

## PRESS RELEASE

TO:ALL NEWS MEDIACONTACT:FRANK SAU, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONSPHONE:267-933-6022DATE:January 29, 2015SUBJECT:BRIDGEPORT GOES GREEN – IMPLEMENTS BOROUGH-WIDERECYCLING COLLECTION PROGRAM

Earlier this month, local solid waste company J. P. Mascaro & Sons' trucks rolled through Bridgeport on a Friday morning collecting recyclables placed at the curb by Bridgeport residents for the first time ever!

This 2015 Single Stream Residential Recycling Collection Program underway in the Borough was the result of the Borough's recent Bid Solicitation. According to Borough Manager, Don Curley, many residents were anxious to start a curbside recycling collection program. Council was sensitive to the request and aware of the trends in solid waste management. Accordingly, it was decided to include a curbside recycling option when we solicited bids for a new waste collection contract late last year.

The Borough was pleasantly surprised when the bids were opened, since the low bid for trash and recycling services from long-time Borough contractor, J. P. Mascaro & Sons, was

actually less than Mascaro's low bid for trash only. While, admittedly, the switch from two times a week trash collection to one time a week will take a little getting used to, with the added recycling services, once a week collection should be enough.

"Many residents had approached Council in the past about recycling. It just seemed that the time was right, and once we saw Mascaro's price and that we would be able to stay with Mascaro, who we have had an excellent relationship with over the years, it was a no-brainer," said Council President JoAnn Gadzicki. "The recycling movement isn't perfect yet, but the kinks will get ironed out. I am sensitive to those who are resistant to change. There are some folks who have had issues and Mascaro has been cooperative and accommodating," Gadzicki added.

So, for the next five years, and presumably thereafter, the Borough will be able to reduce its amount of trash going into a landfill and at the same time recycling many household items under its single stream recycling program. "It's just our small part in helping the environment," said Gadzicki.