

# Solid Waste Collection Rates

PRESENTED TO LOMPOC CITY COUNCIL 8-5-2025

# Background

- ▶ City of Lompoc hired MSW Consultants to perform a Cost-of-Service study and rate study for Solid Waste division;
- ▶ Cost-of-Service study was provided July 25, 2022;



# Excerpt from Lompoc Cost-of-Service Study

## 7.1 Multi-family Customer Rates

The City currently bills for multi-family service based on the number of dwelling units. For a monthly rate of \$24.92 per dwelling unit, multi-family customers receive the equivalent of 2 each 95-gallon containers once per week. Any additional containers are billed based on the number and size of additional containers, and the frequency of service.

Approximately half of the City's multi-family units are individually and directly billed a 'per-unit' rate of \$24.92 for solid waste collection; the other half are billed a monthly amount to the property owner based on the number of total units. **The City is transitioning to a rate structure in which multi-family complexes are billed to the property owner based on the number and size of containers, and the frequency of service; similar to commercial customers. Charging customers based on the actual size and number of containers, and the actual frequency of service reflects a more appropriate nexus between the actual cost of service and the monthly charge. As a result, the per-unit monthly amount previously charged directly to multi-family customers is being phased out. Multi-family complexes will now be billed to the property owner according to the size and number of containers, and their frequency of pickups.**

# Proposition 218 Notice mailed April 2023

- ▶ Sent to all utility customers as bill insert in late March or April 2023.
- ▶ **Multi-family Rates** - The City currently bills for multi-family service based on the number of dwelling units. For a monthly rate of \$24.92 per dwelling unit, multi-family customers now receive the equivalent of 2 each 95-gallon containers serviced once per week. Any additional containers are billed based on the number and size of additional containers, and the frequency of service. The City will continue its transition to a rate structure in which multi-family complexes are billed to the property owner based on the number and size of containers, and the frequency of service; similar to how commercial customers are now billed. As a result, the per-unit monthly amount previously charged directly to remaining multi-family customers will be phased out over a transition period beginning on July 1, 2023. The transition period is expected to last up to six months. During the transition period, multi-family customers will be charged a fee per dwelling unit of \$28.63 per month until they are converted to the new rate structure.

# Residential rates as of July 1, 2025

## CITY OF LOMPOC SOLID WASTE RATES AND FEES

Rate Exhibit 1 – Residential Rates – Effective July 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026 and 2027

Effective July 1, 2025

Type of Service	Refuse Collection Rate	State Recycle Fee	County Inspection Fee	Total Monthly Charge to Customer
65-Gallon Container	\$48.75	\$0.08	\$0.06	\$48.89
95-Gallon Container	61.91	0.12	0.08	62.11
Each Additional 65-Gallon Container	41.42	0.08	0.06	41.56
Each Additional 95-Gallon Container	\$52.59	0.12	\$0.08	\$52.79

# Commercial and Multi-family rates as of July 1, 2025

## CITY OF LOMPOC SOLID WASTE RATES AND FEES

### Rate Exhibit 3 – Commercial and Multi-family Rates – Effective July 2025 and July 2026

Effective July 1, 2025

Type of Service	Collections per Week	Refuse Collection Rate	State Recycle Fee	County Inspection Fee	Total Monthly Charge to Customer
65-gallon	1	\$46.70	\$0.08	\$0.06	\$46.84
	2	93.40	0.16	0.12	\$93.68
	3	140.09	0.24	0.18	\$140.51
95-gallon	1	\$59.87	\$0.12	\$0.08	\$60.07
	2	119.74	0.24	0.16	\$120.14
	3	179.61	0.36	0.24	\$180.21
	4	239.48	0.48	0.32	\$240.28
	5	299.35	0.60	0.40	\$300.35
300-gallon	1	120.16	0.38	0.25	\$120.79
	2	240.33	0.76	0.50	\$241.59
	3	360.49	1.14	0.75	\$362.38
	4	480.66	1.52	1.00	\$483.18
	5	600.82	1.90	1.25	\$603.97
450-gallon	1	147.97	0.57	0.39	\$148.93
	2	295.95	1.14	0.78	\$297.87
	3	443.92	1.71	1.17	\$446.80
	4	591.90	2.28	1.56	\$595.74
	5	\$739.87	\$2.85	\$1.95	\$744.67

# Notice to property owners & managers

Dear Property Owner/ Manager,

On June 6, 2023, the Lompoc City Council adopted Resolution 6581-(23), establishing rates and charges for the collection and disposal of solid waste, including adjustments effective July 1 each year from 2023 to 2027. One such adjustment changes how multi-family dwellings will be charged. The city currently bills multi-family based on the number of dwelling units (a per-unit rate of \$24.92). For some properties, the owner is charged for the complex, and in other cases, each tenant is individually billed. The City is transitioning to a rate structure in which multi-family complexes are billed to the property owner based on the number and size of trash containers, and the frequency of service. This is how commercial properties are billed.

Within 30 days from the date of this letter, this multifamily complex will be billed as described above and pursuant to the attached rate exhibits. Our records show that this multifamily complex is receiving the following trash service:

**● x (65) gallon containers at ● day/week, for a total monthly charge of ●●●●●**

Therefore, the City will begin billing the amount shown above to the property owner. If our records are incorrect, or if you have any further questions, please contact the Solid Waste Division office at 805-875-8024 (option 2)

Sincerely,

*Keith Quinlan*

Solid Waste Manager

Enclosures: Rate Exhibits 2, 3, 4, and 10

# Example

- ▶ Property with 5 units – all were paying \$28.63 per the multi-family rate - \$143.15 total.
- ▶ All 5 units had a 95-gallon container. When transferred to owner, monthly rate will be \$300.35 (5 x \$60.07).
- ▶ With all services under property owner, we would recommend the owner contact Solid Waste to discuss alternatives.
  - ▶ 1 450-gallon container would cost \$148.93. Individuals could not “split” this service among their accounts, but under the owner’s account this is now possible.

# Questions?

**Presented by:**

**Robert Cross, Financial Services Manager**