City of Hood River, Oregon Resolution No. 2019-07

A Resolution Amending Resolution 2018-08 by Allowing the Imposition of a 2.61% Rate Surcharge on All Recycling Customers

The Hood River City Council adopts the following Recitals:

- **WHEREAS**, the City of Hood River (the "City") is an Oregon municipal corporation with the authority to grant exclusive franchises for utilities and the providers of certain services within its corporate boundaries; and
- **WHEREAS**, Waste Connections of Oregon, Inc., dba Hood River Garbage Service ("Hood River Garbage") is a provider of solid waste and organics collection and disposal services operating in and around the City; and
- WHEREAS, the City approved and executed a 10-year Exclusive Solid Waste Recycling and Organics Collection Service Franchise Agreement with Hood River Garbage, effective May 1, 2017 (the "2017 Franchise Agreement"), which provides that solid waste collection rates will be adopted by resolution; and
- WHEREAS, the City Council, most recently, set solid waste collection and recycling rates through Resolution 2018-08 (A Resolution Setting Rates for Garbage Collection); and
- **WHEREAS**, Section 7(B) of the 2017 Franchise Agreement requires Hood River Garbage to collect a variety of materials for recycling including a newspaper, magazines, mixed waste paper, cardboard, paperboard, aluminum, tin and steel cans, aerosol cans, aluminum trays, plastic bottles, jugs, plastic tubs 1-7, glass jars and bottles, and motor oil; and
- WHEREAS, Section 7(D) of the 2017 Franchise Agreement requires Hood River Garbage to operate a drop-off center, located within 3 miles of the City limits, for receipt from the public of the same materials for recycling; and
- WHEREAS, Section 15 of the 2017 Franchise Agreement requires Hood River Garbage to transfer all Recyclable Materials, solid or compostable to a licensed facility appropriate to the type of material being handled solid waste, recyclables or organics to a location for processing and/or preparation for sale; and
- WHEREAS, contaminants have adversely affected global recycling markets since late 2017, causing China to refuse the importation of mixed recyclable loads and forcing and Hood River Garbage began sending commingled recyclable materials to the Wasco County Landfill after receiving concurrence from the Department of Environmental Quality; and
- WHEREAS, Hood River Garbage made a presentation to the City Council at its April 8, 2019 regular meeting requesting a modification to the list of acceptable materials for commingled recycling in Section 7(B) of the 2017 Franchise Agreement and asking for a rate surcharge to pay for the remaining recycling services; and
- **WHEREAS**, Hood River Garbage requests a surcharge of 2.61% to its recycling customers to offset the cost of delivering commingled materials to recycle processors rather than to the Wasco County Landfill; and

WHEREAS, in response to Hood River Garbage's request to modify the franchise, the City Council adopted Ordinance 2051 on July 8, 2019, which also anticipated an increase in the rate schedule for recycling services reflected in this resolution; and

WHEREAS, the City Council considered Hood River Garbage's request to allow a surcharge of 2.61% on all customers who receive recycling services, which will defray the increased costs of recycling materials no longer accepted by China; and

WHEREAS, the City Council expects Hood River Garbage to prepare and implement a suitable public education plan for recycling customers consistent with the 2017 Franchise Agreement prior to implementing any rate surcharge contemplated in this Ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Hood River City Council, based upon the foregoing findings, that Resolution 2018-08 is hereby amended to add a surcharge not to exceed 2.61% to the rate charged any customer class that receives recycling services from Hood River Garbage Service.

Approved and Effective this 24th day of June 2019 by the Hood River City Council.

Paul Blackburn, Mayor

Attest:

Approved as to form:

Jennifer Gray, City Recorder

Daniel Kearns, City Attorney