

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING METRO ) ORDINANCE NO. 00-840  
CODE CHAPTER 7.01 TO CHANGE THE METRO ) Introduced by  
EXCISE TAX ON SOLID WASTE TO A TAX ) Councilor Monroe  
LEVIED UPON TONNAGE ACCEPTED AT )  
SOLID WASTE FACILITIES AND MAKING )  
OTHER RELATED AMENDMENTS )

WHEREAS, Metro imposes an excise tax for the use of the facilities, equipment, systems, functions, services, or improvements, owned, operated, certified, licensed, franchised, or provided by Metro; and

WHEREAS, the tax is currently imposed as a percentage of the payment charged by Metro or by the operator of such solid waste facilities; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable to change the method by which the tax on solid waste is imposed from the current method using a percentage of the payment charged for disposal to a method under which the tax is imposed upon each ton of solid waste disposed at solid waste facilities; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and in the public interest to adjust and temporarily increase the amount of the excise taxes imposed on solid waste facilities by Metro Chapter 7.01 for the period consisting only of the remainder of the current Metro fiscal year and the Metro fiscal year commencing July 1, 2000 for the purpose of establishing prudent fiscal reserves and thereby to assist in reducing costs associated with the issuance of bonds for construction of facilities at the Expo Center; now, therefore,

THE METRO COUNCIL ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Metro Code Section 7.01.010 is amended to read:

For the purposes of this chapter unless the context requires otherwise the following terms shall have the meaning indicated:

(a) "Accrual basis accounting" means revenues are recorded in the accounting period in which they are earned and become measurable whether received or not.

(b) "Cash basis accounting" means revenues are recorded when cash is received.

(c) "District facility" means any facility, equipment, system, function, service or improvement owned, operated, franchised or provided by the district. District facility includes but is not limited to all services provided for compensation by employees, officers or agents of

Metro, including but not limited to the Metro Washington Park Zoo, Metro ERC facilities, all solid waste system facilities, and any other facility, equipment, system, function, service or improvement owned, operated, franchised or provided by the district.

(d) "Facility Retrieval Rate" shall have the meaning assigned thereto in Metro Code Section 5.02.015.

(e) "Installment payments" means the payment of any amount that is less than the full payment owed either by any user to the district or to an operator or by an operator to the district.

(f) "Metro ERC facility" means any facility operated or managed by the Metropolitan Exposition-Recreation Commission.

(g) "Operator" means a person other than the district who receives compensation from any source arising out of the use of a district facility. Where the operator performs his/her functions through a managing agent of any type or character other than an employee, the managing agent shall also be deemed an operator for the purposes of this chapter and shall have the same duties and liabilities as his/her principal. Compliance with the provisions of this chapter by either the principal or managing agent shall be considered to be compliance by both.

(h) "Person" means any individual, firm, partnership, joint venture, association, governmental body, joint stock company, corporation, estate, trust, syndicate, or any other group or combination acting as a unit.

(i) "Payment" means the consideration charged, whether or not received by the district or an operator, for the use of a district facility, valued in money, goods, labor, credits, property or other consideration valued in money, without any deduction.

(j) "Processing Residual shall have the meaning assigned thereto in Metro Code Section 5.02.015.

(k) "Recovery Rate" shall have the meaning assigned thereto in Metro Code Section 5.02.015.

(l) "Solid waste system facility" means all facilities defined as such pursuant to section 5.05.010 including but not limited to all designated facilities set forth in section 5.05.030 and any non-system facility as defined in section 5.05.010 that receives solid waste from within the Metro boundary whether pursuant to an authorized non-system license or otherwise.

(m) "Source Separate" or "Source Separated" or "Source Separation" means that the person who last uses recyclable material separates the recyclable material from Solid Waste.

(n) "Source-separated recyclable material" or "Source-separated recyclables" means material that has been Source Separated for the purpose of Reuse, Recycling, or Composting.

