



Council Action No. 2026A-0522

City of Minneapolis

File No. 2026-00799

Committee: CI

Public Hearing: None

Passage: Jul 16, 2026

Publication: JUL 25 2026

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTE				
COUNCIL MEMBER	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Payne	X			
Osman	X			
Chughtai				X
Wonsley	X			
Rainville	X			
Vetaw	X			
Warren	X			
Shaffer	X			
Stevenson	X			
Chavez	X			
Whiting	X			
Chowdhury	X			
Palmisano	X			

MAYOR ACTION

☒ APPROVED☐ VETOED

MAYOR

JUL 23 2026

DATE

Certified an official action of the City Council

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

Presented to Mayor: JUL 17 2026

Received from Mayor: JUL 23 2026

Pursuant to City Charter Section 7.1(h)(2), the Minneapolis City Council, in support of its official legislative, policymaking, and oversight functions, does hereby request from the Mayor the following information and data:

1. What are the environmental and public health impacts of continuing to burn trash at HERC? Please include:
 1. Impacts on water usage, such as how much water HERC consumes each year from the City of Minneapolis.
 2. Public health costs each year for Minneapolis residents related to HERC emissions, if known.
2. What are the financial impacts for Minneapolis residents of the municipal bond debt that HERC has accrued and continues to accrue each year that it operates for its repairs and environmental rules compliance? What have been the financial impacts on other municipalities that have closed publicly owned incinerators, including on related bonds and interest payments?

3. What are feasible alternative strategies to handle trash currently delivered to HERC? Please include:
 1. Expansion of reuse, recycling, composting, fix-it clinics (including permanent fix-it hubs), ordinance requirements for residential, industrial, commercial and institutional waste generators and haulers (e.g., an ordinance like San Francisco adopted for commercial and multi-family buildings having to meet diversion standards or hire contractors to sort on-site and do more extensive outreach in their buildings to meet goals).
 2. How would the City contract for landfill capacity meeting higher standards than the State requires (e.g., a set volume of airspace, like the San Francisco landfill contract)?
4. What steps are required for the City of Minneapolis to prepare for the conversion of the HERC into a facility that supports achieving Zero Waste (e.g. a sorting and recycling facility)? What are the projected costs and timeline?
5. What are strategies for the city to attain cost savings from shifting away from HERC? For example, by owning or contracting with recycling, composting, or reuse facilities for processing of resources currently going to HERC.
6. What are the estimated environmental impacts associated with the proposal to convert the HERC into a sorting and recycling facility?
 1. How many additional or fewer vehicles will be needed?
 2. What effects would be created by the change in vehicles and miles?
 3. Would this change increase the cost to property owners for trash removal?
 4. What would the sorting and recycling facility tipping fee cost in comparison to HERC's tipping fee?
 5. If trash were redirected to a landfill, how would landfill tipping fees compare to the current HERC tipping fee?
7. If recyclable materials going to HERC are instead handled through an established reuse system, recycled, and composted, what can be expected in terms of changes to the number of direct and indirect jobs created and overall economic impacts? Please compare any estimates to the estimates of potential job creation in the Zero Waste USA HERC Transition Plan.

The requested information and data shall be presented to the Climate & Infrastructure Committee no later than November 1, 2026.