

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-28

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING NEW SOLID WASTE COLLECTION RATES AND CHARGES AND RESCINDING RESOLUTION NO. 2023-31 AS AMENDED BY RESOLUTION NO. 2025-1

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, due to increases in operating costs greater than the solid waste management system's revenue growth, the solid waste management Franchisees serving the City requested the following monthly rate increases effective January 1, 2026: 3.7 percent for role cart services provided in Polk County; 9.1 percent for container services provided in Polk County; and 0.7 percent for drop box services provided in Polk County; and

Whereas, due to increases in operating costs greater than the solid waste management system's revenue growth, the solid waste management Franchisees serving the City requested the following monthly rate increases effective January 1, 2027: 4.6 percent for role cart services provided in Polk County; 5.6 percent for container services provided in Polk County; and 3.2 percent for drop box services provided in Polk County; and

Whereas, due to requests from residents and a desire to improve collection efficiency and reduce cost for residents needing residential weekly garbage service greater than 65 gallons, the solid waste management Franchisees servicing the City requested that 95-gallon residential garbage service be added as an available option for residential customers; and

Whereas, the Director conducted an analysis of comparable communities offering 95-gallon residential weekly garbage service, the relative difference in cost between 95-gallon service and other sizes, and the number of customers using more than one garbage cart; and

Whereas, the Director recommends 95-gallon residential weekly garbage service (which shall consist of one 95-gallon solid waste cart collected weekly, one 95-gallon mixed organics cart collected weekly, one 95-gallon mixed recycle cart collected bi-weekly, and one recycle bin

collected bi-weekly) be added to the solid waste rate schedule effective January 1, 2026 at the following monthly rates: \$56.40 in Marion County and \$47.20 in Polk County; and

Whereas, the Director conducted an investigation of the Franchisees' rates and their requested rate adjustments, applying the factors specified in SRC 47.099(f), and on November 13, 2025, submitted a recommendation to the City Council Solid Waste Committee that recommended that City Council adopt the requested rate adjustments; and

Whereas, the Director 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 November 24, 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 effective January 1, 2026, and 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. Findings. The City Council finds that the specific rates requested by the City's Franchisees effective January 1, 2027, and set forth in "Exhibit B" are necessary to sustain the operations of the City's solid waste management Franchisees and are just, reasonable, and adequate.

Section 3. Order. As of January 1, 2026, the City's solid waste management Franchisees shall collect from their customers not more than the fees and charges set forth in "Exhibit A," which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 4. Order. As of January 1, 2027, the City's solid waste management Franchisees shall collect from their customers not more than the fees and charges set forth in "Exhibit B," which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 5. Rescission. This resolution rescinds Resolution No. 2023-31 as amended by Resolution No. 2025-1 and any other resolution to the extent that such resolution enacts fees and charges of the type set forth herein.

Section 6. Effective Date. This resolution is effective on January 1, 2026.

ADOPTED by the City Council this 24th day of November 2025.

ATTEST:

City Recorder
Approved by City Attorney:_____

Checked by: R. Zink