

Council Memo

Department Source: City Utilities - Solid Waste

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: July 20, 2026

Re: Amending Chapter 22 of the City Code as it relates to solid waste utility rates

Impacted Ward: Multiple Wards

Executive Summary

Staff has prepared for Council consideration an ordinance amending Chapter 22 of the City Code as it relates to rates charged by the solid waste utility.

Discussion

Part of Chapter 22 of the City Code governs the charges paid by customers of the solid waste utility. A solid waste cost of service and rate study was performed by Stantec Consulting Services, Inc., and the final Solid Waste Utility Fee Study is attached. A cost of service study reviews the following items:

1. Revenue Sufficiency Analysis
 - a. Develop a multi-year plan of solid waste fee revenue adjustments
 - b. Maintain policies and targets
 - c. Fund system investment needs
 - d. Achieve sustainable funding of operations
2. Cost of Service Analysis
 - a. Utilize industry accepted approaches
 - b. Maintain inter and intra class proportionality
 - c. Define correct and appropriate units of service
3. Fee Design
 - a. Simple & Sustainable Rates
 - b. Collect revenue proportional to services provided
 - c. Balance affordability and financial objectives
 - d. Accomplish revenue stability

In accordance with the findings of the cost of service and rate study, Staff proposes updating the fee structure to better align the cost of providing the service to the rate charged. Based on Council comments, a two year realignment of pay as you throw residential cart fees is proposed. Results of the study also recommend combining the fee schedule for commercial front load and rear load rates into one uniform set of fees. Other commercial rates are being adjusted per the study recommendations.

The Downtown Community Improvement District (CID) is under recovering its proportional revenue requirement by 45.4%. The proposed increase for CID rates is an average of 10%.

This will allow for phasing in of necessary revenue recovery and for staff to audit customers to ensure accurate recovery. The audit should be complete in FY2027. Rates for banks, offices and retail customers are being consolidated to simplify the rate structure and improve administrative efficiency.

Throughout the study, certain service lines were further from cost recovery than others, some fees are proposed to increase and others are proposed to decrease. An overall revenue increase of 5% is proposed for the solid waste utility, to take effect on October 1, 2026. The following are each proposed section change with a brief discussion of the proposed change:

Sec. 22-159. -Residential refuse customers.

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(d) *Residential refuse collection rates.* The following rates shall apply for the removal of refuse:

- (1) *Curbside pickup.* Residential curbside service shall consist of the removal of refuse by weekly pickup of a refuse cart as set forth herein. Residential curbside customers may choose from three (3) sizes of refuse carts. The monthly fee per residential unit for such service shall be based upon the size of the refuse cart as follows:

35-gallon, per month	\$12.87	\$14.53
65-gallon, per month	\$17.37	\$18.28
95-gallon, per month	\$22.50	

- (2) *Additional refuse carts.* Residential curbside customers who are currently using a 95-gallon refuse cart may request an additional 95-gallon refuse cart if additional capacity to dispose of refuse is required. The fee for each additional 95-gallon cart is as follows:

Each additional 95-gallon refuse cart, per month \$13.50

- (3) *Centralized container pickup.* Residential service shall consist of the removal of refuse by weekly centralized container pickup as provided herein. The fee for removal of refuse deposited in a centralized container shall be as follows:

Grouped residential units having centralized collection containers, per unit,
per month ~~\$15.72~~ \$16.54

- (4) *Vacant residence.* A residence that is vacant and the owner has requested discontinuance of a metered service shall be charged fifty (50) percent of the per month, per residential unit rate applicable for the unit.

Sec. 22-160. – Apartments in excess of four units per structure.

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(b) *Collection methods and rates.* The following collection methods and rates shall apply to apartment complexes with more than four (4) units per structure:

- (1) The occupant, tenant or lessee of each apartment unit shall be charged ~~fifteen dollars and seventy-two cents (15.72)~~ sixteen dollars and 54 cents (\$16.54) per month for pickup from bulk containers.
- (2) The owner or manager of an apartment complex may make an application to the director for billing of an entire apartment complex to a single customer. The service with pickup from a bulk storage container shall be ~~fifteen dollars and forty-five cents (\$15.45)~~ sixteen dollars and 26 cents (\$16.26) per apartment per month, provided all apartment units in a complex are billed the same rate to a single customer.
- (3) Apartment complex owners or managers may request permanent recycling containers be provided as part of the residential refuse collection service.

