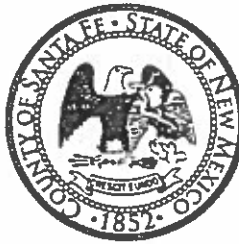


Henry P. Roybal  
Commissioner, District 1

Miguel Chavez  
Commissioner, District 2

Robert A. Anaya  
Commissioner, District 3



Kathy Holian  
Commissioner, District 4

Liz Stefanics  
Commissioner, District 5

Katherine Miller  
County Manager

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 26, 2015

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Adam Leigland, Public Works Department Director *KL*  
5/29/15

VIA: Katherine Miller, County Manager

ITEM AND ISSUE: *BCC Meeting June 9, 2015*

Presentation on Residential Solid Waste Collection Districts Proposal Public Meetings Held the Week of May 18, 2015. (Public Works/Craig O'Hare)

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### SUMMARY:

This is a presentation on the feedback received at the three public meetings held on the residential solid waste collection district proposal. The public hearing on the enabling ordinance will be on June 30, 2015.

### BACKGROUND:

One of the Commission's Solid Waste Task Force (SWTF) recommendations approved by the BCC at its October 28, 2014, meeting was the creation of residential solid waste collection districts in the denser areas surrounding the City of Santa Fe. The County's new comprehensive Solid Waste Ordinance, 2014-10, was adopted on November 25, 2014, and it granted most of the general enabling authority to pursue the establishment of collection districts. On April 28, 2015, the BCC approved publishing title and general summary for another ordinance that would refine that authority in establishing curbside residential solid waste and recycling districts. In establishing residential solid waste collection districts, the objectives are:

- Reduce private haulers' monthly rates for refuse service by taking advantage of economies of scale. (Note: The actual rates in a given collection district won't be known until proposals are received in the fall of this year.)
- Increase waste diversion and recycling rates by: 1) instituting a "pay-as-you-throw" refuse rate structure by requiring that at least two different-sized and priced container choices be offered. 2) require at least every other week recycling service that is automatically provided with the refuse service. One rate would "bundle" both services.
- Reduce wear-and-tear on County roads by minimizing the amount of heavy truck vehicle miles travelled on the road.

- Ensure private haulers provide safe solid waste operations and accountable, responsive customer service by instituting County oversight.

The Collection District Ordinance, scheduled for a public meeting and possible BCC action on June 30, further defines the procedures, roles, and responsibilities of residents, the County, and private haulers with respect to establishing and administering the collection districts. If the BCC adopts the Collection District Ordinance, staff will issue the Request for Proposals in late July or early August with proposals being due from private haulers a couple of months after that. Adoption of the Collection District Ordinance is not the final action the BCC will take to implement the program. The BCC will need to approve the contracts with each of the selected haulers in order for the initiative to proceed. This is expected to occur in January 2016.

### **DISCUSSION:**

At the direction of the BCC, staff held a public meeting in each of the three proposed Residential Solid Waste Collection Districts in order to obtain public input on the proposed initiative. All of the meetings began at 6:00 p.m. and included a staff presentation followed by a question-and-answer session. As with any public meeting, the attendance at each meeting was not necessarily geographically representative of the proposed District as a whole. Below is a brief recap of each of the three meetings. The districts are shown on the attached map.

- Southwest Collection District: (May 18<sup>th</sup>, Amy Biehl Community School, 21 citizens in attendance). Attendees were generally supportive of the initiative (especially the provision of recycling service), but were concerned about the monthly rates they would be charged. Staff clarified that the rates would not be known until the proposals were received from the private haulers in the fall. A couple of homeowners were concerned that the current Rancho Viejo requirement that residents have curbside refuse service would be eliminated by the ordinance. Staff clarified that this would not happen.
- North Collection District: (May 20<sup>th</sup>, Las Campanas Event Room, 62 in attendance). Most attendees had many questions and concerns regarding the ordinance, and, therefore, were opposed to the initiative as they currently understood it. Most attendees indicated that they are happy with their current service, and their concerns surrounded potential diminution of service and/or increase in rates, increase in county bureaucracy, and unease with government interference in the free market and elimination of individual choice. They also expressed their interest in making sure there was still ample time to provide public input on the proposal before the BCC took final action. Orlando Romero, District 1 Constituent Liaison, attended the meeting.
- Southeast Collection District: (May 21<sup>st</sup>, Ken and Patty Adam Senior Center, 16 in attendance). Attendees were generally supportive of the initiative. A couple of participants that currently self-haul to a County convenience center wanted assurance that they would continue to be able to do that once the ordinance was adopted. Staff clarified that was the case. Julia Valdez, District 5 Constituent Liaison, attended the meeting.

Also attached is a copy of the handout that was distributed at the public meetings.

