



ORDINANCE NO. 28849

1 AN ORDINANCE relating to Solid Waste, Recycling, and Hazardous Waste;
2 amending Chapter 12.09 of the Municipal Code, "Solid Waste,
3 Recycling, and Hazardous Waste," to adjust the rates and charges to
4 include an increase effective January 1, 2023, and an increase effective
5 January 1, 2024; providing for severability; and, establishing an effective
6 date.

7 WHEREAS the proper handling of solid waste helps to keep the City
8 clean and maintain the quality of life for all residents, and

9 WHEREAS by ensuring adequate solid waste management is in place to
10 provide necessary services to businesses and residents, this utility promotes
11 the growth and development of a vibrant economy, and

12 WHEREAS the guiding strategy for these rate adjustments is to maintain
13 the lowest responsible cost increase for customers, while maintaining long-term
14 financial sustainability of the utilities, and

15 WHEREAS the proposed rate increases are driven by operating expenses
16 and construction inflation, and additional investments in Solid Waste utility
17 employees are also needed to support customer growth, and

18 WHEREAS proposed overall revenue increases are 4 percent, and
19 included in the proposed revenue plan is increased financial assistance for
20 income-qualifying residential customers, and

21 WHEREAS the revenue proposal is supported by the Environmental
22 Services Commission ("ESC"), which represents a cross-section of interests in
23 the City and provides input to the rate making process for Environmental
24 Services utilities, and through presentations and discussions, ESC members
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1 share their insights and concerns as staff address operational and capital
2 plans, and the resulting supporting rates, and

3 WHEREAS outreach to City Neighborhood Councils and other
4 community groups has been coordinated with Tacoma Public Utilities' utility
5 outreach and communications activities, and staff has engaged with several
6 community organizations, neighborhood councils, and local governments, and
7

8 WHEREAS these engagements have been productive, and Environmental
9 Services has received valuable feedback, comments, and questions on a wide
10 range of utility-related topics, however the department has not received significant
11 feedback on rates proposals; Now, Therefore,
12

13 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF TACOMA:

14 Section 1. That Chapter 12.09 of the Municipal Code, "Solid Waste,
15 Recycling, and Hazardous Waste," is hereby amended, to adjust the rates and
16 charges to include an increase effective January 1, 2023, and an increase
17 effective January 1, 2024, to read as set forth in the attached Exhibit "A."
18

19 Section 2. That this ordinance shall become effective on January 1, 2023.

20 Section 3. That if any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this
21 ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of
22 any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the
23 remaining portions of this ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would
24 have passed this ordinance and each and every section, subsection, sentence,
25 clause, or phrase not declared invalid or unconstitutional without regard to whether
26



1 any portion of the ordinance would be subsequently declared invalid or
2 unconstitutional.

3 Section 4. That the City Clerk, in consultation with the City Attorney, is
4 authorized to make necessary corrections to this ordinance, including, but not
5 limited to, the correction of scrivener's/clerical errors, references, ordinance
6 numbering, section/subsection numbers, and any references thereto.
7

8 Passed November 22, 2022

9

10


11 Mayor

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Attest:

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15 City Clerk

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Approved as to form:

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19 Chief Deputy City Attorney

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EXHIBIT "A"

CHAPTER 12.09

SOLID WASTE, RECYCLING, AND HAZARDOUS WASTE

Sections:

- 12.09.010 Purpose.
- 12.09.020 Authority.
- 12.09.030 Definitions.
- 12.09.040 General requirements.
- 12.09.050 Transportation.
- 12.09.060 Requirements for containers.
- 12.09.070 Special permits.
- 12.09.080 Assistance to elderly and/or disabled individuals.
- 12.09.090 Rate reduction for low-income senior and low-income disabled individuals.
- 12.09.092 Authority to allow residential or commercial service.
- 12.09.095 Disposal rate reduction for qualifying nonprofit materials salvage/recycling corporation(s).
- 12.09.100 Collection.
- 12.09.105 Pilot Projects.
- 12.09.110 Residential automated and semi-automated services.
- 12.09.120 Commercial services.
- 12.09.130 Use of Recovery and Transfer Center Facility (disposal site) – General.
- 12.09.140 Disposal rates.
- 12.09.150 *Repealed.*
- 12.09.160 Billing periods, payments and collections.
- 12.09.170 Disposal area automated scale system cards.
- 12.09.180 State tax.
- 12.09.190 Prohibited material.
- 12.09.200 Disposal of asbestos-containing material.
- 12.09.210 Recycling – General.
- 12.09.215 *Preempted.*
- 12.09.220 Enforcement.
- 12.09.230 Violations – Penalties.
- 12.09.240 Notice of violations – Civil penalties.
- 12.09.250 Appeals of special permits.

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12.09.110 Residential automated and semi-automated services.

A. Minimum Monthly Service.

| | Effective Years | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | 2021 2023 | 2022 2024 |
| Once every other week pick-up 30-gallon (supplied by City) | \$24.06 25.64 | \$24.55 26.77 |

1. Collection personnel shall not be required to negotiate steep ramps or stairs or remove 30-, 45-, 60-, and 90-gallon containers from storage bins in the performance of their duties. Where 30-, 45-, 60-, and 90-gallon residential containers are accessible on ground level in the location designated by Solid Waste Management on the street or alley, within five feet of the curb, street, or alley where a Solid Waste Management collection vehicle can stop legally for collection and loading, the rate shall be:

| 2021-2023 RATES EVERY OTHER WEEK PICKUP RESIDENTIAL BARRELS | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Residential Category | Monthly Rate | Additional Charge for Overload | Each Reload | Each additional yard waste container (after initial two) |
| Regular Service | | | | |
| 30 gallon | \$24.06 25.64 | \$10.00 | \$15.00 17.50 | \$3.00 |
| 45 gallon | \$36.07 38.41 | \$10.00 | \$15.00 17.50 | \$3.00 |
| 60 gallon | \$48.09 51.21 | \$10.00 | \$15.00 17.50 | \$3.00 |
| 90 gallon | \$72.14 76.82 | \$10.00 | \$15.00 17.50 | \$3.00 |
| 2-60 gallon | \$96.18 102.42 | \$10.00 | \$15.00 17.50 | \$3.00 |
| 60 + 90 gallon | \$120.23 128.03 | \$10.00 | \$15.00 17.50 | \$3.00 |
| 2-90 gallon | \$144.28 153.64 | \$10.00 | \$15.00 17.50 | \$3.00 |

| 2022-2024 RATES EVERY OTHER WEEK PICKUP RESIDENTIAL BARRELS | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Residential Category | Monthly Rate | Additional Charge for Overload | Each Reload | Each additional yard waste container (after initial two) |
| Regular Service | | | | |
| 30 gallon | \$24.55 26.77 | \$10.00 | \$15.00 17.50 | \$3.00 |
| 45 gallon | \$36.79 40.11 | \$10.00 | \$15.00 17.50 | \$3.00 |
| 60 gallon | \$49.05 53.47 | \$10.00 | \$15.00 17.50 | \$3.00 |
| 90 gallon | \$73.58 80.21 | \$10.00 | \$15.00 17.50 | \$3.00 |
| 2-60 gallon | \$98.10 106.94 | \$10.00 | \$15.00 17.50 | \$3.00 |
| 60 + 90 gallon | \$122.63 133.68 | \$10.00 | \$15.00 17.50 | \$3.00 |
| 2-90 gallon | \$147.16 160.42 | \$10.00 | \$15.00 17.50 | \$3.00 |

