

# 2026 - 2028 Solid Waste Rates Proposal

Parks, Public Utilities & Technology Committee

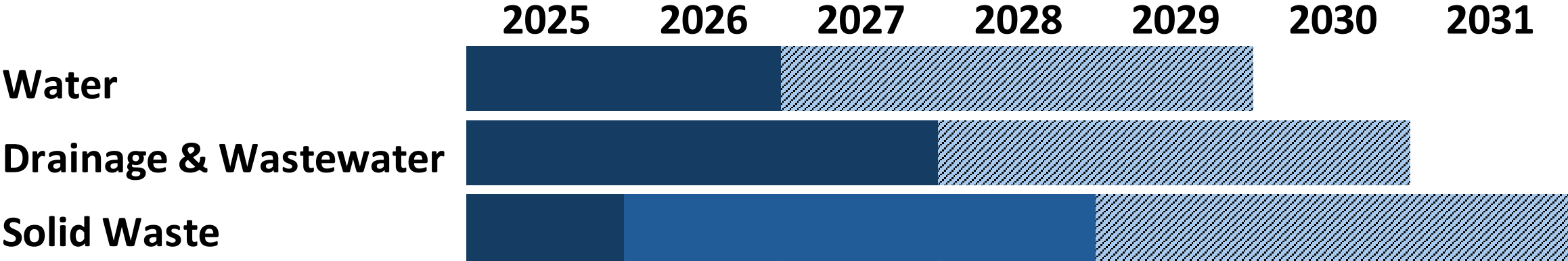
*August 13, 2025*



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%	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>3.5%</b>	<b>3.5%</b>	3.4%	2.6%	3.1%
<b>Combined</b>	3.7%	3.9%	4.9%	5.0%	5.9%	4.6%	<b>4.7%</b>

 Approved Legislation currently in effect  
 Proposed Solid Waste Rates

# SWF Rate Increase Comparison to SBP

	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2025-30
<b>SOLID WASTE RATE PATH IN SBP</b>	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%	
<b>SOLID WASTE RATE STUDY PROPOSAL</b>	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%

