



# Solid Waste & Curbside Recycling Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

May 11, 2026

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Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan called the meeting to order at 5:30pm. Councilors McCarthy (arrived at 5:32pm) and Hayward were in attendance, as well as City Manager Byron Smith, Police Chief Jason Edmiston, and City Recorder Lilly Alarcon-Strong.

## **Review Solid Waste Rates**

Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan stated the City received a request from Waste Connections dba Sanitary Disposal for a rate adjustment of 5% effective July 1st, 2026 due to inflation, necessary upgrades for improved safety, reliability and regulatory compliance, as well as labor costs. The last rate adjustment to solid waste fees was in March of 2024 and since that time the national consumer price index of inflation has risen 6.62%.

The City has asked Waste Connections dba Sanitary Disposal if they would consider a 3.5% rate increase and City reduction of 1% in billing fee and .5% in franchise fee instead with an effective date of July 1st, 2026. This 1.5% will reduce the general fund revenues by about \$65,000.00, however, because of the new state required recycling mandate slated to begin on July 1st, 2026, this service will also generate the same amount, \$65,000.00, in billing and franchise fees and therefore cancel each other out.

Waste Connections District Manager Kevin Miracle stated they are willing to accept the recommendations given by the City and stated they are not asking for a large increase, just the standard growth of CPI and general costs increases to maintain equipment and personnel (Request for rate adjustment attached).

## **Committee Discussion and Recommendation to City Council**

Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan stated this information would be presented to the City Council at their next meeting on Tuesday, May 26th.

Councilor McCarthy asked Mr. Miracle what the outcome would be if the Council does not approve this adjustment.

Mr. Miracle stated he would return to the City for further negotiations and a possible compromise.

## **Public Comment**

None given.

## **Adjourn**

There were no other items of discussion, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:44pm.



**WASTE CONNECTIONS, INC.**  
*Connect with the Future®*

**April 16, 2026**

**Mark Morgan**  
**Assistant City Manager**  
**180 NE 2<sup>nd</sup> St,**  
**Hermiston, OR 97838**

**Re: Request for Rate Adjustment Effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026**

I am writing to formally request a rate adjustment of 3.5%, effective July 1, 2026. I want to provide concise context and transparency as you evaluate our request.

**Capital Investment:**

Inflation and supply chain disruptions have significantly increased equipment, maintenance, and repair costs. We're making necessary investments in newer trucks and facility upgrades to improve safety, reliability, and regulatory compliance. These improvements are ongoing and essential to meeting service expectations.

**Local Wages:**

Labor costs continue to rise due to competitive hiring conditions. We remain committed to fair wages and quality benefits to retain qualified employees.

**Return on Investment & Inflation:**

Rising CPI and cost increases across fuel, disposal, insurance, and materials

Sincerely

Kevin Miracle  
District Manager  
Sanitary Disposal  
503-572-0259

**Sanitary Disposal, Inc.**  
**Sample of Cost Increases**  
**December 2021-January 2026**

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>% Increase</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>							
Avg Driver Wage Rate	\$ 21.25	\$ 24.47	\$ 26.25	\$ 28.66	\$ 30.50	\$ 32.31	5.93%
Avg Monthly Maint Expense (Excl Fuel)		\$ 116,257	\$ 126,293	\$ 178,674	\$ 177,026	\$ 184,300	4.11%
Avg Monthly Container Expense		\$ 10,098	\$ 11,048	\$ 13,023	\$ 11,746	\$ 10,021	-14.68%
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>% Increase</b>
<b>CAPITAL COSTS</b>							
Peterbilt 520 ASL Truck Cost		\$ 349,619		\$ 430,326	\$ 455,799	\$ 470,363	3.20%
Peterbilt Road Tractor	\$ 162,763			\$ 249,147		\$ 248,527	53.07%
Freightliner RO Truck				\$ 306,216	\$ 390,770	\$ 371,879	27.61%

**Sanitary Disposal, Inc**  
**Summary of Capital Purchases 12/1/21-04/01/2026**

Category	Quantity	Cost
BUILDINGS/BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS	1	\$ 77,367.00
CONTAINERS (See Detail Below)	1561	\$ 2,266,406.09
HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE	1	\$ 49,216.31
HEAVY EQUIPMENT (See Detail Below)	4	\$ 581,541.79
OFFICE EQUIPMENT	1	\$ 15,581.00
SHOP EQUIPMENT	1	\$ 117,124.22
TRUCKS AND TRAILERS (See Detail Below)	24	\$ 5,867,521.11
	<b>1,593</b>	<b>\$ 8,974,757.52</b>

