

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**  
**Proposed Residential Refuse Collection Fee Increase**  
**FACT SHEET**



**WHAT ARE THE KEY DATES OF THE PROPOSED INCREASE?**

- APRIL 16** City Council schedules public hearing on refuse rate increase for June 4
- APRIL 20** Notice of public hearing mailed to all parcel owners & refuse customers
- MAY 3** Informational Community meeting at Jackie Robinson Center, 6:30 p.m.
- MAY 10** Informational Community meeting at Victory Park, 6:30 p.m.
- JUNE 4** Deadline for residents/customers to submit written protests regarding refuse rate increase to City Clerk, 5:00 p.m.  
 Refuse Rate Increase Public Hearing, City Hall, Council Chambers, 7:00 p.m.
- JUNE 5** If approved, new rates go into effect

**WHY IS A RATE INCREASE NECESSARY?**

Refuse rates have not been increased since 2009. Refuse rates do not presently provide enough revenue to cover operational expenses, capital vehicle purchases or the cost of compliance with the state mandated Integrated Waste Management Plan. As a result, the refuse program has operated at a deficit, and reserves have been largely depleted. Expenses such as disposal costs and fuel have increased in recent years. The costs of complying with the state mandated Integrated Waste Management Plan must be addressed because of increased diversion of green waste both from residential conservation efforts and events such as the November 30/December 1 windstorms which dramatically worsened the City's ability to cover expenses and to comply with the Integrated Waste Management Plan. Of note is the fact that green tonnage increased by 284%, from an estimated 16,000 tons to 64,900 tons. New refuse collection rates are being proposed which charge an amount for each refuse service level sufficient to cover the cost of providing those services. The rate increase is necessary to assure the refuse program is adequately funded to cover operational expenses, capital vehicle purchases and compliance with the Integrated Waste Management Plan.

**WHAT IS AMOUNT OF THE INCREASE?**

The table below shows the proposed rates for the most common residential services.

Refuse Collection Fees	Current Rate	Proposed Rate	\$ Change	% Change
32 Gallon Mixed Waste	\$14.84	\$16.29	\$1.45	9.77%
60 Gallon Mixed Waste	\$24.08	\$26.44	\$2.36	9.80%
100 Gallon Mixed Waste	\$37.27	\$40.99	\$3.72	9.98%

**WILL THERE BE OTHER RATE INCREASES?**

On June 4, the City Council will also consider adoption of a resolution that allows the City to adjust rates annually to recover landfill disposal costs at the Scholl Canyon Landfill and Consumer Price Index (inflationary) increases.

**HOW CAN I REDUCE MY COSTS FOR REFUSE SERVICE?**

The City has a variable-rate fee, also known as a pay-as-you-throw program. The cost of residential refuse service ties directly to the amount of trash a customer produces. The proposed monthly service cost for a 32 gallon mixed waste container is \$16.29/month. Comparatively the proposed monthly service for a larger 60 gallon mixed waste container is \$26.44/month and a 100 gallon mixed waste container is \$40.99/month.

Customers can reduce costs by using City-provided recycling (blue lid) and green waste (black lid) containers for recyclable materials, yard waste, and other organic materials. Additional recycling and green waste containers are available at no cost to the customer. Greater use of recycling and green waste containers can reduce the amount of mixed waste a customer generates and the size of the mixed waste container needed. Use of a smaller mixed waste container equates to a lower monthly rate.

Another way for customers to reduce costs is to take advantage of the free bulky item pick-up program. Customers are entitled to two, free pick-ups a year. Rather than filling mixed waste containers with items generally thrown out on a weekly basis, customers can save the items and have them picked up by the City as part of the free bulky item pick-up program.

To request a smaller mixed waste container and/or schedule a bulky item pick-up, customers may call the Public Works Customer Service Center at (626) 744-4087.

**WHAT OTHER FREE INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE?**

The City of Pasadena also provides:

- 7 curbside used oil/filter pick-ups per year & several drop off locations throughout City
- Household battery /CFL/ cell phone recycling drop off locations throughout City
- Household hazardous waste /electronic waste/paper shredding events & Los Angeles County drop off center locations
- Sharps Waste Disposal Program
- Backyard Compost Bin Workshops
- Christmas Tree Drop Off & Collection Program
- Free Mulch Give-Away Program

Additional information on programming is available on the City's website at: [http://www.ci.pasadena.ca.us/PublicWorks/Residential\\_Recycling\\_and\\_Refuse\\_Services/](http://www.ci.pasadena.ca.us/PublicWorks/Residential_Recycling_and_Refuse_Services/)

**WHO CAN I CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROPOSED FEE INCREASE?**

For additional information, please contact the Public Works Customer Service Center at (626) 744-4087 or attend one of the Informational Community Meetings. Department of Public Works staff is also available to provide in-depth presentations to groups who would like more information.

