
Department of Solid Waste Services

Anchorage: Performance. Value. Results.

Mission

Providing safe, efficient, and innovative solid waste management for the Municipality of Anchorage.

Vision

Advancing solid waste management through continuous improvement and transparent performance.

Values

Providing value to our community through safe, innovative, and sustainable solid waste management.

Core Services

- Provide dumpster service to commercial and multifamily residential customers.
- Provide automated garbage, curbside recycle collection, and disposal to residential customers.
- Provide transfer station and landfill disposal services for the entire community of Anchorage.
- Support and promote energy efficient and sustainable practices for all residents throughout the community.

Accomplishment Goals

- Subsidize Disposal Utility operations with revenue collected from landfill gas sales to keep rates lower for a longer period of time.
- Extend the life of the Anchorage Regional Landfill by increasing the ratio of inbound garbage to dirt placed as daily cover. The less dirt used to cover garbage means more space available at the landfill.
- Extend the useful life of the landfill as far in the future as possible by improving recycling and operational performance on a continuous basis. The longer the landfill stays open the cheaper the cost is to dispose of material in Anchorage.

Performance Measures

Progress in achieving these goals is measured by:

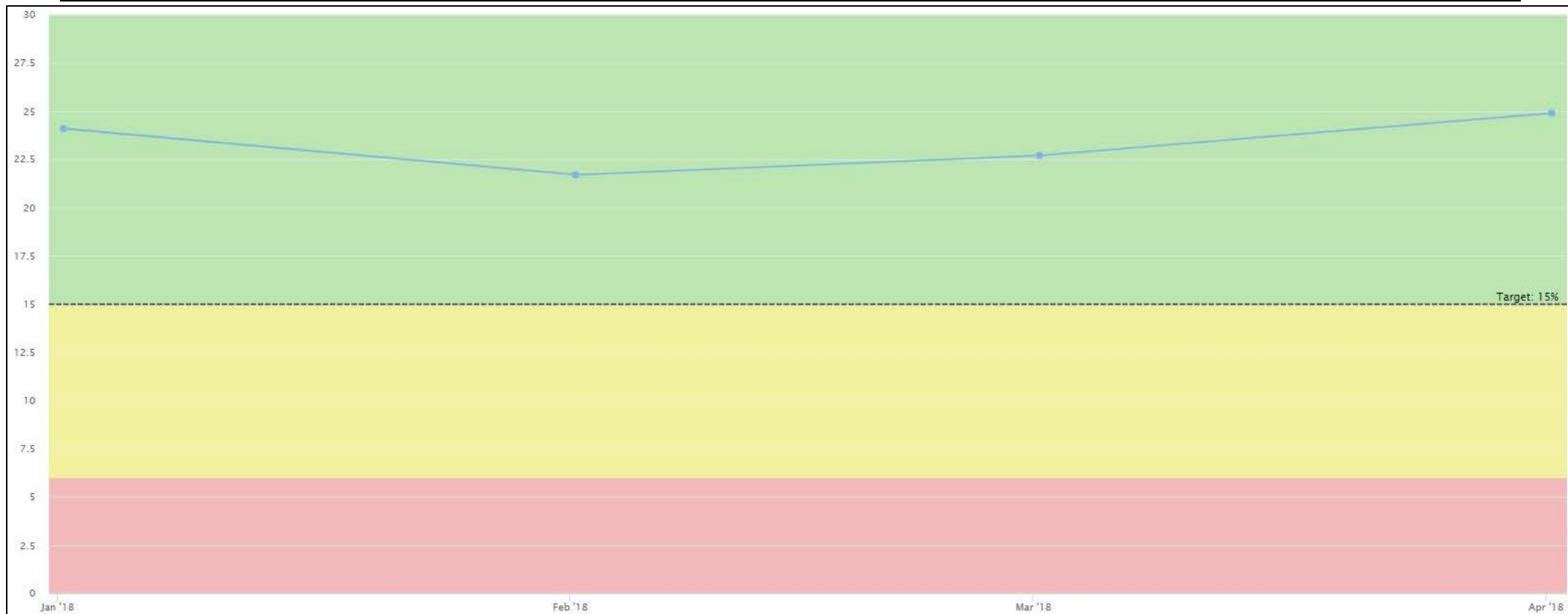
- Landfill Gas Revenue as a percent of Disposal Utility Operations Costs;
- Garbage to Dirt Ratio; and,
- Landfill Closure Date.

The following pages provide actual data which quantify these measures.

For more information on the performance indicators SWS has developed, please visit:

<https://acak.statwindow.com>

Measure #1: Disposal Costs Offset by Landfill Gas Revenue



This measure is calculated by dividing the revenue from selling landfill gas by the amount it costs to dispose of waste. SWS has set a target goal of > 15% indicated by the dashed line in the above line graph.

Quarter 1 Data – Disposal Costs Offset: 23%

SWS collects gas generated from the decomposing solid waste in the landfill. Collected gas is sold to Doyon Utilities to provide electricity to the Army side of Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson. The revenue from selling landfill gas is used to subsidize disposal costs, therefore SWS customer rates are kept lower for a longer period of time.

