

AN ORDINANCE

No. _____

An Ordinance amending Article VII of Chapter 13 of the Columbus Code Solid Waste Collection and Disposal to update the monthly residential garbage fee and to update the guidelines for an offset to the residential rate for low-income households; and for other purposes.

THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

SECTION 1.

Section 13-169.1 (a) of the Columbus Code of Ordinances is hereby deleted in its entirety, and a new Section 13-169.1 (a) is inserted to read as follows:

(a) A charge for the services of collection and disposal of garbage, trash, and other solid waste including yard waste, in Columbus, Georgia for any residential property shall be as follows:

(1) Effective July 1, 2026, a rate of \$26.00 per month for waste collection services at the curb or on city right-of-way. Effective July 1, 2027, a rate of \$27.00 per month for waste collection services at the curb or on city right-of-way. . Effective July 1, 2028, a rate of \$28.00 per month for waste collection services at the curb or on city right-of-way. Residential households may purchase additional garbage, trash, or yard waste containers at a one-time cart fee of \$55.00 for each additional container.

(2) An offset of 25 percent per month, rounded to the nearest dime, for a low-income household collection service at the curb or on the city right-of-way.

A low income household is one which receives food stamps, aid to families with dependent children or has a total yearly income below the poverty income line guidelines for family units in the United States set by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, or its successor, said guidelines now being set forth presently in the Federal Register, Vol. 91, No. 10, January 15, 2026 (Document no. 2026-00755), pp. 1797-1798 as follows:

| SIZE OF FAMILY UNIT | INCOME LEVEL |
|---------------------|--------------|
| 1 | \$15,650 |
| 2 | \$21,640 |
| 3 | \$27,320 |
| 4 | \$33,000 |
| 5 | \$38,680 |
| 6 | \$44,360 |
| 7 | \$50,040 |
| 8 | \$55,720 |

For each additional person, add \$5,680

“Such guidelines will be adjusted annually according to the Federal Register.”

SECTION 2.

All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the 2nd day of June 2026; introduced a second time at a regular meeting of said Council held on the 9th day of June 2026, and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of said Council.

| | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Councilor Allen | voting _____ |
| Councilor Anker | voting _____ |
| Councilor Barnes | voting _____ |
| Councilor Chambers | voting _____ |
| Councilor Cogle | voting _____ |
| Councilor Crabb | voting _____ |
| Councilor Davis | voting _____ |
| Councilor Garrett | voting _____ |
| Councilor Huff | voting _____ |
| Councilor Tucker | voting _____ |

Lindsey G. McLemore, Clerk of Council

B.H. "Skip" Henderson, III, Mayor