Section 22-161. -Commercial service.

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(b) *Commercial collection methods and rates.* The following refuse collection methods and rates shall apply to commercial customers as approved by the director:

- (1) Commercial hand pickup:
 - a. Recurring and/or scheduled commercial hand pickup services may be provided for commercial customers who produce minimal amounts of refuse and/or recycling or in situations where bulk storage containers are not feasible and must be approved by the director.
 - b. The service charge for hand pickup of business or commercial places, boarding and rooming houses, fraternities and sororities, shall be at the rate of ~~three dollars and twenty-three cents (3.23)~~ three dollars and thirty nine cents (\$3.39) per collection minute, or a minimum of five (5) minutes



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which is equivalent to ~~sixteen dollars and seventeen cents (\$16.17)~~ sixteen dollars and ninety five cents (\$16.95) per occurrence.

- c. Commercial customers served by hand pickup service shall conform to container capacity of twenty (20) to thirty-three (33) gallons and weighing with contents when full, not over fifty (50) pounds, or the equivalent thereof.

- (2) Bulk storage container collection. Rates per month for bulk storage containers shall be shown in the following table for container sizes indicated and number of collections per week:

Front and Rear Loading Bulk Storage Container Refuse Collection:

Container Size	Number of Collections Per Week						Extra Collections
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Cubic Yards							Each
2	\$89.48 \$69.76	\$143.81 \$139.51	\$210.93 \$209.27	\$290.84 \$279.03	\$383.54 \$348.78	\$489.02 \$426.91	\$103.00 \$78.13
4	\$103.74 \$104.43	\$185.97 \$208.86	\$289.50 \$313.30	\$414.35 \$417.73	\$560.52 \$522.16	\$727.95 \$639.12	\$165.00 \$116.96
6	\$122.36 \$139.11	\$228.61 \$278.22	\$360.43 \$417.32	\$517.80 \$556.43	\$700.77 \$695.54	\$909.31 \$851.34	\$208.00 \$155.80
8	\$139.88 \$173.78	\$276.14 \$347.57	\$446.47 \$521.35	\$650.93 \$695.14	\$889.48 \$888.92	\$1,162.12 \$1,083.56	\$273.00 \$194.64
Roll Cart	\$26.10 \$25.70	\$40.75 \$51.39	\$58.60 \$77.09	\$79.64 \$102.78	\$103.88 \$128.48	\$131.31 \$156.28	\$28.00 \$27.80

~~Rear Loading Bulk Storage Container Refuse Collection:~~

Container Size	Number of Collections Per Week	Extra Collections
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Cubic Yards	1	2	3	4	5	6	Each
2	\$104.39	\$162.99	\$234.38	\$318.55	\$415.50	\$525.25	\$110.00
4	\$117.28	\$205.89	\$315.82	\$447.06	\$599.61	\$773.46	\$173.00
6	\$136.57	\$259.79	\$414.97	\$602.10	\$821.22	\$1,072.30	\$251.00
8	\$152.60	\$308.00	\$506.01	\$746.65	\$1,029.92	\$1,355.81	\$327

Pickup shall be available once daily, except Sundays and legal holidays, and shall be made as determined necessary by the director. The director is authorized to order special collections or extra collections in the event containers are found to be overly filled prior to the regularly scheduled collection date and to direct that the customer be billed in accordance with the provisions of this article.

Clean Old Corrugated Cardboard Only Recycling Bulk Storage Container Collection: ~~Eighty~~ ~~Ninety~~ percent (80%) (90%) of the Front and Rear Loading Bulk Storage Container Refuse Collection Rate.

Clean Mixed Fiber Material Recycling Bulk Storage Container Collection: ~~Eighty-five~~ ~~Ninety~~ percent (85%) (90%) of the Front and Rear Loading Bulk Storage Container Refuse Collection Rate.

Clean Aluminum, Metal or Plastic Containers Recycling Bulk Storage Container Collection: ~~Eighty-five~~ ~~Ninety~~ percent (85%) (90%) of the Front and Rear Loading Bulk Storage Container Refuse Collection Rate.

