

From: [Terry Parker](#)
To: [Planning Commission](#)
Subject: Testimony on Garbage Rates for the May 9, 2023 PC Meeting
Date: Tuesday, May 2, 2023 4:31:25 PM

To Members of the Planning Commission,

In 1980, the garbage service for the home I have lived in for most of my life and now own was \$3,00 a month (and yes I have a copy of the bill). The service was weekly provided by a local hauler who lived in the neighborhood. He and often times with a helper would drive down the street just one time stopping for each home going up the driveways on both sides of the street with a can over his shoulder to pick up the garbage. If there was more than a can full, that trash had to be set out and there was a small extra charge.

When the local hauler retired, garbage service was replaced by a small area contractor who at times attended neighborhood association meetings. The contractor joined forces with another contractor but eventually due to local government regulations was pushed into selling out to Waste Management.

Today with contracts for service with large corporate enterprises the garbage rates are woefully high and the garbage itself is picked up only biweekly. Today's extremely high garbage service rates are assisting in pushing financially accountable seniors on fixed incomes who want to age in place out of their homes. Maybe it is time to return to local smaller town values and contracts with localized haulers that can provide a more reasonable cost for providing the service.

Terry Parker
Senior Citizen and Lifetime Portlander