



MEDIA RELEASE

City of Temple hires Emergency Contract for Brush Pickup

D&J Enterprises will begin collecting curbside brush on Tuesday, March 21, 2023

TEMPLE, TX (March 20, 2023) – The City of Temple has contracted D&J Enterprises Inc. to assist in the pickup and disposal of the downed trees and branches that covered the City during the February 2023 ice storm.

The City's Solid Waste Department has worked diligently to remove the debris, so far collecting an estimated 270,000 cubic yards of brush; however, it is estimated that the department is only about half-way complete and at this pace, it would likely take an additional four months to get caught up.

The City of Temple will pay an estimated \$400,000 to D&J Enterprises Inc. to work 7 days a week, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. to collect the remaining brush around the City. Their services also provide for the grinding of the brush, which will be utilized by Waste Management as groundcover for the City's landfill.

"Our crews have been working non-stop to get this debris cleaned up. The reality is, the ice storm caused a vast amount of downed trees and debris, and it has overwhelmed our crews," said Justin Brantley, Director of Solid Waste for the City of Temple. "We hear our community's concerns and are excited to get this help so we can serve our residents faster and get back to the beautiful Temple we know and love."

The contracted crew will work West to East to pick up the remaining brush beginning Tuesday, March 21. City crews will continue to collect bulk while the contractor is collecting the brush. Once the contractor is complete in all the areas of the City, regular collection for both brush and bulk will resume as scheduled by City crews.

It is important to note that if a resident's brush and bulk pile is mixed, it will not be serviced. Residents are responsible for separating those piles. Also, because crews will be working weekends and evenings, it is important to not block access to the brush piles and allow space for the heavy-duty equipment that crews will be utilizing to

make those pick-ups. No additional charges will be reflected on resident's Utility Bills while the City contracts services for brush collection.

For more information on brush and bulk collection, and area collection updates please visit templetx.gov/solidwaste.