



1600 127<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Bellevue, WA 98005

Dear Residential Customer,

Many of you may have been hearing in the news about the market conditions of the recyclables. The cost to process the recycle material into a marketable product still continues to impact the industry following China's ban on contaminated material. Due to the volatility and unpredictability of these impacts, rather than a permanent increase to recycling collection rates, we believe a renewal to the temporary surcharge is an appropriate mechanism for managing increased processing costs

This is to notify you, the renewal rate of \$0.41 per month to our recycling collection rates for residential customers in the Kent-Meridian Disposal areas of King County has been proposed to the WUTC. This represents a \$0.13 reduction to previous recycle surcharge. Should the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission approve our request the surcharge will become effective January 1, 2018, and will be in effect for 180 days. If the recycling markets continue to be volatile, the surcharge can be renewed (either higher or lower) than the initial surcharge. The company will be required to reapply to the UTC for the surcharge after one year.

If you have questions about the proposed rate increase you may contact the company at (206) 682-9735.

The commission has the authority to set final rates that may be either lower or higher from the company's request, depending on the results of its investigation. Commission staff will make a recommendation to the commissioners at an open meeting in Olympia, which is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. on December 28, 2018. You will have an opportunity to comment in person at this meeting. The UTC is committed to providing reasonable accommodation to participants with disabilities. If you need reasonable accommodation, please contact the commission at (360) 664-1132 or [human\\_resources@utc.wa.gov](mailto:human_resources@utc.wa.gov). If you are unable to attend the open meeting, the commission has a bridge line which enables you to participate or listen by telephone. Call 360-664-1234 for instructions the day before the open meeting. You can also comment by using the "Public Comment" feature at the commission's Web site at [utc.wa.gov](http://utc.wa.gov) or by using the contact information below.

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW  
P.O. Box 47250, Olympia, WA 98504-7250  
E-mail: [comments@utc.wa.gov](mailto:comments@utc.wa.gov)  
Telephone: 1-888-333-WUTC (9882)

Together, we can work toward the new standard of clean recyclables to reduce the cost implications associated with the stringent demands. To help with this, please make sure you are only recycling clean materials that are free from contaminations. If unsure, the best approach would be to throw it out. "When in doubt, throw it out!"

If you have any questions or need additional information about recycling please call our company at (206) 682-9735.

We look forward to continued service to you.

*Kent Meridian Disposal (Republic Services)*