



King County

Solid Waste Division

Department of Natural Resources and Parks

King Street Center

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November 15, 2019

Mark L Johnson
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
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PO Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Danny Kermode
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
621 Woodland Square Loop SE
PO Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

RE: Waste Management – King County Revenue Sharing Plan

Dear Mr. Johnson and Mr. Kermode:

This letter provides King County's determinations regarding revenue sharing plan compliance with RCW 81.77.185 by Waste Management of Washington, Inc. (Waste-Management). This letter conveys the County's findings regarding Waste Management's performance, at the end of the current revenue sharing Plan, which runs January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019. The concluding report for Part C of the current agreement from October 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019, will be reported November 15, 2020. The plan referenced in this letter applies to all of Waste Management G-237 certificated territory within the County except for areas served by Waste Management in Ellensburg near Snoqualmie Pass.

This letter conveys support for continuation of the Plan effective January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2019. We are also reporting on activities carried out during Part A and Part B of the agreement beginning January 1, 2018 and concluding September 30, 2019.

Current Plan (January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2019):

Waste Management and King County have projected an associated budget for service areas in King County for the period of January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2019. A copy of the current Plan signed by both parties and certified by the King County Solid Waste Division Director as in compliance with its current comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan, is attached with this

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letter. The Plan is divided into three parts to accommodate filing deadlines.

- Part A will include activities occurring January 1, 2018 – September 30, 2018
- Part B includes the period from October 1, 2018 – September 30, 2019
- Part C includes the period from October 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

King County has worked closely with Waste Management, through monthly meetings, to ensure milestones in the Plan are met, and through quarterly meetings, to adjust the Plan with the fallen commodity values and reduced revenue to reflect actual collected revenues. King County believes the Plan demonstrates how the anticipated retained revenue will increase recycling, as required by RCW 81.77.185. “Recycling,” as defined in RCE 10.95.030, means, “transforming or remanufacturing waste materials into usable or marketable materials for use other than landfill disposal or incineration. Several Task efforts initially planned in this agreement were not completed because of reduced budgets and declining recycling revenues.

These activities were carried out during Part B and Part C, January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019, of the agreement:

- A. Reporting:
Monthly data reporting and quarterly meetings to discuss tactics and implementation, review revenue and adjust tactics and outreach plans
- B. Mobile application:
Completion of a mobile application promotion and branding activities. The mobile application named WM Cartwise, allows residents to download a mobile phone search engine which allows them to find their collection schedule and conduct searches, by topic, to determine what to do and how to prepare materials for curbside collection. The application also gives information about how to manage materials not collected at the curb. Work on this mobile application began in the previous agreement.
- C. Webpage reformat:
Reformatting of a few webpages on Waste Management’s unincorporated King County residential website allowing for easier usability of the site which summarizes and reports on activities conducted in this agreement. Reformatting work wasn’t completed due to reduced budgets and declining recycling revenue.
- D. Spanish language outreach:
Implementation of a Spanish language education campaign, Las Odes de Reciclaje (Ode to Recycling), featuring, as a way of teaching recycling, music, poetry and art created by the local Latino community.
- E. Grassroots outreach at multicultural events:
In 2018 Waste Management attended six multicultural recycling events to educate a widespread group of multilingual/multicultural communities. 2019 did not continue these efforts due to reduced budgets and declining recycling revenue.

F. Cart tagging and enforcement:

Targeted cart tagging of households in select collection routes in unincorporated King County to encourage food scrap diversion from the garbage to the composting cart. These task efforts were not continued in the current agreement due to reduced budgets and declining recycling revenue.

G. Multifamily outreach:

Waste Management developed a multifamily organics collection toolkit for property managers and promoted the toolkit and organics collection to twenty properties previously identified as good candidates.

Waste Management completed the Best Management Basics for multifamily complex basic recycling for fourteen properties, with twelve additional properties completing all but one step before efforts were cut short due to reduced budgets and declining recycling revenue.

H. Food and food soiled paper composting:

Waste Management continued its education and outreach to encourage food composting through their “foodcyclers” education campaign. The campaign conducted outreach to existing “foodcyclers” through newsletters and it recruited additional members through community events and communications which engaged new curbside organics service subscribers. These task efforts were not continued in 2019 due to reduced budgets and declining recycling revenue.

I. School waste reduction and outreach:

Waste Management worked with King County staff to plan a promotion effort piloting milk dispensers to select school districts as a waste minimization initiative. This effort was not continued as a pilot due to reduced budgets and declining recycling revenue.

These activities are being completed by December 31, 2019:

J. Recycling Right Task Force Communications Consortium participation:

As part of the King County Recycling Task Force communications consortium work plan King County will execute a communications plan to take plastic bags out of the recycling cart. The communications plan will be executed before the end of the year for unincorporated residents through various media channels in unincorporated communities.

K. Curbside guide revision:

A newly revised recycling guide detailing proper recycling composting and hazardous waste disposal practices will be delivered to each unincorporated Waste Management residential customer.

King County is satisfied that Waste Management has met its work plan obligations and that the program expenditures were reasonable and appropriate during this agreement.

Steven V. King, Executive Director and Secretary

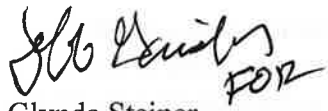
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The County confirms that Waste Management qualified for the 5% incentive as outlined in the agreement and confirmed by County staff. Although there was a slight decline in organics service subscriptions, the task targeted with this work were greatly reduced due to the reduction in overall budget affecting the ability of Waste Management to meet the incentive target using RSA funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments and support for the Plan developed by Waste Management and King County. If you have questions, please contact Gerty Coville, Project/Program Manager III, at 206-477-5271, or gerty.coville@kingcounty.gov.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Glynda Steiner in black ink, with the word "FOR" written below it.

Glynda Steiner
Deputy Division Director

Enclosures

cc: Joel Kohlstedt, Waste Management, Revenue-Sharing Administrator,
Gerty Coville, Project/Program Manager III, Solid Waste Division