2. Where residential containers and extra containers are accessible on ground level, but farther than five feet from the curb, street, or alley where a Solid Waste Management collection vehicle can stop legally for collection and loading, the following additional carry service charges, measured along the route taken for collection, shall apply to each container:

| | Garbage | Recycle & Yard Waste |
|--|------------------|---------------------------------|
| Over 5 feet to 25 feet | \$4.45 per month | \$4.45 per month |
| Each additional 25 feet or portion thereof | \$5.55 per month | \$5.55 per month |

Carry distances shall be measured along the route necessarily taken for collection.

The above rates apply to each and every can or container collected and loaded from a specific premises

3. An additional charge of \$5.55 per garbage, recycle, and yard waste container per month shall be added when containers are not reasonably accessible, regardless of carrying distance.

4. Residential 300-gallon containers shall initially be placed in position by Solid Waste Management to facilitate the collection operation. Once so placed into service, the containers shall not be removed or relocated by the customer. Each customer sharing a 300-gallon container shall pay a rate commensurate with the services received as determined by Solid Waste Management.

5. There will be no charge for initial delivery or change of containers supplied by Solid Waste Management for new customers. In addition, there will be no charge for delivery or change of containers for existing customers once per premise, per year. Additional deliveries of containers and changes in service due to customer request after the first

delivery or change in any calendar year to a premise will be billed at \$30.00 per delivery. Replacement of containers damaged by the normal collection process are not subject to the \$30.00 container delivery or exchange fee.

6. a. A surcharge of \$2.32 per residential account per month shall be added to offset system program cost increases for processing and shipping for recyclable materials resulting from market conditions.

b. A surcharge of \$0.50 per residential account per month shall be added to offset system program costs of increased recycling education programming made necessary as a result of market conditions.¹

B. If a residential automated collection container is not in place by 7:00 a.m. or is otherwise inaccessible the day of the regularly scheduled pickup and the customer requests that the collection vehicle return to the premises to collect the contents of the container, a return trip charge of ~~\$10.00~~17.50 may be assessed to the customer. Such charge shall be applied on a per-trip basis without consideration of the size or number of containers collected from the customer. For each additional nonscheduled pickup requested by the customer, a return fee of ~~\$10.00~~17.50 plus additional container fee may be assessed.

C. Any residential customer in possession of any City-owned container shall pay the cost of repair or replacement of any damaged container, if it is the determination of Solid Waste Management that such damage is the result of the negligence or abuse by the customer. The charge shall be the actual cost of repair or replacement as determined by the City and shall be added to the customer's utility bill.

D. No dwelling unit of a multi-family dwelling (triplex or larger) may receive individual residential solid waste service unless the subject unit is directly billed by the City for payment of all other public utilities servicing that unit, including electricity, water, surface water, and wastewater.

E. Upon approval by Solid Waste Management, residential collection service may be stopped during temporary vacancy of the premises no more than twice per calendar year. Service shall not be discontinued for a period of less than two weeks. A charge of \$15.00 shall be added to the utility bill for each approved temporary stop-service order. Service shall resume no later than the date specified by the customer in the stop order. An alternative mailing address must be provided if requested by Solid Waste Management.

F. Use of an enclosure built for a container is subject to prior approval by Solid Waste Management and may be revoked upon inspection if not built as per originally approved.

G. Recycling or yard waste containers contaminated with garbage may be dumped as solid waste. When they are, the customer will be charged the "Each Additional Reload" fee identified in the rate table for that class and frequency of service. Recycling containers that are repeatedly contaminated with garbage may be removed at the discretion of Solid Waste Management. A \$30.00 service charge will be assessed for redelivery of each container.

H. Overload charges may be charged when the condition of the container meets the definition of "Overloaded" in TMC 12.09.030. Extra bags of garbage will be charged the "Applicable Charge for Overload." If the overload condition, or number of extra bags requires the driver to reload and re-dump the container, the customer will be charged the "Each Reload" fee identified in the rate table for that class and frequency of service.

I. City of Tacoma solid waste ratepayers living in a single-family home or duplex may request two "Call-2 Haul" service appointments per year. No more than three large items, consisting of appliances, furniture, or items of a similar size and weight, and 15 bags or boxes of unusable household items will be picked up by Solid Waste Management at each Call-2 Haul service appointment. No additional charge to the ratepayer will be made for this service. A charge of \$10.00 ~~will~~may be assessed for late cancellations or if items are not set out by 7:00 a.m. on the scheduled date.

12.09.120 Commercial services.

Solid Waste Management reserves the right to establish the appropriate level of service. No single unit of a multibusiness complex or building may receive individual container service of less than one cubic yard in capacity unless the subject unit is directly billed by the City for payment of all other public utilities servicing that unit, including electricity, water, surface water, and wastewater. Minimum monthly service for City-owned containers

¹ Code Reviser's note: the surcharge rate set forth in TMC 12.09.110.A.6.b, for recycling education programming, shall sunset, and no longer be in force or effect, at 11:59 p.m. on December 31, 2023, per Ordinance No. 28623 § 3.

shall be one pickup per week, per month, per container, with the exception of drop-off boxes and compactors. Commercial rates for collection of solid waste shall be as follows:

A. Commercial Barrels.

| | Effective Years | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | 2021 2023 | 2022 2024 |
| Minimum Monthly Service (20-Gallon): | \$30.22 33.64 | \$31.73 35.6 <u>6</u> |

| 2021 2023 RATES COMMERCIAL BARRELS | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Commercial Category | Monthly Container Rent * | Monthly Rate (times pickups per week) | Each Additional Pickup | Overload Charge |
| Regular Service | | | | |
| 20 gallon | na | \$30.22 33.64 | \$15.00 17.50 | \$10.00 |
| 30 gallon | na | \$39.60 44.08 | \$15.00 17.50 | \$10.00 |
| 60 gallon | na | \$59.51 | \$15.00 17.50 | \$10.00 |
| 90 gallon | na | \$81.88 | \$15.00 17.50 | \$10.00 |
| 300 gallon | \$4.20 41 | \$166.05 | \$38.35 | \$25.00 |
| Temporary Service | | | | |
| Commercial Category | Daily Container Rent* | Each Haul Container | Placement Fee | Overload Charge |
| 20 gallon | na | \$15.00 | na | \$5 10.00 |
| 30 gallon | na | \$15.00 | na | \$5 10.00 |
| 60 gallon | na | \$15.00 | na | \$5 10.00 |
| 90 gallon | na | \$15.00 | na | \$5 10.00 |
| 300 gallon | \$1.00 | \$38.35 | \$15.00 | \$25.00 |

