



FACE IT: Report Slides



City sanitation refuse truck driver struck-by motorist – North Carolina 2022-01



Photo of the scene where the incident occurred. (Photo courtesy of NC OSH)



SUMMARY

- On July 20, 2020, at 11:38 am, a 55-year-old city sanitation refuse truck driver was struck-by a motorist.
- The refuse truck driver was loading trash along with a sanitation technician on a small business sanitation route with roughly 80 customers.
- The incident occurred on a 4-lane median divided road in an urban business area.
- The speed limit posted on the roadway was 45 mph.



Photo of the scene where the incident occurred. (Photo courtesy of NC OSH)

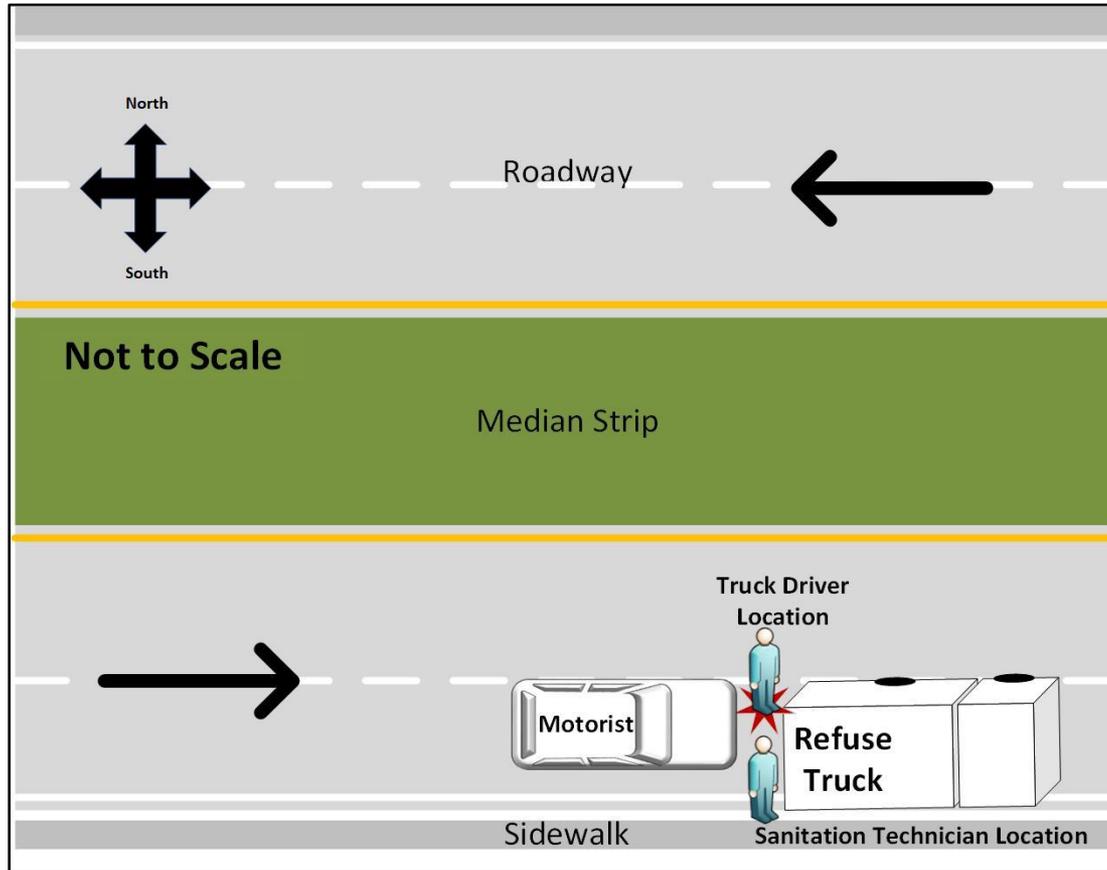


SUMMARY



Photo of the scene and back of the sanitation/refuse truck. (Photo courtesy of NC OSH)

- The city sanitation refuse truck driver was at the back driver side of the refuse truck loading trash along with a sanitation technician who was positioned at the back passenger side of the truck at the time of the incident.
- A male motorist in his mid-60s did not brake or change lanes away from the refuse truck and collided with the refuse truck, pinning the sanitation refuse truck driver.
- The sanitation refuse truck driver was transported to the hospital and later died as a result of his crushing injuries.



Drawing of the location of the sanitation workers and motorist at the time of the incident.

(Note: diagram is not to scale)



CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

- Sanitation truck driver position in relation to traffic flow
- Motorist travel position, speed, and inattention



RECOMMENDATIONS

- Employers should select refuse equipment that reduces struck-by injury hazards and minimizes roadside traffic exposure to sanitation workers.
- Employers should conduct job hazard analysis (JHA) to identify potential hazards and risk factors and develop effective measures to prevent worker injuries associated with each refuse collection task.
- Employers should educate and train employees on risks associated with working on roadways with passing motorists and the need to maintain heightened situational awareness.



RECOMMENDATIONS

- Employers should ensure workers are visible to motorists.
- Employers should ensure equipment is visible to motorists.
- States, counties and municipalities should consider creating and promoting public awareness campaigns to educate motorists on move over laws.



City sanitation refuse truck driver struck-by motorist – North Carolina 2022-01



Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation Program

NIOSH • 1000 Frederick Lane, Morgantown, WV 26508 • 304-285-5916

INCIDENT HIGHLIGHTS

DATE: July 20, 2020

TIME: 11:38 a.m.

VICTIM: 55-year-old equipment operator

INDUSTRY/NAICS CODE: Solid waste collection, 562111

EMPLOYER: City public works division; 315 employees.

SAFETY & TRAINING: Comprehensive safety and health program

SCENE: Urban street

LOCATION: North Carolina

EVENT TYPE: Struck-by



REPORT#: 2022-01 **REPORT DATE:** April 24, 2023

City sanitation refuse truck driver struck-by motorist – North Carolina

SUMMARY

On July 20, 2020, at 11:38 am, a 55-year-old city sanitation refuse truck driver was struck-by a motorist. The refuse truck driver was loading trash along with a sanitation technician on a small business sanitation route with roughly 80 customers. The incident occurred on a 4-lane median divided road in an urban business area. The speed limit posted on the roadway was 45 mph. The city sanitation refuse truck driver was at the back driver side of the refuse truck loading trash along with a sanitation technician who was positioned at the back passenger side of the truck at the time of the incident. A male motorist in his mid-60s did not brake or change lanes away from the refuse truck and collided with the refuse truck, pinning the sanitation refuse truck driver. The sanitation refuse truck driver was transported to the hospital where he later died as a result of his crushing injuries. [READ THE FULL REPORT > \(p. 3\)](#)

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

Key contributing factors:

- sanitation worker position in relation to traffic flow
- motorist travel position, speed, and inattention [LEARN MORE > \(p. 9\)](#)

RECOMMENDATIONS

NIOSH investigators concluded that, to help prevent similar occurrences, employers should:

- select refuse equipment that reduces struck-by injury hazards for employees
- educate and train employees on risks associated with working on roadways with motorists and the importance of maintaining heightened situational awareness
- ensure workers and equipment are visible to motorists [LEARN MORE > \(p. 9\)](#)

FACE IT: [2022-01 REPORT SLIDES](#)

www.cdc.gov/niosh/face



Download the full report: <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/face/pdfs/full202201.pdf>



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