DATE: January 23, 2008
TO: Bart Maulden, Purchasing Officer
THRU: Mark Madden, Director - Solid Waste Services
FROM: Brian Vanderwood, General Foreman – Refuse Collections
CC: Mari Johnston, Finance Manager, Solid Waste Services

SUBJECT: Award Bid 27B081

Solid Waste Services recommends award of Bid 27B081, item #1 to the responsive and lowest responsible bidder, Western Peterbilt of Alaska for a total bid price of $742,949.97. This award will provide SWS with three (3) Automated Sideloaded Refuse Collection Vehicles for delivery within 210 days. Funding is available from the 2008 Solid Waste Collections Capital Budget 5401-561-8951-895102.

Automated Refuse Collection Vehicles are part of our routine vehicle replacement cycle. The cost of the vehicle automation represents an estimated incremental increase in cost per vehicle of approximately 10 percent over similar conventional refuse collection vehicles. The automated trucks were selected by the Solid Waste Services Collection Utility over standard refuse collections vehicles:

- To increased route productivity – operators can handle more refuse per day because the equipment, rather than the worker is bearing the weight and repetitive lifting of the refuse containers. Collection efficiency has been shown to increase by 10 to 30 percent using automated equipment.
- To reduce worker compensation claims – because the operator is no longer doing the manual lifting or leaving the vehicle at each stop, this equipment eliminates potential for back strains, as well as trip hazards while entering and leaving the vehicle.
- To promote establishing variable or PAYT (Pay as You Throw) rate structures – Customers use standardized waste containers which allows monitoring of total waste collected, and a better capture of charges for excess waste.
- To promote and allow easier implementation of curbside recycling programs – automated systems with standard containers are more efficient for curbside collection, allowing the Utility to accomplish both refuse and recycle collection with reduced expansion of vehicle fleet and workforce.
- To improve community aesthetics with the use of standardized roll carts – Use of standard roll carts eliminated unsightly collections of bags, cans and loose refuse placed at the curb by customers.