

See AO 2008-52(s)

Submitted by: Chair of Assembly at the
Request of the Mayor
Prepared by: Solid Waste Services
For reading: March 25, 2008

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

AO No. 2008- 52

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 26.70 TO ADD A NEW SECTION ESTABLISHING VARIABLE GARBAGE COLLECTION RATES FOR AUTOMATED COLLECTION ROUTES

THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY ORDAINS:

Section 1. Anchorage Municipal Code chapter 26.70 is amended to establish variable refuse collection rates based on refuse volumes for refuse collection utility customers receiving service on automated collection routes. Anchorage Municipal Code section 26.70.040, Service requests, rates and billing, is amended to read as follows (*the remainder of the section is not affected and therefore not set out*):

26.70.040 **Service requests, rates and billing.**

C. *Rates, fees and charges.* Notwithstanding section 26.10.035, the following rates, fees and charges shall be assessed for municipal solid waste collection:

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5. *Automated can or bag service.*

a. *Basic monthly charge.*

This rate covers the weekly collection of refuse collection units, and bi-weekly collection of recyclable collection units on collection routes designated by the Director to be automated collection routes. Each customer receiving refuse collection service on a designated automated collection route shall subscribe to a service level based on standard refuse volumes as designated in this section. Multiple-family residential units; mobile home or trailer courts with more than one trailer or mobile home; or business establishments shall pay the elected subscription rate per occupancy unit. Subscription rates shall be:

Subscription Volume for Refuse Collection	Monthly Service Charge
32 gallons	\$14.35
64 gallons	\$22.95
96 gallons	\$31.55
Additional Volume	\$8.60 / 32-gallon increment

Customers who do not select a subscription volume shall be assigned a default subscription volume of 64 gallons per week, and shall be billed accordingly.

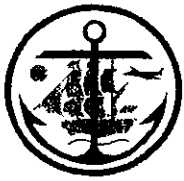
b. *Terms of service.*

1. The refuse collection utility shall provide each customer receiving service on a designated automated collection route with roll cart refuse container(s) of volume equal to the subscription volume elected by the customer. The utility shall also provide one roll cart container for collection of recyclable materials. Roll carts shall be unique in color or labeling such that refuse collection and recyclable collection are readily distinguishable.
 - a. Each container will be designated by a unique serial number which shall be assigned to the customer's account. Upon initiation of service, one set of containers shall be provided at no charge to the customer.
 - b. Customers shall be allowed to change the volume of his/her refuse collection subscription at no charge within 180 days of initiation of service. If the customer elects to change the volume of his/her after that date, the utility shall charge a \$30.00 Change in Service fee per occurrence to cover the cost of cart delivery and account upgrades.
2. The customer shall place roll carts for refuse and recyclables collection at the curbside or alley within three feet of the drivable roadway or alley with a minimum of 3 feet of clearance from any pole, mailbox, vehicle, roll cart, snow berm or other obstruction on any side. Customers shall be responsible for clearing snow or other obstructions limiting access to the collection containers.
3. All refuse and recyclables shall be collected from roll carts provided by the collection utility only. Any waste material not contained within the designated refuse roll cart provided by the refuse collection utility with the lid tightly closed shall be considered excess refuse.
 - a. Wastes in addition to the volume of the provided roll cart must be contained in a closed bag, and shall be collected by separate pickup.
 - b. Customers with excess or oversized refuse shall be charged \$10.00 per pickup plus the greater of either \$2.00 per bag or can of 32-gallon equivalent size or the current disposal rate by volume basis for a minimum of one cubic yard of uncompacted refuse.
 - c. Roll carts with refuse exceeding the designed container volume by either protruding above the rim of the container so as to prohibit tightly closing the lid, or stacked on top of the lid shall be charged for excess pickup as prescribed in item 3.b. of this section. The collections operator may elect to refuse service to any overfilled container which cannot, in his sole opinion, be emptied without potentially spilling refuse to the ground.
 - d. Reloading of carts while being serviced is not permitted.

- Section 3.** This ordinance shall be effective July 1, 2008.