*Excluding Washington State Sales Tax

| 2022 2024 RATES COMMERCIAL BARRELS | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Commercial Category | Monthly Container Rent * | Monthly Rate (times pickups per week) | Each Additional Pickup | Overload Charge |
| Regular Service | | | | |
| 20 gallon | na | \$31.73 35.66 | \$15.00 17.50 | \$10.00 |
| 30 gallon | na | \$41.58 46.73 | \$15.00 17.50 | \$10.00 |
| 60 gallon | na | \$59.51 | \$15.00 17.50 | \$10.00 |
| 90 gallon | na | \$81.88 | \$15.00 17.50 | \$10.00 |
| 300 gallon | \$4.41 | \$166.05 | \$38.35 | \$25.00 |
| Temporary Service | | | | |
| Commercial Category | Daily Container Rent* | Each Haul Container | Placement Fee | Overload Charge |
| 20 gallon | na | \$15.00 | na | \$5 10.00 |
| 30 gallon | na | \$15.00 | na | \$5 10.00 |
| 60 gallon | na | \$15.00 | na | \$5 10.00 |
| 90 gallon | na | \$15.00 | na | \$5 10.00 |
| 300 gallon | \$1.00 | \$38.35 | \$15.00 | \$25.00 |

*Excluding Washington State Sales Tax

B. If a commercial 20-, 30-, 60-, 90-, or 300-gallon container is not in place or is otherwise inaccessible at the time the collection vehicle arrives for regularly scheduled pickup and it is necessary for the collection vehicle to return to the premises at a later time to collect and load the contents of the container, a return trip charge of ~~\$10.00~~17.50 may be assessed to the customer. Regularly scheduled pickups will begin at 6:00 a.m. Such charge shall be applied on a per-trip basis, without consideration for the size or number of containers collected from the customer. For each additional nonscheduled pickup requested by the customer, a return fee of ~~\$10.00~~17.50 plus additional container fee may be assessed.

C. An additional \$10.00 charge per haul for 300-gallon container for same day service

D. Commercial container rates for noncompacted solid waste shall consist of a minimum monthly charge, which includes all scheduled weekly pickups within any given month. Additional pickups shall be at the request of the customer and shall be subject to the applicable service charge.

E. Collection personnel shall not be required to negotiate steep ramps or stairs or remove 20-, 30-, 60-, and 90-gallon containers from storage bins in the performance of their duties. Where 20-, 30-, 60-, and 90-gallon containers are accessible on ground level not in the location designated by Solid Waste Management, the following carry service charge shall apply to each container:

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Over 5 feet to 25 feet | \$8.90 per month |
| Each additional 25 feet or portion thereof | \$11.10 per month |

F. The following carry service charge shall apply per pick-up for each 300 gallon container (barrel).

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Each 300-gallon container | \$27.00 per pick-up |
|---------------------------|---------------------|

G. Commercial Bulk Noncompacted Container Rates.

1. City-owned, drop-off box – minimum charge of \$200.00 per month in addition to rent, if not hauled, provided, this charge will not be assessed to boxes used for the purposes of recycling.

2. City-owned, front-load container used on a temporary basis will be charged \$50.00 per month in addition to rent, if not hauled.
3. City-owned 20-, 30-, 60-, 90-, or 300-gallon container used on a temporary basis will be charged the 20-gallon commercial barrel monthly rate if not hauled.
4. Customer-owned container – minimum charge, if not hauled, will be the 20-gallon commercial barrel monthly rate.
5. An additional \$200.00 charge per haul for drop-off box for same day service.
6. An additional rental charge of \$9.00 per month or \$0.30 per day will be made for any container requiring a cover or extra-strength construction.
7. An additional \$25.00 charge per haul for front-load container for same day service.
8. The following carry service charge shall apply per pick-up for each front-load container (two- to four-cubic yard with casters).

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Each front-load container | \$27.00 per pick-up |
|---------------------------|---------------------|

9. An additional \$50.00 charge for each container relocation without a haul (dump).
10. An additional \$50.00 return charge will be billed to customers who have a scheduled haul for their compactor or DOB and the container was not made accessible for hauling when Solid Waste staff arrived.
11. An additional \$25.00 return charge will be billed to customers who have a scheduled haul for their front-load container and the container was not made accessible for hauling when Solid Waste staff arrived.
12. An additional \$10.00 may be charged for containers or compactors that require double-picking.

| 2021-2023 RATES | | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| FRONT LOAD CONTAINERS | | | | |
| Commercial Category | Monthly Container Rent* | Monthly Rate (times pickups per week) | Each Additional Pickup | Overload Charge |
| Regular Service | | | | |
| 2 Cubic yard | \$7.80 8.28 | \$230.25 234.86 | \$53.14 54.20 | \$25.00 |
| 3 Cubic yard | \$8.90 9.45 | \$291.17 297.00 | \$67.20 68.54 | \$30.00 |
| 4 Cubic yard | \$10.60 11.26 | \$353.40 360.47 | \$81.56 83.19 | \$35.00 |
| 6 Cubic yard | \$13.85 14.70 | \$475.78 485.30 | \$109.80 111.99 | \$40.00 |
| 8 Cubic yard | \$15.30 16.24 | \$600.26 612.27 | \$138.53 141.29 | \$45.00 |
| Temporary Service | | | | |
| Commercial Category | Daily Container Rent* | Each Haul Container | Placement Fee | Overload Charge |
| 2 Cubic yard | \$1.00 | \$53.14 54.20 | \$15.00 | \$25.00 |
| 3 Cubic yard | \$1.00 | \$67.20 68.54 | \$15.00 | \$30.00 |
| 4 Cubic yard | \$1.00 | \$81.56 83.19 | \$15.00 | \$35.00 |
| 6 Cubic yard | \$1.00 | \$109.80 111.99 | \$15.00 | \$40.00 |
| 8 Cubic yard | \$1.00 | \$138.53 141.29 | \$15.00 | \$45.00 |

