Mason County Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)

<u>MEETING AGENDA</u>
2/28/24
10:00-11:00 am
Mason County Public Works
Meeting Room and via Microsoft Teams

1. Roll Call

2. Public Comment

3. Approval of Agenda

4. Meeting Minutes Approval: 1/24/24

5. Business Items:

    5.1 -   CROP - Step 5

    5.2-   SWMP – Chapter 3 amendment - Discussion

6. Next Meeting Agenda Items

7. Announcement of Next Meeting – March 27th, 2024 @ 10:00 am
   (Meetings are held the 4th Wednesday of each month)

8. Adjourn

    All meetings are open to the public.

Mason County SWAC Meeting Minutes
January 24, 2024
10:00 AM at Mason County Public Works and via Microsoft Teams

ROLL CALL:

SWAC Members	Yes/No/Excused
Tom Duffield	Yes
Monica Nerny	No
Lynda Links	Yes
Sharon Trask	Yes
Tessa Halloran	Yes
Chad White	Yes

Guests	Representing
Blake Nelson	Department of Ecology

County Staff	Title/Department
Wendy Matthews	Senior Environmental Health Specialist/ Mason County Environmental Health
Alexis Stanley	Environmental Health Specialist/ Mason County Environmental Health
Wendy Thompson	Office Specialist/ Public Works/Utilities & Waste Management
Kevin Guijosa	Solid Waste Manager/ Public Works/Utilities & Waste Management
Richard Dickinson	Deputy Director/ Public Works/Utilities & Waste Management

PUBLIC COMMENT: The committee recognized Linda Links who spoke about upcoming legislative bills related to waste management.

MEETING MINUTES: The following minutes were reviewed and approved by the Committee: October 25, 2023.

AGENDA APPROVAL: The agenda was reviewed and approved.

BUSINESS ITEMS: 5.1   CROP - Steps three and four of the CROP are now complete.

5.2   Overview of the budget for 2024 - Deputy Director Dickinson shared that the 2024 budget includes the replacement of the tipping floor for the Shelton transfer station and replacement of the attendant booths at the outer stations to include the installation of bathroom facilities for the attendants.

5.3   Final survey results were discussed with glass being the primary focus for recycling options. The survey is now closed.

5.4   The chapter 3 amendment to the SWMP, the transportation and disposal services to now be Mason County garbage are completed. There was a motion to approve the amendment, and a second, a vote was taken, and the motion passed.

There was reminder announcement of the next meeting scheduled for February 28, 2024 at 10:00am @ Mason County Public Works and via Microsoft Teams

Adjourn at 10:46 am

Submitted by: Wendy Thompson, 2/9/24

Mason County Solid Waste

Recycling Contamination Reduction and Outreach Plan (CROP)

The goal of the CROP is to reduce contamination of the materials collected in **Mason County**'s single-family, multi-family, drop box, and commercial recycling programs. This, in turn, helps **Mason County Solid Waste** more fully realize the economic, environmental, social, and public health benefits of these programs. The CROP does not specifically include strategies to reduce contamination of other material streams such as organics or construction and demolition debris. However, many of the same strategies apply to these streams and may be included in future CROP updates.

The CROP intends to meet the requirement in [RCW 70A.205.045(10)](#) that counties with a population of more than 25,000, and cities within these counties with independent Solid Waste Management Plans (SWMP), include a CROP in their SWMP by July 1, 2021.

This CROP includes ten action steps and is a framework for developing a more detailed and customized implementation plan in the future. In addition, it also identifies the need to align the CROP with the SWMP, and secure and allocate funding for ongoing planning and implementation.

Step 1: Inventory current recycling collection services and programs
Mason County Solid Waste will inventory single-family, multi-family, drop box, and commercial collection programs to identify what is accepted for recycling, where and how it is collected and by whom, and how it should be prepared for recycling.

This inventory may include, but is not limited to the following:

- Designated recyclables list in the SWMP
- Collection methods (single- or multi-stream, carts or stackable bins, etc.)
- Number of tons collected for recycling and customers for each type of program
- Types of materials accepted for recycling in each type of program
- Cart or container colors
- Minimum service-level or other ordinances, resolutions, or interlocal agreements
- Collection or material processing contracts
- Local government and recycling collector websites and social media sites
- Stickers and signs on containers, in businesses, etc.
- Brochures, newsletters, information shared at community events, etc.

- Recent media coverage

Mason County Solid Waste will identify differences or inconsistencies across contracts and agreements for recycling programs, and in the information provided to residents and businesses about what to recycle and how it should be prepared for collection. **Mason County Solid Waste** will use this data to identify opportunities for more consistent and aligned programs. The data will also be used to help determine what specific contamination reduction strategies to implement.

Step 2: Develop scope of work with stakeholders

Mason County Solid Waste will work with key stakeholders to develop a scope of work for the CROP addressing the specific challenges and opportunities associated with local recycling contamination. To begin this scoping process, the information learned in Step 1 will be shared with the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) and the SWAC's role in developing the CROP will be defined.

These stakeholders may include, but are not limited to:

- SWAC members
- Elected officials and key staff from other local governments, including potential regional partners in the same MRF-shed
- Garbage and recycling collection companies and their front-line staff
- Organizations representing homeowners, tenants, and multi-family and business interests
- Material recovery facilities (MRF) and transfer station operators
- End markets for recovered materials
- **Mason County Solid Waste**'s Ecology Regional Planner and grant manager
- Non-governmental organizations and community groups
- Regional, statewide, and national organizations that can provide technical assistance and/or financial support.

Step 3: Prioritize the recycling program(s) to focus on first

Together with key stakeholders, **Mason County Solid Waste** will identify what recycling collection program(s) to focus on first. Driving this decision could be current knowledge of contamination levels and their estimated impact on costs and material quality, the number of customers, total quantity of material collected, etc.

