegotiate the contract with Republic Services.**

It took four more months to get the RFP posted and bids in. A committee found Trashaway-Republic's bid far superior to Texas Disposal Systems. The group essentially had **less than** five business days to do their work, given the two weekends between March 21 and April 1. Roughly one month after their decision City leaders held a press conference to explain their logic **to citizens.**

It became a tougher sell after news broke that Trashaway-Republic included unauthorized charges in bills for its commercial customers, part of the franchise awarded by the city. I wondered what the city had done over the years to ensure Trashaway-Republic lived up to the terms of its contract. Had they audited any bills over the 37 year period for contract compliance?

This trash deal started under Will Wilde, shifted to Ricky Dickson and now is under Shane Kelton. Will didn't have to answer to anybody. Dickson and Kelton look continually surprised that their answers are less than complete and informative.

The process focused on renewing Republic from square one. It hasn't been open and transparent, despite recent efforts by city leaders.

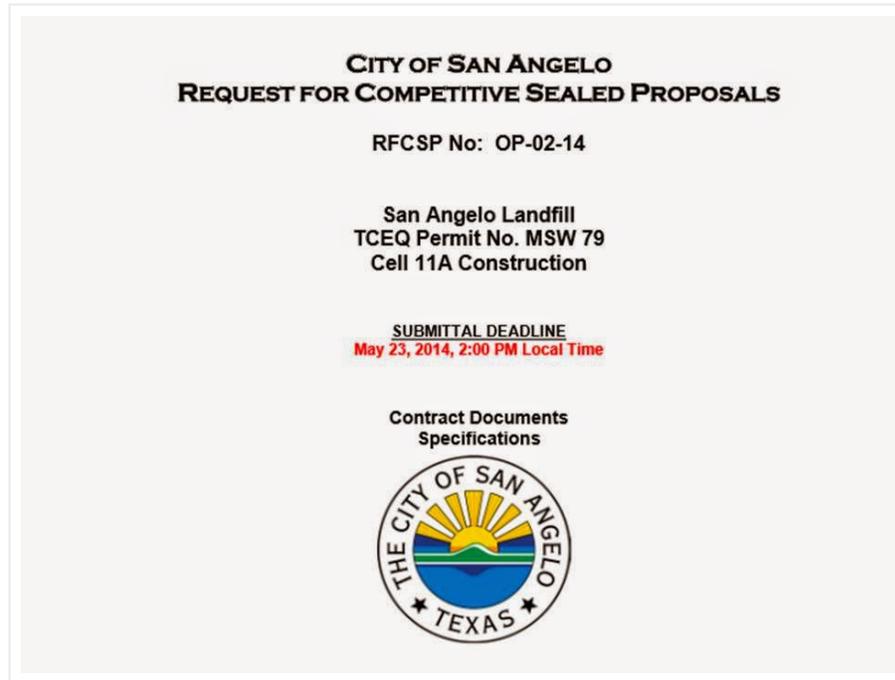
There's usually more to discover when good ole boys operate laissez faire for decades. We'll see what else crawls out from under the landfill cover.

by PEU Report/State of the Division at 12:18 AM 0 comments



Saturday, May 10, 2014

## City Seeks Bids for New Landfill Cell



The City [published](#) another landfill related Request for Proposal. The scope of work states:

The City of San Angelo is requesting bids for the construction of a 6.5 acre solid waste cell at the City of San Angelo Landfill. Construction of the cell will include general excavation, subgrade preparation, and **installation of protective cover and leachate collection system components.**

Submittals are due by May 23rd. Oddly, the City's contract with Trashaway-Republic Services includes these very items as the contractor's responsibility.

**2.2 Landfill Construction, Operation and Closing.** Contractor shall be responsible for construction, operation and closing of the landfill and disposal areas of the Landfill adhering to City's permit requirements as approved by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (hereinafter "TCEQ"). Contractor shall specifically be responsible for performing the following duties and/or assuming the following costs:

1. Construction of liner system.
2. Installation of flexible membrane liner.
3. Installation and operation of leachate collection system. The leachate disposed of in the City's sewer shall be monitored and charges or fees assessed for such disposal as provided by law. Contractor shall notify City prior to disposal of leachate at a rate of fifty (50) or more gallons per minute.
4. Placement of drainage media and liner protection cover.
5. Final closure placement.
6. Installation of upper flexible membrane liner.
7. Construction site drainage and grading.
8. Revegetation of closed cells to meet TCEQ requirements.
9. Construct site fencing and roads.



What appeared to be a conflict in fact was not. The City's contract with Trashaway-Republic prohibits the contractor from building a new cell in the last two years of the agreement without the express written consent of the city.

I found the RFP evaluation criteria interesting in light of the varying criteria the city used for waste collection and landfill operation.

