
[CityClerk]: Roadside Trash

1 message

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Tue, Mar 31, 2020 at 3:27 PM

To the members of the Columbia City Council:

As a resident of the N.E. Columbia, I travel daily Ballenger and Clark Lane on my way downtown. I continue to be appalled at the unsightly trash along these routes, particularly from the roundabout at Ballenger and Mexico Gravel south to the Clark Lane roundabout and then west on Clark Lane to about the Golden Corral. These two areas appear to be trashed at a much higher rate than most other streets. I spent 10 years picking up the heavily trashed section of Ballenger from Timber Lane north to the roundabout. I managed to do this twice a year but had to stop because of my age and back problems.

I have some suggestions as to how to address this ongoing problem:

1. A significant amount of this trash flies off the garbage truck as I personally and others in the area have frequently observed. Refuse truck drivers need to be made aware of that problem
2. Although the Volunteer groups in the spring do a fine job, I do not think once a year is enough, especially for our most heavily trashed routes. I would suggest a second pickup day in the fall for the worst streets and routes.
3. Consider signage along such routes with messages like "Keep Columbia Beautiful. Dispose of Refuse Properly and Responsibly." This, of course, will not stop the problem. Having taught high school students for 36 years, I am not naive. But I do think a certain percentage of conscience-driven drivers will give pause before tossing.

I wish to thank the Council for allowing me to present this issue to the Board.

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