Step 4: Establish acceptable materials lists

Starting with the highest-priority program(s), **Mason County Solid Waste** will establish lists of acceptable materials. This effort will be coordinated with the SWAC, MRF operators, collectors, end markets, and other key stakeholders. Criteria for determining the acceptable materials lists may include, but are not limited to:

- Alignment with the SWMP mission and goals, and community values
- Degree of uniformity across local programs, regionally, and statewide
- Diversion potential
- Cost to collect and process relative to other management options
- Strength and long-term viability and stability of end markets
- Environmental, social, and other benefits and costs

- Potential to cross-contaminate or lower the value of other materials
- Potential to cause customer confusion

The Washington State Association of Counties Solid Waste Managers Affiliate, the Washington State Refuse and Recycling Association, and the Department of Ecology have supported the establishment of regional, and if possible, statewide uniformity in what materials are accepted for recycling and how they should be prepared. More harmonization across programs reduces customer confusion and contamination. To that end, they identified these four priority materials for statewide recovery:

1. Paper (including office and notebook paper, newspaper, mail, catalogues, magazines, and cereal or cracker boxes)
2. Cardboard
3. Plastic bottles and jugs (clear, colored, and natural)
4. Steel and aluminum cans

The resources and guidelines developed by these organizations to establish their list of priority materials will help guide the development of **Mason County Solid Waste**'s acceptable materials list. Ecology's Resource Library contains this information and, along with Ecology's Best Management practices (BMPs) and Resources document, includes other resources to assist in developing an accepted materials list. This includes information on the specific challenges and opportunities associated with collecting glass and aseptic and polycoat containers, which some recycling programs in Washington accept.

Step 5: Define what data to collect to determine baseline levels of recycling contamination
Starting with the highest priority program(s), and based on the review completed in Step 1, **Mason County Solid Waste** will identify what the acceptable materials are and what is considered contamination for the purposes of establishing a baseline recycling contamination rate. This data will also inform decisions about what, if any, changes to make to the accepted materials list in the future.

Step 6: Gather baseline recycling contamination data
Starting with the highest-priority program(s), **Mason County Solid Waste** will establish baseline levels and types of recycling contamination. Recycling contamination rates can vary significantly across different programs and communities. Nationally, The Recycling Partnership (TRP) estimated an average contamination rate of about 17% across 197 programs that participated in their 2019 State of Curbside Survey. In Washington State, TRP's 2019 survey of seven MRFs found inbound levels of contamination from commingled recycling collection programs ranging from 5%-20% by weight. Recent drop-off programs and cart lid-lift audits in Washington showed rates as high as 40%. For this reason, it is important to gather data on local recycling contamination levels.

In discussions with stakeholders, and building on the information in the State CROP and Ecology's Resource Library, and on the work completed in Step 5 **Mason County Solid Waste** will identify and develop ways to track specific contaminants. For example, tracking the number of carts containing plastic bags may be a more useful metric than an estimated overall percentage of contamination by volume.

Data collection methods may include, but are not limited to:

- Recycling stream composition studies
- Survey of transfer stations and MRF operators
- Tracking contamination using on-board truck or container-mounted cameras
- Drop box composition studies or visual audits
- Container lid-lift audits for residential, multi-family and commercial accounts
  - *Legal questions have been raised about lid-lift audits. The Measurement and Reporting section of* Ecology's BMPs *provides more details.*

Step 7: Identify key contaminants and their costs and impacts

Based on the data collected in Step 6 and collaborating with key stakeholders, **Mason County Solid Waste** will identify the most problematic and costly contaminants starting with the highest-priority program(s). Although the types and impacts of contamination don't vary as much as the levels of contamination across different communities and programs, it is still important to gather locally specific data. This data is critical to designing outreach campaigns and other strategies targeting the most problematic materials. It can also be helpful in calculating the economic and other benefits of removing problematic materials from the recycling stream.

In recent surveys, such as the one conducted by the TRP in 2019, MRFs and cities in Washington identified the following recycling contaminants as the most problematic and costly to manage:

- Plastic bags and film
- Tanglers including rope, cords, chains, and hoses
- Food and liquids
- Shredded paper
- Bagged garbage
- Non-program plastics including clamshells and polystyrene foam
- Hypodermic needles

These contaminants can:

- Slow down the sorting and processing of materials.
- Reduce the quality and value of secondary material feedstocks.
- Result in costly shutdowns.
- Damage collection, processing, and remanufacturing equipment.
- Cause serious injuries to collection and processing facility staff.

According to TRP, the greatest costs associated with managing a contaminated recycling stream at MRFs nationally come from the following and represent 80% of total contamination-related costs:

- 40% for disposal of residuals
- 26% in value lost from contaminated recyclables
- 14% in labor to remove contamination from sorting equipment, etc.

Step 8: Develop and implement education and outreach strategies to reduce contamination

Mason County Solid Waste will develop and implement education and outreach strategies based on best practices. This starts with addressing any inconsistencies in recycling information and messaging identified in Step 1. All new outreach materials and messages will be aligned and consistent across all platforms.