Given the significant level of public interest in this initiative, staff will work to keep the BCC up to date on the contract selection process to ensure that constituent and BCC concerns are properly and transparently addressed. As stated above, the BCC will need to approve any solid waste collection contracts, providing another opportunity for review and public feedback.

**ACTION REQUESTED:**

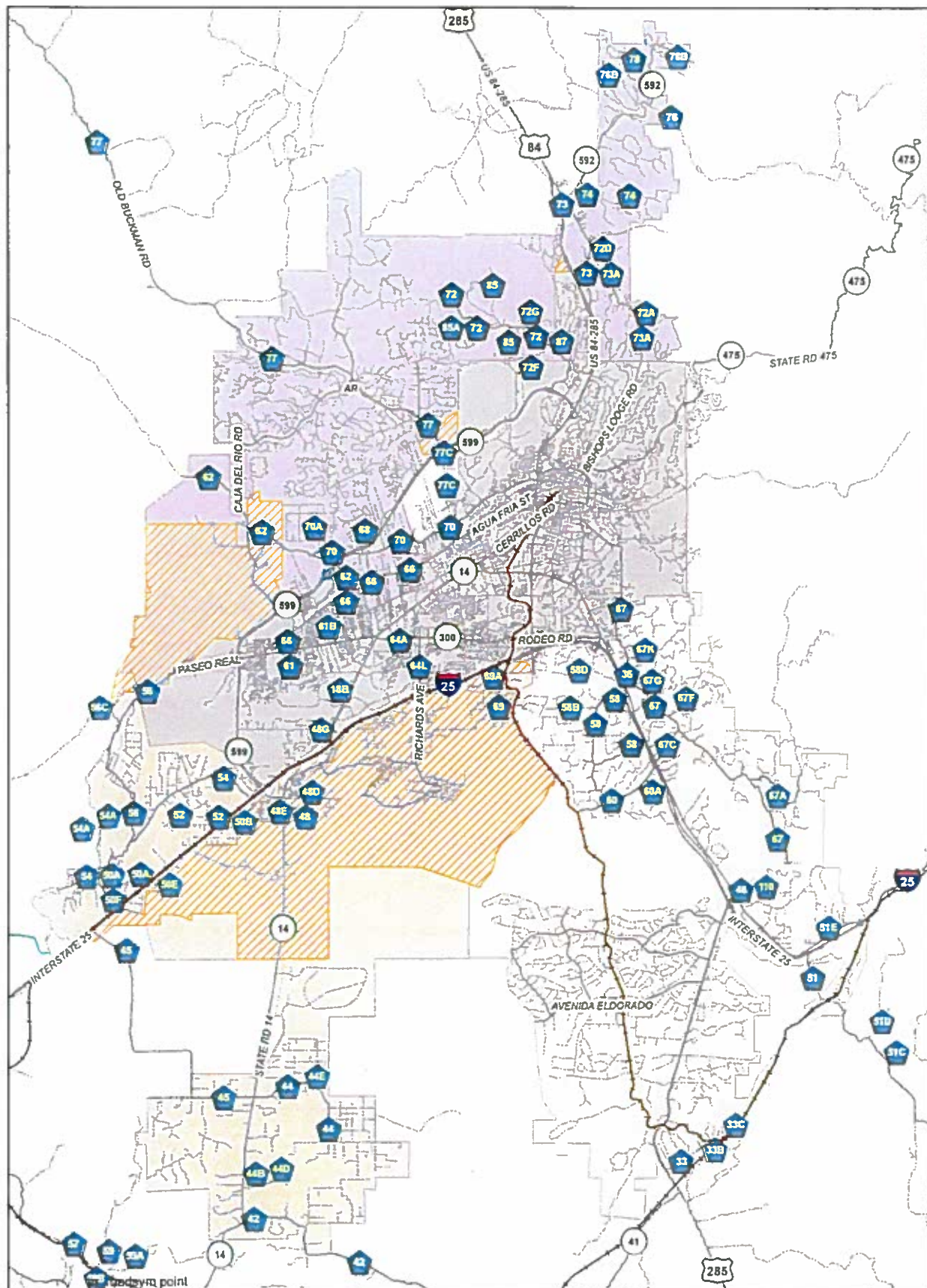
None; for informational purposes only.

**Attachments:**

1. Overview map of proposed collection districts
2. Public meeting handout



# Overview of Residential Solid Waste Service Districts



- Railroads
- Major Roads
- SGMP SDA 1
- North Service District
- Southeast Service District
- Southwest Service District
- City of Santa Fe

May 13, 2015

This information is for reference only. Santa Fe County assumes no liability for errors associated with the use of these data. Users are solely responsible for confirming data accuracy.





