

Henry P. Roybal
Commissioner, District 1

Miguel M. Chavez
Commissioner, District 2

Robert A. Anaya
Commissioner, District 3



Kathy Holian
Commissioner, District 4

Liz Stefanics
Commissioner, District 5

Katherine Miller
County Manager

DATE: February 10, 2016
TO: Board of County Commissioners
FROM: Michael Kelley, Public Works Department Director
VIA: Katherine Miller, County Manager

ITEM AND ISSUE: *BCC Meeting February 23, 2016*

Request Approval to Publish Title and General Summary of: An Ordinance Establishing the Solid Waste Collection District; Requiring Commercial Solid Waste Haulers Operating within Collection District to Provide Bundled Refuse and Recycling Collection Services and to Deliver Collected Materials to Identified Disposal Sites; Establishing Licensing and Reporting Requirements for Commercial Solid Waste Haulers; Granting Enforcement Authority to the Director of Public Works; and Amending Ordinance No. 1992-3. (Public Works/Craig O'Hare)

SUMMARY:

This is a request to publish title and general summary for the referenced solid waste ordinance. The ordinance: 1) establishes a Solid Waste Collection District (see Exhibit A in ordinance), 2) requires that residential haulers operating within the Collection District provide recycling service as a bundled service with refuse collection, 3) requires that residential refuse and recyclables collected in the District be delivered to the Caja Road Landfill and to BuRRT; 4) requires that all solid waste haulers (those that provide commercial and residential service in the unincorporated County), obtain a license to operate from the County, 5) authorizes the Director to require SW Haulers in the unincorporated County to report data and information regarding their operations to the County semiannually; and 6) grants the Director authority to issue citations to enforce the proposed Ordinance and Ordinance No. 2014-10.

BACKGROUND:

At the direction of the BCC last fall, staff has developed an ordinance to require that all SW Haulers providing residential refuse service in the more densely populated areas surrounding the City of Santa Fe also provide curbside recycling service as a single "bundled" service for a single fee. The area identified is referred to as the "Solid Waste Collection District" in the proposed ordinance (Exhibit A). In the ordinance, residents would not have the option of "opting out" of recycling service, if they are receiving curbside refuse service.

This approach was developed as an alternative to the original ordinance (heard by the Board on June 30, 2015) which would have established exclusive private hauler franchise areas in three proposed districts. The franchising ordinance would have had the County competitively select a single hauler for each of the three districts. Haulers other than the County-selected hauler would have been prevented from operating in the district. Homeowners desiring curbside service would have been required to use the County-identified hauler.

Significant public opposition was received to that proposal. The draft franchising ordinance for the three Collection Districts was abandoned in favor of a compromise “bundled refuse and recycling service” approach, as represented by the attached ordinance. The single, consolidated Solid Waste Collection District in the proposed ordinance includes the same geographic area as the three districts in last year’s franchising ordinance. This new approach maintains existing private hauler competition and homeowner choice of hauler – two issues important to the public. Staff feels that the proposed ordinance continues to significantly advance the Commission’s waste reduction and recycling objectives –the primary goal of last year’s franchising ordinance.

DISCUSSION:

Key aspects of the proposed ordinance include:

- Requires residential SW Haulers within the Solid Waste Collection District to provide at least every other week recycling service (excluding glass) as a single bundled service. Refuse-only service would no longer be permitted.
 - Establishes a minimum 40 gallon container(s) volume for recyclables.
 - Except as otherwise required under the Sustainable Land Development Code for new developments, continues to allow homeowners the choice to self-haul their refuse and recyclables to appropriate disposal facilities.
- Requires that all refuse and recyclables collected by SW Haulers within the Solid Waste District be delivered to the Caja Rd. Landfill, the Buckman Rd. Recycling and Transfer Station (BuRRT), or other facilities that may be identified by the Director in the future.
- Requires commercial and residential haulers operating throughout the unincorporated County to obtain a license from the County and to pay a \$50 per year licensing fee.
- Requires SW Haulers operating throughout the unincorporated County to submit a solid waste data report to the County semiannually (twice per year).

Pilot Solid Waste Franchise Initiative in Eldorado: Staff Recommendation

The Public Works Department recognizes and appreciates the support certain residents in Eldorado have recently expressed for pursuing a pilot solid waste franchising program in their community. Staff, however, feels that it is premature to pursue such an initiative at this time.