Trucks and Trailer Detail	Quantity	Cost
2019 Ford F-150 Pick Up Truck	1	\$ 39,200.50
2022 Ford F-350 Service Truck	1	\$ 60,566.00
2022 Freightliner REL Truck	3	\$ 711,265.00
2022 Peterbilt ASL Truck	1	\$ 349,618.67
2023 Freightliner RO Truck	2	\$ 474,953.00
2023 Pete 320 RO	1	\$ 268,600.35
2023 Pete 320 RO	1	\$ 268,600.35
2024 Pete 520 ASL	1	\$ 429,334.00
2024 Pete 520 ASL	1	\$ 431,317.53
2024 Peterbilt 537 Transfer Tractor	1	\$ 249,146.71
2025 Wilkens 3 Axle Transfer Trailer	1	\$ 133,557.00
2025 Wilkens 3 Axle Transfer Trailer	1	\$ 170,728.00
2025 Freightliner RO Truck	1	\$ 390,770.00
2025 Freightliner RO Truck	1	\$ 390,770.00
2025 Peterbilt ASL Truck	1	\$ 455,799.00
2021 Transfer Trailer	4	\$ 383,000.00
2026 Wilkens 3 Axle Transfer Trailer	1	\$ 248,527.00
2026 Peterbilt ASL Truck	1	\$ 411,768.00
	<b>24</b>	<b>\$ 5,867,521.11</b>

Heavy Equipment Detail	Quantity	Cost
2017 Yale GPO50MX Forklift	1	\$ 31,572.66
2020 CAT 930M Bucket Loader Chassis	1	\$ 213,215.46
2022 Skid Steer Chassis	1	\$ 78,711.89
2024 CAT 315 Excavator	1	\$ 258,041.78
	<b>4</b>	<b>\$ 581,541.79</b>

Containers Detail	Quantity	Cost
35 Gallon Carts	200	\$ 32,149
95 Gal Carts	1,261	\$ 278,884
1.5 Yd MSW REL	18	\$ 45,803
2 Yd MSW REL	30	\$ 174,473
22 Yd RO	24	\$ 631,875
39 Yd RO (25 On Order)	24	\$ 1,100,083
Forklift Bins	4	\$ 3,140.00
	<b>1,561</b>	<b>\$ 2,266,406.09</b>

**Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers**  
**Original Data Value**

Series Id: CWUR0400SA0,CWUS0400SA0  
 Not Seasonally Adjusted  
 Series Title: All items in West urban, urban wage earners and  
 Area: West  
 Item: All items  
 Base Period: 1982-84=100  
 Years: 2016 to 2026

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual	HALF1	HALF2
2016	236.888	236.747	237.415	238.757	239.973	240.365	240.395	240.291	241.052	241.744	241.167	241.098	239.658	238.358	240.958
2017	242.384	243.810	244.489	245.454	246.096	246.155	246.373	246.978	248.379	248.883	248.863	249.055	246.410	244.731	248.089
2018	250.416	251.704	252.644	253.933	255.316	255.804	255.931	256.311	256.950	258.149	257.604	256.879	255.137	253.303	256.971
2019	257.040	257.519	258.617	261.149	262.608	262.418	262.401	262.416	263.328	265.185	264.619	263.892	261.766	259.892	263.640
2020	264.573	265.531	265.211	264.167	264.227	265.222	266.881	268.075	268.261	268.679	268.547	268.282	266.471	264.822	268.121
2021	269.125	270.740	272.841	275.807	278.472	281.156	282.738	283.286	283.830	286.200	287.891	289.076	280.097	274.690	285.504
2022	291.597	293.882	298.396	300.350	303.091	307.063	307.269	307.003	307.937	310.550	308.801	306.762	303.558	299.063	308.054
2023	309.696	311.086	312.556	313.978	315.412	316.460	316.865	318.397	319.894	320.039	318.299	317.689	315.864	313.198	318.531
2024	319.433	320.965	324.323	326.135	326.110	325.134	324.601	324.943	325.985	326.153	325.671	325.543	324.583	323.683	325.483
2025	327.503	329.385	331.207	332.876	333.912	334.121	334.465	335.407	336.756		335.799	334.628	333.278	331.501	335.411
2026	335.796	337.391	341.234												

5.21%

**Waste Connections of Oregon, Inc.  
dba Sanitary Disposal  
Proposed City of Hermiston Rates**

**Effective Increase = 3.50%**

SERVICE	CURRENT RATE	TOTAL INCREASE	NEW RATE
<b>RESIDENTIAL</b>			
<b>ROLLCARTS</b>			
Weekly- 35 Gal Cart			
- (1) cart	\$17.46	\$0.61	\$18.07
- (1) cart Senior Rate	\$14.38	\$0.50	\$14.89
- (2) carts	\$34.94	\$1.22	\$36.16
- (3) carts	\$52.40	\$1.83	\$54.24
- Walk-In Charge	\$9.19	\$0.32	\$9.51
- Extras (Per 35 Gal Equivalent)	\$4.07	\$0.14	\$4.21
- Bulky Item Pickup Small	\$5.00	\$0.18	\$5.18
 Weekly- 90 Gal Cart			
- (1) cart	\$29.05	\$1.02	\$30.07
- (2) carts	\$58.12	\$2.03	\$60.16
- (3) carts	\$87.18	\$3.05	\$90.23
- (4) carts	\$116.23	\$4.07	\$120.30
- Walk-In Charge	\$9.19	\$0.32	\$9.51
 <b>COMMERCIAL</b>			
<b>ROLLCARTS</b>			
Weekly- 35 Gal Cart			
- (1) cart	\$17.46	\$0.61	\$18.07
- (2) carts	\$34.94	\$1.22	\$36.16
- (3) carts	\$52.40	\$1.83	\$54.24
- Walk-In Charge	\$9.19	\$0.32	\$9.51
- Extras (Per 35 Gal Equivalent)	\$4.07	\$0.14	\$4.21
- Bulky Item Pickup Small	\$10.00	\$0.35	\$10.35
- Bulky Item Pickup Large	\$15.00	\$0.53	\$15.53
 Weekly- 90 Gal Cart			
- (1) cart	\$35.71	\$1.25	\$36.96
- (2) carts	\$71.43	\$2.50	\$73.93
- (3) carts	\$107.14	\$3.75	\$110.89
- (4) carts	\$142.85	\$5.00	\$147.85