Chair

Municipal Clerk



MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

ASSEMBLY MEMORANDUM

AM No. 211.2008

Meeting Date: March 25, 2008

From: Mayor

Subject: An Ordinance Amending Anchorage Municipal Code Chapter 26.70 to Add a New Section Establishing Variable Garbage Collection Rates for Automated Collection Routes

The Solid Waste Services Department (SWS) intends to establish variable collection rates, also known as "Pay-As-You-Throw" (PAYT) rates for its refuse collection utility. These rates will affect refuse utility customers currently receiving conventional can or bag collection service as defined in Section C.1 of this ordinance. The intent of this ordinance is to set collection rates which are proportional to the amount of refuse each customer intends to generate. PAYT rates will be implemented in conjunction with automated garbage collection and curbside recycling.

Under the PAYT rate structure, each customer will elect a garbage volume commensurate with the amount of refuse they expect to generate. The customer will then subscribe to monthly service based on that volume. Refuse subscription volumes will be in 32-gallon increments which correspond to an industry-standard garbage can volume. The refuse collection utility will provide roll carts to each household equal to the volume elected. For the price of their subscription, each household will receive weekly garbage collection service as well as bi-weekly collection of recyclable materials. The refuse collections utility will service only carts distributed by the utility within this fee structure.

In addition to garbage service, the refuse collection utility will provide each customer with a roll cart container for recyclable materials. The refuse and recycle containers will be of different color or otherwise clearly marked so as to be readily identified by the customers and collections staff. Recyclables will be collected as a "single stream", whereby, all recyclable materials accepted by the program will be commingled in the same collections container, and later separated by the recycling agency. Customers will be given educational materials identifying what materials are acceptable to the program, what conditions would preclude these materials from being accepted to the program, and items which are specifically excluded from the program. At this time, the only recyclable container currently recycled in Anchorage which would not be acceptable to the curbside program will be glass.

PAYT rates are intended to encourage reduction in refuse generation as well as to encourage recycling. The ordinance includes several rules and imposes additional fees to encourage customers to abide by the program. Rules such as added fees for overfilling the garbage container or placing materials to the curb outside the prescribed container are intended to ensure that customers actually pay for the service received. If a customer routinely produces more than their subscribed volume, it will become rapidly apparent that they either need to subscribe to a larger container volume or reduce the volume of trash they produce.

Likewise, provisions are included to allow the utility to randomly inspect recycle containers for non-recyclable products. The success of the program is dependent on collection of a high quality recyclable stream. Excessive contamination with materials which should not be placed in the recycle container significantly reduces the value of the collected materials. Additionally, customers who produce more refuse than their subscribed volume may be tempted to place excess refuse (not necessarily recyclable materials) into the recycle container. Fees are intended to discourage that behavior.

1 The initial roll out of this program will affect approximately 3,500 customers or about 30 percent
2 the SWS Collection Utility can or bag collection customers. Because a program of this nature
3 has never been attempted within the Municipality, the implementation and fee structure are
4 based on numerous assumptions, and may need revision as the program becomes more
5 established. Concepts such as containers smaller than 32-gallon, or bi-weekly refuse service to
6 encourage greater recycle participation or garbage reduction may be considered in future
7 modifications of the program.

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9 Finally, the cornerstone of the program is the use of automated collections vehicles to replace
10 current manual garbage collection. Refuse collection workers currently handle and lift over
11 1,000 garbage containers at over 400 stops per shift. Automated refuse collections have been
12 shown to reduce worker compensation claims by over 90 percent, while increasing collections
13 productivity by as much as 30 percent. Automated collection trucks are designed to lift
14 containers ranging in size from 32 gallons to in excess of 96 gallons, and weights exceeding 300
15 pounds. SWS will phase in automated trucks as routine replacement for equipment currently
16 used for manual can or bag collection, much of which has exceeded has exceeded routine
17 replacement cycles.

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21 Recommended by: Mark G. Madden, Director, Solid Waste Services
22 Concur: Wanda J. Phillips, Director, OMB
23 Concur: Sharon Weddleton, CFO
24 Concur: James N. Reeves, Municipal Attorney
25 Concur: Michael Abbott, Municipal Manager
26 Respectfully submitted: Mark Begich, Mayor
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