Depending on the type of recycling program, outreach and education strategies may include, but are not limited to:

- Moving toward uniformity in cart and container colors (or at least lids)
  - blue for recycling, gray or black for garbage, and green for organics
- Visual, easy-to-understand signage using photos and universal pictures and symbols
- Cart-tagging and cart rejection
- On-route monitoring tools, including apps and cameras
- Pairing right-sized recycling and trash bins
- On-site assistance and outreach at drop-off sites
- Up-to-date, and easy-to-find and access websites with clear, consistent messaging
- Social media posts, campaigns, mailings, brochures, and other communications
- Online apps for residents and businesses to get answers to their recycling questions
- Community presentations, tabling, and activities at community events
- School presentations and activities focused on recycling right
- Translation and transcreation of educational materials and campaigns to ensure recycling information is clearly understood by all audiences
- Social marketing campaigns to effectively promote long-term behavior change

Where possible, free and customizable resources will be utilized, including Ecology's Recycle Right campaign materials and The Recycling Partnership's Anti-Contamination Kit. Ecology's Contamination Reduction Best Management Practices & Resources document and Resource Library have examples of successful anti-contamination programs.

Step 9: Evaluate the effectiveness of anti-contamination strategies and set next steps
Mason County Solid Waste will conduct periodic assessments on the effectiveness of recycling contamination reduction programs and strategies, and share the results with key stakeholders and the public. These assessments will use, at least in part, the same methodology used in Step 6 to establish baseline contamination levels.

The assessment results inform what is working and what adjustments to make for better results. This includes reducing contamination in other recycling programs that were not a focus during the initial CROP implementation.

Step 10: Explore contamination reduction strategies beyond education and outreach
As part of a statewide effort, **Mason County Solid Waste** will work with Ecology and other partners to explore strategies and solutions beyond education and outreach. These could address regional planning, operations

and collection, contracting, incentives, pricing, policies, mandates, enhanced data collection, etc. Based on this evaluation, **Mason County Solid Waste** will identify and pursue the most promising initiatives.

These options may include, but are not limited to:

- Regional planning and aligned or joint contracting for services to harmonize messaging, lower program costs, and improve program performance.
- Evaluating the costs and benefits of operational changes, including collection frequency, level of source-separation at the curb, and innovative drop-off container designs on contamination levels and overall program performance.
- Product bans or restrictions.
- Strengthening contracts with haulers and MRFs to include provisions focused on reducing contamination, collecting and reporting data on program performance and ensuring materials on the accepted materials list are responsibly recycled. Consult The Recycling Partnership's BMPs for MRF contracting and their supporting materials for guidance.

Ensure alignment of the CROP and SWMP and secure and allocate funding to implement the CROP: This work will occur throughout the process as needed. Updates to the CROP can occur during SWMP revisions, including the required five-year revision process.

This work includes involving key stakeholders in reviewing, and if necessary, updating related elements in the SWMP to ensure they are aligned and consistent with the contents of the CROP and implementation work. This information may include, but is not limited to:

- Designated recyclables list
- Recycling facilities including transfer stations, drop-off sites, and MRFs
- Recycling collection services and providers, and collection systems and fees
- Waste reduction and recycling education and outreach strategies
- Funding sources and mechanisms for recycling programs and services

During this process, **Mason County Solid Waste** will also work with Ecology and other key stakeholders to identify and secure new and/or allocate existing funding, and forge partnerships with agencies and organizations to provide technical and financial assistance.

The State CROP and Ecology's Resource Library are tools to get started on implementing the CROP. The library includes contamination reduction best management practices, contracting guides, MRF-shed maps, materials from successful programs in Washington State and across the country, and more.

An initial 3-year implementation schedule for all ten steps in the CROP is included below. As **Mason County Solid Waste** clarifies and defines the scope of work, and identifies the resources to complete the work, a more detailed and refined implementation plan, schedule and budget will be developed.

CROP Implementation Schedule

Year 1 (2023)

Step 1: Inventory current recycling collection services and programs

Step 2: Develop scope of work with stakeholders

Step 3: Prioritize the recycling program(s) to focus on first

Step 4: Establish acceptable materials list

Year 2 (2024)

Step 5: Define what data to collect to determine baseline levels of recycling contamination

Step 6: Gather baseline recycling contamination data

Step 7: Identify key contaminants and their costs and impacts

Year 3 (2025)

Step 8: Develop and implement education and outreach strategies to reduce contamination

Step 9: Evaluate the effectiveness of anti-contamination strategies and set next steps

Step 10: Explore contamination reduction strategies beyond education and outreach

Ensure alignment of the CROP and SWMP and identify and secure or allocate funding to implement the CROP – These are steps that will be addressed throughout the process as needed.

CHAPTER 3
SOLID WASTE HANDLING METHODS & SYSTEMS

3.1 Description of the Mason County Solid Waste System

The Mason County Solid Waste System (MCSWS) consists of a central waste transfer station at Eells Hill near Shelton, three rural drop box stations, and four known non-operating landfill areas.

3.1.1 The Eells Hill Transfer Station

The purpose of the Mason County Eells Hill Transfer Station is to provide for the collection and transfer of wastes to an out-of-county disposal facility. The County built the transfer station in 1993 at the site of the former County landfill site which is located at 501 W. Eells Hill Road Shelton, Washington.

The station is a full-service facility that accepts deliveries from private businesses, commercial collection route vehicles, commercial drop box vehicles, County rural transfer stations, and the self-hauling public. The station has two covered unloading areas. The larger building allows for direct unloading onto a tipping floor for direct refuse unloading. A wheel-loader breaks down and places wastes into top-loading 100-cubic yard (CY) intermodal containers. A waste compaction, or tamping arm compacts wastes. Ideally, well compacted trailers have an average weight of 27.5 tons. Mason County trailers typically average about 25 tons per trailer. Once loaded, trailers are hauled to a rail spur in Lewis County where they are loaded onto a train and shipped to the Roosevelt Regional Landfill in Klickitat County.
Effective February 29th,2024 Mason County Garbage will be transporting solid waste to the Cowlitz County Landfill located on Headquarters Road Southeast of Castle Rock, WA in Cowlitz County.

A scale house, office/storage building and limited household hazardous waste (HHW) collection area are also located at the Eells Hill Transfer Station. See Chapter 5 for a further discussion of HHW.

