



**SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SWAC) MEETING**  
ISLAND COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, SOLID WASTE DIVISION

***Monday, October 21, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.***

**Via Microsoft Teams**

**Join on your computer, mobile app or room device**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 228 228 543 975

Passcode: S4p4UU

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[+1 323-433-2396,,942351210#](#) United States, Los Angeles

Phone Conference ID: 942 351 210#

**- A G E N D A -**

Meeting Topics			Outcomes
1.	Call to Order	10:00	Action
2.	Roll Call, Determination of Quorum, and Approval of Minutes	10:00 - 10:05	Action
3.	Public Comment Period	10:05 - 10:10	Information
4.	Operations Update	10:10 - 10:15	Discussion
5.	Coupeville Transfer Station Compactor Installation	10:15 - 10:20	Information
6.	Solid Waste Transportation and Disposal Contract	10:20 - 10:35	Discussion
7.	Solid Waste Rate Structure	10:35 - 10:55	Discussion
8.	Island Disposal Curbside Recycling	10:55 - 11:15	Discussion
9.	WSU Waste Wise Program	11:15 - 11:20	Information
10.	Open Session, Announcements, Agenda Items	11:20 - 11:30	Discussion
11.	Adjournment	11:30	Action

**SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Discussion Form**  
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**AGENDA ITEM 2:** *Roll Call, Determination of Quorum, Approval of Minutes*

**PRESENTER:** *Gynon Nash, Solid Waste Division Attendant Supervisor*

**BOARD ACTION:**            ☒ Action Item            Discussion            Information

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**COMMITTEE ROLE / ACTION REQUESTED**

Review and approve draft meeting minutes.

**ATTACHMENT(S)**

- July 22, 2024 draft SWAC meeting minutes

# **ISLAND COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY (SWAC) COMMITTEE**

## **July 22, 2024**

### **Members Present:**

Commissioner Jill Johnson, George Place, Joe Grogan, Randi Perry, Dar Christopherson, Sarah Bergquist, Liz Kennedy Ketcheson, Scott Sebelsky, Andrew Riggs, and Erin Gagnon (DTG Recycle alternate)

### **Staff Present:**

Matt Farr (Public Health), Jeff Hegedus (Public Works), James Sylvester (Public Works), John Lanier (Planning), and Gynon Nash (Public Works)

### **Others Present:**

Katie Jerauld (Dept of Ecology)

### **Call to Order:**

The regular meeting of the Island County SWAC was called to order on Monday, July 22, 2024, at 10:06 a.m. via Microsoft Teams meeting, by Sarah Bergquist, Chairperson.

### **Roll Call, Determination of Quorum, and Approval of Minutes:**

Roll call determined the correct amount of a quorum. The minutes for the April 15, 2024, SWAC meeting were approved as written. The motion for approval was made by Scott Sebelsky and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jill Johnson. Motion approved - all in favor.

### **Public Comment Period:**

None

### **Operations Update:**

Jeff Hegedus updated the committee on operations:

- Coupeville transfer station continues to take abandoned/junk recreational vehicles as part of homeless cleanup
- Landfill monitoring and maintenance proceeds routinely, as required
- Interviews will be held later this week for the long-haul transportation and disposal services contract, proposals were received by Republic Services and Waste Management
- North Whidbey site expansion continues, assisted by the Road Shop
- Recycling services for Camano expiring at the end of the year, RFP has been published
- Coming up, the five-year Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan
- On Friday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, we stopped accepting yard waste at the Camano site, due to safety concerns. Options for residents are Lenz Enterprises in Stanwood or curbside collection with Waste Management.

### **Coupeville Transfer Station Compactor Installation Update:**

Jeff Hegedus informed the committee that the new compactor arrived last week and is expected to be fired up tomorrow. Solid Waste techs will then start training for operating the compactor.