*Excluding Washington State Sales Tax

| 2022-2024 RATES | | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| FRONT LOAD CONTAINERS | | | | |
| Commercial Category | Monthly Container Rent* | Monthly Rate (times pickups per week) | Each Additional Pickup | Overload Charge |
| Regular Service | | | | |
| 2 Cubic yard | \$7.96 8.62 | \$230.25 239.56 | \$53.14 55.28 | \$25.00 |
| 3 Cubic yard | \$9.08 9.83 | \$291.17 302.94 | \$67.20 69.91 | \$30.00 |
| 4 Cubic yard | \$10.82 11.72 | \$353.40 367.68 | \$81.56 84.85 | \$35.00 |
| 6 Cubic yard | \$14.13 15.29 | \$475.78 495.01 | \$109.80 114.23 | \$40.00 |
| 8 Cubic yard | \$15.61 16.89 | \$600.26 624.52 | \$138.53 144.12 | \$45.00 |
| Temporary Service | | | | |
| Commercial Category | Daily Container Rent* | Each Haul Container | Placement Fee | Overload Charge |
| 2 Cubic yard | \$1.00 | \$53.14 55.28 | \$15.00 | \$25.00 |
| 3 Cubic yard | \$1.00 | \$67.20 69.91 | \$15.00 | \$30.00 |
| 4 Cubic yard | \$1.00 | \$81.56 84.85 | \$15.00 | \$35.00 |
| 6 Cubic yard | \$1.00 | \$109.80 114.23 | \$15.00 | \$40.00 |
| 8 Cubic yard | \$1.00 | \$138.53 144.12 | \$15.00 | \$45.00 |

*Excluding Washington State Sales Tax

| 2021 2023 RATES DROP OFF BOX | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Commercial Category | Monthly Container Rent* | Each Haul per Container | |
| Regular Service | | | |
| 15 Cubic Yard | \$38.90 41.27 | \$599.04 641.58 | |
| 20 Cubic Yard | \$42.45 45.04 | \$684.84 733.48 | |
| 25 Cubic Yard | \$43.25 45.89 | \$781.10 836.57 | |
| 30 Cubic Yard | \$46.05 48.86 | \$885.46 948.34 | |
| 40 Cubic Yard | \$52.15 55.33 | \$1,086.31 1,163.45 | |
| Temporary Service | | | |
| | Daily Container Rent* | Each Haul per Container | Placement Fee |
| 15 Cubic Yard | \$1.50 | \$599.04 641.58 | \$50.00 |
| 20 Cubic Yard | \$1.50 | \$684.84 733.48 | \$50.00 |
| 25 Cubic Yard | \$1.50 | \$781.10 836.57 | \$50.00 |
| 30 Cubic Yard | \$1.50 | \$885.46 948.34 | \$50.00 |
| 40 Cubic Yard | \$1.50 | \$1,086.31 1,163.45 | \$50.00 |

*Excluding Washington State Sales Tax

| 2022 2024 RATES DROP OFF BOX | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Commercial Category | Monthly Container Rent* | Each Haul per Container | |
| Regular Service | | | |
| 15 Cubic Yard | \$39.68 42.93 | \$629.00 654.42 | |
| 20 Cubic Yard | \$43.30 46.85 | \$719.09 748.15 | |
| 25 Cubic Yard | \$44.12 47.73 | \$820.16 853.31 | |
| 30 Cubic Yard | \$46.98 50.82 | \$929.74 967.31 | |
| 40 Cubic Yard | \$53.20 57.55 | \$1,140.63 1,186.72 | |
| Temporary Service | | | |
| | Daily Container Rent* | Each Haul per Container | Placement Fee |
| 15 Cubic Yard | \$1.50 | \$629.00 654.42 | \$50.00 |
| 20 Cubic Yard | \$1.50 | \$719.09 748.15 | \$50.00 |
| 25 Cubic Yard | \$1.50 | \$820.16 853.31 | \$50.00 |
| 30 Cubic Yard | \$1.50 | \$929.74 967.31 | \$50.00 |
| 40 Cubic Yard | \$1.50 | \$1,140.63 1,186.72 | \$50.00 |

*Excluding Washington State Sales Tax

13. When the weight of the contents of a noncompacted drop-off box exceeds the applicable maximum weight for a truck to safely handle the load, the customer will be charged the commercial disposal tip fee rate for each ton and/or portion of a ton by which the contents exceed the maximum weight of 10 tons.

14. Uncontained loads that are determined to be “Dusty Loads” by Solid Waste Management are subject to rejection or assessment of additional processing fees.

15. Solid Waste Management reserves the right to collect advance payment for container placement and up to four months of charges for rental and service charges associated with the provision of temporary service. The City Treasurer may accept satisfactory securities or surety bond in lieu of cash payment. Such payment or security may be applied toward the payment of service charges whenever the same shall become due. Solid Waste Management reserves the right to require additional advance payment for subsequent service that may be requested by the customer.

G. Commercial Compactor Container Rates.

Commercial rates for collection and disposal of solid waste from customer-owned compactor containers shall be as follows:

1. Customer-owned containers will be charged the 20-gallon commercial barrel rate if no other solid waste service is provided by Solid Waste Management at the location during the month.

| 2021 <u>2023</u> RATES | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| FRONT LOAD COMPACTOR CONTAINER | |
| Commercial Category | Each Container Each Pickup |
| Regular Service | |
| 2 Cubic Yard | \$103.07 <u>109.26</u> |
| 3 Cubic Yard | \$210.58 <u>227.69</u> |
| 4 Cubic Yard | \$273.48 <u>295.69</u> |
| 5 Cubic Yard | \$336.87 <u>364.25</u> |

| 2022 <u>2024</u> RATES | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| FRONT LOAD COMPACTOR CONTAINER | |
| Commercial Category | Each Container Each Pickup |
| Regular Service | |
| 2 Cubic Yard | \$103.07 <u>115.82</u> |
| 3 Cubic Yard | \$214.80 <u>241.36</u> |
| 4 Cubic Yard | \$278.95 <u>313.44</u> |
| 5 Cubic Yard | \$343.63 <u>386.11</u> |

| 20212023 RATES | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| DROP OFF BOX COMPACTOR | |
| Commercial Category | Each Container Each Pickup |
| Regular Service | |
| 10 Cubic Yard | \$737.25 <u>781.49</u> |
| 12 Cubic Yard | \$1,081.39 <u>1,203.59</u> |
| 15 Cubic Yard | \$1,358.03 <u>1,511.49</u> |
| 16 Cubic Yard | \$1,421.71 <u>1,582.37</u> |
| 17 Cubic Yard | \$1,496.63 <u>1,665.76</u> |
| 18 Cubic Yard | \$1,566.96 <u>1,744.03</u> |
| 20 Cubic Yard | \$1,705.97 <u>1,898.75</u> |
| 24 Cubic Yard | \$1,987.29 <u>2,211.86</u> |
| 25 Cubic Yard | \$2,057.00 <u>2,289.44</u> |
| 26 Cubic Yard | \$2,130.92 <u>2,371.72</u> |
| 27 Cubic Yard | \$2,194.25 <u>2,442.21</u> |
| 30 Cubic Yard | \$2,411.14 <u>2,683.60</u> |
| 33 Cubic Yard | \$2,628.07 <u>2,925.05</u> |
| 34 Cubic Yard | \$2,703.21 <u>3,008.68</u> |
| 40 Cubic Yard | \$3,114.14 <u>3,466.05</u> |