The design and operation of the facility complies with the State of Washington minimum Functional Standards for Solid Waste Handling (WAC 173-350).

3.1.2 Rural drop box stations
The three rural drop-box stations are owned and operated by Mason County. The rural sites accept most materials accepted at the Eells Hill Transfer Station, but cannot accept commercial or institutional municipal solid waste, and some types of moderate-risk waste. See Chapter 5 for further HHW details.

The rural stations are located in Belfair, Union and Hoodsport. Belfair has the greatest use followed by Union and then Hoodsport. All three rural stations are similar in design and operation, and each consists of a covered steel building for unloading waste, recycle containers and an attendant's booth. 40-yard containers are placed below the unloading area floor elevation and the solid waste is dropped directly into the containers without compaction.

Figure 3.1 below shows the location of the Eells Hill Transfer Station and the County's three Drop Box stations.
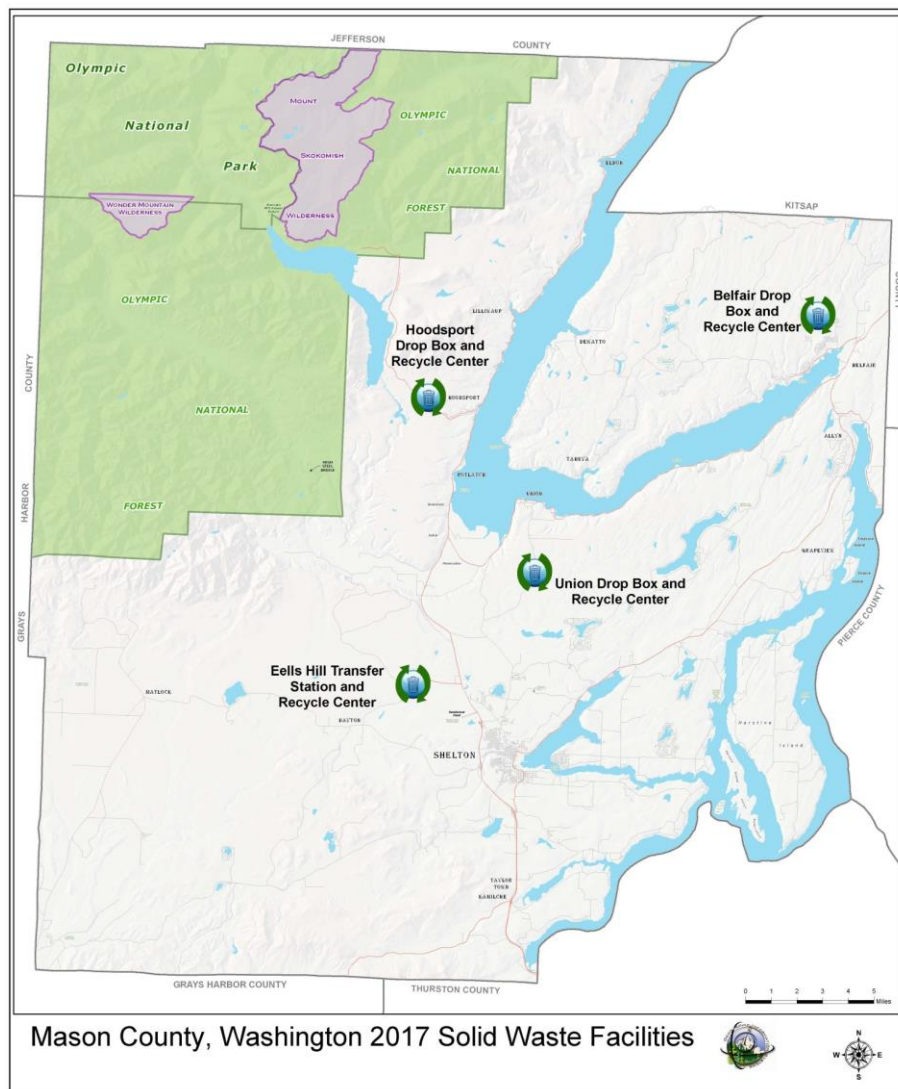

Figure 3.1 Mason County Solid Waste Handling Facilities

3.1.3 Known Landfills Located In Mason County

The Eells Hill landfill is the only County-owned landfill which is closed and is currently undergoing the required 30-year post-closure surveillance and reporting program. Mason County has a contract with Parametrix to monitor the groundwater and complete the formal landfill closure documentation. To date the monitoring program has shown no indication of groundwater-leachate contamination. ~~The monitoring information and results are available for public access on the County's website.~~

There are several other landfills within the County boundary that were owned/operated by private or commercial companies or the City of Shelton.

3.1.3.1 Shelton-Matlock Landfill
This landfill is located in the unincorporated Matlock area. It operated for an unknown period of time prior to its closure in 2001. While the landfill was open, it was receiving wood waste from nearby forest product operations. The landfill has a groundwater monitoring system in place and has been monitored since 1997. It is currently in post-closure stage and has continued to have groundwater monitoring as part of the post-closure agreement. As of early 2017, there is discussion on the potential for this landfill to end its post-closure care due to evidence that suggests the landfill has reached stability.

3.1.3.2 Simpson Dayton Landfill
This landfill is located in the unincorporated Dayton area. This landfill was also operated for an unknown period of time prior to its discontinued use in 2006. The material that was accepted at this site was mostly wood waste and an unlimited amount of wood ash. A groundwater monitoring system has been in place and monitored since 1997. In 2016, the closure process was completed and the application for a post-closure permit was submitted and officially accepted in early 2017. The landfill is now permitted for post-closure care.