#### 1.1.7. Evaluation Criteria

##### •**Cost (75%)**

Respondent shall provide detailed cost information as outlined in the Request. In analyzing Proposals, the City may take into consideration alternates and unit prices.

##### •**Respondents Reputation for Products/ Services (20%)**

Respondent shall provide a list of References for similar projects, including the identification of the City and contact information, a description of the project, and any relevant information regarding the similarities of past projects not otherwise readily apparent. (All references shall be for work completed in the last five (5) years). Additionally, respondent should identify whether any projects identified herein resulted in claims, litigation or arbitration.

##### • **Past Relationship with the Municipality and Local Experience (5%)**

Respondent shall provide a list of References for similar projects completed for the City of San Angelo, including a description of the project, and any relevant information regarding the similarities of past project not otherwise readily apparent. (All references shall be for work completed in the last five (5) years)

• **Experience with Projects in the City Of San Angelo Area (within 150 mile Radius) (5%)**

Respondent shall provide a list of References for similar projects completed in the general area of City of San Angelo, including a description of the project, City contact information, and any relevant information regarding the similarities of past project not otherwise readily apparent. (All references shall be for work completed in the last five (5) years)

The City's weighting adds up to 105%. The varying cost weights in this arena are as follows:

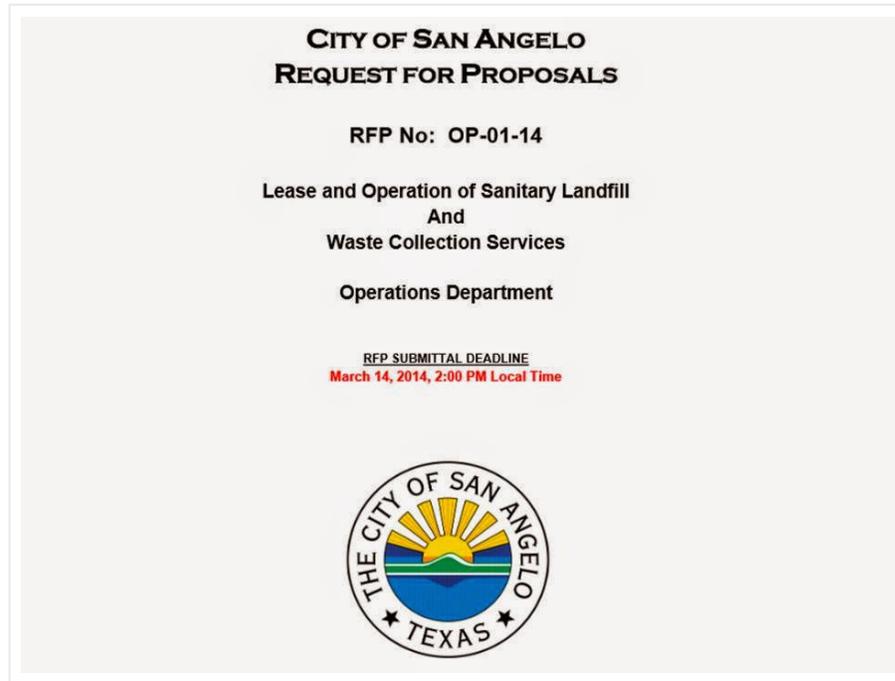
Waste Collection - Cost 15%  
Landfill Operation - Cost 35%  
New Landfill Cell - Cost 75%

*Disclosure:* This post was updated based on my finding contract language regarding new landfill cells in the City's Trashaway-Republic agreement.

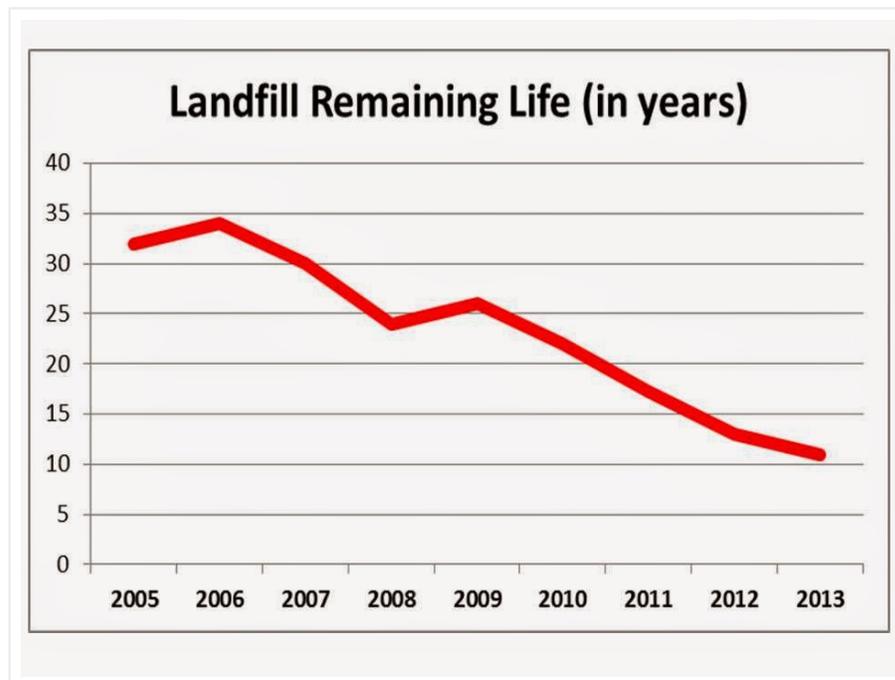
by PEU Report/State of the Division at 5:15 PM 0 comments 

