



# City of Seattle

July 9, 2019

Honorable Lisa Herbold  
Chair, Civil Rights, Utilities, Economic Development & Arts Committee  
600 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Seattle, WA 98124

Dear Councilmember Herbold,

Today, at your request, Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) is presenting on an Every-Other-Week Garbage Collection Pilot program it implemented in 2012.

I am happy to have SPU present on the subject, but I do not support Every-Other-Week Garbage Collection for a number of reasons. As the presentation shows, people with lower household income, people of color, and people with larger household size were more unhappy with the pilot program than their wealthier and whiter neighbors. To date, no Racial Equity Toolkit analysis has been done on Every-Other-Week Garbage Collection and the preliminary results indicate that there are significant Race and Social Justice Initiative concerns with such a program.

Additionally, the potential cost savings of going to Every-Other-Week Garbage Collection are not commensurate with the level of service reduction.

I believe that garbage should be picked up every week in every part of the city and do not support any efforts at reducing service levels to the people of Seattle.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jenny A. Durkan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Jenny A. Durkan  
Mayor of Seattle

CC: Council President Bruce A. Harrell  
Councilmember Kshama Sawant  
Councilmember Mike O'Brien  
Councilmember Abel Pacheco