



CITY OF MERCER ISLAND UTILITY BOARD HYBRID MEETING

Tuesday, January 14, 2025, at 5:00 PM

BOARD MEMBERS:

Tim O'Connell, Chair
Will Quantz, Vice Chair
George Marshall, Meredith Lehr,
Stephen Milton, Craig Olson, and Todd White

LOCATION & CONTACT

Mercer Island Community & Event Center – Zoom Meeting
8236 SE 24th Street | Mercer Island, WA 98040
Phone: 206.275.7793 | www.mercerisland.gov

We strive to create an inclusive and accessible experience. Those requiring accommodation for meetings should notify the City Clerk's Office 3 days prior to the meeting at 206.275.7793 or by emailing cityclerk@mercerisland.gov.

The virtual meeting will be broadcast live on Zoom and recorded and saved on the City Council's YouTube Channel

Individuals wishing to speak live during Appearances will need to register their request with the City Clerk at 206.275.7793 or email the City Clerk and leave a message before 4 PM on the day of the Utility Board meeting. Each speaker will be allowed three (3) minutes to speak.

Join the meeting at 5:00 PM by: Join the meeting at 5:00 PM by:

- **Telephone:** Call 253.215.8782 and enter Webinar ID 870 1652 3640 and Password 260333
 - **Zoom:** Click this [link](#) (Webinar ID 870 1652 3640; Password 260333)
 - **In Person:** Mercer Island Community & Event Center (8236 SE 24th Street, Mercer Island, WA 98040)
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MEETING AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL, 5:00 PM

PUBLIC APPEARANCES

REGULAR BUSINESS

1. 2024 Recology Annual Report

Recommended Action: Receive report

OTHER BUSINESS

2. Planning Schedule

3. Next Meeting – February 11, 2025

ADJOURNMENT



UTILITY BOARD STAFF REPORT

Item (1)
January 14, 2025
Regular Business

AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION

TITLE:	Recology Mercer Island Utility Board Presentation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only <input type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Receive Report. No action necessary.	

STAFF:	Jason Kintner, Chief of Operations	
	Alanna DeRogatis, Sustainability Program Manager	
COUNCIL LIAISON:	Jake Jacobson	
EXHIBITS:	n/a	

SUMMARY

On October 1, 2019, Recology became the City's new provider. The City Council selected Recology for a 10-year contract in December 2018, following a competitive RFP process. Every year, Recology presents their Annual Report to the Utility Board, providing a recap for the prior year, as well as an explanation of any rate changes for the coming year.

Staff recruitment was a focus for Recology in 2024, as well as upgrades to sorting technology at Recology's Seattle Material Recovery Facility (MRF). Recology also hired a new Director of Customer Service to improve customer experience across their service area. Mercer Island Customer Satisfaction Scores (CSAT) averaged 4.6 out of 5, and customer service metrics show improvement over the course of the year. Recology operations improved over the course of 2024, including a significant decrease in missed collections over the last 12 months. Recology was also a vital part of storm recovery efforts following the Bomb Cyclone in November 2024. Recology quickly delivered several yard waste roll-off containers that helped support tree debris clean up for both the City and the community.

Each calendar year, Recology conducts two waste characterizations of the city's residential recyclables stream. The characterization measures the percentage by weight of each of the commodity types in the city's residential recycling stream. These weight percentages are then calculated with prices for these commodities and used to calculate a rate adjustment, up or down based on last year's commodity prices. This year resulted in a rate decrease of \$1.34 for residential customers and \$0.85 for multifamily customers.

Per the contract, the collection fee component of Recology's service fees and the miscellaneous fees and charges (such as roll out charges or return services) that do not have separate disposal fee components increase each year by 100% of the annual percentage change in the Seattle – Tacoma – Bellevue CPI. The King County 2025 disposal rate also increased 10% from \$150.83/ton to \$165.91/ton. Following the [King County Solid Waste Rate Restructure](#) in 2023, 2024 was the first year that the King County Fixed Annual Charge appeared on customer invoices.

Recology is an active partner in the City's effort to achieve the targets set in the Climate Action Plan, including that 70% of all waste be diverted from landfills by 2030. Recology is also working with the City to ensure businesses on the Island are prepared to comply with Washington State Organics Legislation requiring organics service.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Receive Report. No action necessary.