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## City Trash Situation Serious

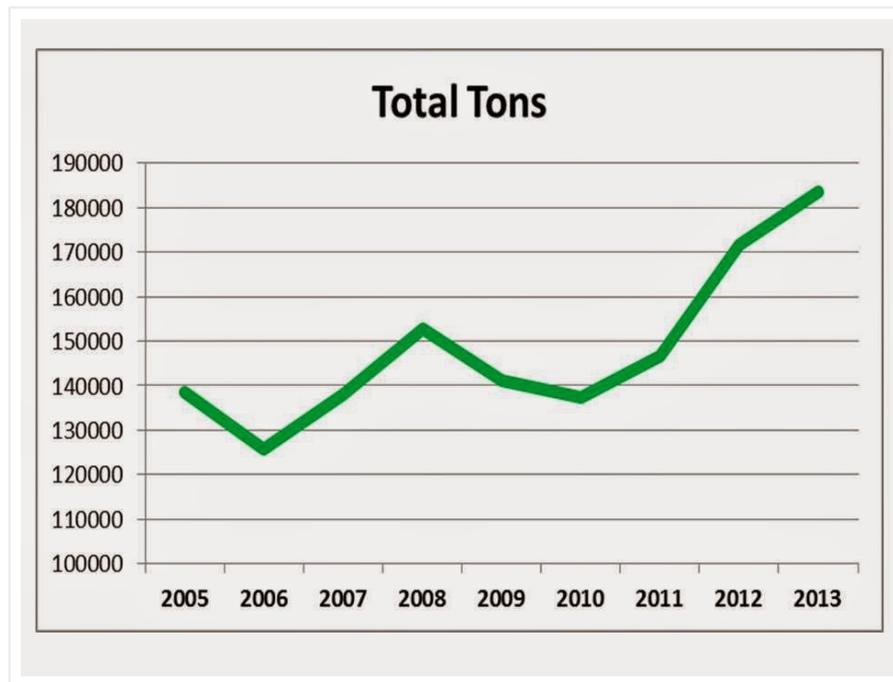


The machinations around the City of San Angelo's **finally bidding** trash and landfill services come with a serious backdrop. The first consideration is, after waiting 34 years to seek competitive bids, time is short.



The remaining life stood at 34 years in 2006. It fell to 11 years in 2013. In seven years time the landfill's remaining life dropped by twenty three years. That's a three year projected drop for every calendar year. Using this rate of change the City's landfill would be exhausted within five years.

Trash dumped at the landfill increased dramatically the last two years.



Since 1989 one vendor, Trashaway-Republic Services, provided San Angelo's trash collection service and operated the City's landfill.

The city broke the bidding into [trash collection](#) and [landfill operation](#). *ConchoInfo's* Jim Turner admonished staff for not sharing the evaluation criteria and methodology for scoring the two bids received, Trashaway-Republic and Texas Disposal Systems. The criteria listed in city bids documents are:

## Appendix C

### Landfill Lease and Operations Specifications

Table C21.1 – Proposal Evaluation Criteria

CRITERIA	WEIGHT
<b>Financial Impact</b>	<b>35 points</b>
<b>Operational Experience and Qualifications</b>	<b>35 points</b>
<b>Financial Qualifications and Stability</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Adherence to Specifications</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Additional Beneficial Criteria Submitted</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>	<b>100 points</b>

## Appendix D

### Waste Collections Specifications

Table D18.1 – Proposal Evaluation Criteria

CRITERIA	WEIGHT
Operational Experience and Qualifications	35 points
Adherence to Specifications	30 points
Financial Impact	15 points
Financial Qualifications and Stability	15 points
Additional Beneficial Criteria Submitted	5 points
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>	<b>100 points</b>

There are large weighting differences between the two services. "Financial Impact" garners up to 35 points in the landfill portion but only 15 points in trash collection. Similarly, "Adherence to Specifications" is 30 points for waste collection but only 10 points for the landfill operation.

Jim Turner did a nice job of summarizing his [numerous concerns](#) regarding this process on *ConchoInfo*. I don't plan to rehash any of his fine observations, but will add a few thoughts as I delve into this trashy matter.

by PEU Report/State of the Division at [2:05 PM](#) [0 comments](#)