| 20222024 RATES | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| DROP OFF BOX COMPACTOR | |
| Commercial Category | Each Container Each Pickup |
| Regular Service | |
| 10 Cubic Yard | \$737.25 <u>828.38</u> |
| 12 Cubic Yard | \$1,135.46 <u>1,275.81</u> |
| 15 Cubic Yard | \$1,425.93 <u>1,602.18</u> |
| 16 Cubic Yard | \$1,492.80 <u>1,677.32</u> |
| 17 Cubic Yard | \$1,571.46 <u>1,765.71</u> |
| 18 Cubic Yard | \$1,645.31 <u>1,848.68</u> |
| 20 Cubic Yard | \$1,791.27 <u>2,012.68</u> |
| 24 Cubic Yard | \$2,086.66 <u>2,344.58</u> |
| 25 Cubic Yard | \$2,159.84 <u>2,426.81</u> |
| 26 Cubic Yard | \$2,237.46 <u>2,514.03</u> |
| 27 Cubic Yard | \$2,303.97 <u>2,588.75</u> |
| 30 Cubic Yard | \$2,531.69 <u>2,844.62</u> |
| 33 Cubic Yard | \$2,759.47 <u>3,100.56</u> |
| 34 Cubic Yard | \$2,838.37 <u>3,189.21</u> |
| 40 Cubic Yard | \$3,269.85 <u>3,674.02</u> |

2. The service charge for other compactor container sizes that may become available shall be determined by Solid Waste Management.
3. When the weight of the contents of a compacted container exceeds the applicable maximum weight for a truck to safely handle the load, the customer will be charged the commercial disposal tip fee rate for each ton and/or portion of a ton by which the contents exceed the maximum weight of 10 tons.
4. Uncontained loads that are determined to be "Dusty Loads" by Solid Waste Management are subject to rejection or assessment of additional processing fees.
5. The following carry service charge shall apply per pick-up for front load compactor (not to exceed two cubic yards).

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Each front-load compactor | \$27.00 per pick-up |
|---------------------------|---------------------|

H. Recyclable Material Collection Fees.

If requested, Solid Waste Management may, at its option, agree to collect recyclable materials from commercial customers at the curb or premises. The fees for this service are typically lower than garbage collection service, but are subject to fluctuations in the value or cost of the recyclable material.

The Director is delegated the authority to assign and charge a rate for the collection of recyclable material from commercial customers. The Director shall assign such a rate in accordance with the following criteria and process:

1. The rate shall reflect the cost of service, to the extent reasonably possible, given the constantly fluctuating value and/or costs of recyclable material.
2. The rate shall include cost items related to the service including, but not limited to, labor and benefits, equipment, maintenance and operations of equipment and containers, processing fees, direct and indirect overhead charges, and other related costs. In addition, revenues received from the sales or marketing of the collected recyclable material and the collection service levels shall be included with the assigned rate.
3. The Director may adjust the assigned rate up to four times per year.
4. Solid Waste Management shall notify the affected parties a minimum of 45 days prior to implementing rate changes.

Application of the assigned rate shall be through the normal billing and invoicing process. In the event a customer cancels service covered under this policy and wishes to initiate similar service within one year's time, a \$50.00 service charge may be applied to the restart of the service.

Due to potential cost savings of collecting all recyclables from an individual customer, the Director is further delegated the authority to negotiate a bundled rate with individual commercial customers for collection of all recyclable materials from that customer for an agreed period of time.

I. Recyclable Materials Bulk Container.

1. Drop-off Box Recycling Service.

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Container Placement | \$50.00 |
| Haul Charge | \$50.00 per haul |
| Mileage Charge | \$2.50 <u>5.50</u> per mile one-way |
| Daily Rental Charge | \$1.50 per day (excluding Washington State sales tax) |

Disposal costs shall be the responsibility of the customer. The customer shall arrange for an account at the recycling facility for billing disposal costs directly to the customer. In the event that the customer fails to make proper arrangements for an account at the recycling facility, Solid Waste Management may add the cost of recycling or disposal of the material to the customer's hauling charges.

If the drop-off box is not hauled by the customer within 60 days, Solid Waste Management may remove and haul the drop-off box and charge the customer applicable transportation and disposal costs.

J. Containers shall not be longer than 22 feet, or larger than a 25 yard self-contained compactor, or a 30 cubic yard disconnect-type compactor without the prior written approval of Solid Waste Management.

K. It shall be the responsibility of any customer in possession of any City-owned bulk container to pay the cost of repair to, or replacement of any such container damaged while in his or her possession. The charge shall be the actual cost of repair or replacement as determined by the City and shall be added to the customer's utility bill.

L. The service charge for other container sizes that may become available will be at a rate sufficient to recover the cost of providing the service.

M. In addition to the charges for commercial and residential rates set forth above, when unscheduled services are requested or required, Solid Waste Management shall charge for such services as set forth in this chapter.

N. The siting of a compactor's location shall be coordinated with and specifically approved by Solid Waste Management before installation. If a compactor is placed prior to Solid Waste Management's specific approval and Solid Waste Management deems the placement unacceptable, Solid Waste Management may elect to refuse service. The customer shall relocate and bear all costs incurred for the relocation of the compactor. Such customers shall, among other things, be required to hold the City harmless from any and all liability resulting from the improper placement and/or relocation of the compactor. Siting of the compactor and construction of any compactor enclosure shall be in conformance with all applicable City and state regulations.

O. It is the responsibility of the owner of a customer-owned container to keep the container maintained and serviceable, including all doors, lids, fork pockets, wheels, bail hooks, bottom rails, or any part of the container needed for dumping or hauling of the container. Solid Waste Management shall not be held liable for damage to privately owned containers. Solid Waste Management is not obligated to service improperly maintained containers. Customer-owned containers must also be kept graffiti free.

P. An enclosure provided for a solid waste container shall be used only for the solid waste container. If items other than a solid waste container are placed in an enclosure, Solid Waste Management shall be held harmless for any and all loss or damage to such items, whether occasioned by Solid Waste Management's negligence or otherwise. It shall be the responsibility of the customer to keep the enclosure in an acceptable sanitary condition including the area in the vicinity of the enclosure.

Q. If an enclosure is gated, the gates shall have the ability to be pinned in the open position. If gated, the gates shall have at least a 180-degree swing. When gates are in the open position, they shall not block or infringe on any traffic aisles.

1. Drop-off box enclosures shall have a minimum opening width of 12'0" and the depth must extend a minimum of 3'0" beyond the end of the container.