**Waste Connections of Oregon, Inc.**  
**dba Sanitary Disposal**  
**Proposed City of Hermiston Rates**

**Effective Increase = 3.50%**

SERVICE	CURRENT RATE	TOTAL INCREASE	NEW RATE
<b>CONTAINERS</b>			
(1) 1 1/2 Yd Container			
- Once a week	\$120.82	\$4.23	\$125.05
- Twice a week	\$228.73	\$8.01	\$236.74
- Three times a week	\$336.64	\$11.78	\$348.42
- Four times a week	\$444.55	\$15.56	\$460.11
- Six times a week	\$660.37	\$23.11	\$683.48
(2) 1 1/2 Yd Containers			
- Once a week	\$241.64	\$8.46	\$250.10
- Twice a week	\$457.46	\$16.01	\$473.47
- Three times a week	\$673.28	\$23.56	\$696.85
(3) 1 1/2 Yd Containers			
- Once a week	\$362.48	\$12.69	\$375.16
- Twice a week	\$686.19	\$24.02	\$710.21
- Three times a week	\$1,009.92	\$35.35	\$1,045.27
(1) 2 Yd Container			
- Once a week	\$157.08	\$5.50	\$162.58
- Twice a week	\$298.64	\$10.45	\$309.09
- Three times a week	\$440.19	\$15.41	\$455.60
- Four times a week	\$581.75	\$20.36	\$602.11
- Five times a week	\$723.29	\$25.32	\$748.61
- Six times a week	\$864.85	\$30.27	\$895.12
(2) 2 Yd Containers			
- Once a week	\$314.17	\$11.00	\$325.17
- Twice a week	\$597.27	\$20.90	\$618.18
- Three times a week	\$880.39	\$30.81	\$911.20
(3) 2 Yd Containers			
- Once a week	\$471.25	\$16.49	\$487.75
- Twice a week	\$942.51	\$32.99	\$975.50
- Three times a week	\$1,320.58	\$46.22	\$1,366.80

**Waste Connections of Oregon, Inc.  
dba Sanitary Disposal  
Proposed City of Hermiston Rates**

**Effective Increase = 3.50%**

SERVICE	CURRENT RATE	TOTAL INCREASE	NEW RATE
<b>RECYCLING CONTAINERS</b>			
- (1) 2 Yd Recycling Container			
- Once a week	\$53.91	\$1.89	\$55.80
- Twice a week	\$107.82	\$3.77	\$111.59
- Three times a week	\$161.73	\$5.66	\$167.39
- Four times a week	\$215.63	\$7.55	\$223.18
- Five times a week	\$269.54	\$9.43	\$278.98
- Recycling Compactor Haul	\$285.81	\$10.00	\$295.81
<b>DROP BOXES</b>			
- Delivery Fee	\$63.39	\$2.22	\$65.61
- Haul Fee (Up to 5 Tons)	\$89.54	\$3.13	\$92.67
- Disposal Fee (Whichever is Greater)			
- Per Cubic Yard	\$8.97	\$0.31	\$9.28
- Per Ton	\$100.84	\$3.53	\$104.37
- Haul Fee (Greater Than 5 Tons)	\$323.28	\$11.31	\$334.59
- Disposal Fee (Per Ton)	\$54.00	\$1.89	\$55.89
-Wait Time When Servicing	\$89.54	\$3.13	\$92.67
- Demurrage per day after 7 days	\$6.89	\$0.24	\$7.13
- Trailer Haul Fee	\$250.00	\$84.59	\$334.59
<b>COMPACTORS</b>			
Compacted dropboxes			
- Haul Fee (Up to 5 Tons, Per Hour)	\$117.66	\$4.12	\$121.78
- Disposal Fee (Whichever is Greater)			
- Per Cubic Yard	\$8.97	\$0.31	\$9.28
- Per Ton	\$100.84	\$3.53	\$104.37

**Waste Connections of Oregon, Inc.  
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**Effective Increase = 3.50%**

<b>SERVICE</b>	<b>CURRENT RATE</b>	<b>TOTAL INCREASE</b>	<b>NEW RATE</b>
- Haul Fee (Greater Than 5 Tons)	\$351.41	\$12.30	\$363.71
- Disposal Fee (Per Ton)	\$54.00	\$1.89	\$55.89