
From: Bill Burke <burcon2@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2022 2:21 PM
To: Chad Centola
Subject: Cascade Disposal Residential Recyclables Collection Expansion
Attachments: Deschutes Commissioners Recycling commnet 2-14-22.pdf

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Chad,
Attached is a pdf of my comments re: Expansion of Residential Recyclables Collection in Sunriver.
Thank you for your assistance.
Bill Burke
Sunriver

Deschutes County Commissioners
Patti Adair, Chair
Tony DeBone
Phil Chang

Meeting Date: February 28, 2022

Subject: Expansion of Residential Recyclables Collection in Sunriver

Dear Commissioners,

My name is Bill Burke. Catalina Nocon and I are full time residents at 24 Yellow Pine Lane, Sunriver. I am also a Director on the Sunriver Homeowners Association Board and served on the Recycling Task Force. I offer my comments as an individual Sunriver homeowner and not on behalf of the SROA Board

I am a supporter of side yard recycling and I believe most Sunriver homeowners do as well. However, I support side yard as an option under a Subscription model. I do not support the Universal model.

Many homeowners were surprised and taken aback by the Staff Report recommendation that Universal service would be the only offering by Cascade Disposal. This is a reversal of what had been discussed by the County and Cascade Disposal throughout the Recycling Task Force discussions during which Subscription service was the option being presented. Universal service presents a "one-size-fits-all" requirement for any level of service, and essentially forces homeowners to pay for an additional service that they may not want, may not need, cannot afford, and cannot accommodate with their existing trash enclosure. Subscription service allows a menu of what is needed by homeowners and provides freedom of choice for those services desired.

Ownership in Sunriver presents 3 types of home ownership: primary residence (est. 20%), 2nd homes (40%), and rental properties (40%). Each grouping can present different trash and recycling interests, challenges, capacity and needs. For example, many trash enclosures will not accommodate a third trash can. Some owners may be able to pay additional costs for alteration of their enclosure to comply with Sunriver design requirements while other homes would require major architectural redesign and costs, such as reconfiguring a garage, HVAC, or other home design. Other complexities involve but are not limited to: arrangements and effectiveness among property management companies, owners who rent but do not use property management companies, the potential for a fourth 96 gallon can for yard debris, wasted steps/labor costs for drivers walking to enclosures when there is nothing in the recycling container, and potential increased trips to the LaPine Transfer Station or Knot Landfill in Bend.

Testimony previously offered in support of Universal service included opinions that guests/2nd Homeowners already recycle in their county of residence and that we should comply with what other places are doing. This makes a presumption of waste disposal and recycling uniformity elsewhere that we know is not true.

It was reported at the February 8 hearing, that the Universal proposal would lower profit for Cascade Disposal in the hope or belief that most homeowners would sign up for Universal. However, during the Task Force discussions it was presented that Cascade Disposal had been operating at the higher end of the acceptable profit margin. While the current proposal may lower profit I believe the County should continue to offer the valued “subscription” service to those who want it, can afford it, and can accommodate it. I believe it is worth offering choice and monitoring how the market develops. If unworkable it could be revisited at some future date.

Finally, at the February 8 hearing Commission members asked about the future of the current Recycling Facility. This aspect may be of particular interest considering the Commission's intention to not develop another public facility in the area. As an individual homeowner I believe it would be premature to *not* maintain the current Recycling Center. Rather, it would be prudent to continue the County facility at the current location while monitoring it for usage volume, safety for the public and staff, and outcomes from the pending Commission decision.

In closing, I encourage the Commission to move forward on side yard recycling in Sunriver as an option for homeowners offering a Subscription model, *not* a Universal model requirement.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Burke
24 Yellow Pine Lane
Sunriver, OR