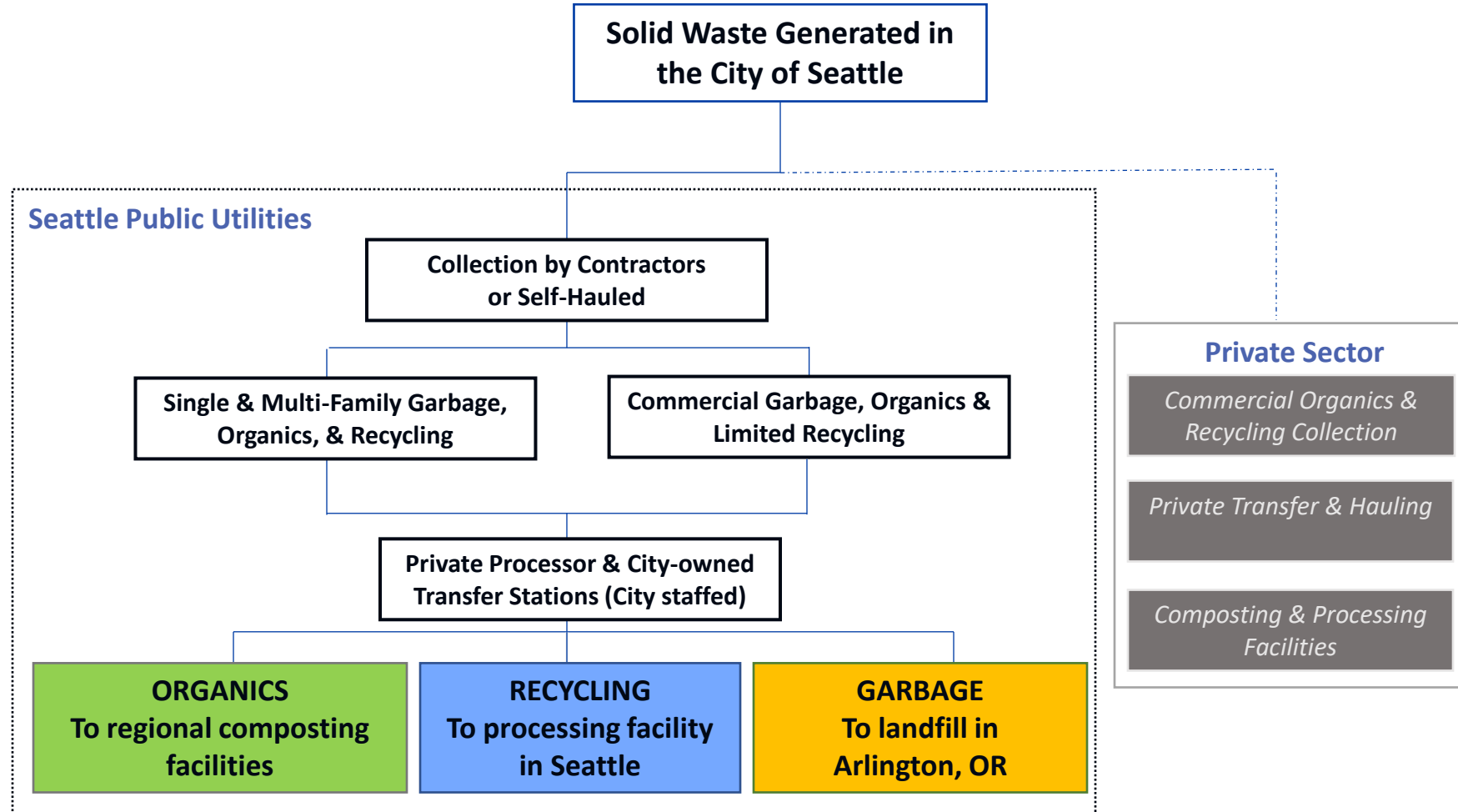
# 2025 Residential Bill Comparison



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

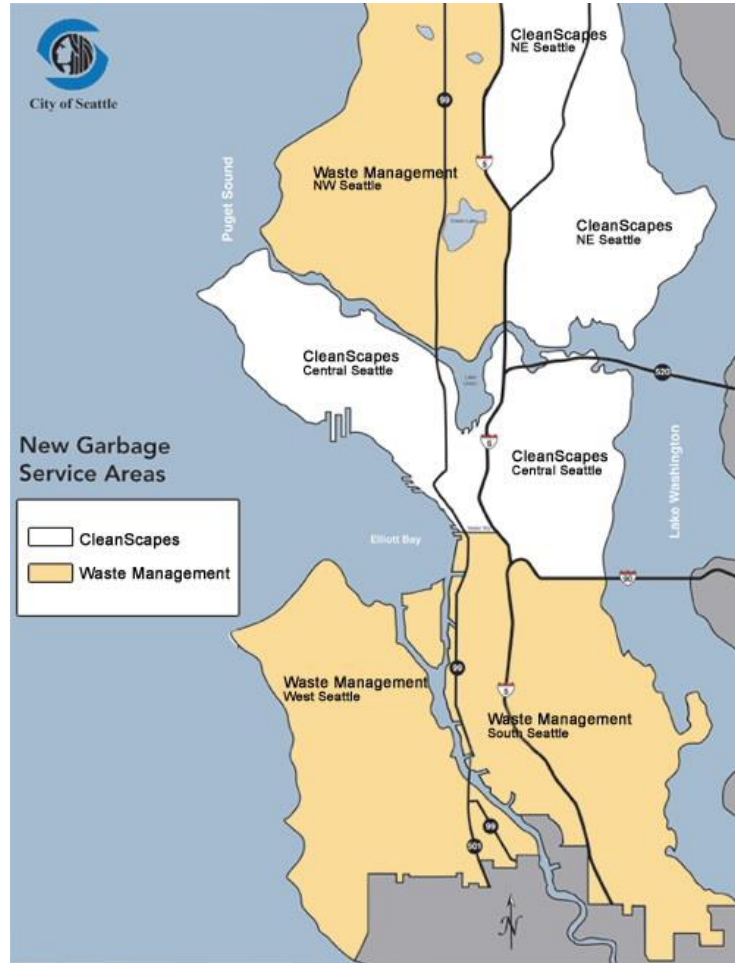


**Commercial**

8,190



# Solid Waste System - Collection



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

# 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



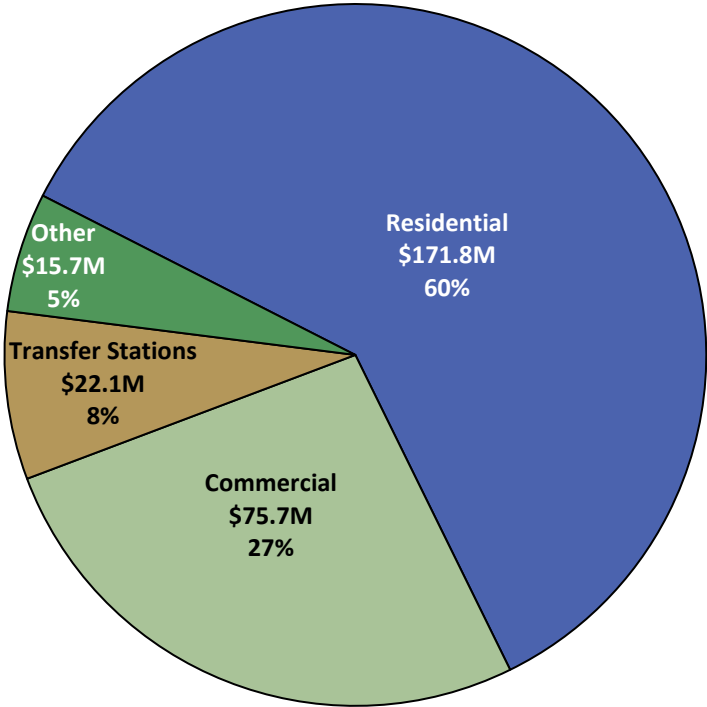
