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**MEDIA RELEASE
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CITY AWARDS CONTRACT TO SINGLE WASTE HAULER

TRAVERSE CITY, MICHIGAN – Completing a year long process, the City of Traverse City authorized an agreement last night with American Waste to provide solid waste hauling services to residential customers. This was done to reduce truck traffic in the residential neighborhoods and obtain lower prices for residential services.

For many years, the City received complaints from residents about redundant garbage trucks on the streets and alleys throughout the neighborhoods. Under the old system, neighborhoods could see three or four large compactor trucks collecting solid waste each week. In addition to the noise, this redundant truck traffic took a toll on the City infrastructure. Under the new system, there will be fewer trucks in the residential areas.

The average monthly rate for solid waste services in the City is currently estimated at \$18. Depending on the service level selected, the average City resident would save \$90 to \$100 per year. American Waste services range from a 96 gallon weekly cart service with weekly recycling and monthly bulk item pickup at \$11/month to 30 gallon budget bags, with customers purchasing bags for \$2/bag.

This is a five year contract starting April 1, 2011, with a phase-in for customers who have prepaid for services. American Waste will be contacting residents to arrange for this service. You can also create/confirm your account online at www.GoLocalGoAmerican.com . Once you have created your account with American, you will be notified of your pick-up day. If your current pre-paid service will expire prior to April 1, 2011, you may contact American Waste to begin your new service early. After April 1, 2011, American Waste is the only waste hauler authorized to provide services to City residents.

Further information may be found on the City's website at: www.traversecitymi.gov .

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