King County Solid Waste Rate Restructure -Recology Contract Amendment

Utility Board Presentation September 12, 2023



Purpose

Receive direction from Utility Board on the proposed contract amendment with Recology to incorporate the new King County Fixed Annual Charge.



Background

IDMER

- King County Solid Waste Division's revenue is mostly generated from per-ton tipping fees.
- To cover non-disposal related costs, King County is moving to a "utility model" starting 1/1/24.
- New revenue-neutral model is a Fixed Annual Charge (FAC) per city and reduced tipping fee.

• Expected to stabilize revenue and create funding source for waste reduction programs.

Collection Contracts with Hauler Billing

Customer Rates: Service component *(adjusted by CPI)*

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Disposal component (adjusted by King County tipping fees) Current contract does not allow the collection of FAC from customers, so must be amended. Cities worked with their haulers to agree on how to distribute the FAC across the customer base.

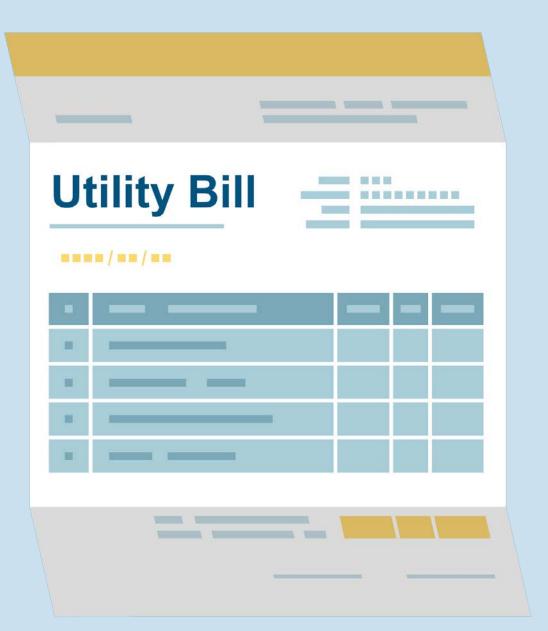
All Recology cities have the same model. Reconciliation was added to mitigate overcollection or undercollection due to a variable customer base.

Calculations Overview



Customer Billing & Communication

- FAC will be added as a line item to customer bills.
- FAC will be based on size of garbage container.
- King County will create website and messaging about FAC.
- Recology will include messaging in annual mailer, bills and website.





Financial Impacts

- King County's rate restructure is revenue neutral (but includes an 9.6% increase for 2024).
- Exact rates will be calculated in fall when final CPI and FAC numbers are available (anticipated October 2023).
- Rates are determined by King County.
- Customer rates will adjust annually by CPI, tipping fee, and FAC.

Recommendation



Receive direction from Utility Board on the proposed contract amendment with Recology to incorporate the new King County Fixed Annual Charge.

Questions

