



## **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, SOLID WASTE DIVISION**

**1834 EAST MAIN STREET • QUINCY, CA 95971 • (530) 283-6268**

*Robert A. Perreault, Jr., P.E., Director of Public Works*

### **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

**PROPOSED FEE INCREASE FOR DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTE  
AS OPERATED BY FRANCHISE CONTRACTOR FEATHER RIVER DISPOSAL  
(A DIVISION OF USA WASTE CALIFORNIA, INC., A DELAWARE CORPORATION)  
FOR RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL CUSTOMERS  
UNDER CONTRACT, i.e., SUBSCRIPTION, FOR CURBSIDE PICKUP**

A fee increase is being proposed in accordance with Plumas County Code “Sec. 6-10.208 - Fee schedule for collection, transfer, and related services” (i.e., Section 6-10.208 of Article 2 of Chapter 10 of Title 6 of the Plumas County Code) and in accordance with “Article 12.04, Refuse Rate Index – Adjustment to the Rates,” as set forth in the Solid Waste Franchise Contract, dated March 31, 2017, between Plumas County and Feather River Disposal. Said proposed fee increase has been calculated as a culmination of a Cost of Services Rate Study, 2018 “Refuse Rate Index” (“RRI”) (Prepared from Calendar Year 2017 Financial Statements), and 2019 “RRI” (Prepared from Calendar Year 2018 Financial Statements) in the amount of 17.22% for residential curbside solid waste pickup and 9.53% for commercial curbside solid waste pickup. Said proposed fee increase in the amount of 17.22% for residential curbside solid waste pickup and 9.53% for commercial curbside solid waste pickup is proposed by the Plumas County Franchise Contract Administrator (Director of Public Works).

Pursuant to this Notice, the Plumas County Board of Supervisors will conduct a Public Hearing, on a proposed fee increase on August 6, 2019, beginning at 1:00 PM, in the Board of Supervisors Meeting Room, located in the Courthouse (Room 308) at 520 Main Street, Quincy, California.

Following the Public Hearing, the Board of Supervisors will immediately consider a replacement of current Resolution 17-8228 with a proposed revised Resolution to include the proposed fee increase of up to 17.22% for residential curbside solid waste pickup and 9.53% for commercial curbside solid waste pickup.

If adopted by the Board of Supervisors on August 6, 2019, the proposed new rates will become effective on August 7, 2019.

The following additional information is pertinent:

- This Public Notice pertains only to Franchise Service Area 1, as depicted in Attachment B-1 (follow link to view: <https://ca-plumascounty2.civicplus.com/2616/17509/Public-Documents>) to the above mentioned Franchise Contract. The Franchise Contractor for Franchise Service Area 1 is Feather River Disposal, with headquarters located at 1166 Industrial Way, Quincy, CA 95971.

- This proposed fee increase is applicable only to residential and commercial customers under contract, i.e., subscription, for curbside pickup by the Franchise Contractor.
- A copy of the entire proposed revised fee schedule is enclosed.
- The proposed rate change is necessary because the Franchise Agreement provides for an “Operating Ratio” (net operating costs divided by the contractor’s net income should be in a range of 88.00% to 92.00%. However, based on audited financial statements provided by the Franchise Operator, the costs of operation have risen since the rates were last adjusted such that the operating ratio no longer falls within that targeted range. In addition, a Cost of Service Study revealed that commercial customers were paying a higher rate than residential customers for comparable services. Therefore, the rate increase for commercial customers is less than that for residential customers so that the rates between the two may be equalized.
- The data upon which the proposed rates are based (consisting of the audited financial statements referred to above, the Cost of Service Study) and the calculation of the rate adjustment (the Refuse Rate Index reports) are available for inspection at 1834 E Main Street, Quincy, CA 95971 between the hours of 8am – 5pm, Monday through Friday, or may be viewed on the Plumas County website at: <https://ca-plumascounty2.civicplus.com/2616/17509/Public-Documents>