3.1.3.3 City of Shelton – C Street Landfill
The C Street landfill is located on a 16.7 acre parcel located southwest of the intersection of West C Street and US Highway 101. The property was acquired by the City in 1928 for use as a municipal landfill. Landfilling operations occurred at the site between 1928 and 1974. After that time, municipal solid waste was sent to the Eells Hill facility to the northwest of Shelton. The City of Shelton has entered into an Agree Order (DE 12929) with the Washington State Department of Ecology and is working with the agency to conduct a Remedial Investigation and Cleanup Action Plan as well as to finalize closure of the facility.

The Owner or Operator of any landfill must provide post-closure activities to allow for continued facility maintenance and monitoring of air, land and water for as long as necessary for the landfill to stabilize to protect human health and the environment. For budgetary planning purposes, the Owner or Operator must plan for a minimum post-closure monitoring period of twenty years. The post-closure monitoring period may end when authorized by the Jurisdictional Health Department (JHD) and approved by the Director of the Department of Ecology.

3.1.4 Surveillance and Control

Mason County Public Works and its employees operate the Eells Hill Transfer Station and all drop box facilities within the County. The Mason County Environmental Health Division (EHD) provides oversight and compliance inspections of all Mason County solid waste facilities. The landfill closure sampling and monitoring program is performed by Parametrix Incorporated.

Required periodic reports for the sampling and monitoring program are provided to Mason County Public Works and forwarded to the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology). The reports are also available electronically on the Mason County Utilities and Waste Management website.

3.2   SERVICE LEVELS

The level of solid waste disposal services ~~provided~~provided, and the associated costs depend on the customer and waste source. As noted above the Eells Hill Transfer Station is a full-service facility accepting deliveries from private businesses, commercial collection route vehicles, commercial drop box vehicles, rural drop box stations and self-hauling public.

3.2.1   Flow Control
Effective April 1st, 2020, Mason County Ordinance No. 20-03 established Flow Control, requiring all solid waste generated within the borders of Mason County to pass through the Eels Hill Transfer Station.

~~3.2.1~~3.2.2   ~~City Provided~~ Services Provided to the City of Shelton
Shelton is the only incorporated city in Mason County. Effective July 1,2017 Mason County Garbage Co. Inc. has been performing all City services for ~~and operates its own garbage collection system that serves~~ approximately 3~~8~~500 residential and business customers within the City limits. Waste and recycling collection in Shelton is mandatory and, while recycling is optional, a recycling fee is included in the garbage rate whether or not the customer elects to recycle. ~~The City~~Mason County Garbage collects five days a week using automated collection trucks to service the routes. ~~This system is efficient and significantly reduces work-related injury associated with waste collection. Effective July 1,2017 Mason County Garbage Co. Inc. will perform all City services.~~

~~The City~~Mason County Garbage provides waste collection carts in a variety of sizes to residents and businesses at no charge. Residents place their carts at the curb or alley on their designated collection day for collection by the ~~City~~ Mason County Garbage crews. ~~The City~~Mason County Garbage offers weekly and biweekly service with extra pickups for an additional fee. All refuse collected in the City is hauled to the County's Eells Hill Transfer Station for disposal.

~~3.2.2~~3.2.3   Franchised Waste Collection Company
One private, franchised service provider, Mason County Garbage Company Co. Inc. provides residential refuse collection in all unincorporated parts of Mason County and to some City of Shelton businesses through agreements with the City. Mason County Garbage Co. Inc. also provides commercial garbage collection service to unincorporated county businesses and others requesting service as noted below.

3.2.3~~2~~.1 National Forest Service and Olympic National Park
Mason County Garbage Co. Inc. collects refuse from Forest Service offices and Olympic National Park Staircase Park.

3.2.3~~2~~.2 Squaxin Island and Skokomish Indian Tribes
The Squaxin Island and Skokomish Indian Tribes contract with Mason County Garbage Co. Inc. to provide garbage service on Tribal lands. Garbage collection is mandatory in Tribal housing for Squaxin and Skokomish residents. Skokomish residents outside of tribal housing voluntarily subscribe to Mason County Garbage Co. Inc. services or self-haul.

3.2.3~~2~~.3 Washington State Patrol Academy
Refuse is collected by Mason County Garbage Co. Inc. and transported to the Eells Hill

Transfer Station Facility for disposal.

For the unincorporated areas Mason County Garbage Co. Inc. collects five days a week using 2215 trucks and drivers each day. Mason County Garbage Co. Inc.Collection uses a combination of automated collection for and manual collection for residential cans and carts and uses specialized trucks for commercial containers.

All Wwaste collected by Mason County Garbage Co. Inc. is currently being disposed of in both Mason and Kitsap County at the Eels Hill Transfer Stationies. Waste collected in north Mason County is being disposed at the transfer station near Bremerton in Kitsap County while waste collected from areas elsewhere in the county is disposed of in the Eells Hill Transfer Station.

3.2.33.2.4 Self-haul

The waste generator is responsible for collecting and transporting refuse to one of the previously described drop box or central transfer stations. Besides the residents in the unincorporated areas of Mason County who do not use Mason County Garbage Co. Inc. services, self-haulers include:

3.2.3.1 National Forest Service & Olympic National Park

Forest Service and Park employees collect refuse within the National Forest or Park boundaries located within Mason County Garbage Co. Inc. service area and transport it to the Eells Hill Transfer Station for disposal. The amount of waste generated peaks during the summer when tourism increases.

3.2.3.2 Washington State facilities

The State of Washington operates several facilities within Mason County. Besides the State Patrol Academy noted above, these include State Parks and the Washington Correction Center. Refuse from the Washington Correction Center and State parks is collected and self-hauled by State employees to the Eells Hill Transfer Station.

