



King County

Solid Waste Division

Department of Natural Resources and Parks

King Street Center

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November 13, 2020

Mark L. Johnson & Danny Kermode
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 S Evergreen Park Drive SW
PO Box 47250
Olympia WA 98504-7250

Re: Waste Management - King County Revenue Sharing Plan

Dear Mr. Johnson and Mr. Kermode:

This letter determines revenue-sharing plan compliance with RCW 81.77.185 by Waste Management of Washington, Inc. (Waste Management) for its service areas within King County. The plan referenced in this letter applies to all of Waste Management's G-237 certificated territory within King County except for areas served by Waste Management in Ellensburg near Snoqualmie Pass.

This letter reports King County's findings regarding Waste Management's performance under Part A of the 2020-2021 Plan for work completed between January 1, 2020 and September 30, 2020.

Current Plan:

A copy of the current plan is provided as Attachment A to this letter. The plan period, which runs from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021, is divided into three parts:

- Part A includes the period from January 1, 2020 – September 30, 2020.
- Part B includes the period from October 1, 2020 – September 30, 2021.
- Part C includes the period from October 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021.

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 70.95.030, means transforming or remanufacturing waste materials into usable or marketable materials for use other than landfill disposal or incineration.

Compliance Determination:

Waste Management has provided King County with summaries of program activities and associated costs (included as Attachments B and C). We are satisfied that Waste Management met its work plan obligations and that the program expenditures were reasonable and appropriate during this agreement, and we recommend that WUTC allow Waste Management to retain revenues to reimburse the company for these expenditures.

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Work completed during this reporting period:

Waste Management carried out the following from January 1, 2020 through September 30, 2020:

- A. Provided monthly reporting and participated in quarterly meetings to discuss tactics and implementation, review revenue and adjust tactics and outreach plans as needed.
- B. Continued to support WM Cartwise, a mobile application that allows residents to look up what to do with specific materials. This app received 4,400 to 5,000 searches for King County in recent months. The agreement funds maintenance of this app.
- C. Participated in regional recycling and composting workgroups, specifically the Recycle Right Communications Consortium (a monthly meeting led by King County that includes neighboring jurisdictions and local haulers to collaborate on and align recycling and contamination reduction messaging). WM and King County will build on outreach and messaging materials developed by this workgroup in future strategies implemented through the revenue-sharing agreement.
- D. Responded to multifamily property requests and checked signage and decals during any on-site visits.

Rollover of Unspent Funds into Part B

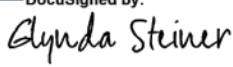
Several outreach and education tasks under this agreement were placed on hold in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, with plans to reevaluate and update strategies at the beginning of 2021. King County requests a rollover of unspent funds from Part A into Part B for 2021 to continue to support the waste prevention, recycling, and contamination reduction goals set out in the agreement.

Performance Bonus Eligibility for Current Plan

Consistent with WUTC's May 30, 2012, Interpretive and Policy Statement, the 2020-2021 Plan includes an opportunity for Waste Management to earn incentive bonuses equal to 5 percent of program expenditures if specific performance benchmarks are met. The requirements under the current plan are that Waste Management regularly attends regional meetings facilitated and organized by King County and that expenditures support and leverage County outreach, planning, and implementation for contamination reduction. We find that the company meets eligibility criteria for the 5% bonus. Waste Management has attended all Recycling Right Communications Consortium meetings during the Plan period, and the expenditures to-date have supported County outreach, planning, and implementation for contamination reduction.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments and support for the revenue-sharing plan developed by Waste Management and King County. If you have questions, please contact Andrea Lai, Project Program Manager III, at 206-263-1010, or alai@kingcounty.gov.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:


Glynda Steiner, Deputy Division Director

Enclosure

cc: Joel Kohlstedt, Waste Management, Revenue-Sharing Program Administrator,
Andrea Lai, Project/Program Manager III, King County Solid Waste Division