

**RESOLUTION NO. 2025-1**

**A RESOLUTION AMENDING COMMERCIAL MEDICAL WASTE COLLECTION RATES AND CHARGES AS APPROVED IN RESOLUTION NO. 2023-31**

**Whereas**, ORS 459.017 provides that local government units have the primary responsibility for planning for solid waste management; and

**Whereas**, ORS 459A.085 gives local governments the authority to issue solid waste management franchises, which may be exclusive if service areas are allocated, and to prescribe rates, which must be just, reasonable, and adequate, for solid waste management services; and

**Whereas**, Salem Revised Code (SRC) Chapter 47, the Solid Waste Management Ordinance of the City of Salem, sets out a coordinated program for solid waste management services through the issuance of franchises; and

**Whereas**, SRC 47.099(d) provides that the City Council shall be responsible for establishing and adjusting the rates charged by Franchisees for solid waste management services; and

**Whereas**, SRC 47.099(e) allows a Franchisee to request a rate adjustment; and

**Whereas**, in September 2024, City staff, received notification that Reworld Marion (formerly, Covanta Marion) the waste to energy incinerator would no longer be accepting waste after December 31, 2024; and

**Whereas**, in November 2024, due to increases in the disposal costs for medical waste related to the closure of Reworld Marion, the six solid waste management Franchisees serving the City requested the following rate increases to replace the increases previously approved for January 1, 2025: 168 percent for hospital collection service effective February 1, 2025; and 52 percent for low-volume medical waste collection service and 72 percent for high-volume medical waste collection service effective March 1, 2025; and

**Whereas**, the City Manager conducted an investigation of the Franchisees' rates and their requested rate adjustments, applying the factors specified in SRC 47.099(f), and submitted a recommendation to the City Council that concluded that the requested rate adjustments are just, reasonable, and adequate; and

**Whereas**, pursuant to SRC 47.099(d) the City Council held a public hearing and received evidence and testimony on the proposed rate increases on January 27, 2025; and

**Whereas**, the City Council considered the entire record of the rate adjustment proceeding.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF SALEM RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1. Findings.** The City Council finds that the specific rates requested by the City's Franchisees set forth in "Exhibit A" are necessary to sustain the operations of the City's solid

waste management Franchisees and are just, reasonable, and adequate.

**Section 2. Order.** As of February 1, 2025, the City’s solid waste management Franchisees shall collect from their commercial medical waste customers not more than the fees and charges set forth in “Exhibit A,” which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

**Section 3.** This resolution amends Resolution No. 2023-31 as applicable to only the relevant modified fees and changes except as otherwise noted.

**Section 4. Effective Date.** This resolution is effective upon adoption.

ADOPTED by the City Council this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

ATTEST:

City Recorder

Approved by City Attorney: \_\_\_\_\_

Checked by: R. Zink