

2026 - 2028 Solid Waste Rates Proposal

Parks, Public Utilities & Technology Committee

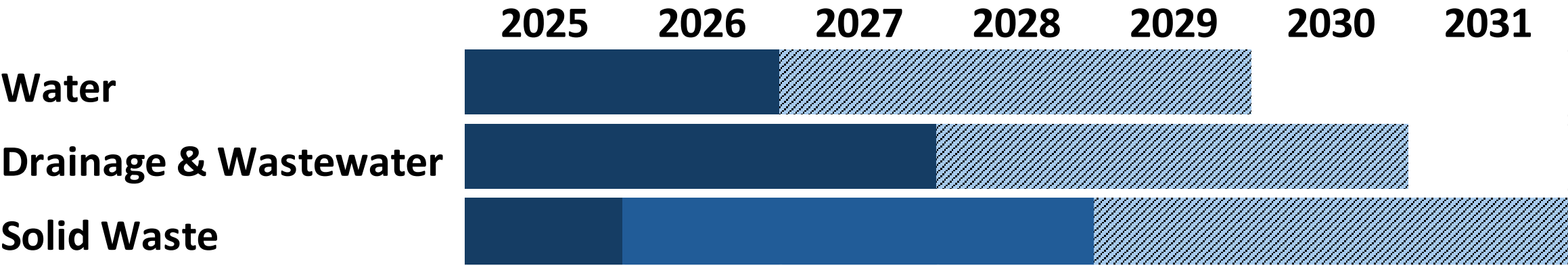
August 13, 2025



City of Seattle

SPU Rates Schedule

Rates are typically set for a three-year period:



Proposed 3-Year Rate Path and Forecast

Line of Business	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2025-30
Water	2.0%	2.0%	6.3%	3.3%	6.5%	3.8%	4.0%
Wastewater	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	6.2%	7.0%	5.1%	5.5%
Drainage	5.0%	5.0%	5.1%	6.6%	6.3%	7.2%	5.9%
Solid Waste	2.4%	3.2%	3.5%	3.5%	3.4%	2.6%	3.1%
Combined	3.7%	3.9%	4.9%	5.0%	5.9%	4.6%	4.7%



Approved Legislation currently in effect

Proposed Solid Waste Rates



City of Seattle

SWF Rate Increase Comparison to SBP

	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2025-30
SOLID WASTE RATE PATH IN SBP	2.5%	3.1%	3.4%	3.4%	3.8%	2.5%	3.1%
Solid Waste Collection Service*	2.6%	3.3%	3.4%	3.4%	3.9%	2.0%	
Solid Waste Transfer Stations*	0.0%	3.3%	3.4%	3.4%	3.9%	2.0%	
SOLID WASTE RATE STUDY PROPOSAL	2.4%	3.2%	3.5%	3.5%	3.4%	2.6%	3.1%
Solid Waste Collection Service*	2.6%	3.3%	3.3%	3.3%	3.2%	2.1%	
Solid Waste Transfer Stations*	0.0%	5.2%	5.2%	5.2%	5.2%	5.2%	

*Annual April 1st Rate Increase

Solid Waste Rates: Typical Bills

	Adopted	Proposed					
Collection Service	2025	2026	% Chg	2027	% Chg	2028	% Chg
Single Family	\$59.35	\$61.30	3.3%	\$63.30	3.3%	\$65.40	3.3%
Multifamily	\$30.48	\$31.48	3.3%	\$32.52	3.3%	\$33.60	3.3%
Small Business	\$603.99	\$623.92	3.3%	\$644.51	3.3%	\$665.78	3.3%

	Adopted	Proposed					
Transfer Stations	2025	2026	% Chg	2027	% Chg	2028	% Chg
Garbage (Per Ton)	\$165	\$174	5.2%	\$183	5.2%	\$192	5.2%
Garbage (Minimum Fee)	\$35	\$37	5.2%	\$39	5.2%	\$41	5.2%
Organics (Per Ton)	\$125	\$132	5.2%	\$138	5.2%	\$146	5.2%
Organics (Minimum Fee)	\$24	\$25	5.2%	\$27	5.2%	\$28	5.2%