2. Front load box enclosures shall have a minimum opening width of 12'0" and a minimum depth of 10'0". If two front load box containers are placed, the enclosure shall allow for a minimum of a three-foot clearance between enclosure and front load box, as well as a two-foot clearance between each front load box.

3. Automated 300-gallon container enclosures shall have a minimum opening width of 10'0" and a minimum depth of 7'0". In addition, for two or more containers, a three-foot clearance between enclosure and barrels is required, as well as a two-foot clearance between each barrel.

4. All enclosures shall be designed so the solid waste collection vehicle that services the enclosed container can maneuver and safely service the container. A service charge of \$10.00 for 300-gallon containers and \$25.00 for front-load containers and drop-off box containers may be charged when Solid Waste Management is unable to service a commercial customer's container on the scheduled pickup and Solid Waste Management has to make a return trip to service the container. This charge may be applied if the container access is blocked, the gates to the enclosure are not in the open position, or Solid Waste Management is, for any reason, unable to service the container.

R. Construction of an enclosure for disposal containers shall not commence prior to plan approval by Solid Waste Management. Failure to obtain plan approval prior to construction may require alterations, relocation, or complete reconstruction of the enclosure at the owner's expense. Solid Waste Management may refuse to provide service to a customer who has enclosed a disposal container improperly.

S. City-owned recycling containers that are repeatedly contaminated with garbage may be removed at the discretion

of Solid Waste Management. A \$30.00 service charge will be assessed for redelivery of each container.

T. All compactors which may contain liquids are to be equipped with a drain and a connection to the sanitary sewer. The connection to the sanitary sewer must meet the requirements of both Solid Waste Management and the City's Wastewater Management Division.

U. The Director is delegated the authority to assign a rate for the disposal of a particular opportunity fuel as long as the rate does not exceed \$90.00 per ton for disposal of "opportunity fuels," as that term is defined in TMC 12.09.030. If Solid Waste Management requires a purchase of a particular opportunity fuel, Solid Waste Management shall purchase said fuel pursuant to those procedures set forth in the Administrative Policies and Procedures Manual.

V. City of Tacoma Solid Waste Commercial customers may request "Call-2-Haul" service appointments. No more than three large items, consisting of appliances, furniture, or items of a similar size and weight, and 15 bags or boxes of unusable household items will be picked up by Solid Waste Management at each Call-2-Haul service appointment. A charge of \$75.00 will be charged for each commercial Call-2-Haul. A charge of \$10.00 ~~will~~ may be assessed for late cancellations or if items are not set out by 7:00 a.m. on the scheduled date.

* * *

12.09.140 Disposal rates.

All rates are based on 100-pound increments. (Any fraction of 100 pounds will be billed as 100 pounds.)

1. Solid waste generated within a private resident's home or yard, not including material from:

| Pounds per load | Within City of Tacoma | | Outside City of Tacoma | |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| | 2021 <u>2023</u> | 2022 <u>2024</u> | 2021 <u>2023</u> | 2022 <u>2024</u> |
| 0 - 400 | \$20.00 | \$20.00 | \$8.50 per 100 pounds - minimum charge \$40.00 | \$8.50 per 100 pounds - minimum charge \$40.00 |
| Disposals of more than 400 pounds | \$7.25 per each 100 pounds exceeding the initial 400-pound load | \$7.25 per each 100 pounds exceeding the initial 400-pound load | \$8.50 per each 100 pounds exceeding the initial 400-pound load | \$8.50 per each 100 pounds exceeding the initial 400-pound load |

To qualify for these disposal rates, City residents must present proper documentation in a form that satisfies the requirements of TMC 12.09.130.

2. There shall be no charge for City residential yard waste that is properly prepared and sorted and hauled to the City's public disposal area by the homeowner. This shall apply only to loads consisting of 100 percent yard waste (vegetation). To qualify for this service at no charge, the customer must present at the time of disposal documentation that satisfies the requirements of TMC 12.09.130.B.

3. All material, except Item 1 above:

| Pounds per load | |
|--|--|
| 2021 <u>2023</u> | 2022 <u>2024</u> |
| \$8.50 per 100 pounds; minimum charge of \$40.00 | \$8.50 per 100 pounds; minimum charge of \$40.00 |

4. Material from nonprofit corporations qualifying under Section 12.09.140.B:

| Pounds per load | |
|--|--|
| 2021 <u>2023</u> | 2022 <u>2024</u> |
| \$4.25 per 100 pounds; minimum charge of \$40.00 | \$4.25 per 100 pounds; minimum charge of \$40.00 |

5. Special handling:

a. A minimum special handling fee of \$100.00 will be charged per load, plus tonnage charges, unless otherwise specified.

b. Other special handling fees shall be applied as follows:

Material from:

| | Within City of Tacoma | Outside City of Tacoma |
|--|--|--|
| Asbestos | \$20.00 minimum plus \$150.00 per ton | Not accepted |
| (Refer to Section 12.09.200, Disposal of asbestos-containing material) | | |
| Appliances with compressors | \$20 each plus tonnage | \$40 each plus tonnage |
| Tires – | | |
| Passenger Cars and light trucks | \$3.25 each plus tonnage | \$6.75 each plus tonnage |
| On rims | \$6.75 each plus tonnage | \$13.00 each plus tonnage |
| Larger than 10:00 x 20 | \$16.50 each plus tonnage | \$33.00 each plus tonnage |
| No large tires accepted on rims | | |
| Car seats | \$3.25 each plus tonnage | \$6.75 each plus tonnage |
| Large furniture | \$11.00 for the first 4 pieces, plus \$11.00 for each additional, plus tonnage | \$40.00 for the first 4 pieces, plus \$11.00 for each additional, plus tonnage |
| Special handling fees shall not be limited to the items specified above. | | |

c. All of the above rates are based on one-half hour unloading time. When unloading time exceeds one-half hour, an additional fee of \$12.25 for each additional one-half hour or part thereof will be assessed. Time shall be determined by the automated scale system.

d. Any vehicle still being unloaded past closing time may be assessed an additional fee.

e. Every person with waste material that requires special handling shall pay such additional fees as will fairly compensate Solid Waste Management for any added expense of properly disposing of such materials, unless otherwise specified. Loads that are determined to be “Dusty Loads” by Solid Waste Management are subject to rejection or assessment of additional special handling fees. Appliances that have Freon compressors removed will still be charged the special handling fee.

6. Service Charge. A customer who is unable to pay for disposal at the time of disposal at the Tacoma Landfill shall be charged for that disposal along with an additional service charge of \$10.00.

