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STAFF REPORT

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Kimberly Graham, Thurston County Solid and Hazardous Waste Supervisor

DATE: July 17th, 2025

SUBJECT: Adoption of 2025 Hazardous Waste Management Plan

Summary Statement:

Under Washington State law, all counties and cities must develop a plan that provides a framework for the management of community generated solid and hazardous waste. Several elements are mandated for inclusion within the plans such as the identification of disposal facilities to accommodate for a 20-year planning period, waste reduction and recycling goals, proper hazardous material handling, and the funding mechanism for the jurisdiction's overall management systems. Although each community is required to maintain a plan for solid and hazardous waste, state law allows the flexibility to develop plans jointly with other communities.

Jurisdictions are required to review plans every five years. If amendments are needed because of changes in law or policy, a revision process is initiated beginning with the Solid Waste Advisory Committee. Public meetings ensure interested groups and citizens have an opportunity to provide input on the solid waste plan, and more importantly, to propose changes. After the public comment period concludes, the plan is revised to incorporate suggested changes. It is then forwarded to each participating municipality for adoption. Once this is completed the plan is forwarded to Thurston County Board of Health for final adoption. The Department of Ecology receives the final plan after all participants have approved the Hazardous Waste document.

Historically, Cities and Towns of Thurston County have exercised their option under state law to participate in a joint county/municipality integrated solid and hazardous waste management programs. All cities within our region coordinate with Thurston County in the creation of a plan. This collaborative effort has resulted in the creation of the Thurston County 2025 Hazardous Waste Management Plan.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Adopt the 2025 Thurston County Hazardous Waste Management Plan and sign the attached resolution.

Environmental Health Division – Solid & Hazardous Waste Section

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