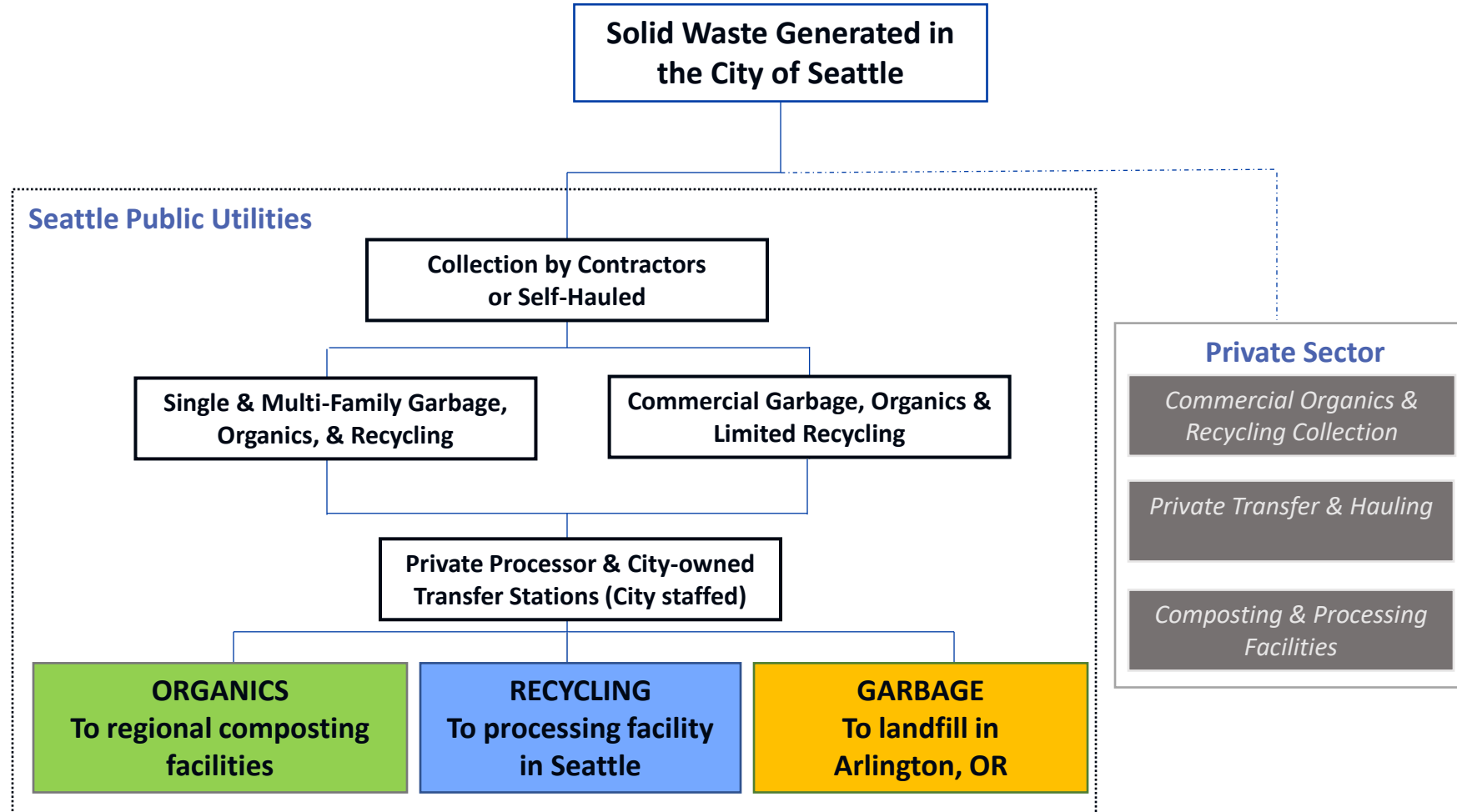
2025 Residential Bill Comparison



Tacoma has collection every other week, and Portland has garbage collection every other week, typical bills have been adjusted to reflect service levels similar to Seattle.



