



**Bureau of Planning and Sustainability**  
Innovation. Collaboration. Practical Solutions.

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May 10, 2016

Mayor Hales and Portland City Commissioners  
Portland City Hall  
1211 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Portland, OR 97204

RE: Support for Solid Waste, Recycling and Composting Rates and Commercial Tonnage Fee

Mayor Hales and Commissioners:

The PSC unanimously supports the adoption of the proposed solid waste, recycling and composting rates and the increase in the commercial tonnage fee being considered on May 19, 2016.

This is the PSC's first time performing the review of solid waste ratemaking process and it included briefings from BPS beginning last September. We have 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 proposed rates to be fair and reasonable, and we are pleased to recommend a rate reduction for Portland households.

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 in 2017. 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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