

Agenda Item 519

TESTIMONY

2:00 TIME CERTAIN

RESIDENTIAL SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING COLLECTION RATES & CHARGES

IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO CITY COUNCIL, **PRINT** YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AND EMAIL.

NAME (PRINT)

ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE *(Optional)*

Email *(Optional)*

BETH VARGAS DUNCAN	ORRA	

Portland Haulers Association

Testimony to Portland City Council Residential Solid Waste and Recycling Rates May 18, 2017

Introduction

Good afternoon Mayor Wheeler and members of the Council. I am Beth Vargas Duncan, Regional Representative for Oregon Refuse and Recycling Association (ORRA) and with me is Dave White, the Regional Director at ORRA.

As ORRA regional staff, we represent the Portland Hauler's Association (PHA) whose members provide residential solid waste and recycling collection services within Portland.

Process

- The proposed rates presented are a result of the City's robust and thorough annual review process.
- Portland residential service haulers work cooperatively with the City's Bureau of Planning and Sustainability staff to provide detailed financial information used in the rate calculation.
- The City's rate consultant reviews rate information to determine cost of service and projects cost for the coming year. The haulers and City staff collectively discuss the calculations and projections.
- The haulers and their rate consultant are able to ask questions and provide input throughout the open and inclusive rate review process.
- PHA does not always agree, but they appreciate that the City provides a forum for this dialogue.
- PHA believes the rate review process is fair and results in reasonable rates for the haulers, the citizens and customers.

Efficiencies and Rates

- Haulers and the City have worked together to provide efficient, modern, and clean services. Over the past four years, rates remained flat or decreased.
- Reviewing data from the rate review process, the final rates indicate the need for a slight rate increase (less than 1%).

Increased Efficiencies and Transition to Fully Carted System

- PHA haulers have moved to automated trucks and roll carts for collection to increase efficiencies, streamline service and customer convenience and promote worker safety.
- Still, about 12% of customers use cans rather than roll carts. To further achieve noted benefits, the haulers have engaged City staff to propose a transition from cans to carts by July 1, 2018.

- PHA and City staff will continue to collaborate on details for a specific plan to be presented this summer.

For many decades, PHA haulers have demonstrated a strong commitment to providing excellent service to the residents of Portland while also producing sustainable results and consistent operational safety. PHA appreciates that opportunity to serve Portland.

We are happy to answer any questions.

Thank you,

Dave White
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Beth Vargas Duncan
Regional Representative
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971-707-1683

Moore-Love, Karla

From: JOE WALSH <lonevet2008@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2017 11:36 AM
To: Moore-Love, Karla
Subject: agenda items 519,520,521

Please make this part of the official record.

Dear Members of the City Council,

On Thursday afternoon about 1400 you will be considering rate increases and we, Individuals For Justice will oppose all three items, 519, 520, and 521.

I am enclosing a statement by a citizen in arms who sees these rate increases as the height of arrogance and we concur with her assessment.

We fully expect you to pass these ill-thought out rate increase but Individuals for Justice will go on record opposing all three so you cannot claim that no one objected.

We objected to your ill-thought out move to cover the reservoirs and you spent hundreds of millions of dollars and could have left our water supply alone, due to the EPA being stopped by the mad-man in the WH.

We demand an outside audit before any more of our money is spent on these projects that only help developers and construction corporations.

For Justice,Peace and *Laughter,
 Joe Walsh-Lone Vet
 Individuals for Justice <http://individualsforjustice.com>
 Proud member of Oregon Progressive Party, <http://proparty.org/>

War is failure, occupation a disgrace!

Ã¢â€ŒFunding these wars is killing our troopsÃ¢â€Œ
<http://www.mfso.org/>

* Why laughter?? Because without it I would have gone insane years ago.

An ounce of practice is worth more than tons of preaching.
 Mohandas Gandhi

Molly Ivins, "It's like, duh. Just when you thought there wasn't a dime's worth of difference between the two

parties, the Republicans go and prove you're wrong."

"I have no country to fight for; my country is the earth,
and I am a citizen of the world."

Eugene V. Debs

"So keep fighting for freedom and justice, beloveds..." -- Molly Ivins



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May 10, 2017

Mayor Wheeler and Portland City Commissioners
Portland City Hall
1211 SW 4th Avenue
Portland, OR 97204

RE: Support for Residential Solid Waste, Recycling and Composting Rates

Mayor Wheeler and City Commissioners:

The PSC unanimously supports the adoption of the proposed residential solid waste, recycling and composting rates being considered on May 18, 2017.

The PSC received presentations regarding the financial reporting provided by haulers, the review of those reports by a certified public accountant, and additional rate factors monitored by BPS. We find the rate review process to be thorough and sound and the proposed rates to be fair and reasonable. We recommend a slight rate increase (the first in five years) of ten cents per month for most Portland customers.

We also would like to bring to Council's attention that the mid-term review of the residential solid waste franchise system will be initiated this summer. We encourage the City to investigate options for incorporating greater participation from women- and minority-owned firms and increasing participation of women and minority workers from Portland in the future.

We look forward to working with BPS to discuss issues relating to the City's solid waste, recycling and composting programs.

Sincerely,

Katherine Schultz, AIA
Chair



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