- **RATE INCREASE PROCEDURE**

The process of raising rates is controlled by the provisions of the California Constitution, Article XIII D, Section 6, Subdivisions (a) and (c), enacted by Proposition 218 in 1996. In summary, the process of raising rates is as follows:

The proposed fee increase has been calculated as a culmination of a Cost of Services Rate Study, 2018 “Refuse Rate Index” (“RRI”) (Prepared from Calendar Year 2017 Audited Financial Statements), and 2019 “RRI” (prepared from Calendar Year 2018 Audited Financial Statements) in the amount of 17.22% for residential curbside solid waste pickup and 9.53% for commercial curbside solid waste pickup.

The Board of Supervisors will hold a Public Hearing to receive written protests and consider adopting new fee schedule. This Public Hearing may be held no sooner than 45 days following mailing of this written notice to all curbside subscription customers within Franchise Service Area 1. If a majority protest does not occur, the Board may vote to adopt the new rate schedule at the August 6, 2019, Public Hearing.

- **RATE PROTEST PROCEDURE**

Subscription customers within Franchise Service Area 1 wishing to protest the proposed fee increase must do so in writing. Letters may be mailed to the Plumas County Department of Public Works office at: 1834 East Main Street, Quincy, CA 95971 or written protests may be submitted in person at the August 6, 2019 Public Hearing. All written protests must be received prior to the start of the Public Hearing.



All protests must include the following minimum information:

- The curbside subscription customer's signature and date;
- The curbside subscription customer's name printed or typed under the signature;
- The address or assessor parcel number of the property with curbside service;
- A written statement that the author of the protest letter is the subscription customer of the property with curbside service;
- A written statement that the letter constitutes a protest to the proposed fee increase.

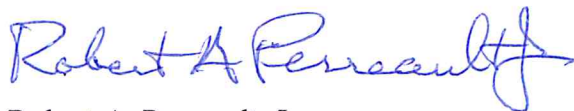
If the County receives written protests from a majority of curbside subscription customers within Franchise Area 1, it cannot adopt the proposed fees.

In the event that a majority protest does not occur, following the Public Hearing, the Board of Supervisors may vote to adopt the new fee schedule.

Adoption of a new fee schedule may not occur at the August 6, 2019, Public Hearing if time is needed to verify and count letters of protest.

- This Public Notice is not applicable to customers for residential and commercial customers at self-haul to Plumas County Transfer Stations located in Chester, Greenville, La Porte and Quincy. A separate published notification process and public hearing is required for customers that self-haul to Transfer Stations.

If adopted by the Board of Supervisors on August 6, 2019, the effective date of the revised Resolution will be a date to be determined by FRD/Solid Waste Staff but will be no sooner than, August 7, 2019.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Robert A. Perreault, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Robert A. Perreault, Jr.  
Director of Public Works, and  
Franchise Contract Administrator  
Plumas County