3.2.43.2.5 Construction Demolition and Land Clearing Debris (CDL)

Construction Demolition and Land Clearing Debris consists primarily of materials from building demolition or construction projects. Land clearing debris is currently recycled or disposed of at the Eells Hill Transfer Station and/or at private companies in the County.

3.2.53.2.6 Imp
ort/Export

Mason County does not operate a municipal solid waste landfill and therefore does not import any solid waste.   All municipal solid waste generated in the county that is processed at the Eells Hill Transfer Station is trucked to Centralia where it is loaded onto a train and shipped to Klickitat County. The final disposal destination is the Roosevelt Regional Landfill, owned and operated by Republic Services, Inc.the Cowlitz County Landfill located on Headquarters Road Southeast of Castle Rock, WA.

3.3 PERMITS REQUIRED AND ADMINISTRATION METHODS

The operation of solid waste disposal methods, transfer stations, transfer of solid waste, and final solid waste disposal are governed by the regulations contained in Chapter 36.58 RCW. Mason County Public Works and the City of Shelton implement these regulations at the County and City owned facilities through departmental policies and procedures. The long-term contracts for collecting and hauling of solid waste from the County facilities or City of Shelton are governed by Chapter 81.77 RCW.

Mason County EHD is responsible for issuing permits and enforcing county and State regulations governing solid waste handling facilities. These regulations include, but are not limited to solid waste storage, collection, processing, and transfer and disposal requirements pursuant to Mason County Code Chapter 6.72, WAC 173-350, RCW 36.58, RCW 70.93, and RCW 70.95.

The Mason County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan (CSWMP) is a "road map" to manage system wide operations to meet State and County requirements and is also used to determine the need for additional or upgraded facilities. During its facility approval process the Mason County EHD ensures any proposed new solid waste handling facility complies with the approved CSWMP prior to issuance of any permits.

3.4 SOLID WASTE SERVICE COLLECTION RATES

The County sets user fees at the Eells Hill Transfer Station and rural drop box stations. Solid waste operations are an enterprise funded service, and as such, these rates recover the full costs of operating the stations and disposal program. ~~Additionally~~Additionally, rates are used to develop a replacement and repair recovery cost for future operations. No funds from taxes are used to support the solid waste program.

The City of Shelton and ~~The City of Shelton and~~ Mason County Garbage Co. Inc. ha~~ve~~ve several service level options to meet the needs of their customers. In the County options include a smaller can size, every-other week pick up, monthly and on-call services. Within t~~T~~he City o~~ffers~~ptions include weekly and every other week pickups. This allows those who generate less waste to have a lower cost option for collection services.

The Eells Hill Transfer Station is the only one of the four MCSWS facilities with scales to weigh incoming refuse loads. The weight of a load determines the disposal fee. At the Drop Box facilities, costs are based on volume which has been calculated based on a conversion from the per ton rate charged at the Transfer Station. The current (202~~17~~4) cost for transfer and disposal of refuse is $126.69~~93.45~~ per ton (without tax). The actual fee charged to customers using the 4 facilities includes the costs of operations, transfer, disposal, administration, waste reduction and recycling programs, HHW collection and disposal, and solid waste enforcement. A discussion of the solid waste rates, fees and charges follows.

3~~3~~.4.1 City ~~owned~~ rates

~~The City~~Mason County Garbage co. Inc. offers weekly and biweekly service with extra pickups for an additional fee. Table 3.1 details the garbage services and rates for the City of Shelton. Rates are without tax.

Table 3.1 Monthly Sanitation Service Charge for Residential** Service

Gallons	Pickup	March ~~2015~~	~~March~~ August 2015	~~August 2015~~January	January ~~2016~~2024
35	Every other week	$1~~1.57~~2.40	$1~~2.40~~3.29	$1~~3.29~~4.25	$14.~~25~~81
65	Every other week	$1~~6.47~~7.66	$1~~7.66~~8.93	$1~~8.93~~20.29	$2~~0.29~~1.07
65	Weekly	$3~~1.15~~33	$3~~3.39~~5.7	$3~~5.79~~38.	$3~~38.37~~9.
95	Every other week	$2~~4.38~~26.14	$2~~6.14~~8.02	$2~~8.02~~30.04	$3~~0.04~~1.21

| 95 | Weekly | $43.7146 | $46.8650. | $50.2353. | $53.855.9 |
| 300 | Weekly | $95.8410 | $102.7411 | $110.148.0 | $118.0722. |

**customer count includes single family, duplex and multifamily units
[From City of Shelton Municipal Code, 8.08.110]

Table 3.2 Monthly Service Charge for Commercial Pickup
Based on Container Volume 1X per week pick up

Gallons	March 20154	MarchAug 2015	AugustJanuar 20165	January 202416
65	$19.6621.08	$21.0822.6	$22.6024.23	$24.2325.38
95	$29.4831.60	$31.6033.8	$33.8836.32	$36.3238.06
300	$91.1397.69	$97.69104.	$104.72112.2	$112.26117.61

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The City of Shelton customers are also offeredperates a voluntary yard waste recycling service. For $5.50 15 a month City of Shelton utility customers enjoy biweekly pickup of a 95-gallon container provided to the site. The program can accept nearly all common green waste (no food scraps). Extra pickups may be accommodated for $5.50 15 per container. Currently the program has 471 982 customers.

3.4.2 Franchised waste collection company rates

Table 3.3 details the garbage service levels and rates for Mason County Garbage Co. Inc. service. These rates include recycling pick up. Rates do not reflect the recycling commodity credit which is $ 0.61 effective November 1, 2016. For more information on the recycling commodity credit: www.utc.wa.gov.