As previously noted, staff believes that the main goal of the original franchising ordinance, to increase waste reduction and recycling rates, is essentially achieved with this new ordinance. The Solid Waste Collection District of the proposed bundled refuse and recycling ordinance includes the Eldorado community. Staff believes that it is prudent to adopt and implement the new ordinance before considering whether a pilot franchise program in Eldorado is necessary. It’s quite likely that

the new initiative will be successful at appreciably increasing waste reduction and recycling rates in Eldorado – obviating the need to pursue franchising. If, however, after six to nine months, the revised approach is not successful, staff would recommend consideration of an Eldorado pilot franchising program at that time.

Even for a small community such as Eldorado (approximately 2800 homes), pursuing franchising is a large administrative undertaking (ordinance adoption, procuring a hauler, implementation, oversight, etc.). As explained above, staff does not recommend pursuing the implementation of the attached ordinance and simultaneously pursuing an Eldorado franchising pilot program. If, however, that is the wishes of the governing body, the Public Works Department will, of course, proceed with both initiatives, as directed.

Next Steps. Staff is requesting that the ordinance be brought to the BCC at its regularly-scheduled March 29th meeting for public hearing and possible action.

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approval to publish title and general summary of subject ordinance.

Attachments:

1. Proposed ordinance with exhibit.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY

ORDINANCE NO. 2016-____

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE SOLID WASTE COLLECTION DISTRICT; REQUIRING COMMERCIAL SOLID WASTE HAULERS OPERATING WITHIN COLLECTION DISTRICT TO PROVIDE BUNDLED REFUSE AND RECYCLING COLLECTION SERVICES AND TO DELIVER COLLECTED MATERIALS TO IDENTIFIED DISPOSAL SITES; ESTABLISHING LICENSING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR COMMERCIAL SOLID WASTE HAULERS; GRANTING ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY TO THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS; AND AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1992-3.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY:

1. **SHORT TITLE.** This Ordinance shall be cited as the "Residential Solid Waste and Recycling Collection and Reporting Ordinance" and is referred to herein as "the Ordinance" or "this Ordinance."

2. **AUTHORITY.** This Ordinance is enacted pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 4-37-1 (1975), § 4-37-3, §§ 4-56-1 through 4-56-3 (1967), and the County Solid Waste and Recycling Management Ordinance, No. 2014-10.

3. **DEFINITIONS.**

The definitions set out in Ordinance No. 2014-10 shall apply to this Ordinance. In addition:

"Board" means the Santa Fe County Board of County Commissioners.

"Collection District" means the County Solid Waste Collection District established by this Ordinance.

"County-Identified Disposal Sites" means the Caja del Rio Landfill, Buckman Road Recycling and Transfer Station, and such additional disposal sites as may be identified by the Director and posted on the County Public Works Department's website.

"Director" means the County Public Works Department Director.

"Recyclables" means recyclable materials other than glass.

“SW Hauler” or “Hauler” means a Commercial Solid Waste Hauler, as defined in Ordinance No. 2014-10.

“Unincorporated County Area” means everywhere within the County, including the Collection District, located outside the boundaries of an incorporated municipality.

4. FINDINGS.

A. Except for new developments as provided in the County Sustainable Land Development Code, Ordinance No. 2015-11, it is neither necessary nor appropriate at this time to impose upon County residents mandatory Solid Waste collection by the County or County contractors. Residents of the County should be able to continue use their preferred SW Haulers or to dispose of the non-hazardous Solid Waste they generate at Solid Waste Facilities.

B. SW Haulers providing curbside collection of Solid Waste to residences within the County Solid Waste Collection District established by this Ordinance can also reasonably provide curbside collection of Recyclables.

C. Solid waste and Recyclables should be delivered to Solid Waste Facilities.

D. SW Haulers engaged in business within the Unincorporated County Area should be registered and licensed by the County in accordance County Ordinance No. 1992-3, as amended.

E. SW Haulers should report certain information, data and statistics to the Director to assure that the County has accurate information regarding Solid Waste collection and disposal within the County and to aid in the enforcement of all County ordinances governing Solid Waste.

F. The Director should be authorized to enforce this Ordinance and Ordinance No. 2014-10 through the issuance of citations.

5. COUNTY SOLID WASTE COLLECTION DISTRICT. There is hereby established a County Solid Waste Collection District within the Unincorporated County Area, as shown on Exhibit A to this Ordinance.

