

cc: *CS*  
*RH*



Ex \_\_\_\_\_ (RGH-6)

Sharon L. Nelson, Chairman  
Richard D. Casad, Commissioner  
A. J. "Bud" Pardini, Commissioner

STATE OF WASHINGTON  
WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. S.W., P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250 • (206) 753-6423 • (SCAN) 234-6423

**ED**

October 28, 1992

Ms. Helen Matekel  
King County Solid Waste Division  
600 Yesler Building  
400 Yesler Way  
Seattle, Washington 98104

Dear Ms. Matekel:

The Commissioners requested that we begin preparing press releases regarding each of the County Solid Waste Management Plans reviewed by our agency. The purpose behind this is to encourage and generate increased citizen participation at all levels.

I am enclosing a copy of the release we have provided to the local papers operating within King County for your information. We have included your name and number as a contact, should individuals be interested in becoming involved in the process.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (206) 753-4587.

Sincerely,

*Elizabeth Reed*

Elizabeth Reed  
Public Information Officer

Enclosure

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
NO. TG-940411 7✓



# News:

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October 28, 1992  
TG-921023/35

## WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION'S REVIEW OF KING COUNTY'S COMPREHENSIVE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN REFLECTS CUSTOMERS' RATES COULD BE SIGNIFICANTLY IMPACTED

**OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON** --- The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission recently completed its review of the Preliminary Draft of the 1992 King County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan. The Commission found that the proposed plan will significantly impact King County customers of regulated solid waste collection companies.

The preliminary plan indicates that the county's operating expenditures for solid waste management will increase from approximately \$71 million in 1992 to over \$75 million in 1994 and approximately \$84 million in 1997, due to a variety of programs directly administered by King County. The cost information provided by the County reflects they will need an additional \$16.5 million in revenues for 1994 and \$12.3 million in 1997 to fund all of the planned programs.

Based upon this data, Commission staff concluded that higher disposal fees than anticipated in the proposed plan will be necessary to fund all of the programs in 1994 and 1997. The projected 1994 deficit could be offset by an \$18.74 per ton increase, yielding an \$84.74 per ton tip fee. Commission analysis also shows that a \$98.90 per ton tip fee for 1997 could offset that year's deficit. The chart below reflects how these potential disposal fee increases could impact the ratepayers.

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### **WUTC** WASHINGTON UTILITIES and TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Public Affairs Section  
Chandler Plaza  
1300 Evergreen Park Drive S.W.  
Olympia, WA 98504  
(206) 753-6423

This news release is provided for informational purposes only.  
Official Commission action is taken only by order.

**For more information contact:**

**Elizabeth Reed**  
**Public Information Officer**

**Press Calls: (206)753-4587**

**Customer Complaint and Inquiries:**  
**1-800-562-6150**

**ESTIMATED RATEPAYER IMPACTS**

	<u>1993</u>	<u>1996</u>
The Cost Assessment element to the King County Solid Waste Plan predicts deficits during the 1994 and 1997 planning years:	(\$16,512,760)	(\$12,285,048)

Using tonnage projections as estimated by the plan:

881,095 tons	837,709 tons
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The necessary per ton increase over today's rate, would be:

\$18.74	\$32.90
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The impact this would have on monthly rates is:

Mini-can customer	\$1.05	\$ 1.85
One-can Weekly customer	1.38	2.42
Two-can Weekly customer	2.07	3.63
Commercial 1 yard/week	7.10	12.46

The 1997 disposal fee increase and ratepayer impacts include both the increase contained within the County's proposed plan (\$84.23 per ton) as well as an increase to offset the \$12.3 million deficit. The ratepayer impacts are cumulative. The \$1.85 impact on mini-can customers predicted for 1997 includes the earlier increase of \$1.05.

These increases are merely an estimation of what customers could experience over the life of the proposed plan, based upon the information provided to the Commission for this review.

King County's Solid Waste Management Plan is still in draft form and public involvement is encouraged. To become involved in providing comments on the proposed plan you should contact: Helen Matekel, King County Solid Waste Division at (206) 296-4409.