



# CITY OF HARRISONBURG PUBLIC WORKS

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TO: Eric Campbell, City Manager  
FROM: Thomas Hartman, PE, Director of Public Works  
DATE: June 9, 2020  
RE: Resolution for Solid Waste Management and Collection Fees

### **Summary:**

Consider a Resolution for the setting of the Solid Waste Management and Collection Fees.

### **Background:**

The previous Resolution setting Solid Waste Management and Collection Fees (Fee) was passed in 2015 and at that time the City was providing “all in one” waste collection, where both solid waste and recyclables were collected in the same container. Since that time, the recycling industry has taken a dramatic downturn, which led the City to stop the “all in one” collection. Current operations include collection of solid waste at the curb side, and recyclables can be disposed of by the public at either the Recycling Convenience Center (RCC) or the Recycling Mobile Unit (RMU). Due to these changes Public Works is recommending the Fee be amended as outlined in the attached Resolution and summarized below, with an effective date of January 1, 2021:

#### **2015 Fees (Old Fee Structure)**

- Solid Waste Management (SWM) Fee
  - \$15/month (ability for \$10/month credit for approved Solid Waste Management Plans)
- Refuse Collection Fee
  - Residential \$25/month (includes \$15/month SWM Fee)
  - Commercial ranges from \$32.40/month to 327.40/month (includes \$15/month SWM Fee)

#### **2021 Fees (Proposed Fee Structure)**

- Solid Waste Management (SWM) Fee
  - \$11/month (removes ability for \$10/month credit for approved Solid Waste Management Plans)
- Refuse Collection Fee
  - Residential \$24/month (includes \$11/month SWM Fee)
  - Commercial ranges from \$31.00/month to \$331.00/month (includes \$11/month SWM Fee)

As outlined above the SWM fee is proposed to be reduced from \$15/month to \$11/month, and the previous credit that was granted to some customers due to them having an approved Solid Waste Management Plan has been removed. This means that those customers will see a rate increase of \$6/month beginning in January of 2021. This credit was established as a mechanism to have private communities participate in private recycling programs. Due to the drastic downturn in the recycling industry and elimination of any sustainable private recycling program, Public Works recommends this credit be removed. Currently there are approximately 5,300 accounts, which are held by 505 unique customers, that receive this credit. Following adoption of this Resolution, Public Works will provide direct mailings to all account holders to notify them of this change and advise them that the new rate structure will begin in January 2021.

Revenues will remain level with these fee changes due to the removal of the SWM fee credit.

Solid waste operations and services will remain unchanged.

**Key Issues:**

N/A

**Environmental Impact:**

N/A

**Fiscal Impact:**

Revenues will remain level with these fee changes due to the removal of the SWM fee credit.

**Prior Actions:**

N/A

**Alternatives:**

Do not pass the Resolution and fees will remain unchanged.

**Community Engagement:**

N/A

**Recommendation:**

Staff recommends adoption of the Resolution

**Attachments:**

1. Resolution
2. Presentation

**Review:**