# Waste Management Recycling and Commodity Revenue Sharing Plan for King County: July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

This Agreement between King County ("County") and Waste Management ("WM") with the expressed intent of increasing the amount of recyclable material collected by WM from customers in King County. A portion of the funding used by WM to implement this Plan will be from revenues from the sales of the commodities retained by WM in accordance with the revenue sharing provision in RCW 81.77.185.

This Plan covers the time period of July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010, at which time it terminates. A new agreement for the time period of July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011 will be negotiated and agreed to by June 1, 2010, if both parties agree that a continued agreement is in the best interests of ratepayers and the environment. If a new agreement is not negotiated by June 1, 2010, the Agreement may be terminated, requiring the development of a new Base Agreement.

#### **Data Reporting**

WM will provide accurate monthly recycling and disposal reports using the format required by the County on a timely basis. In addition, WM will also submit monthly audit reports to the County on recycling activities at the Cascade Recycling Center as required by other Agreements between the parties.

#### **Quarterly Updates and Coordination Meetings**

WM will meet with County planning quarterly to report on implementation steps undertaken as per this agreement, lessons learned, and proposed next steps. Memorandums, reports, promotional materials and other requirements described in this amendment will be provided in advance of these meetings. During these meetings, WM and County staff will also discuss concepts, plans and implementation mechanisms designed to, in the long-term, significantly affect the nature and/or quantity of recyclables and wastes collected in King County. Subjects to be addressed include but are not limited to how to remove the remaining food waste, yard debris and wood waste from the disposed waste stream, actions that will significantly divert to recycling other materials with large greenhouse gas footprints, education and other actions that will significantly divert household hazardous waste and problematic materials from disposal and frequency of recycling and garbage collection service.

Before the first quarterly meeting (to be scheduled July – September 2009), WM will propose to the County a more detailed plan for public outreach during the Plan period, including: outreach methods (e.g., direct mailings, web site improvements, calendar mailings); and number of households and geographic areias targeted. The County shall be given at least a five-day advance review before materials are distributed, and hard copy of all publications shall be provided to the County after printing.

Increase Proportion of Households Subscribing to Curbside Collection Services. WM will target a pilot area of King County to increase households subscribing to curbside garbage and recycling collection services. WM will assess results from these efforts and will discuss the results and continue or revise its strategy as it continues to

work to increase use of curbside collection services.

#### **Decrease Residuals and Contaminants**

WM will continue to minimize the amount of non-recyclable residual received at its processing facility(ies) and will evaluate and monitor contamination of commodities (such as glass and plastic in paper), and to increase the proportion recycled of incoming material.

## Harmonization with Other Area Curbside Recycling Programs

WM will examine the materials collected in other Puget Sound area programs and will recommend which of these materials could be collected in King County and which materials it would advise against. These recommendations will be discussed in a quarterly meeting in time for revisions to be made in the next distribution of recycling instructions.

#### **Targeted Commodities**

Due to green house gas emission impacts and other environmental benefits, WM will target efforts to increase the recycling of all metals, paper and biogenic organics.

#### E-Waste, Problematic and Household Hazardous Waste

The purpose of this activity is to ensure high diversion of problematic and hazardous materials in the waste stream and to assist customers in accessing and benefiting from newly emerging programs such as e-waste recycling. The order of priority for focusing on these materials is: 1) fluorescent lamps; 2) e-waste; and 3) household hazardous waste.

WM will work to implement an educational program to educate its customers on ways to properly recycle/dispose of E-Waste and household hazardous waste by:

- Distributing to WM call center staff access information on locations and services for electronic waste, other problematic materials, and household hazardous waste.
- Include in its information mailers reference to websites and phone numbers where King county residents and businesses can access information on locations and services for electronic waste, other problematic materials, and household hazardous waste.
- Reexamine if WM will provide any collection or drop off services for e-waste in the new electronics recycling system which began in 2009, and if so develop a plan in

coordination with KCSWD hat will impose costs (if any) on the entity utilizing the service rather than that cost being spread across all rate payers.