## Garbage

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

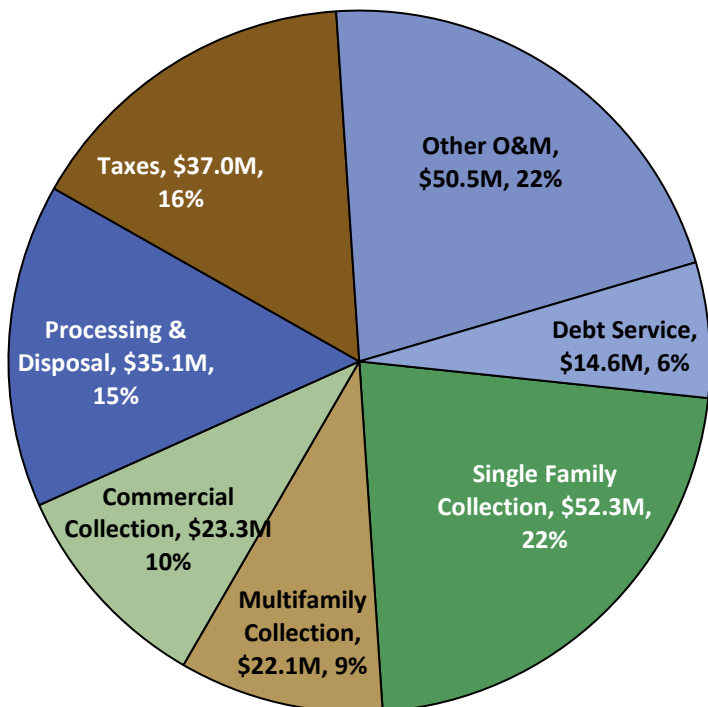


# 2024 Revenue and Expenses

Revenue: \$285M



Expenses: \$235M



Excess cash used to meet financial policies and pay down debt

# Solid Waste Financial Policies

Parameter	Solid Waste Fund
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>Generally Positive</b>
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?