~~Clean Food Waste~~ Compost Bulk Storage Container Collection: ~~Eighty-five~~ ~~Ninety~~ percent (85%) (90%) of the Rear Loading Bulk Storage Container Refuse Collection Rate.

Glass or Mixed Fiber Material with Containers in the Same Bulk Storage Container Collection: One hundred percent (100%) of the Rear Loading Bulk Storage Container Refuse Collection Rate.

Pickup shall be available once daily, except Sundays and legal holidays, and shall be made as determined necessary by the director. The director is authorized to order special collections or extra collections in the event containers are found to be overly filled prior to

the regularly scheduled collection date and to direct that the customer be billed in accordance with the provisions of this article.

(3) ~~Front loading compactor boxes, per cubic yard capacity...\$24.51~~ The following rates shall apply to front loading compactor boxes:

Container Size	Number of Collections Per Week					
	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>2 YD</u>	<u>\$173.78</u>	<u>\$347.57</u>	<u>\$521.35</u>	<u>\$695.14</u>	<u>\$868.92</u>	<u>\$1,063.56</u>
<u>3 YD</u>	<u>\$243.14</u>	<u>\$486.27</u>	<u>\$729.41</u>	<u>\$972.54</u>	<u>\$1,215.68</u>	<u>\$1,487.99</u>
<u>4 YD</u>	<u>\$312.49</u>	<u>\$624.97</u>	<u>\$937.46</u>	<u>\$1,249.95</u>	<u>\$1,562.44</u>	<u>\$1,912.42</u>
<u>6 YD</u>	<u>\$451.19</u>	<u>\$902.38</u>	<u>\$1,353.57</u>	<u>\$1,804.76</u>	<u>\$2,255.95</u>	<u>\$2,761.29</u>
<u>8 YD</u>	<u>\$589.89</u>	<u>\$1,179.79</u>	<u>\$1,769.68</u>	<u>\$2,359.58</u>	<u>\$2,949.47</u>	<u>\$3,610.15</u>

(4) Large volume user. When a commercial, institutional or governmental customer has refuse and/or recycling collection needs which are of a larger volume than for the number of collections per week and number of containers for bulk container collection set out in subsection (2) above, and the director determines that a variation from the stated rates or methods of collection is appropriate, the director is hereby authorized to establish methods of collection and rates not less than the actual cost to the city of collection and disposing of the refuse of such large volume user. The city manager and city clerk are hereby authorized to enter into and execute agreements for this service with such large volume users when necessary or appropriate.

(c) The owner of the premises shall bear the sole responsibility for upkeep and maintenance of private drives, parking lots or other paved surfaces over which city vehicles must travel to reach collection containers.

(d) Front loading construction dumpsters. The city shall set a dumpster at a construction site for a rate of ~~ninety three dollars and eighty one cents (\$93.81)~~ ninety-eight dollars and twenty-eight cents (\$98.28). Collection service from the dumpster shall be made upon request at a rate of

<u>Container Size</u>	<u>Rate Per Collection</u>
<u>2 YD</u>	<u>\$121.77</u>
<u>4 YD</u>	<u>\$208.46</u>
<u>6 YD</u>	<u>\$295.15</u>
<u>8 YD</u>	<u>\$381.84</u>

~~one hundred thirty-eight dollars and eighty-two cents (\$138.82)~~ per collection with a minimum (calendar) monthly charge of ~~one hundred thirty-eight dollars and eighty-two cents (\$138.82)~~. In the event service is not requested within each full calendar month following placement, the container may be removed and a new placement charge will be levied to set the container again. Payment can be required at the time a container is requested to be set.

