

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF DIRECTING STAFF TO	)	RESOLUTION NO. 24-5398
PROCEED WITH A FORMAL COST OF	)	
SERVICE STUDY OF PRIVATE TRANSFER	)	Introduced by Chief Operating Officer
STATIONS IN THE PORTLAND	)	Marissa Madrigal in concurrence with
METROPOLITAN AREA	)	Council President Lynn Peterson

WHEREAS, Goal 14 in Metro’s 2030 Regional Waste Plan seeks “rates that are reasonable, responsive to user economic needs, regionally consistent and well understood”; and

WHEREAS, Goal 14 further includes the specific action of “Establish[ing] rates across the region that are consistent for like services,” and

WHEREAS, ORS 268.317 authorizes Metro to “maintain and amend rates charged by disposal, transfer and resource recovery sites or facilities” within the Portland metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, in 2019 Metro completed a cost study of private transfer station’s putrescible waste transfer costs based on estimates of various components of each station’s rate, but this was only an estimate because Metro did not have access to each transfer station’s financial records: and

WHEREAS, the private transfer stations that charge the highest rates for putrescible waste transfer in the Portland metropolitan area tend to serve communities with large percentage of people with low incomes; and

WHEREAS, these transfer stations touch the east and west side of the Portland metropolitan area in Forest Grove, Gresham, and Troutdale; and

WHEREAS, rate differences result in some residents paying more for like services than others; and

WHEREAS, most local governments in the Portland metropolitan area conduct periodic rate reviews for their franchised garbage hauling services; and

WHEREAS, a cost-of-service study of putrescible waste transfer by private transfer stations in the Portland metropolitan area would provide the composite cost-per-ton information needed by local government to verify rates charged by private transfer stations and determine allowable costs when setting garbage and recycling collection rates and provide Metro with the detailed cost data needed to align with other related projects; and

WHEREAS, Metro staff will follow best practices to conduct a cost-of-service study of putrescible waste transfer by private transfer stations and engage Metro Council in each phase of study development including approval of the study design; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Metro Council directs staff to:

1. Convene a task force including the six private transfer stations, community, and local government partners with an independent third-party contractor to design the cost-of-service study.

2. Develop confidentiality and data protection procedures to protect sensitive business information.
3. Present the cost-of-service study design to Metro Council for consideration and approval before moving to step 4.
4. Conduct an independent cost-of-service study of private transfer stations that process putrescible waste in the Portland metropolitan area to determine a composite cost-per-ton.
5. Provide report of findings to Metro Council including the composite cost-per-ton for putrescible waste transfer by private transfer stations for consideration.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this [insert date] day of [insert month] [insert year].

Approved as to Form:

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Lynn Peterson, Council President

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Carrie MacLaren, Metro Attorney