Table 3.3 Current Mason County Garbage Service Level and Associated Rates

Number of Units or Type of Containers	Frequency of Service	Garbage Service Rate / month	Recycle Service Rate / month	Garbage + Recycle Rate / month
1-32	W	$ 15.61	$9.16	$ 24.77
2-32	W	$ 23.33	$9.16	$ 32.49
3-32	W	$ 31.47	$9.16	$ 40.63
4-32	W	$ 40.36	$9.16	$ 49.52
5-32	W	$ 48.28	$9.16	$ 57.44
6-32	W	$ 56.07	$9.16	$ 65.23
1-45	W	$ 20.99	$9.16	$ 30.15
1-32	EOW	$ 8.94	$9.16	$ 18.10
2-32	EOW	$ 14.36	$9.16	$ 23.52
1-32	MO	$ 4.94	$9.16	$ 14.10
Mini	W	$ 13.16	$9.16	$ 22.32
Recycling	EOW		$9.81	

Number of Units or Type of Containers	Frequency of Service	Garbage Service Rate	Recycle Service Rate	Garbage + Recycle Rate
Automated Carts:				
35 Gl.	W	$21.0017.92	$9.001	$ 27.0830.00
48 Gl.	W	$22.7526.73	$9.001	$ 31.9135.73
64 Gl.	W	$27.8532.27	$9.001	$ 37.0141.27
96 Gl.	W	$34.6240.91	$9.001	$ 43.7849.91
35 Gl.	EOW	$10.6712.32	$9.001	$ 19.8321.32
48 Gl.	EOW	$14.1216.25	$9.001	$ 23.2825.25
64 Gl.	EOW	$16.8719.25	$9.001	$ 26.0328.25
96 Gl.	EOW	$21.0824.42	$9.001	$ 30.2433.42
35 Gl.	MO	$6.367.20	$9.001	$ 15.5216.20
48 Gl.	MO	$7.979.02	$9.001	$ 17.1318.02
64 Gl.	MO	$9.4210.60	$9.001	$ 18.5819.60

96 Gl.	MO	$~~11.59~~13.22	$~~9.16~~9.	$ ~~20.75~~22.22

Notes: under frequency, "W" indicates one service per week; "EOW" means every other week; "MO" means once per month

~~Table 3.4 Mason County Customers Whose Garbage is Disposed in Kitsap County~~

~~Number of Units or Type of Containers~~	~~Frequency of Service~~	~~Garbage Service Rate~~	~~Recycle Service Rate~~	~~Garbage + Recycle Rate~~
~~1-32~~	~~W~~	~~$14.50~~	~~$9.16~~	~~$23.66~~
~~2-32~~	~~W~~	~~$21.34~~	~~$9.16~~	~~$30.50~~
~~3-32~~	~~W~~	~~$28.36~~	~~$9.16~~	~~$37.52~~
~~4-32~~	~~W~~	~~$36.13~~	~~$9.16~~	~~$45.29~~
~~5-32~~	~~W~~	~~$43.14~~	~~$9.16~~	~~$52.30~~
~~6-32~~	~~W~~	~~$49.90~~	~~$9.16~~	~~$59.06~~
~~1-45~~	~~W~~	~~$19.03~~	~~$9.16~~	~~$28.19~~
~~1-32~~	~~EOW~~	~~$8.38~~	~~$9.16~~	~~$17.54~~
~~2-32~~	~~EOW~~	~~$13.37~~	~~$9.16~~	~~$22.53~~
~~1-32~~	~~MO~~	~~$4.68~~	~~$9.16~~	~~$13.84~~
~~Mini~~	~~W~~	~~$12.32~~	~~$9.16~~	~~$21.48~~
~~Recycling~~	~~EOW~~		~~$9.81~~	

~~Number of Units or Type of Containers~~	~~Frequency of Service~~	~~Garbage Service Rate~~	~~Recycle Service Rate~~	~~Recycle Service Rate~~
~~Automated Carts:~~				
~~35 Gl.~~	~~W~~	~~$ 16.58~~	~~$9.16~~	~~$ 25.74~~
~~48 Gl.~~	~~W~~	~~$ 20.68~~	~~$9.16~~	~~$ 29.84~~
~~64 Gl.~~	~~W~~	~~$ 24.76~~	~~$9.16~~	~~$ 33.92~~
~~96 Gl.~~	~~W~~	~~$ 31.18~~	~~$9.16~~	~~$ 40.34~~
~~35 Gl.~~	~~EOW~~	~~$ 9.98~~	~~$9.16~~	~~$ 19.14~~
~~48 Gl.~~	~~EOW~~	~~$ 13.15~~	~~$9.16~~	~~$ 22.31~~
~~64 Gl.~~	~~EOW~~	~~$ 15.66~~	~~$9.16~~	~~$ 24.82~~
~~96 Gl.~~	~~EOW~~	~~$ 19.48~~	~~$9.16~~	~~$ 28.64~~
~~35 Gl.~~	~~MO~~	~~$ 6.04~~	~~$9.16~~	~~$ 15.20~~
~~48 Gl.~~	~~MO~~	~~$ 7.56~~	~~$9.16~~	~~$ 16.72~~
~~64 Gl.~~	~~MO~~	~~$ 8.90~~	~~$9.16~~	~~$ 18.06~~
~~96 Gl.~~	~~MO~~	~~$ 10.87~~	~~$9.16~~	~~$ 20.03~~

~~Notes: under frequency, "W" indicates one service per week; "EOW" means every other week; "MO" means once per month~~

3.4.3 Self-Haul Rates

Mason County residents and businesses can haul solid waste directly to the Eels Hill Transfer Station or the rural drop box facilities to dispose of the waste themselves. Table 3.~~4~~6 lists the various costs for disposal of solid waste which is based on amount and type of waste. The disposal of recyclable materials at these locations is provided at no charge. Eells Hill has a scale which allows cost to be based on weight for heavy loads. The rural drop box stations do not have scales so the cost is based on volume instead.

