
From: McConnell <mcconn@bendbroadband.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 30, 2022 8:20 PM
To: Chad Centola
Subject: Submittal for Public Hearing January 31, Waste Connection Proposal
Attachments: Mark and Cindy McConnell.docx; Untitled attachment 00011.htm

Chad,

Please find our comments for the public record attached.

I look forward to attending and speaking at the hearing as well.

Mark

Mark and Cindy McConnell
18160 Cottonwood Road #132
Sunriver, OR 97707

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Mark : 541-270-1313
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#3 Tamarack Lane

Mark and Cindy McConnell
18160 Cottonwood Road #132
Sunriver, Oregon 97707

RE: Public Hearing January 31, 2022:

Waste Connections proposes to the following services and fee changes in their service area as follows:

Add weekly collection of glass and comingle recyclables collection in Sunriver, Oregon as a weekly universal side-yard collection service at a rate of \$14 per month

Add comingle recyclables, glass and yard debris collection in their Distant Rural Service Zone as a bi-weekly universal curbside service at a rate of \$14/month

Add glass and yard debris collection in their Rural Service Zone as a bi-weekly universal curbside service at a rate of \$10/month

To: Board of County Commissioners, Deschutes County, State of Oregon

Please enter the following comments into the record:

- We are in favor of the Waste Connection proposal for collection service additions in Sunriver.
- The following comments are in reference to the staff report (quotations) that you reviewed at the work session on January 24, 2022.

“SUNRIVER RECYCLING *Sunriver and the surrounding area are served by a recycling depot located in the SROA Public Works yard. It is very popular, and is woefully inadequate to handle the volumes of materials coming in.”*

- The depot is unmonitored, open 24/7, and has illegible signage on the bins themselves which is in small print and mangled by the equipment. Most people bring their items in plastic bags which are not allowed and shove the whole thing into the small openings. The only inadequacy comes from the lack of management surrounding the need to keep up with the flow, monitoring, and signage.

“ This fact and SROA’s desire to repurpose the space where the depot is located for other public works needs resulted in SROA approaching the Department requesting assistance in relocating/rebuilding their depot.”

- The proposed new depot was going to be operated in the same “woefully inadequate” fashion as the current site!

“A very thorough survey was conducted which showed strong support for a new depot, but there was also considerable interest in side yard collection of recyclables. While residential collection is the most efficient way to collect recyclables, it poses some challenges in Sunriver where curbside collection is prohibited, and many, if not most residences would have to modify/expand their enclosures to use the added recycling collection service.”

- The survey showed the most support for a home-based option. The survey did not articulate the current fee proposal for universal service, nor did it include any details about when and how the recycling would be collected. The proposal for each customer to provide their own container was not surveyed, and that

alleviates a big part of the concern about modifications needed. 80% of the respondents to the survey said they would not need to make modifications. SROA can and should allow for a “phase-in” period to help residences comply with the design issues when they occur. The survey did not consider this option either.

“The results of the survey led to a proposal by Cascade Disposal, with the approval of the Solid Waste Department, to contribute up to \$600,000 over 5 years for construction of a new depot.”

- The \$600,000 contribution would most likely have come from a rate increase, and you would have been asked to support a rate increase from Cascade Disposal this year anyway!

“Additionally, Cascade Disposal would offer a side yard recycling option on a subscription basis. The Department felt that, while side yard service was desirable, the cost of service on a subscription basis as well as the cost of enclosure modifications would result in low participation. With that, it was strongly felt that a new depot was the preferred option as well as the best solution for Sunriver.”

- The subscription basis was to require customers to commit for 6 months at a time. Enclosure costs become moot with the customer choosing the can to be used. The survey did not reflect the new proposal. Cascade relied on the inadequate survey, and never reached out to the individual customers, and only dealt with SROA.

“The use of SROA reserve funds requires a 60% majority of the vote to pass. While more than 50% of voters approved the use of reserve funds to construct a new depot, the vote fell short of the 60% requirement.”

- The vote tally of “more than 50%” represents only a percentage of those that voted, and does not represent more than 50% of the owners. Turn-out was in the 70% range.

“If the intent is to minimize the use of the depot, which may allow for a smaller, less costly facility or even eliminate the need for a depot as some residents favor, implementing side yard service on a universal basis rather than a subscription approach as originally proposed will be much more effective in providing the desired result as it will result in higher participation rates and possibly reduce the need for the depot option.”

- With the roll-out of universal service to the Cascade service area, a depot should not be needed at all and would help with the Public Works’ need for more space. The current subsidy of \$40,000.00 +/- given to Cascade to service the depot could be used to support home-based service, or enhance and encourage more curbside services in all of the south county area. That would have a much greater impact, rather than continuing with a depot that does not promote sensible, clean, and profitable recycling.

- Please help us move into the next decade with a modern and recommended system for recycling, and vote in favor of the proposed rate structure for Cascade Disposal.

Sincerely,
Mark and Cindy McConnell