



# BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN PARK

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## Open Letter to the Residents of Franklin Park:

In February of 2010 the PA Department of Environmental Protection approved a grant to Franklin Park Borough to implement an Automated Pay-As-You-Throw garbage collection system. Under such a system residents pay only for the garbage they throw away. There is no cost for disposing recyclable materials and yard waste. The PA DEP makes these types of grants available to communities to reduce the amount of garbage that ends up in our landfills. Money for the grant is financed by special fees paid by haulers when they dump garbage in PA landfills. The grant is not financed by the State's general tax dollars.

Prior to considering whether to implement the proposed garbage collection system, Council wanted to receive our residents' input. A letter was mailed to every household in the Borough briefly explaining the proposed system. In the letter, residents were invited to attend a meeting on May 17<sup>th</sup> at the Franklin Park Volunteer Fire Hall. Also, residents were informed that additional information regarding this matter would be available on the Borough website and at the Municipal Building. Lastly, the letter informed residents how they could provide comments to Council and Mayor. At the May 17th meeting further information was provided to those in attendance regarding the proposed system. Afterwards, Council and Mayor took comments from the audience.

**Based on the comments provided at the meeting and those received via regular mail, email and verbally an overwhelming majority of our residents spoke out against the Automated Pay-As-You-Throw garbage collection system. Council discussed the issue at the June 2, 2010 work session and rejected the grant. Therefore, the method of collecting garbage in Franklin Park will not change.**

**While our residents opposed automated collection many indicated they would be willing to increase the amount of recycling under the current collection system. Council has asked the Borough's Environmental Advisory Committee to make recommendations on ways to accomplish this objective.**

Council and Mayor would like to thank everyone who provided comments and/or expressed their opinion to the Borough regarding this matter. Due to the large number of responses it was not possible to acknowledge every letter or email. Nevertheless, your input was taken into consideration in reaching a decision on this matter.

Sincerely,

Ambrose Rocca  
Borough Manager