Solid Waste System



2024 Solid Waste Customers

Residential Can

172,385



Multi-Family

5,412

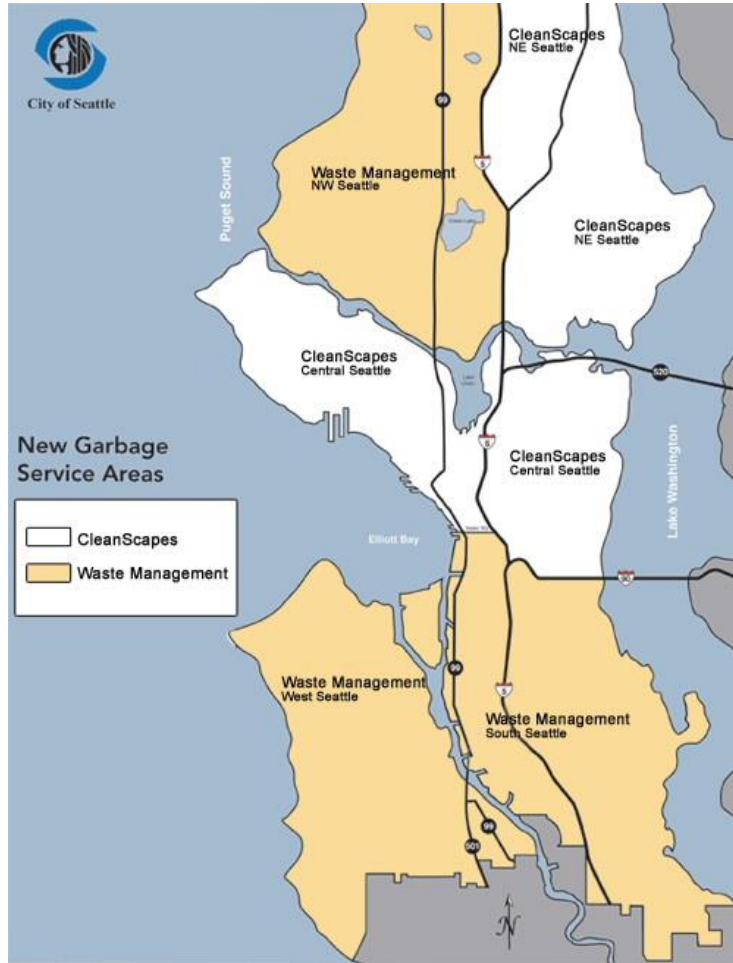
Commercial

8,190



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Solid Waste System - Collection



**Contracts run through 2029
with City options to extend
to 2031 or 2033**



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Solid Waste System – Processing & Disposal

Recycling

- Collection contractors haul recycling directly to Republic Services facility in Seattle



