Keep safe, practical municipal refuse collection for Herndon Park Station

Request to pause the June 22, 2026 policy change and preserve—or reasonably adapt—the private-drive collection service.

25+ years

of reported safe municipal collection on private drive

10 homes

on a 400-foot long private drive

Homeowners of Herndon Park Station Private Drive

Herndon Park Station: 30 Years of Planning, Access and Historical Practice

1995-1998

Subdivision planned/approved with rear garages/driveways and a common private drive

- ❑ Subdivision is bounded by Station Street, Park Avenue and Monroe Street in the heart of the Historic District and includes one of the oldest houses in Herndon – the Ballou House
- ❑ Park/Monroe intersection safety concerns and Historic District location factored into design decisions made by Town Council – December 12, 1995
- ❑ 1998 plat and deed provided the Town access to the private drive for providing municipal services

1999-June 22, 2026

Town refuse vehicles used the private drive to collect refuse from all 10 homes consistent with the subdivision's original design and Town's access rights; Homeowners relied on this continuing service when purchasing homes

June 3, 2026

Town notified 10 homeowners that refuse bins must be placed on Park Avenue instead of private drive for collection beginning June 22, 2026

June 5 – August 4, 2026

Homeowners unanimously objected to collection policy change, requested pause to explore options and meet onsite with Town representatives to discuss; on August 4, Town notified homeowners that the policy change will remain in place

Pause enforcement while the Town reviews the impacts

Residents respectfully ask the Town to:

1 **Stay the June 22 deadline**

Avoid continued hardship while concerns are reviewed.

2 **Maintain historical service**

Continue the collection approach used for over 25 years.

3 **Explore options for a practical solution**

Work with residents to arrive at a solution that **both** addresses Town's concerns **and** allows refuse collection to continue on private drive.

A temporary stay protects residents, vehicle operators and passengers (including school bus occupants), and pedestrians without precluding a final operational decision.

Concentrating refuse at the entrance exacerbates an already hazardous corner

10+

large carts twice/week, plus yard waste, over 4-day period each week

from 10 homes staged near the drive entrance and the hazardous Park Avenue/Monroe Street/Dranesville Road intersection



Potential consequences

- **Blocked or narrowed public rights-of-way**
- Reduced sightlines for vehicles entering and exiting private drive
- A refuse-truck stop near Park Avenue/Monroe Street/Dranesville Road intersection
- **A larger bottleneck at a corner that has been the site of at least 50 traffic accidents (including damage to homeowner property) since 2000**

A 400-foot bin route creates a serious burden for older neighbors

~50%

of homeowners are ages 60-80

Heavy loads

Multiple full trash and recycling carts plus yard-waste bags.

Twice-weekly distance

A roughly 400-foot trip to the public street and back.

Weather exposure

Heat, rain, snow and ice increase fall and exertion risks.

The policy changes collection from a service issue into an accessibility and physical-safety issue.

The physical conditions have not changed—and service has worked for decades

25+ years

of collection access without recorded property damage, vehicle entrapment or operational failure.

Key question: What new condition now requires ending a service model that has operated successfully for decades?

Existing access	Multiple Town easements support use of the private drive by the Town for municipal services.
Designed capacity	**The drive was designed to accommodate Town service vehicles.**
Same layout	No physical change is identified that would eliminate operational access.

Strategic Focus Areas

4. Good Governance: Herndon's government provides effective and efficient community-centered services and programs that are focused on improving quality of life and are responsive to community and environmental evolution. Major policy decisions are considered by Town Council and are reflective of community engagement and informed by kinetically engaged information gathering. The community trusts that their government responsibly manages resources, is responsive to their needs, provides exceptional services, and equitably represents them.

A prominent intersection should not become a refuse staging area

Long curbside dwell times are likely when residents leave for work before collection and return later in the day.

Visible impact

Multiple carts and yard-waste bags could remain in view at one of Herndon's primary intersections and entryway into the historic district for up to 4 days each week.

Town image

Clean streets and an attractive public realm are part of Herndon's identity.

Collection policy should reinforce—not undermine—that standard.

Strategic Focus Areas

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Protect residents now and resolve the issue collaboratively

Immediately	**Stay enforcement of the June 22 policy change.**
During review	Continue the historical collection service.
On site	Meet with residents and operations staff at the drive to plan a solution that both addresses the Town's concerns and allows refuse collection to continue on the private drive.
Then decide	Test and document a safe, efficient plan, then decide on a permanent, mutually beneficial solution for continuing to collect refuse from the private drive.

The homeowners are ready to work with the Town on a safe, reasonable solution.

Satellite View
Herndon Park Station Subdivision

Shows:

- **Length of private drive**
- **Proximity of "Refuse Staging Area" on Park Avenue to private drive entrance and hazardous Park Avenue/Monroe Street/Dranesville Road Intersection**
- **Narrowness of public roads**
- **Median strips that further narrow roadways**



Refuse Staging Area on Park Avenue



Recycling Vehicle With School Bus and Other Vehicles Lined Up Behind It Past Station Street Intersection



Multiple Cars Passing Refuse Vehicle Into Oncoming Traffic Near Median Strip and Private Drive





Illustration shows real-world challenges of the current refuse collection area.

A solution should be practical, safe and workable in all seasons – not just during good weather.

