CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU

Engineering and Public Works Department
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DATE: March 17, 2025

TO: Alicia Hughes-Skandijs, Chair
Public Works and Facilities Committee

THROUGH: Denise Koch, Director Engineering and Public Works

FROM: Dianna Robinson, Environmental Project Specialist

SUBJECT: Juneau Solid Waste Study

Enclosed is the final draft of the Solid Waste Disposal Facility Feasibility and Capital Costs Technical Memo from our contractor, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc.

Currently, solid waste management in Juneau is exclusively handled by private companies, with the CBJ having no active role in this process. Residents in Juneau can either bring their solid waste directly to the private landfill owned by Waste Management, at a cost of $215 per ton (with a minimum charge of $153.32), or they can participate in curbside collection services provided by the privately owned company Alaska Waste.

This study is a limited high-level discussion of capital costs and technical feasibility of three scenarios chosen by CBJ based on several past studies and Assembly-level conversations over the course of four decades. It does not include in-depth analyses of operational costs, cost-benefit analyses of the scenarios, comparisons of different thermal treatment (incineration) technologies, or much discussion of diversion practices such as recycling or composting. It is intended to be a starting point for community conversations around future solid waste management.

A summary of the capital costs for each scenario and their feasibility ranking is below:

| **Scenario** | **Capital Cost Range** | **Feasibility Ranking** |
|---|---|---|
| A – Transfer station and new landfill | $59 million – $158 million | 2 |
| B – Transfer station and ship waste south | $14 million – $40 million | 1 |
| C – Transfer station and WTE facility | $99 million – $110 million | 3 |

**Suggested Next Steps:**

1. Decide whether CBJ wants to have control in the solid waste management system by owning a solid waste disposal facility.
2. If control is desired, proceed to develop a transfer processing facility that can be used regardless of the scenario selected with design considerations for future expansion.

3. Engage with shipping partners and to evaluate the capacity of the current shipping facility and the waste hauler's needs for the transfer station.
4. Perform a high-level operating cost estimation for Scenarios A & B (building a new landfill or expanding the transfer station to accommodate shipping waste south for disposal).

**Action Requested**

1) Staff requests that PWFC recommend a presentation about this topic at the Committee of the Whole.
2) Staff recommend allocating funding for a high-level operating cost study for Scenarios A (transfer station and landfill) and B (transfer station and ship waste to Lower 48).

*Attachments:*

1. *Jacobs CBJ Solid Waste Study PowerPoint Presentation*
2. *Jacobs Engineering Draft Technical Memo (included in Supplemental Materials)*