Organics

- Delivered to SPU transfer stations, then transported to processing facilities



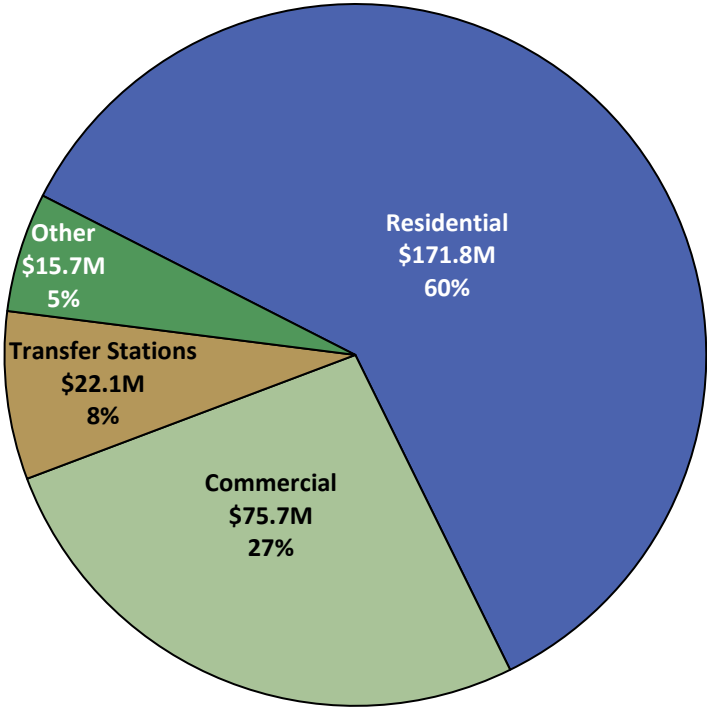
Garbage

- Delivered to SPU transfer stations, then transported to railhead by SPU
- Waste Management disposes of garbage at their landfill in Oregon

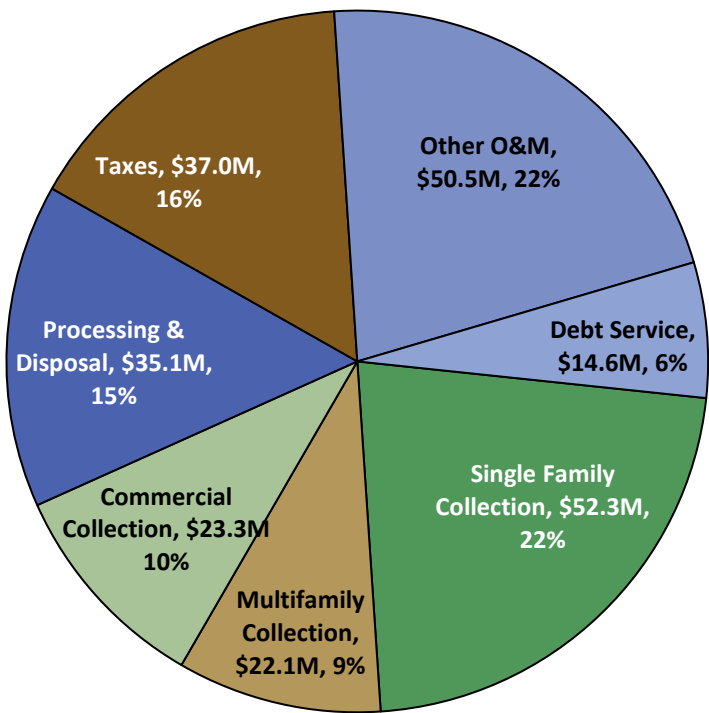


2024 Revenue and Expenses

Revenue: \$285M



Expenses: \$235M



Excess cash used to meet financial policies and pay down debt

Solid Waste Financial Policies

Parameter	Solid Waste Fund
Net Income	Generally Positive
Debt Service Coverage (Adopted)	1.70 times 1.50 times (less taxes)
Year-End Cash Balance (Adopted)	20 days contract expense (\$7.6M)
Year-End Cash Balance (Internal)	45 days operating cash (\$27M)
Cash Financing of CIP	Greater of 10% CIP or \$4.3M



New: *Special Item Pickup Service*

- Goal to divert items from landfill and enforce e-waste and battery disposal bans
- Improves awareness of special pickup services available to customers

	Year of implementation	Annual Cost	Sample Items
One special items box (≤2'x2'x2' & ≤ 60 lbs.)	2026	\$456 k	Multiple small special items (electronics, small appliances)
One battery bag			Household batteries that fit in a gallon plastic bag.
One large electronic (>2'x2'x2')	2027-2028	\$4.3 million/year	TVs, speakers, computers
One bulky item			Large furniture, appliances



Next Steps

- **August 13: PPUT Committee briefing**
- **September 10: PPUT Committee consideration and possible vote**
- **September 16: Full Council Consideration**
- **April 1, 2026: Solid Waste rates effective**



Questions?



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