



Solid Waste

COUNTY OF TULARE

AGENDA ITEM

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

LARRY MICARI
District One

PETE VANDER POEL
District Two

AMY SHUKLIAN
District Three

EDDIE VALERO
District Four

DENNIS TOWNSEND
District Five

AGENDA DATE: March 18, 2025 **REVISED**

Public Hearing Required	N/A
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	N/A
Published Notice Required	N/A
Advertised Published Notice	N/A
Meet & Confer Required	N/A
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	N/A
Personnel Resolution attached	N/A
Agreement(s) attached	N/A

CONTACT PERSON: Guillermo Hermoso Jr. PHONE: 559-624-7198

SUBJECT: Approve fee waivers for Appliance and Tire Disposal

REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

Approve fee waivers for Appliance and Tire Disposal by residential customers at Tulare County Landfills effective April 1, 2025 through March 31, 2027.

SUMMARY:

The Tulare County Solid Waste System consists of two active landfills (Visalia, Woodville) serving the northern and southern portions of Tulare County. Recently, the County has seen an increase in illegal dumping of bulky items (appliances, mattresses, tires, etc.). The Teapot Dome Landfill was previously open to residents living in the southeastern portion of the County and surrounding foothill area allowing residents to deliver bulky items that otherwise wouldn't be accepted at their local Transfer Station or available for curbside pickup by their contracted waste hauler.

On June 15, 2021, your Board approved the relocation of public disposal services from the Teapot Dome Landfill to the Woodville Landfill effective October 1, 2021 (Board Resolution 2021-0471). This transition of services left residents living in the Teapot Dome area without a nearby facility for bulky item drop off. In addition, the cost to dispose of appliances and single tires appears to be a factor in the increased number of bulky items illegally dumped on the roadside.

Solid Waste staff explored solutions to mitigate illegal dumping concerns and provide additional services to County residents. The following options are being provided for your Board's consideration and approval:

- Waive disposal fees for up to four (4) passenger tires per customer
- Waive disposal fees for up to two (2) appliances per customer

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- Update Solid Waste website to include *Free Bulky Item Disposal open to ALL Tulare County Residents* and create new signage for posting at landfills
- Work with Franchise Haulers to provide free bulky item information in their billing mailers

It should be noted that these fee waivers will apply only to residential customers; commercial account fees will not be waived. The waivers will be in place for two years, which allows for adequate time for program evaluation. There will be no restrictions on the number of trips a customer can make. The Department will report back to your Board annually on the findings and impacts of the waiver program and anticipates a decrease in illegally dumped appliances and tires. Staff requests your Board to approve fee waivers for Appliance and Tire disposal for Tulare County residents effective April 1, 2025 through March 31, 2027.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

There is Zero Cost to the General Fund associated with this action. The Department anticipates an annual loss of \$130,000 in revenue as a result of these fee waivers.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

The County's strategic plan includes the Quality of Life Initiative to promote natural resource management and continued improvement of environmental quality. This initiative promotes a litter free Tulare County by providing a cost-free resource for bulky item disposal.

ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:

/s/ Bryce Howard

Bryce Howard
Director- Tulare County Solid Waste

Cc: County Administrative Office

Attachments: