

City of Sonoma
Solid Waste Collection Customers

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED
SOLID WASTE SERVICE
RATES AND
PUBLIC HEARING**

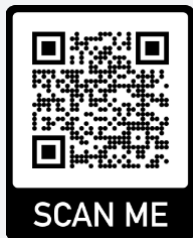
Public Hearing

June 19, 2024, 6:00 PM

City Council Chambers
177 First Street West
Sonoma, CA 95476

Protests to proposed rates must be submitted in writing. See inside for information about how to submit written protest.

For questions or more information, please contact:
707-938-3332 or
publicworks@sonomacity.org



City of Sonoma
No. 1 The Plaza, Sonoma, CA 95476

Recipient Name
Address
City, ST ZIP Code

EXHIBIT A



NOTICE

**Proposed
Solid Waste
Service Rates
& Public
Hearing**

**New City of Sonoma
Solid Waste Service Rates
Includes Funding For:**

- ✓ Compliance with SB 1383
- ✓ Living Wages
- ✓ Equipment Upgrades
- ✓ Sustainability Programs
- ✓ New Services



Why Am I Receiving This Notice?

This notice is being furnished to you as a solid waste services customer in the City of Sonoma regarding proposed new monthly rates for solid waste services. This serves as notice that the Sonoma City Council will conduct a Public Hearing at the time, date, and location enclosed to consider recommended solid waste service rates.

All those interested are invited to appear at the time and place of the Public Hearing enclosed to give oral or written testimony or to submit written protests regarding the proposed rates. The City Council will hear and consider written materials submitted regarding proposed rates at the Public Hearing. The City Council has the authority to adjust the proposed rate changes in response to oral testimony and written materials submitted for consideration, provided that any adjustments cannot increase rates beyond those listed in this Notice.

Why Are New Solid Waste Service Rates Needed?

The City of Sonoma contracts with Sonoma Garbage Collectors (SGC) for solid waste (garbage, recycling, organics and other) services provided to residents, businesses, and the City. The City and SGC have negotiated changes to the contract which are necessary for several reasons. New programs and services are needed for the City to comply with the mandatory requirements of Senate Bill 1383 which will reduce greenhouse emissions related to organic waste disposal. Equipment upgrades including new trucks and other infrastructure are also needed. New solid waste service rates will also provide living wages for SGC's employees, funding for new dedicated solid waste sustainability programs.

SGC's current solid waste service rates are among the lowest in Sonoma County. Proposed new solid waste service rates will remain below the Countywide average for low waste generating residents and businesses.

New Programs and Services

SGC currently provides solid waste services to residents and business in the City, as listed online at sonomaqgarbage.com.

If the new solid waste service rates are authorized by City Council, the new programs, services, and benefits will include:

- ✓ Enhanced customer service programs
- ✓ New carts, dumpsters, and debris boxes
- ✓ New collection vehicles
- ✓ New battery recycling service for residents
- ✓ Zero Waste Coordinator and public education
- ✓ Zero Waste services at City parks and events
- ✓ Free compost events for residents
- ✓ Living wages for SGC employees
- ✓ Compliance with State law SB 1383

New Monthly Solid Waste Service Rates

Can Size	Current Rates <i>(effective 7/1/2023)</i>	Proposed Rates <i>(effective 7/1/2024)</i>	Monthly Change
20-gal	\$ 14.27	\$ 17.12	\$ 2.85
32-Gal	\$ 22.91	\$ 27.49	\$ 4.58
64-Gal	\$ 48.27	\$ 57.92	\$ 9.65
96-Gal	\$ 73.40	\$ 88.08	\$ 14.68

The full list of current and proposed residential and commercial SGC solid waste service rates can be found online at www.sonomacity.org/garbage-collectors.

Maximum Annual Adjustment

Solid waste service rates will be adjusted annually on July 1, 2025, through July 1, 2028, based on the indexed rate adjustment methodology (inclusive of changes in the external costs of landfilling garbage) in the Agreement between the City and Sonoma Garbage Collectors, which has resulted in average annual increases of 5.16% since 2007.

How Do I Protest The Proposed Solid Waste Service Rates?

You have the right to protest the proposed solid waste service rates. The protest **must be in writing**, and it must be submitted by either the property owner or a current ratepaying tenant. It must include the property service address and/or the assessor's parcel number, the eligible individual's name (property owner or tenant), a statement to the effect of "I protest the proposed solid waste service rates," and an original signature.

Written protests **may only be submitted by mail or in-person** to the Office of the City Clerk, City of Sonoma, No. 1 The Plaza, Sonoma CA 95476, or during the Public Hearing on Wednesday, June 19, 2024. **All protests must be received by the City Clerk before the conclusion of the Public Hearing.** The Clerk will not accept or consider any protest received after the conclusion of the Public Hearing.

Only one written protest per affected property will be counted. Telephone, e-mail, and fax protests will not be accepted. At the Public Hearing on June 19, 2024, the City Council will accept and consider all written protests and hear all oral comments on the proposed solid waste service rate changes. Oral comments will not be counted as protests unless accompanied by a written protest as outlined within this notice.



What is Organic Waste?

- Food Scraps, Coffee Grounds, Tea Bags
- Food-Soiled Paper Products
Pizza Boxes, Coffee Filters, Napkins, To-go Bags/Boxes (no Styrofoam or Plastic)
- Green Waste
Landscape & Pruning, Leaves, Flowers
- Lumber, Wood