(o) "Tax" means the tax imposed in the amount established in subsection 7.01.020, and includes both the tax payable by a user and the aggregate amount of taxes due from an operator during the period for which he/she is required to report and pay the tax.

(p) "User" means any person who pays compensation for the use of a district facility or receives a product or service from a district facility subject to the payment of compensation

SECTION 2. Metro Code Section 7.01.020 is amended to read:

7.01.020 Tax Imposed

(a) For the privilege of the use of the facilities, equipment, systems, functions, services, or improvements owned, operated, certified, licensed, franchised, or provided by the district, each user shall pay a tax of 7.5 percent of the payment charged by the operator or the district for such use unless a lower rate has been established as provided in subsection 7.01.020(b). The tax constitutes a debt owed by the user to the district which is extinguished only by payment of the tax directly to the district or by the operator to the district. The user shall pay the tax to the district or to an operator at the time payment for the use is made. The operator shall enter the tax on his/her records when payment is collected if the operator keeps his/her records on the cash basis of accounting and when earned if the operator keeps his/her records on the accrual basis of accounting. If installment payments are paid to an operator, a proportionate share of the tax shall be paid by the user to the operator with each installment.

(b) The council may for any period commencing no sooner than July 1 of any year and ending on June 30 of the following year establish a tax rate lower than the rate of tax provided for in subsection 7.01.020(a) by so providing in an ordinance adopted by the district. If the council so establishes a lower rate of tax, the executive officer shall immediately notify all operators of the new tax rate. Upon the end of the fiscal year the rate of tax shall revert to the maximum rate established in subsection 7.01.020(a) unchanged for the next year unless further action to establish a lower rate is adopted by the council as provided for herein.

(c) In lieu of taxes imposed under (a) of this section, for the privilege of the use of the solid waste system facilities, equipment, systems, functions, services, or improvements, owned, operated, certified, licensed, franchised, or provided by the district, each user of all solid waste system facilities shall pay a tax of \$6.35 for each ton of solid waste exclusive of source separated recyclable materials accepted at the solid waste system facilities.

(d) The following users of solid waste system facilities shall be allowed a credit in the amount of \$2.52 per ton against the Excise Tax otherwise due under Section 7.01.020(c):

(1) Any person delivering authorized, non-putrescible waste to any landfill that is authorized to receive such waste through a Metro franchise or Designated Facility Agreement; or

(2) Any Person delivering authorized, non-putrescible waste under the authority of a Metro Non System License.

(e) A solid waste facility which is certified, licensed or franchised by Metro pursuant to Metro Code Chapter 5.01 and which attains a Facility Retrieval Rate of 10 percent or greater shall be allowed a credit against the Excise Tax otherwise due under Section 7.01.020(c) or (d) for disposal of Processing Residuals from the facility. The Facility Retrieval Rate and the Recovery Rate shall be calculated for each six-month period before the month in which the credit is claimed. The amount of such credit shall be in accordance with and no greater than as provided on the following table:

Excise Tax Credit Schedule

Recovery Rate		Excise Tax Credit per ton of no more than
From Above	Up To & Including	
0%	20%	0.00
20%	25%	0.15
25%	30%	0.50
30%	35%	1.00
35%	40%	1.25
40%	100%	1.50

(f) In lieu of taxes imposed under (a) and (c) of this section and notwithstanding section 7.01.050(a)(6), operators of solid waste facilities licensed or franchised under chapter 5.01 of this Code to deliver putrescible waste directly to the district's contract operator for disposal of putrescible waste shall pay a tax in the amount of \$6.35 per ton of putrescible waste delivered directly to the district's contract operator for disposal of putrescible waste.

(g) The Provisions of this Section 2 are repealed June 30, 2001.

