

2021 Residential Recycling Service Fee Study

Frequently asked questions

What State Mandates govern residential recycling programs?

The California Integrated Waste Management Act (AB 939) requires all California cities, counties, and approved regional solid waste management agencies to enact and implement recycling diversion plans. A minimum of a 50% recycling rate must be met on an annual basis.

What City Municipal code references the Recycling Service Fee? Is it possible to opt out paying this fee?

As a result of changes in state law related to recycling programs, in 1990, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 90-6 establishing a Recycling Service Fee to recover the costs incurred by the City in satisfying State mandated recycling requirements. Per Ordinance No. 90-6 payment of the Recycling Service fee shall be the responsibility of the owner of the property and there is no ability to opt out of the fee.

When was the last time the City updated the Recycling Service Fee? What are the current rates? What are the proposed Rates?

The last time the Recycling Service Fee was updated to reflect increasing recycling cost was December 8, 2009. Currently City residents, excluding Newport Coast, pays a \$3.00 per month. The proposed rate increase is \$5.86 per month for Newport Coast residents and \$6.28 per month for City residents.

Why has Newport Coast not been paying a recycling fee all these years?

As part of the Annexation agreement, Newport Coast was not required to pay a recycling fee for service. Due to more stringent recycling requirements from the State, Council has assessed this fee and felt it necessary for Newport Coast to be a part of our citywide efforts to maintain State compliance on recycling.

Why are there two different recycling fees? One for Newport Coast and the other for the City at large?

When Newport Coast was annexed from the County, the contract held for residential refuse service remained as a separate contract. The fees are different due to the differing cost of recycling service by contract, and the amount of recycling materials being processed.

Who completed the analysis for the recycling fee increase?

MGT Financial Services, a consultant for Newport Beach Finance Department completed the financial analysis. A copy of the report can be found at [Recycling Service Fee Study](#).

When will the Public hearing take place? How can a resident protest the proposed increase?

The public hearing will take place on March 23, 2021, 6:30 PM in City Hall Chambers. To file a protest, it must be in writing. Oral comments at the public hearing will not qualify as an official protest.

All written protest must have the following content:

- State, specifically, if the protest is in opposition of the imposed /increased recycling service fee rate
- Provide the location of the identified parcel, wither by address of service or assessor's parcel number
- Include the name and signature of the owner of the property
- All protests must be submitted to the City Clerk