Table 3.4~~6~~ Current Mason County Self-Haul Disposal Rates
The 2024~~17~~ Disposal Rates at the Mason County Solid Waste Facilities are as follows:
(Refuse Collection Tax is 3.6% of the untaxed rates)

Item	Shelton Transfer Station:	Hoodsport, Belfair, & Union:
Solid Waste (Per ton at Shelton, cy drop box)	$126.69~~93.45~~/ton	$ 19.16~~25.98~~ / CY
Minimum Fee		$20.55~~15.16~~
	$ 19.16~~25.98~~	
1 Can / Bag (32 Gal)	$5.07~~6.86~~	$ 5.06~~6.86~~
2 Cans / Bags (32 Gal)	$10.09~~13.68~~	$ 10.11~~13.68~~
3 Cans / Bags (32 Gal)	$11.62~~15.77~~	$ 11.63~~15.76~~
4 Cans / Bags (32 Gal)	$13.11~~17.77~~	$ 13.15~~17.77~~
5 Cans / Bags (32 Gal)		$ 15.17~~20.55~~
6 Cans / Bags (32 Gal)		$ 16.68~~22.61~~
1 55-gal drum	$93.45~~126.69~~/ton	$ 10.11~~13.70~~
2 55-gal drums		$ 13.65~~8.51~~
3 55-gal drums		$ 16.68~~22.62~~
Misc. large bulky items	$5.07~~6.86~~	$ 19.16~~25.98~~
Appliance w/Refrigerant	$10.09~~3.68~~	NA~~$ 25.29~~
Tire with Rim (1 only)	$5.07~~6.86~~	$ 17.59~~23.84~~
Each additional Tire with Rim		$ 5.06~~6.86~~
Tire without Rim (1 only)	$3.02~~5.10~~	$ 5.06~~6.86~~
Each additional Tire without Rim		$ 3.03~~4.11~~
Auto Battery	$1.54~~2.66~~	$ 1.54~~2.33~~
Recyclable Scrap Metal		$ 5.06~~6.86~~ / per 32 gal
Cubic Yard Waste	$16.16~~21.90~~	

3.5 EXISTING OPERATIONAL PRACTICES

3.5.1 Eells Hill Transfer Station Operations

Currently, Mason County is not openly accepting solid waste from outside of its county borders. ~~However~~However, this is not actively monitored at the four waste handling facilities and non-resident, self-haul customers could be using the facilities, although this is not believed to be a significant source of refuse brought to the facilities.

~~In 1993, a competitive bidding process for final disposal services was conducted by Thurston, Lewis and Grays Harbor Counties with the provision that near-by counties could select to be included in the bidding process. Mason County took advantage of that process and Republic Services Inc. was selected to own, provide, and operate facilities to transport and dispose of waste for the Counties.~~

Under the contract, solid waste is transported from the Eells Hill Transfer Station in transfer trailers by LeMay Inc., a subcontractor for Republic Services Inc., to Lewis County. It is then transferred to rail cars and taken to the Roosevelt Regional Landfill (owned and operated by Republic Services Inc.) in Klickitat County, Washington.

At contract award, Mason County negotiated a 5-year contract with Republic Services Inc. including options for automatic renewal up to 20 years. In 1994 the contract was modified to include the use of rail transportation. An addendum to the contract in 1997 extended the life of the contract through 2012. In 2012 the County executed a new contract extension to continue the operation until 2020. In 2015, 30,063 tons of solid waste was transferred for disposal by Republic Services.

Users of the Eells Hill Transfer Station have the ability to divert wastes from disposal by separating clean yard trimmings, scrap metal and household items such as cans, paper, cardboard, plastic and glass bottles for recycling. The Eells Hill Transfer Station also accepts used clothing and limited HHW. These programs are discussed in detail in Chapters 4 and 5 of this Plan.

3.5.2 Drop Box Station Operations
The operating schedule for drop box stations are currently as follows:
- Belfair Drop Box   Tuesday – Sunaturday   9am – 3:304pm
- Union Drop Box   Saturunday, Monday   9am – 4pm
- Hoodsport Drop Box   Friday, Sunaturday   9am – 4pm

Drop box stations are closed New Year's Day, Martin Luther King's Birthday, President's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving and the day after, and Christmas.

Drop box stations are only available for residential and small business self-haul loads and do not accept large commercial loads of refuse or construction debris. Refuse is dumped into 40-yard lidded containers which minimize escaping airborne litter and entry by scavengers. Solid Waste from the rural drop box stations is hauled by County Solid Waste employees, or by contract with Mason County Garbage Co. Inc. to the Eells Hill Transfer Station.

3.6 FACILITIES SITING REVIEW
RCW 70.95 states that each County or City siting a solid waste disposal facility shall review each potential site for conformance with identified standards. No A new municipal solid waste disposal facility in the Belfair area of the county is anticipated to occur sometime within the over the next twenty years. but new or replacement of existing solid waste handling facilities may occur in the next twenty years. and will be A new or replacement solid waste handling facility should be reviewed according to identified standards required by RCW 70.95.

3.7 Needs and Opportunities

> 3.7.1   Flow control needs further evaluation to keep waste currently going to other counties in the Mason County system.

> 3.7.23.7.1   Upgrades and improvements to the Eells Hill Transfer Station and the Drop Box Stations detailed in the Parametrix Inc. report (Appendix A) should be completed to assure user safety and maximize efficienciesthe efficiency of the existing facilities.

3.7.3   Prior to the expiration of the hauling contract with Republic Services, the County should evaluate the potential benefits of having a private contractor take over operations of facilities as well as providing hauling services.