- Determine and implement activities, such as use of dumpster decals, to better inform
  residential and commercial customers of proper recycling and disposal regulations.
  Waste Management will continue its process of placing new instructional dumpster
  decals on containers used by King County customers and will provide the Division a
  schedule for completing the process.
- Implement a program, in cooperation with the Solid Waste Division, to better inform
  customers of the ban on the disposal of fluorescent lamps, including handling
  instructions and recycling options.

# Ongoing Promotion of the Food waste Program to Yard Waste Customers to Increase Participation

WM will continue to take the lead and work cooperatively with the SWD to promote the Food waste service to all WM single-family customers. WM will utilize bill inserts, brochures or other public education mechanisms, including direct mail, to provide information to all residential customers regarding Food waste and Yard waste programs.

### Multi-family Recycling Education Program

WM will continue to work to increase multi-family recycling efforts in King County by:

- seeking feedback from multi-family customers via surveys, with incentive for participation
- through these surveys identifying some multi-family customers that really want a new program, providing special assistance and using this experience as a template for encouraging other complexes

WM will report its multifamily education and marketing efforts to the County and will seek input from the County when creating or revising related materials.

**Promotion of Recycling Programs** 

Waste Management will promote its recycling programs throughout King County through a variety of public outreach efforts, including web-based information, bill inserts, media outreach, labeling of containers and carts, etc. WM will maintain up-to-date program information and instructions on its website. WM will make available recycling instructions in a multi-lingual format and will promote the availability of multi-lingual information to the appropriate communities. WM will seek input from the County when creating or revising these materials, and will discuss with the County the languages that will be included on materials prior to distribution. This effort will be designed to help ensure that a common message is used throughout King County to increase recycling efforts.

WM will develop and begin to incorporate messaging related to green house gas reduction and climate change issues with regard to increased reuse and recycling. WM will seek input from the County when developing these messages.

**Recycling Audits** 

WM began auditing one full route truck of Residential, Commercial and Multi-family recyclables per month from cities in King and Snohomish Counties, including the WUTC collection area. Once each month, a set of trucks (one residential, one multi-family, and one commercial) from the same predetermined jurisdiction will be sorted at a WM facility. WM will compile the audit data and provide summary reports to the cities and the counties by February 2010. The current protocol will be revised and provided to the County.

County Reporting to the WUTC

If all of the goals and program components specified in this plan are achieved, the County agrees to provide written a recommendation to the WUTC that WM will retain 30% of commodity values, for the July 2009 – June 2010 period. If the Data Reporting requirement of this Agreement is not met the parties agree that WM will retain no more than 15% of the total commodity values during this period and a revenue sharing agreement for July 2011 – June 2012 will not be signed until all required data is submitted.

Recycling Goals

The goal of this agreement is to increase recycling levels of WM customers. WM and King County will use available data and data required by this Agreement to monitor changes in recycling and/or garbage levels. As a result of the programs, activities, and infrastructure improvements implemented by WM and associated with the ongoing series of revenue sharing agreements and addenda, the parties expect to maintain the recycling levels achieved; increase organics recycling as a result of adding food waste to yard waste services, and to improve the quality of materials collected from customers.

**Continued Cooperation** 

In addition to the provisions of the Plan and the Addendums, the County and WM agree to continue to look for means of diverting material away from landfill disposal and increasing the number of residential customers it services through its curbside collection programs. The County and WM further agree to negotiate in good faith enhancements to the recycling services being provided by WM.

WM Authorized Representative

Date

6/9/09

Susan Robinson

Director, Public Sector Services

## KING COUNTY CERTIFICATION

With this acknowledgement, King County hereby certifies this Recycling Plan is consistent with the County's Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan and the County's understanding of RCW 81.77.185.

King County Authorized Representative

Date

Kevin Kiernan

Director, King County Solid Waste Division

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