Measure #2: Garbage to Dirt Ratio



This measure is calculated by dividing the total tons of solid waste received at the landfill by the total tons of dirt used to cover the garbage on a daily basis and displayed as a ratio.

SWS has set a target goal of 1.4 indicated by the dashed line in the above line graph.

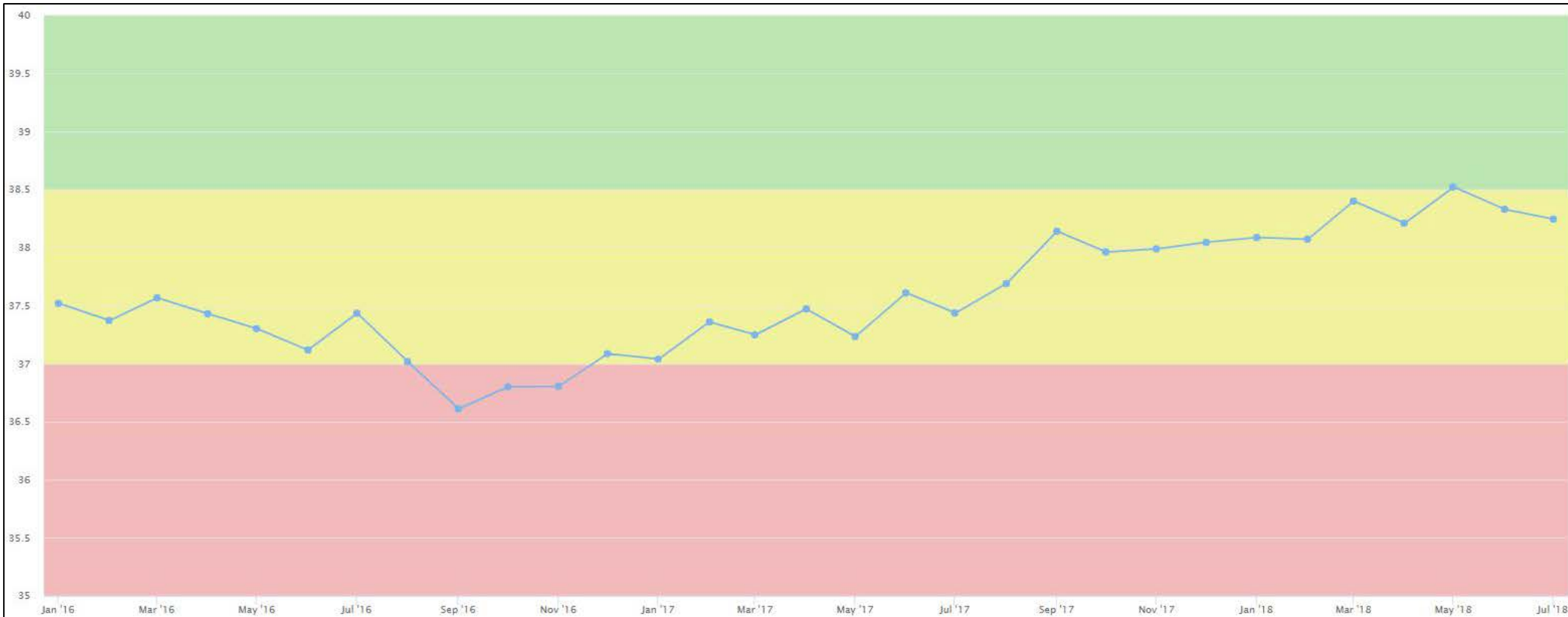
Quarter 1 Data –

January:	1.13
February:	1.16
March:	1.64

Everyday SWS uses gravel (dirt) or other forms of cover, ranging from wood chips to snow, to cover the solid waste received.

This data is important because SWS has a goal to “Extend the Life of Anchorage Regional Landfill.” The less amount of gravel or alternative cover used to conceal the refuse, the more space is left and the longer the landfill will be open.

Measure #3: Landfill Closure Date



SWS uses a 12-month average of waste generation and cover used to predict the day the landfill will reach full capacity. As public behavior changes, the amount of waste disposed of will be lower and as internal operations are improved the less cover material will be used, which slowly affects the life of the landfill. Decomposition and compaction are considered in the equation, as well as population growth. SWS derives this data from the most current landfill study. SWS does not have a target set because this information is continually changing, however SWS has a goal to extend the life of the landfill.

Quarter 1 Data –

Estimated Year of Closure: 2056

As the year of closure quickly draws near, SWS must think about *how* to continually provide safe, efficient, and innovative solid waste management (i.e.: development of a new landfill or new waste conversion technology). Through changing public behavior (improving recycling), the existing landfill can successfully serve the MOA for many years beyond the current estimated closure date.

Landfills are not forever, there is no time waste. [CLICK HERE](#) to view SWS' landfill clock.

PVR Measure WC: Managing Workers' Compensation Claims

Reducing job-related injuries is a priority for the Administration by ensuring safe work conditions and safe practices. By instilling safe work practices we ensure not only the safety of our employees but reduce the potential for injuries and property damage to the public. The Municipality is self-insured and every injury poses a financial burden on the public and the injured worker's family. It just makes good sense to WORK SAFE.

Results are tracked by monitoring monthly reports issued by the Risk Management Division.

