



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: February 28, 2022

SUBJECT: Deliberations for Fee and Service Changes in Cascade Disposal's Franchise Service Area in Deschutes County

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Direct staff to prepare a Board Order to include the recycling service options selected by the Board with the deliberations that are undertaken with this agenda item.

BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Over the past 1½ years, the Solid Waste Department has been working with Cascade Disposal on improvements to residential recycling collection services in their County franchise district. This effort has been motivated by recommendations in the 2019 Solid Waste Management Plan to expand residential recycling collection, a request from Sunriver Homeowners Association for assistance in finding solutions to the maintenance and operation challenges with the Sunriver Recycling Depot, and requests to provide curbside yard debris collection services to help residents develop and maintain defensible spaces for wildfire mitigation.

On January 24, 2022, staff participated in a Work Session with the Board to review the history and status of recycling collection services in Deschutes County and a proposal from Cascade Disposal to expand residential recycling collection services in their franchise district as a universal service.

On January 31, 2022, the Board held a public hearing to discuss and receive public testimony on the proposal from Cascade Disposal for expansion of services. The proposal includes the following elements:

- Add collection of comingle and glass recycling collection in Sunriver as a weekly universal side-yard service with a rate increase of \$14 per month.
- Add glass and yard debris recycling collection in Cascade Disposal's Rural Service Zone as a bi-weekly universal curbside service with a rate increase of \$10/month.

- Add comingle, glass and yard debris recycling collection in Cascade Disposal's Distant Rural Service Zone as a bi-weekly universal curbside service with a rate increase of \$14/month.

Seven citizens provided verbal testimony at the Public Hearing and an additional 69 written and verbal comments were received during the open record period, which closed at midnight on Monday, February 14, 2022. Written comments received during the comment period are available on the Solid Waste Department website at <https://www.deschutes.org/solidwaste/page/cascade-disposal-proposal-expand-residential-recyclables-collection>. Testimony provided at the public hearing, written comments submitted by email and verbal comments received by phone during the open record period are summarized as follows:

Sunriver

- Number of comments received: 44
- Comments in full support of proposal: 30
- Comments in opposition of proposal: 13
 - Specific comments regarding opposition to the proposal include:
 - Would support the proposal as a subscription service: 9

Rural Service Zone:

- Number of comments received: 17
- Respondents in full support of proposal: 5
- Respondents opposing proposal: 12
 - Specific comments regarding opposition to the proposal include:
 - Would support the proposal as a subscription service: 9
 - Oppose biweekly yard debris collection: 6
 - Oppose biweekly glass collection: 4

Distant Rural Service Zone

No comments received

Outside Cascade Disposal Service District

Due to misinformation that was posted on social media outside the County's control, 15 comments in full support of the service and fee proposal were received from residents in subdivisions immediately outside Cascade Disposal's franchise district south of Sunriver. Respondents were contacted to thank them for their submittal and advise them that they were outside the service district where the proposal was being considered.

The Board has several options for action considering Cascade Disposal's proposal and the comments that were received:

Sunriver Service Zone

- *No action.* Side-yard waste collection service will continue as currently provided with no residential recycling collection. Residents will continue to rely on the Sunriver Recycling Depot and the County's recycling facilities for their recycling needs.

- *Approve services as proposed as a universal service* with weekly side-yard comingle and glass collection added at an additional cost of \$14/month for those residents that sign up for service.
- *Approve services as proposed as a subscription service* where residents can select and pay for only those side-yard services they would like to receive (trash, comingle and glass collection). At this time, no subscription service fee structure has been proposed and Cascade Disposal will need to conduct an analysis to develop a proposal for subscription services.

Rural Service Zone

- *No action.* Universal service with comingle recycling collection continues as currently provided.
- *Approve services as proposed as a universal service* with biweekly glass and yard debris collection added as part of the existing universal service program at an additional cost of \$10/month for those residents that sign up for service.
- *Approve services as proposed as a subscription service* where residents can select and pay for only those services they would like to receive (trash, comingle, glass and yard debris collection). At this time, no subscription service fee structure has been proposed and Cascade Disposal will need to conduct an analysis to develop a proposal for subscription services.

Distant Rural Service Zone

- *No action.* Waste collection services with no recycling collection continues as currently provided.
- *Approve services as proposed as a universal service* with comingle, glass and yard debris collection added at an additional cost of \$14/month for those residents that sign up for service.
- *Approve services as proposed as a subscription service* where residents can select and pay for only those services they would like to receive (trash, comingle, glass and yard debris collection). At this time, no subscription service fee structure has been proposed and Cascade Disposal will need to conduct an analysis to develop a proposal for subscription services.

Staff will return with a Board Order consistent with the Board's decision at an upcoming meeting. As noted above, no fee structure has been developed by Cascade Disposal for subscription services at this time. If the Board selects subscription service for specific zones, staff will work with Cascade Disposal to develop the appropriate fee structure for Board consideration.

BUDGET IMPACTS:

None.

ATTENDANCE:

Chad Centola, Director of Solid Waste
Timm Schimke, Senior Advisor