



Snohomish County Council

Committee: Committee of the Whole

Analyst: Deb Evison Bell

ECAF: 2022-0448

Proposal: Motion 22-184

Date: April 27, 2022

Consideration:

The proposed motion would approve and authorize the County Executive to execute an emergency agreement to provide short-term backup waste transportation and disposal services with Waste Management Disposal Service of Oregon, Inc., under SCC 3.04.200.

Background:

Snohomish County has had an agreement with Republic Services for solid waste export since 2018 ([Ord. 18-022](#)), expiring in 2028.

Republic Services has not been able to provide a sufficient and consistent number of containers to manage the amount of solid waste collected at the County transfer stations since early 2022. A Notice of Class C Default letter was issued to Republic Services on February 22, 2022, and again on April 18, 2022. No resolution to date has been accomplished. Republic Services has indicated a lack of staffing on the BNSF railroad, including supply chain issues as the reason for the lack of contract fulfillment. The lack of adequate containers has a trickle-down effect, as it inhibits the transfer station's ability to safely process and accept waste, and if the matter is not promptly resolved, the County could potentially close this critical infrastructure.

Snohomish County currently has a backlog of approximately 5,800 tons of solid waste (around 200 containers worth of material) staged at the Airport Road and Southwest transfer stations, requiring staff to initiate fire watch protocols and increase vector control in response to the on-going lack of contract fulfillment with Republic Services.

Current Proposal:

Scope: Snohomish County was able to negotiate an emergency services agreement with Waste Management Disposal Services of Oregon, Inc., to provide transportation and disposal services, including the disposal of the County's current backlog of waste.

Approval by motion is sought from Council to approve and authorize the County Executive to execute the emergency agreement for short-term backup waste transportation and disposal services.

Duration: The term of this agreement is six (6) months, commencing on the date of execution.

Fiscal Implications: The total amount payable under this agreement is \$2,000,000.00.

2022 Budget: Yes, the 2022 Budget includes appropriation authority.

Future Budget Impacts: Funding for this emergency service will be initially paid for out of the Public Works Franchise Fees, with reimbursement for the necessity of the emergency contract being ultimately paid for by Republic Services, as stipulated in the existing contract.

Handling: URGENT

Approved-as-to-form: YES

Risk Management: APPROVE

Executive Recommendation: APPROVE

Analysis: The proposed contract requires council approval, per SCC3.04.200.

Requests: For council to consider the motion.