A. Disposal Area Open Accounts.

Solid Waste Management may establish open accounts for the benefit of regular customers licensed to do business in the State of Washington and utilizing the City’s public disposal area for disposal of solid waste. Eligibility for open accounts will be determined based on frequency of use, amount of material requiring disposal, and evidence of a satisfactory credit history. Such open accounts will be subject to a set-up fee of \$25.00 for each disposal account card issued, said fee to be collected at the time the account is established. Solid Waste Management reserves the right to approve or disapprove the establishment and maintenance of open accounts. Solid Waste Management may restrict use of the public disposal area to any customer with a delinquent City public disposal area account until the delinquent balance is paid in full.

Disposal account cards issued to customers shall remain the property of Solid Waste Management. Lost or stolen cards shall be immediately reported in writing to Solid Waste Management. Customers are liable for all charges on lost or stolen cards until written notification is received by Solid Waste Management. There will be a fee of \$25.00 charged to replace each card lost, stolen, or damaged. Cards which fail as a result of normal wear will be replaced at no expense to the customer.

B. A qualifying nonprofit materials salvage/recycling corporation, upon application and approval, may be granted a reduced disposal rate for material hauled in accordance with TMC 12.09.070, and under the following conditions:

1. All waste must have been generated from within the City.
2. Only those wastes generated from the operation of the corporation within the City will be eligible for the reduced disposal fee. All other wastes shall be subject to the applicable rate set forth herein.
3. The waste cannot contain any putrescible materials.
4. The waste must not contain any hazardous materials and must be in accordance with guidelines as to what is normally acceptable by Solid Waste Management.
5. The waste cannot contain any recyclable materials.

C. If the City Council finds that a neighborhood has a blighted condition caused by excessive refuse and/or solid waste and that such a condition is detrimental to the public health and welfare, the City Council may adjust the solid waste rates to fund appropriate programs to remediate such conditions. An example of an appropriate program is a qualifying City neighborhood group conducting a cleanup campaign approved by Solid Waste Management.

A qualifying neighborhood group may be granted disposal privileges at the Tacoma Landfill at no charge, or disposal privileges in a solid waste container supplied by Solid Waste Management at no charge, for material complying with the following conditions:

1. All waste must have been generated from within the City and collected pursuant to the cleanup campaign of the neighborhood group.
2. The waste cannot contain any putrescible materials.
3. The waste must not contain any hazardous materials and must be in accordance with the guidelines as to what is normally acceptable by Solid Waste Management.
4. The waste cannot contain any recyclable materials.
5. The aforementioned disposal privilege may be revoked at any time.²

* * *

12.09.215 Bring Your Own Bag. Preempted by RCW 70A.530.

Code Reviser's note: Chapter 12.09.215 was preempted per Revised Code of Washington 70A.530, effective January 1, ~~2021~~2023 (70A.530.050 RCW, ESSB 5323, Chapter 138, Laws of 2020. Prior to this preemption, enforcement of the City's Bring Your Own Bag ordinance was suspended per Ordinance No. 28664.

* * *

² Code reviser's note: Ord. 25583 contained two sections numbered 6. The other is codified at Section 12.09.130.



TO: Elizabeth A. Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Michael P. Slevin III, P.E., Director, Environmental Services DS
GMS
COPY: City Council and City Clerk DS
MPS
SUBJECT: Ordinance - Amending Chapter 12.09 of the Municipal Code Related to Solid Waste Rates for 2023 and 2024 - November 15, 2022
DATE: October 17, 2022

SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:

An ordinance amending Chapter 12.09 of the Tacoma Municipal Code (TMC), related to Solid Waste, Recycling, and Hazardous Waste, to adjust 2023 and 2024 rates and charges. If approved, 4 percent rate increases in 2023 and 2024 would become effective January 1 of each year.

BACKGROUND:

This Department's Recommendation is Based On: The guiding strategy for these rate adjustments is to maintain the lowest responsible cost increase for customers, while maintaining long-term financial sustainability of the utilities. The proper handling of solid waste helps keep the city clean and maintain the quality of life for all residents. By ensuring adequate solid waste management is in place to provide necessary services to businesses and residents, this utility promotes the growth and development of a vibrant economy.

The proposed rate increases are driven by operating expenses and construction inflation. Additional investments in Solid Waste utility employees are also needed to support customer growth. Proposed overall revenue increases are 4 percent. Included in the proposed revenue plan is increased financial assistance for income-qualifying residential customers. The Department's revenue proposal is supported by the Environmental Services Commission.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:

The Environmental Services Commission (ESC) represents a cross section of interests in the City and provides input to the rate making process for the Environmental Services utilities. Through presentations and discussions, the ESC members share their insights and concerns as staff address operational and capital plans and the resulting supporting rates. The ESC letter to the Council in support of the recommendation for the proposed revenue increases in each year 2023 and 2024 is attached.

Outreach to City Neighborhood Councils and other community groups has been coordinated with TPU Utility outreach and communications activities. Staff engaged with several community organizations, neighborhood councils and local governments. Overall, the engagements have been productive. The Department has not received significant feedback on rates proposals; however, Environmental Services has received valuable feedback, comments, and questions on a wide range of utility-related topics.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Equity and Accessibility:

Financial assistance programs target areas identified as having lower opportunities as measured on the City's Equity Index. Proposed financial assistance changes provide increased support for income-eligible customers.



Economy/Workforce: Equity Index Score: Moderate Opportunity

Increase the percentage of people relocating to the city and affordability of housing compared to neighboring jurisdictions.

Increase positive public perception related to the Tacoma economy.

Livability: Equity Index Score: Moderate Opportunity

Improve health outcomes and reduce disparities, in alignment with the community health needs assessment and CHIP, for all Tacoma residents.

Increase positive public perception of safety and overall quality of life.

Explain how your legislation will affect the selected indicator(s).

The purpose of this legislation supports the Department’s vision: We believe everything we do supports healthy neighborhoods and a thriving Puget Sound, leaving a better Tacoma for all. Increasing financial assistance improves equity for ALICE customers. Lower rates in comparisons to Seattle and other surrounding neighborhoods contribute to affordable housing opportunities. The proper collection and disposal of solid waste maintains the environmental health of the community by preventing the accumulation of solid waste and debris in the local environment and promotes economic growth. Collection services utilize clean compressed natural gas where possible to limit carbon pollution. Tacoma Cares, Nuisance Code Enforcement, recycling, and other programs all contribute to healthy neighborhoods and a vibrant Puget Sound.

ALTERNATIVES:

| Alternative(s) | Positive Impact(s) | Negative Impact(s) |
|--|--|---|
| 1. Several lower rate alternatives were considered | Lower rates in the short-term for Tacoma residents | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher rates in subsequent years • Discontinuation of programs / staff layoffs • Revenue shortfall for the biennium |

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:

Budget-to-actual performance is reviewed monthly along with current versus original forecasts for the six-year financial planning window. Quarterly, six-year capital plans are updated and budget information is prepared for the City Council’s quarterly report.

