

CITY OF RICHLAND CENTER - AGENDA ITEM DATA SHEET

Agenda Item: Waste Management Fees

Committee Review: Finance Committee

Meeting Date: Finance – February 4, 2025

Requested by: Amanda Keller, Clerk

Background: There is one year remaining in the contract with Town & Country Sanitation contract. The original contract stipulated a 3% increase to the fees each year of the contract but charges to the public have not been updated for over 10 years. There were some questions as to the number of residents within the city receiving services vs how many were being billed to the city each month. Town & Country reduced the amount they charged for Garbage Service throughout 2024 but will resume with the original fee amount including the 3% increase starting January 2025.

Town & Country Sanitation confirmed they will begin charging the following:

- They will bill for *1,835 homes*
 - Garbage = \$9.16 per home for a total of **\$16,808.60/month**
 - Recyclables = \$3.11 per home for a total of **\$5,706.85/month**
- Transfer Station will increase to **\$889.92/month**
- Landfill Roll-Offs increase to \$131.00 each time they are pulled
 - 30YD Wood/Pallets will cost \$26.50/Ton plus \$131.00/Pull
 - 3-30YD & 1-42YD Garbage will cost \$52.50/Ton plus \$131.00/Pull
 - No charge on recycling as long as items are kept separated
 - 1-30YD Plastic
 - 1-20YD Tin
 - 1-20YD Glass
 - 1-42YD Cardboard

After reviewing costs over the past 2 years, we anticipate the average cost for sanitation service to be roughly \$25,211.17 per month or \$13.74 per home charge. Raising the monthly charge from \$12 to \$14 would cover the cost of the service and administration without a loss to the city.

Landfill costs have also not been updated since 2014 and after reviewing the Landfill revenue vs the average monthly costs to run the landfill over the past 2 years averages a loss of \$1,572.41 a month to the city. Looking at other landfill costs in the nearby area we have proposed an adjustment to the costs to dispose of items at the landfill.

Department Recommendation: Updating the fees to the public would allow the city to cover the cost of sanitation services. As we do not know what costs will look like once a new contract is established for 2026, raising the service fees a smaller amount now could make it easier to raise again to accommodate fees in smaller incremental amounts while preventing a financial loss to the city for these services.

Financial Impact: Keeping fees to the public at the current rates would create a monthly shortfall of \$3,191.17 in garbage fees and \$1,572.41 in landfill costs.

FINANCE: Motion to recommend to the Council to adopt Resolution 2025-03 Increasing the Fees for Garbage and Trash Removal from Residential Properties and for Acceptance of Waste Materials at the City Waste Disposal Site.

COUNCIL: Motion to adopt Resolution 2025-03 Increasing the Fees for Garbage and Trash Removal from Residential Properties and for Acceptance of Waste Materials at the City Waste Disposal Site.