

From: [Civic Whittier](#)
To: [WebMail - CCD](#)
Subject: Public Comment - 5/12/26: 8.G. Solid Waste Contract Compliance Reviews
Date: Monday, May 11, 2026 1:44:39 PM

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I am writing to flag findings about Athens that do not appear in the staff agenda report, and to ask Council to consider one specific action.

On Athens porter service hours. Attachment B, page 16, documents that Athens has been operating porter services from 9:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. rather than the 1:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. schedule required by Section 4.04.6. The City had no record of approving this change. The City's response, per the consultant, was that since no issues had been raised, the unauthorized hours were now acceptable.

On Athens porter duties. Attachment B, page 16, documents that in 2025 Athens reported zero instances of identifying illegal dumping perpetrators, removing abandoned shopping carts, or clearing homeless encampments. All are explicit porter duties under Section 4.04.6.

On Athens abandoned-item collection. Attachment B, page 14, documents 21 second notices and 8 third notices across 12 weeks sampled. HF&H states this "suggests that the Contractor may not have performed collection within the 24-hour collection window."

On Athens collection hours. The City has had documented notice of Athens collection-hour violations since at least December 28, 2024, when I emailed Public Works at pubwks@cityofwhittier.org to report Athens trucks arriving before contracted service times in District 2 and to request that the City address adherence with Athens. Just to let you know, I received no response. Early-morning violations continued throughout 2025 and into 2026, but I did not submit additional complaints because the first one had gone unanswered. I submitted a second complaint on April 13, 2026, only after a pickup at 5:05 a.m., nearly an hour before even the contracted 6:00 a.m. start was disruptive enough that I felt I had no choice. On April 15, 2026, Management Analyst Valerie Alvarez (thank you for your help) confirmed in writing that "service times must stay between 6am-6pm and anything before or after is non-compliant within our contract." The Athens Area Manager reported the driver was in the area at 5:55 a.m. I provided a timestamped video showing that the actual pickup occurred at 5:05 a.m. Both complaints are on file with Public Works. The December 2024 complaint falls within the audit period covered by tonight's report.

A note on the staff report itself. The agenda report states Republic's franchise fees were "remitted on time" with "no discrepancies." Attachment A, page 10, documents that Republic's Q2 2023 payment was five days late (\$423.48 in foregone late fees under Section 8.04) and a \$1,655.91 reconciliation variance. The staff report also cites Republic's billing accuracy as 99.8 percent in one row and 99.95 percent in row three. While Republic is no longer the contracted hauler, the misrepresentation matters because the same staff is now responsible for summarizing Athens compliance going forward.

A request for Council consideration

RECEIVED ON: May 11, 2026

Council Meeting: _____
Agenda Item No: _____

I would ask Council to consider amending the Athens franchise collection hours to align with the City's noise ordinance. The ordinance establishes quiet hours from 10:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. and prohibits construction noise before 7:00 a.m. on weekdays. The franchise agreement permits collection beginning at 6:00 a.m. Collection trucks generate sound levels well in excess of what the City prohibits residents and contractors from generating during the same hours. Last month, I recorded a pickup at 5:05 a.m., a full three hours before quiet hours end. Residents who pay franchise fees should not also be paying with their sleep.

Ashley