(e) *Roll-off and compactor refuse containers.* The fees for such service shall be as follows:

- (1) *Full-sized compactor style roll-off containers:* ~~One hundred one dollars and forty-seven cents (\$101.47)~~ One hundred thirty eight dollars and 43 cents (\$138.43) per collection plus fifty-five dollars (\$55.00) per ton with a minimum (calendar) monthly charge of ~~One hundred one dollars and forty-seven cents (\$101.47)~~ one hundred thirty eight dollars and 43 cents (\$138.43).
- (2) *Full-sized non-compacted roll-off containers:* ~~One hundred one dollars and forty-seven cents (\$101.47)~~ One hundred thirty eight dollars and 43 cents (\$138.43) per collection plus fifty-five dollars (\$55.00) per ton with a minimum (calendar) monthly charge of ~~One hundred one dollars and forty-seven cents (\$101.47)~~ one hundred thirty eight dollars and 43 cents (\$138.43).
- (3) *Mini-sized compactor style roll-off containers:* ~~Seventy-two dollars and thirteen cents (\$72.13)~~ Ninety six dollars and 39 cents (\$96.39) per collection plus fifty-five dollars (\$55.00) per ton with a minimum (calendar) monthly charge of ~~Seventy-two dollars and thirteen cents (\$72.13)~~ ninety six dollars and 39 cents (\$96.39).
- (4) *Mini-sized non-compacted style roll-off containers:* ~~Seventy-two dollars and thirteen cents (\$72.13)~~ Ninety six dollars and 39 cents (\$96.39) per collection plus fifty-five dollars (\$55.00) per ton with a minimum (calendar) monthly charge of ~~Seventy-two dollars and thirteen cents (\$72.13)~~ ninety six dollars and 39 cents (\$96.39).

(f) *Recycling roll-off or compacting containers.* The fees for such service shall be as follows:

- (1) Clean old corrugated cardboard: No charge.
- (2) Clean mixed fiber material only: ~~85~~ 90% of current roll-off and compactor refuse container rates.



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- (3) Clean aluminum, metal or plastic containers only: ~~85~~ 90% of current roll-off and compactor refuse container rates.
- (4) Glass or mixed fiber and container materials in same dumpster (uncompacted only): 100% of current roll-off and compactor refuse container rates.

Section 22-172. – Establishment of rates.

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(e) The following monthly rates shall apply to the categories and classifications as established by this article and shall be billed and collected as provided for by the procedures of chapter 27, article II:

Combined – Solid Waste Management Monthly Rate			
Category	Classification		
	I	II	III
Restaurant	\$371.45 \$300.10	\$183.56 \$200.07	\$61.19 \$100.03
Retail	171.98 144.28	85.99 96.19	27.82 48.09
Office	141.84 144.28	70.09 96.19	23.36 48.09
Church	95.11 86.57	46.73 57.71	15.02 28.86
Production/Industrial	969.52 346.27	313.57 230.85	161.59 115.42
Bank	150.18 144.28	75.09 96.19	25.03 48.09
Lodging	594.87 334.73	294.80 223.15	100.02 111.58
Printing/production/silk/screening	122.79 138.51	102.67 92.34	82.54 46.17
Residential	19.23 18.28		

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: Estimated \$1.5 million dollars, or 5%, in additional revenues from the realigned solid waste utility rates.

Long-Term Impact: The Solid Waste Utility Fee Study recommends the following revenue increases: 10% FY2028, 10% FY2029, 5% FY2030 and 5% FY2031.

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Reliable and Sustainable Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Organizational Excellence, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Not applicable, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

Legislative History

Date	Action
02/19/2024	B27-24 Amending Chapter 22 of the City Code relating to the outdoor storage of refuse and/or recycling carts or other storage containers.
03/20/2023	B54-23 Amending Chapter 22 of the City Code as it relates to residential curbside refuse collection.
12/05/2022	B335-22 Amending Chapter 22 of the City Code as it relates to the provision of refuse bags for residential refuse customers.
08/28/2020	B233-20 Amending Chapter 22 of the City Code as it relates to residential curbside refuse and recycling collection.
10/15/2018	B244-18 Amending Chapter 2 of the City Code relating to solid waste rates for construction dumpsters.
09/17/2018	B180-18 Amending Chapter 2 of the City Code relating to solid waste rates and services.
09/18/2017	B227-17 Amending Chapter 22 of the City Code as it relates to solid waste rates and services.
02/20/2017	B33-17 Amending Chapter 22 of the City Code as it relates to the establishment of solid waste container and compactor sites within the Downtown Community Improvement District.
09/19/2016	B197-16 Amending Chapter 22 of the City Code as it relates to solid waste rates and services.
09/21/2015	B224-15 Amending Chapter 22 of the City Code as it relates to solid waste rates and services.

Suggested Council Action

Approve the ordinance.