STAFF/SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommend adopting an ordinance amending Chapter 12.09 of the Municipal Code, relating to Solid Waste, Recycling, and Hazardous Waste, to adjust rates and charges for services provided by the solid waste utility for the years 2023 and 2024 by approximately 4 percent in both years, effective January 1 in both years.

Proposed rate adjustments are necessary to meet the City’s obligation to adequately fund the ongoing maintenance, operational, and capital costs of the Solid Waste utility, to meet its service obligations to customers, and to protect the public health, safety, and welfare. Cost drivers for annual rate adjustments include increased labor costs, green infrastructure and fleet capital costs, and increased costs for recycle due to waste market conditions.



The Solid Waste rate model is on file in the Environmental Services Department and provides the rate calculations and required revenue to the utility consistent with Financial Policies and Bond Covenants.

FISCAL IMPACT:

If approved by City Council, these rate adjustments will increase rates for the utility by 4 percent in 2023 and 2024.

| Fund Number & Name | COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER) | Element | Total Amount for Calendar Year 2023-2024 |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| 4200 Solid Waste | Various | Operating Revenues | \$7,500,000 |
| TOTAL | | | \$7,500,000 |

What Funding is being used to support the expense?

The expenses will be funded by adjustments to rates as outlined in the attached exhibit.

Are the expenditures and revenues planned and budgeted in this biennium’s current budget?

YES

These rate adjustments are included in the 2023/2024 Budget currently under consideration by the City Council.

Are there financial costs or other impacts of not implementing the legislation?

YES

Layoffs and reductions to services or levels of service.

Will the legislation have an ongoing/recurring fiscal impact?

YES

Rates are on ongoing revenue.

Will the legislation change the City’s FTE/personnel counts?

No

No additional personnel needed.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Proposed Amendments to TMC 12.09 - EXHIBIT “A”
- Letter of Recommendation by the Environmental Services Commission - EXHIBIT “B”
- The Rate Model is on file in the Environmental Services Department.

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Environmental Services Commission Memorandum

TO: Elizabeth A. Pauli, City Manager, and Tacoma City Council

FROM: Environmental Services Commission

SUBJECT: 2023-2024 Environmental Services Revenue Adjustments Recommendation

DATE: September 15, 2022

The Environmental Services Commission (the Commission) is comprised of 15 members representing the City's business, residential, governmental, and regulatory concerns. The City Manager appoints members for three-year terms. Our purpose is to provide feedback from the customers' perspective on rates, programs, and policies for the three Environmental Services utilities. The Commission began meeting to discuss the development of rates early in 2022, carefully reviewing policies, programs, and rate projections for the six-year revenue and expense plan for each utility. At this time, we are reporting to the City Manager and Tacoma City Council our findings and recommendations.

When adopting the rates for the current biennium, 2021-2022, the Commission recommended a deviation from the six-year revenue plan for the first time in recent memory. We understood the financial impacts of the pandemic and believed the deviation was necessary to accommodate the economic hardships impacting our community. The extraordinary circumstances resulting from the COVID-19 crisis continue to impact utility operations. In addition to lower than planned revenue due to the intentionally lowered rates in 2021-2022, reduced commercial activity and outstanding customer accounts have further reduced utility revenues. This, combined with historic construction and operating costs inflation, have placed the utilities in a precarious financial state.

As a result of these combined pressures and to help ensure long-term financial sustainability, the Commission is recommending approval of some of the highest rate increases in a decade. The Commission recognizes that these continue to be difficult times for Environmental Services' customers and, with that in mind, we support the expansion of the Bill Credit Assistance Program (BCAP) as proposed, called BCAP Plus.

Solid Waste

The Commission supports adoption of Solid Waste revenue increases of 4.0% in 2023 and 2024. This plan allocates \$27 million for capital spending and operating spending (including debt service) of \$161 million. The Commission feels this is an appropriate budget and funding level to maintain compliance with Solid Waste permit regulations and to support the long-term health of the utility.

The Commission supports the City's continued objective to reduce the volume of waste entering the City of Tacoma's Recovery & Transfer Center while supporting efforts to provide cost-effective services to the residents of Tacoma.

The Commission was made aware of a potential solid waste excise tax being discussed by City Leaders; however, this was not part of our charge and therefore not considered in our recommendation.

Stormwater

The Commission supports adoption of Stormwater revenue increases of 6.0% in 2023 and 2024. This plan includes capital spending of \$78 million and operating spending (including debt service) of \$80 million. We support the development of programs that manage the quality and quantity of stormwater and prevent violation of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) MS4 permit. The Commission feels this is an appropriate budget and funding level to maintain compliance with the NPDES permit and to support the long-term health of the utility.


Wastewater

The Commission supports adoption of Wastewater revenue increases of 8.0% in 2023 and 2024. This plan includes capital spending of \$78 million and operating spending (including debt service) of \$176 million. The Commission feels this is an appropriate budget and funding level to maintain compliance with the NPDES permit and to support the long-term health of the utility.

Respectfully,

The Environmental Services Commission

(Commission signatures on next page)

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Bruce Martin, Large Business, Position 1

DocuSigned by:
Jeff Paradise
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Jeff Paradise, Small Business, Position 2

DocuSigned by:

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Grant Middleton, Developers, Position 3

DocuSigned by:

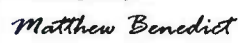
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Emily Hall, Commercial/Business Assoc., Position 4

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Erich Sachs, Government Customer, Position 5

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Deanna Seaman, Chair, Government Customer, Position 6

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Matthew Benedict, Sustainable Tacoma Commission, Position 7

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Ken Howes, Residential, Position 10

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Rachael Laitila, Residential, Position 11

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Marty Campbell, Residential, Position 13

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Richard Doenges, Regulatory Agency, Position 14

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Esther Beaumier, Regulatory Agency, Position 15

Note: Position Nos. 8, 9, and 12 are currently vacant

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Ordinance No. 28849

First Reading of Ordinance: NOV 15 2022

Final Reading of Ordinance: NOV 22 2022

Passed: NOV 22 2022

Roll Call Vote:

| MEMBERS | AYES | NAYS | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|----------------|------|------|---------|--------|
| CM Blocker | X | | | |
| CM Bushnell | X | | | |
| CM Daniels | X | | | |
| CM Diaz | X | | | |
| CM Hines | X | | | |
| CM Rumbaugh | X | | | |
| CM Ushka | X | | | |
| CM Walker | X | | | |
| Mayor Woodards | X | | | |

Voice Vote:

| MEMBERS | AYES | NAYS | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|----------------|------|------|---------|--------|
| CM Blocker | | | | |
| CM Bushnell | | | | |
| CM Daniels | | | | |
| CM Diaz | | | | |
| CM Hines | | | | |
| CM Rumbaugh | | | | |
| CM Ushka | | | | |
| CM Walker | | | | |
| Mayor Woodards | | | | |