June 18, 2019



**EXHIBIT A - FEATHER RIVER DISPOSAL FEE SCHEDULE FOR COLLECTION, TRANSFER AND RELATED SOLID WASTE SERVICES**

2017 Cost of Service (COS) Rate Study (8.96% Residential, 1.81% Commercial, 4.87% Transfer Station)

2018 Proposed Refuse Rate Adjustment (2.69%)

2019 Proposed Refuse Rate Adjustment (4.76%)

| Description of Service                          | Current  | Adjusted |
|---|----------|----------|
| <b>Residential Base Rate</b>                    |          |          |
| One can per week                                | \$18.07  | \$21.18  |
| Two cans per week                               | \$25.13  | \$29.46  |
| Three cans per week                             | N/A      | N/A      |
| 64-gallon waste wheeler                         | \$24.71  | \$28.96  |
| 100-gallon waste wheeler                        | \$32.03  | \$37.54  |
|   |          |          |
| <b>Residential Large Items</b>                  |          |          |
| Washer, dryer, standard fridge, single mattress | \$17.70  | \$20.75  |
| Deep freezer, double mattress                   | \$35.24  | \$41.31  |
| Tire - 16" or less                              | \$3.90   | \$4.57   |
| Tire - 16.1" to 20"                             | \$7.53   | \$8.83   |
| Tire - 20" or more                              | \$17.70  | \$20.75  |
|   |          |          |
| <b>Residential Account Start-up Fee</b>         | \$7.53   | \$8.83   |
|   |          |          |
| <b>Commercial Base Rate</b>                     |          |          |
| One cubic yard bin (one per week)               | \$75.44  | \$82.63  |
| One cubic yard bin (twice per week)             | \$150.66 | \$165.01 |
| One cubic yard bin (three per week)             | \$226.47 | \$248.04 |
| One cubic yard bin (four per week)              | \$302.01 | \$330.78 |
| One cubic yard bin (five per week)              | \$377.56 | \$413.52 |
| Each additional CY per collection               | \$20.28  | \$22.21  |
| One can per week                                | \$23.18  | \$25.39  |
| Two cans per week                               | \$28.50  | \$31.21  |
| Three cans per week                             | \$33.72  | \$36.93  |
| Four cans per week                              | \$39.04  | \$42.76  |
| 64-gallon waste wheeler                         | \$28.50  | \$31.21  |
| 100-gallon waste wheeler                        | \$39.04  | \$42.76  |
|   |          |          |
| <b>Special Travel Charge (per hour)</b>         | \$81.71  | \$89.49  |
|   |          |          |
| <b>Bin delivery charge (per bin)</b>            | \$50.31  | \$55.10  |
|   |          |          |
| <b>Transfers Station Unload Fees</b>            |          |          |
| Two cans or standard containers                 | \$7.53   | \$8.50   |
| Three cans or standard containers               | \$11.96  | \$13.49  |
| Four cans or standard containers                | \$15.70  | \$17.71  |
| Station Wagon                                   | \$16.28  | \$18.37  |
| Compact Truck                                   | \$20.23  | \$22.82  |

*\*Rate adjustment not final until voted on by Plumas County Board of Supervisors*

**EXHIBIT A - FEATHER RIVER DISPOSAL FEE SCHEDULE FOR COLLECTION, TRANSFER AND RELATED SOLID WASTE SERVICES**

2017 Cost of Service (COS) Rate Study (8.96% Residential, 1.81% Commercial, 4.87% Transfer Station)

2018 Proposed Refuse Rate Adjustment (2.69%)

2019 Proposed Refuse Rate Adjustment (4.76%)

| Description of Service                               | Current | Adjusted |
|--|---------|----------|
| Compact Truck with Side Boards                       | \$25.87 | \$29.19  |
| Standard Size Pickup Truck                           | \$24.71 | \$27.88  |
| Standard Size Pickup Truck with Side Boards          | \$30.92 | \$34.88  |
| Larger Trucks (per CY)                               | \$17.44 | \$19.68  |
|  |         |          |
| <b>Transfer Station - Large and Restricted Items</b> |         |          |
| Washer, dryer, standard fridge, single mattress      | \$14.01 | \$15.81  |
| Deep freezer, double mattress                        | \$25.34 | \$28.59  |
| Tire - 16" or less                                   | \$3.11  | \$3.51   |
| Tire - 16.1" to 20"                                  | \$6.27  | \$7.07   |
| Tire - 20" or more                                   | \$13.91 | \$15.69  |
|  |         |          |
| <b>Tree Stumps</b>                                   |         |          |
| 12 inches or less                                    | \$20.23 | \$22.82  |
| 13 inches to 24 inches                               | \$40.51 | \$45.70  |
| Greater than 24 inches                               | \$60.74 | \$68.53  |
|  |         |          |
| <b>Cathode Ray Monitor or TV</b>                     | \$3.32  | \$3.75   |
|  |         |          |
| <b>Compacted Loads (per ton)</b>                     | \$81.50 | \$91.95  |

*\*Rate adjustment not final until voted on by Plumas County Board of Supervisors*