# Santa Fe County Proposing Residential Solid Waste & Recycling Collection Districts

May 2015



**County Commission Public Hearing on Proposed Ordinance: Tuesday, June 30<sup>th</sup> - At or after 5:00 p.m. Commission Chambers, 102 Grant Ave. (behind the Lensic Theater)**

The Collection District Ordinance and maps of the 3 Collection Districts can be obtained from the County's web site: [http://www.santafecountynm.gov/public\\_works/solidwaste](http://www.santafecountynm.gov/public_works/solidwaste)

## Overview

Santa Fe County is interested in more comprehensively managing solid waste and recycling activities throughout the County. As part of that objective, the Board of County Commissioners is considering an ordinance to establish three curbside "Residential Solid Waste Collection Districts" in the more urbanized areas surrounding the City of Santa Fe. Each Collection District will be exclusively served by a single private hauler selected by the County using a competitive process. The County will oversee private haulers' operations via a contract that will include: rates, provision of recycling service, levels of service (frequency of collection, types of containers, etc.), accommodating special needs customers, and reporting of solid waste and recycling data.

Residents in each Collection District will be able to voluntarily choose whether they want to use the curbside services of the selected private hauler or whether they prefer to self-haul to one of the County's solid waste convenience centers. Residents will not be able to retain the services of a private hauler that is not the County-identified hauler for the Collection District.

The public meetings and the June 30<sup>th</sup> public hearing on the ordinance are intended to obtain the public's interests and concerns as we move forward with this initiative. The County values input from citizens affected by this proposal. The current proposal may be revised based on the public's input.

**For More Information Contact:** Craig O'Hare, Public Works Department, (505) 992-3044  
[cohare@santafecountynm.gov](mailto:cohare@santafecountynm.gov)

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Note:** Many of the program and service details (e.g. monthly rates, types of recyclables to be collected) will be determined as part of the public input process, the specifics included in the "Request for Proposals" (RFP) to the haulers, and, ultimately the contracts the County signs with the haulers.

### Collection and Container Questions

**Why is the County issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for solid waste and recycling collection?**

*Currently, garbage and recycling collection in unincorporated areas of the County is performed by several different haulers. The haulers do not offer a full range of service (e.g., garbage, recycling, and bulky waste collection) to all residents in the County. By issuing an RFP, the County expects that a more uniform level of service will be provided,*



*in particular curb-side recycling will be made available to all residential units that choose to make use of this service. The agreement with the selected hauler and the County will assure full services (garbage, recycling, and bulky waste collection) are available to all residents in the County.*

- **What will be the frequency of my collection?**  
*It is anticipated that garbage collection will be once each week; recycling collection may be weekly or every-other-week.*
- **What day of the week will my collection take place?**  
*That will be determined once a vendor is selected. That is not known at this time.*
- **Will my regularly scheduled collection day change?**  
*If you currently receive curbside collection it may or may not change. The County will work with the selected vendor to minimize the disruption in collection days.*
- **What are the pick-up hours?** *Typically set as no earlier than 7am and no later than 6pm.*
- **Will refuse and recyclables be picked up on the same day?** *That is the goal.*
- **Will I receive a new container?** *If you currently have a container and service is provided by a different vendor, it will most likely be exchanged for a container provided by the selected vendor for your district (if it is a different vendor).*
- **Will collection be automated, or manual?** *It is expected that collection will be automated.*
- **What type of recyclable material will be accepted?** *All of the materials currently accepted at BuRRT, except for glass. However, additional materials may be added in the future, if/when the recyclables processing system changes. Free glass drop-off recycling will still be available at County convenience centers.*
- **What size container(s) will be offered?**  
*Garbage service will be offered with either a 96 or 64 gallon cart option (and possibly a 32 gallon option as well).*
- **Will there be a limit to the amount of trash picked-up?**  
*Yes, all garbage must be placed in the cart. The customer will have the option to pay for a second cart.*
- **Can I use carts from a third party that are compatible with the new hauler's equipment?**  
*TBD. It is envisioned the selected vendor will provide their own containers to customers.*
- **What type of special services will be offered (back door, bulky pick-up, etc.)?** *TBD.*



#### **General Program Questions**

- **Who will handle billing?**  
*The vendor will handle all billing, and residents will pay the hauler directly.*
- **Will this program be mandatory?**  
*This program is completely voluntary. However, if the customer selects to use the service, they must use the vendor selected to provide service in the district where the customer resides.*
- **Who will handle complaints?**  
*Complaints will be addressed by the vendor, with the County receiving a monthly report of complaints, etc.*
- **What is the timing on this project?**  
*We expect the program to be operational sometime in the latter half of 2016.*
- **Will more than one hauler service a district?**  
*Only one hauler will service each district.*







