



## Republic Services Revenue Share Agreement Plan Year August 1, 2019 – July 31, 2021 Part A Summary

### Introduction

The Revenue Share Agreement (RSA), regulated by the WUTC for King County, is a program to provide education on waste reduction, diversion, and clean recycling. The WUTC areas of King County managed under this agreement include: Medina, Beaux Arts, Yarrow Point, Hunts Point, Kenmore and Unincorporated East King and South King County. The intent of the RSA is to increase recycling and decrease garbage disposed at the landfill. The current two-year agreement covers the period of August 1, 2019 to July 31, 2021. This report summarizes work completed in Part A which runs from August 1, 2019 – April 30, 2020.

### Task 1: Project Management & Coordination

Original Budgeted Amount for Part A: \$44,500      Actual Amount Spent: \$ 29,391

In October 2019, Republic Services hired Natalie Caulkins as RSA Administrator. Due to falling commodity values, the RSA Administrator conducted all multifamily outreach in addition to normal reporting and coordinating duties. The RSA Administrator also attended all Recycle Right Consortium meetings and provided technical assistance to residents' questions through emails and phone calls.

### Task 2: Data Collection & Reporting

Original Budgeted Amount for Part A: \$11,000      Actual Amount Spent: \$3,871

#### Goal:

Provide monthly tonnage reports to King County which include customer counts and commodity values.

#### Progress Update:

All monthly reports were sent to King County. Republic Services added two new metrics to monthly reports beginning in April, the estimated set out rate and a log of complaints.

### Task 3: Single Family Outreach

Budgeted Amount as of January 7, 2020: \$34,000      Actual Amount Spent: \$0

#### Goal:

The original implementation plan called for spending these funds to support the Recycle Right Consortium's work in promoting good recycling practices and reducing contamination in the recycling stream. The RSA Administrator and King County agreed to accomplish this through Facebook





advertisement buys targeted to zip codes where the majority of Republic Services' UTC customers live. This year's content was focused on keeping plastic bags out of curbside bins. In addition to reducing consumption and reusing plastic bags for other purposes, the Recycle Right campaign content encouraged residents to return bags to participating grocery stores, to be further consolidated and recycled by a downstream processor.

#### Progress Update:

The Recycle Right Consortium shared that the downstream recycler had concerns about its capacity to manage and process increases in material from a broad outreach campaign. The RSA Administrator learned of this at the Recycle Right meeting on February 27, 2020. In agreement with King County, this task has been put on hold since. King County and Republic will revise the task plan and identify an alternate Recycle Right message for residents Part B of the Plan if the plastic bag campaign delays are ongoing.

#### Task 4: Multifamily Residences Outreach

Budgeted Amount as of January 7, 2020: \$1,000

Actual Amount Spent: \$519

#### Goal:

The RSA Administrator will reach all 124 properties in the UTC service areas, updating their container signage and, when possible, distribute multilingual fliers and reusable tote bags through property managers. The RSA Administrator will also attempt to organize outreach events at all willing multifamily properties that have a clubhouse, community space, or other central location to interact with many tenants at one time. 33781

#### Progress Update:

All 31 multifamily properties in South King County have been visited, their container(s) re-stickered, and they have received multilingual fliers and tote bags. Regarding outreach events the properties fell into three categories:

Response	Out of 31 South King County Multifamily Complexes
Willing to do outreach event	8
Not willing/No space	12
Maybe – unable to reach PM, or space is available but PM was hesitant	11
Total	31

Of the eight properties willing to hold an outreach event, one was scheduled and presented before the coronavirus outbreak in March. This was the YWCA Passage Pointe, a transitional property for previously incarcerated persons. The RSA Administrator gave a presentation about recycling, answered questions, and distributed tote bags and guidelines to approximately 20 residents who attended.





Of 83 multifamily properties in North King County, 21 have been visited in person by the RSA Administrator. An additional 21 have been contacted by phone or email to be followed up by an onsite visit. Of these 41, only two expressed interest in holding an outreach event.

#### Coronavirus Impact:

As of March 19<sup>th</sup>, all visits to multifamily properties ceased due to the coronavirus outbreak and all scheduling of outreach events was placed on hold. The RSA Administrator will continue to reach out to property managers through phone and email and offer resources to help their tenants recycle right during this unusual time. If King County approves, the RSA Administrator may begin visiting properties for the purpose of examining any location or siting issues, and to re-decal containers. This would be accomplished with proper Personal Protective Equipment and observing social distancing.

### Task 5: Incorporating Costs into WUTC Tariff Rate

#### Goal:

Create a summary of RSA work accomplished in previous years including actual budget expenditures and number of residents reached for budget estimating purposes. Collaborate with King County to cross-reference King County's designated "best practices" with previous RSA work and analyze the possibility of incorporated the associated costs into the tariff rates. The end goal is to establish funding for recycling outreach and education that is independent of commodity values as these have been very volatile since China's National Sword policy took place in 2018.

#### Progress Update:

The RSA Administrator has compiled all printed documents concerning past RSA agreements, tasks, and reports. A working rough draft is in progress. Other Republic Services staff are examining the possibility of incorporating costs into the tariff rates.

### Task 6: Understanding Contamination

#### Goal:

No activities have been decided on for this task due to declining commodity values.

#### Progress:

In agreement with King County as of January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020 no work has been undertaken to fulfill this task. Instead all funds, efforts, and energy have been directed towards Tasks 1-5.