SECTION 3. Effective July 1, 2001, Metro Code Section 7.01.020, as amended by Section 3 of this Ordinance, shall be further amended to read:

7.01.020 Tax Imposed

(a) For the privilege of the use of the facilities, equipment, systems, functions, services, or improvements owned, operated, certified, licensed, franchised, or provided by the district, each user shall pay a tax of 7.5 percent of the payment charged by the operator or the district for such use unless a lower rate has been established as provided in subsection 7.01.020(b). The tax constitutes a debt owed by the user to the district which is extinguished only by payment of the tax directly to the district or by the operator to the district. The user shall pay the tax to the district or to an operator at the time payment for the use is made. The operator shall enter the tax on his/her records when payment is collected if the operator keeps his/her records on the cash basis of accounting and when earned if the operator keeps his/her records on

the accrual basis of accounting. If installment payments are paid to an operator, a proportionate share of the tax shall be paid by the user to the operator with each installment.

(b) The council may for any period commencing no sooner than July 1 of any year and ending on June 30 of the following year establish a tax rate lower than the rate of tax provided for in subsection 7.01.020(a) by so providing in an ordinance adopted by the district. If the council so establishes a lower rate of tax, the executive officer shall immediately notify all operators of the new tax rate. Upon the end of the fiscal year the rate of tax shall revert to the maximum rate established in subsection 7.01.020(a) unchanged for the next year unless further action to establish a lower rate is adopted by the council as provided for herein.

(c) In lieu of taxes imposed under (a) of this section, for the privilege of the use of the solid waste system facilities, equipment, systems, functions, services, or improvements, owned, operated, certified, licensed, franchised, or provided by the district, each user of all solid waste system facilities shall pay a tax of \$5.02 for each ton of solid waste exclusive of source separated recyclable materials accepted at the solid waste system facilities.

(d) The following users of solid waste system facilities shall be allowed a credit in the amount of \$1.19 per ton against the Excise Tax otherwise due under Section 7.01.020(c):

(1) Any person delivering authorized, non-putrescible waste to any landfill that is authorized to receive such waste through a Metro franchise or Designated Facility Agreement; or

(2) Any Person delivering authorized, non-putrescible waste under the authority of a Metro Non System License.

(e) A solid waste facility which is certified, licensed or franchised by Metro pursuant to Metro Code Chapter 5.01 and which attains a Facility Retrieval Rate of 10 percent or greater shall be allowed a credit against the Excise Tax otherwise due under Section 7.01.020(c) or (d) for disposal of Processing Residuals from the facility. The Facility Retrieval Rate and the Recovery Rate shall be calculated for each six-month period before the month in which the credit is claimed. The amount of such credit shall be in accordance with and no greater than as provided on the following table:

Excise Tax Credit Schedule

Recovery Rate		Excise Tax Credit per ton of no more than
From Above	Up To & Including	
0%	20%	0.00
20%	25%	0.15
25%	30%	0.50
30%	35%	1.00
35%	40%	1.25
40%	100%	1.50

(f) In lieu of taxes imposed under (a) and (c) of this section and notwithstanding section 7.01.050(a)(6), operators of solid waste facilities licensed or franchised under chapter 5.01 of this Code to deliver putrescible waste directly to the district's contract operator for disposal of putrescible waste shall pay a tax in the amount of \$5.05 per ton of putrescible waste delivered directly to the district's contract operator for disposal of putrescible waste.

SECTION 4. Section 5 of this Ordinance is added to and made a part of Metro Code Chapter 7.01.

SECTION 5. Consumer Price Index Adjustment

Commencing with the Metro fiscal year beginning July 1, 2002, and each year thereafter, the taxes imposed by Section 7.01.020(c) shall be increased by a percentage equal to (a) the annualized rate of increase in the Consumer Price Index, All Items, for Portland-Vancouver (All Urban Consumers) reported for the first six months of the federal reporting year as determined by the appropriate agency of the United States Government or (b) the most nearly equivalent index as determined by the Metro Council if the index described in (a) is discontinued.

SECTION 6. The amendments to the Metro Code provided for in this Ordinance shall take effect on May 1, 2000.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2000.

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David Bragdon, Presiding Officer

ATTEST:

Approved as to Form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Recording Secretary

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Daniel B. Cooper, General Counsel