### **Island County Comprehensive Plan Climate Element:**

John Lanier, Island County Long Range Planner, gave a Power Point presentation regarding the climate element of the Island County Comprehensive Plan followed asking the committee for ideas

# SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## Discussion Form

October 21, 2024

### AGENDA ITEM 4: Operations Update

**PRESENTER:** Jeff Hegedus, Solid Waste Division Manager

**BOARD ACTION:**                      Action Item                      ☒ Discussion                      Information

	Customer Count Sept			Garbage Tonnage Sept		Garbage Tonnage Year to Date (Jan thru Sep)			Recycling Tonnage Sept		Recycling Tonnage Year to Date (Jan thru Sep)		
	2023	2024		2023	2024	2023	2024		2023	2024	2023	2024	
Public @ CV				1580.15	1618.81	14230.28	13053.32	↓8%					
ID & City of OH @ CV				2352.86	2362.65	21132.34	21705.59	↑%					
50%/No Charge				20.65	17.90	310.63	244.76	↓21%					
Coupeville	7872	8252	↑5%						43.86	48.00	533.69	398.03	↓25%
Bayview	1194	1106	↓7%	49.13	34.56	408.98	370.45	↓9%	90.13*	90.14*	1296.20*	1296.20*	↓38%*
N Whidbey	328	275	↓16%	12.39	7.15	124.02	98.49	↓21%	39.13	49.84	403.80	394.18	↓2%
Camano	3827	3374	↓12%	955.54	956.29	8469.49	8264.33	↓2%	75.24	56.77	653.13	563.47	↓14%
System Wide	13221	13007	↓2%	4970.72	4997.36	44675.74	43736.94	↓2%					

\*Estimate based on number of loads hauled

### SIGNIFICANT POINTS OR EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

After a 4% increase in 2021, solid waste tonnage decreased by 2% in both 2022 and 2023. For the first 9 months of 2024, solid waste tonnage decreased again by 2%. Septage tonnage has increased by 63% for the first 9 months of 2024. Operations proceed as normal. Notably, due to regional glass recycling infrastructure issues, glass is currently being collected but not recycled, and being used for landfill alternate daily cover or road base. The new Coupeville transfer station main compactor is installed and operating. The North Whidbey drop box facility site footprint has been significantly expanded to allow for safer and more efficient operation, and an office is being installed. In support of community cleanup and safety efforts, the Coupeville transfer station continues to function as an abandoned junk vehicle auto wrecker for recreational vehicles generated from encampment cleanup. Landfill monitoring and maintenance proceeds routinely as required, and the landfill financial assurance plan is being reviewed and updated. Following competitive bidding, contract negotiations for both the long haul transportation and disposal services, and Camano Island recycling services, have been completed. The NASWI agreement for household hazardous waste collection and disposal is being extended. The five year update to the 2020 Comprehensive Solid Waste and Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan will begin in 2025.

### COMMITTEE ROLE / ACTION REQUESTED

### ATTACHMENT(S)

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**AGENDA ITEM 5: Coupeville Transfer Station Compactor Installation**

**PRESENTER:** Jeff Hegedus, Solid Waste Division Manager

<b>BOARD ACTION:</b>	<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Information</b>
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**SIGNIFICANT POINTS OR EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

As recommended by SWAC, a new SSI Model 2500 SPH compactor has been purchased for the Coupeville transfer station. The compactor has been installed and is successfully in full operation. Engineering specifications are complete for construction of a 620 sq ft metal roof to house the hydraulic power unit and cylinder, and permitting is in progress. As a final task, the operator control shack will be replaced and installed.

**COMMITTEE ROLE / ACTION REQUESTED**

**ATTACHMENT(S)**

- Media Coverage





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# WHIDBEY NEWS-TIME

Saturday, August 24, 2024

COVERING NORTH, CENTRAL & SOUTH WHIDBEY - \$1.50

## New compactor minimizes costs amid trash services price hike

By LUISA LOI

luisa.loi@whidbeynewstimes.com

Island County recently introduced a new trash compactor to the Coupeville Transfer Station that would crush more trash into denser bails.

On top of decreasing carbon emissions, the shiny new piece of equipment will also help reduce transportation-related expenses in light of a significant increase in the cost of transportation and disposal services.

About two weeks ago, Deception Pass bridge was temporarily closed to traffic to clear the way for a truck transporting a 75-foot-long SSI 2500 SPH trash compactor, according to Solid

Waste Division Manager Jeff Hegedus.

The price tag for the new state-of-the-art and computer controlled compactor was \$2.1 million, which Hegedus said is a good price and what King County, which tends to get good deals, also got. To purchase the compactor, the county put a down payment of \$700,000 from the solid waste enterprise fund and took out a five-year \$1.6 million loan from the public works department road shop, he said.

The new compactor, which is longer and has a larger plunger and chamber, arrived about two months after the old one was shipped off the island to

get recycled, Hegedus said. The old compactor was 30 years old, and though it was swapped before it failed, it was well past its 20 year life expectancy, he said.

During that time frame, crews worked "extra hard" to load and smash solid waste into open top containers that would then be transported to Burlington, where a train would then transport it to the Roosevelt Regional Landfill in Klickitat County.

Though not as efficient, this allowed the flow of trash out of the island to continue uninterrupted, preventing a public and environmental emergency scenario, Hegedus said.

The new machine is

capable of compacting 30 tons of trash in each of three bails, while its old counterpart would compact about 22 to 24 tons, Hegedus said. The hope is to eventually be able to squish the same amount into two bails. By doing this, the county could save one third of \$1 million every year, he said.

During a board of commissioners meeting on Wednesday, Island County Public Works recommended that the county enter into contract negotiations with a private company, Regional Disposal Company-DBA Republic Services, which currently provides trash long haul and disposal services under a contract that is set to expire at the

end of 2024, according to information provided in the meeting agenda.

Out of two candidates, Republic Services offered the lowest price, according to the agenda. The company's proposed costs represent a 36.6% increase over current expenditures, despite the fact the county has seen a 2% drop in yearly trash tonnage for the third year in a row.

In 2023, the Coupeville Transfer Station and the Camano Island Transfer station received a total of 58,210 tons of solid waste, according to the request for proposals.

Currently, for Whidbey, the county spends \$27.38 per ton of solid waste. On

top of that, the county spends \$1,344 for each container that is shipped to the landfill, according to Hegedus. The more tons in the container, the more money is saved, which is when the compactor helps.

Under the proposed contract, the county would spend \$43.30 per ton of trash, and transporting each container to the landfill would cost \$1,645, Hegedus said.

Hegedus said the higher price is a result of a multitude of factors, including new environmental standards and inflation.

The five-year contract can be renewed for up to two six-year extensions, Hegedus said.

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Jenny Sykes  
Jeff Hegedus  
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**AGENDA ITEM 6: Solid Waste Transportation and Disposal Contract**

**PRESENTER:** Jeff Hegedus, Solid Waste Division Manager

<b>BOARD ACTION:</b>	<b>Action Item</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Information</b>
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**SIGNIFICANT POINTS OR EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The current contract for solid waste transportation and disposal services expires on December 31, 2024. Notice of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for service provision was published on March 20, 2024. Proposals were due by June 14, 2024. Two proposals were received, as submitted by Waste Management Disposal Services of Oregon, Inc., and Regional Disposal Company-DBA Republic Services. Interviews were conducted.

Proposals were then scored according to cost of services; prior experience; management capability; schedule availability; financial resources and stability; nature of proposed facility; system reliability; performance standards for facility; compatibility with existing service facilities; project performance guarantees; technical expertise; enforcement provisions; environmental protection measures; consistency with comprehensive solid waste management plan; risk allocation; and as further described and provided in the RFP.

In summary, both Waste Management and Republic Services are experienced, credible, capable, and well-regarded service providers, and scored highly in all evaluation criteria. Regarding cost, proposed per ton landfilling disposal costs and per haul transportation costs were applied to known 2023 tonnages and hauls, and each proposal was considered.

Waste Managements proposed costs represented a 41.1% increase over current expenditures; Republic Services proposed costs represented a 36.6% increase. These costs are consistent with Skagit County's recent bid, which resulted in a 42% increase in costs. Republic Services annual costs were assessed at \$207,040 less than costs as proposed by Waste Management. Republic Services thereby scored the higher evaluation score, and Public Works recommends entering contract negotiations with Republic Services for the long-haul contract. Contract negotiations have been completed and the recommendation will be presented to Commission.

**COMMITTEE ROLE / ACTION REQUESTED**

**ATTACHMENT(S)**



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**AGENDA ITEM 7: Solid Waste Rate Structure**

**PRESENTER:** Jeff Hegedus, Solid Waste Division Manager

<b>BOARD ACTION:</b>	<b>Action Item</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Information</b>
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**SIGNIFICANT POINTS OR EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Following a competitive bidding process, solid waste transportation and disposal costs will increase by 36% effective January 1, 2025. In 2024, Skagit County also went to bid for services, which resulted in a 42% increase in costs and a 30% increase in solid waste tipping fees.

Similarly, following award of contract, tipping fees in Island County will necessarily experience an increase. Currently, without factoring in the increase, the January 1, 2025 inflation adjusted per ton tipping fee will be \$182.51.

It is currently estimated that a 15.9% increase to the inflation adjusted tipping fee will be needed to cover the 36% increase in transportation disposal services, resulting in a tipping fee of \$211.53 effective January 1, 2025.

**COMMITTEE ROLE / ACTION REQUESTED**

**ATTACHMENT(S)**



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**AGENDA ITEM 8: *Island Recycling Curbside Recycling***

**PRESENTER:**        ***Andrew Riggs, Island Disposal Site Manager***

**BOARD ACTION:**        **Action Item    ☒ Discussion    Information**

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**SIGNIFICANT POINTS OR EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Chapter 11.3, *Recycling Recommendations* in the approved 2020 *Island County Solid Waste and Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan* states:

- 1) All urban areas of Island County should receive curbside recycling service. Curbside recycling services should be implemented in Langley and Freeland when recycling markets improve.
- 2) Consider expanding curbside recycling programs to additional rural areas at a later date when market conditions improve.

Island Disposal, Inc. has proposed to increase solid waste management levels of service through the addition of residential curbside collection of recyclable materials to current curbside collection programs. While curbside collection of solid waste would not be mandatory, residential customers choosing to have curbside collection of solid waste would also receive, as part of the bundled service, curbside collection of designated recyclable materials. Residential customers with curbside solid waste service would not need to self-haul recyclable materials to the transfer station or drop box facilities, and recycling rates would increase.

On April 15, 2024 the Island County Solid Waste Advisory Committee unanimously approved recommendation of the proposal, and staff concurs. On October 9, the proposal was presented to the Board of County Commissioners at Work Session.

Pending further discussion and approval to move forward, a Minimum Level of Service Ordinance, describing and requiring the level of service, would be provided to the Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission, by Island Disposal, as part of their application for amendment to tariff.

**COMMITTEE ROLE / ACTION REQUESTED**

**ATTACHMENT(S)**

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**AGENDA ITEM 9: *WSU Waste Wise Program***

**PRESENTER:**      *Sarah Berquist, WSU Interim Island County Director*

**BOARD ACTION:**      **Action Item**      **Discussion**      ☒ **Information**

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***SIGNIFICANT POINTS OR EXECUTIVE SUMMARY***

An update will be provided on the WSU Waste Wise program  
<https://extension.wsu.edu/island/nrs/waste-wise/> .

***COMMITTEE ROLE / ACTION REQUESTED***

***ATTACHMENT(S)***