6. CURBSIDE COLLECTION OF RECYCLABLES.

A. Beginning on October 1, 2016, SW Haulers who provide curbside residential refuse collection services to customers within the Collection District shall also, as part of such service, collect Recyclables in containers separate from refuse containers. The following requirements shall apply to the collection of Recyclables by SW Haulers:

(1) SW Haulers shall collect refuse and Recyclables from their customers in separate containers as part of a single bundled service for a single price. Refuse

collection services shall not be offered, provided, or priced separately from collection of Recyclables.

(2) SW Haulers shall provide their customers with one or more containers for their Recyclables. The containers shall have a minimum total volume of 40 gallons.

(3) SW Haulers shall collect Recyclables from their curbside customers at least once every other week and deliver the Recyclables to the Buckman Road Recycling and Transfer Station in accordance with Section 8 of this Ordinance.

(4) SW Haulers shall provide customers with clear, uniform instructions regarding the Hauler's requirements for curbside Recyclable collection, which shall not be unreasonably burdensome. Upon determining that a Hauler's instructions are unreasonable, the Director may require the Hauler to modify the instructions.

B. The Director may provide written guidance to SW Haulers regarding the collection of Recyclables, not inconsistent with this Ordinance, which shall be mailed to SW Haulers and posted on the County Public Works Department website. SW Haulers shall comply with the Director's written guidance.

C. SW Haulers that use a front-loading truck and a single refuse collection container having a minimum volume of 1.5 cubic yards are exempt from Section 6 of this Ordinance.

7. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

A. The Director is authorized to require any SW Hauler to provide information, data, and documents to the Director regarding the Hauler's operations and services within the unincorporated County area, including but not limited to the following:

- (1) Number of customers.
- (2) Number of employees.
- (3) Map(s) of service territories.
- (4) Rates.
- (5) Contracts.
- (6) Methods of collection.
- (7) Types of collection containers.
- (8) Disposal tonnages regarding refuse and recyclable materials.

(9) Identification of solid waste facilities to which refuse and recyclables were delivered.

(10) Compliance with federal, state, and local laws.

B. SW Haulers shall provide the Director with requested information, data, and documents within sixty (60) days of receiving the request from the Director.

C. The Director may establish semiannual reporting requirements for all SW Haulers, not inconsistent with this Ordinance, which the Director shall mail to all SW Haulers and post on the Public Works Department's website.

8. **FLOW CONTROL.** SW Haulers shall deliver all refuse that they collect within the Collection District to a County-Identified Disposal Site. SW Haulers shall deliver all Recyclables that they collect from their customers in containers separate from customers' refuse containers to the Buckman Road Recycling and Transfer Station. All Recyclables delivered to the Buckman Road Recycling and Transfer Station shall be disposed of in the appropriate recycling area at the Station. No SW Hauler shall dispose of refuse or Recyclables collected within the Collection District except in accordance with this Ordinance.

9. **BUSINESS REGISTRATION AND LICENSE REQUIRED.**

A. An SW Hauler shall be deemed to be "engaging in business" within the meaning of Ordinance No. 1992-3, as amended, if the Hauler collects Solid Waste from ten (10) or more customers within the Unincorporated County Area, regardless of whether the SW Hauler maintains an office within the Unincorporated County Area.

B. All SW Haulers engaging in business within the Unincorporated County Area must have a valid, existing business registration permit issued by the County Treasurer in accordance with Ordinance No. 1992-3, as amended.

C. Beginning on October 1, 2016, no SW Hauler shall engage in business within the Unincorporated County Area except in accordance with a valid, existing business license issued to the SW Hauler by the County Treasurer in accordance with Ordinance No. 1992-3, as amended.

10. **AMENDMENT OF ORDINANCE NO. 1992-3.** Ordinance No. 1992-3 is amended as follows:

A. Section 2(G), "Licensed activity," is amended to add: "*10. Commercial Solid Waste Haulers, as defined in Ordinance No. 2014-10.*"

B. Section 3(B)(4), "Fees," is amended to add: "*n. Commercial Solid Waste Haulers, fifty dollars (\$50.00) per year.*"

provision: C. Section 9, "Licensed Activities," is amended to add the following new

"G. Commercial Solid Waste Haulers.

1. *No Commercial Solid Waste Hauler shall engage in business within the unincorporated County area without first obtaining a business license. Applications for licenses shall be made to the County Treasurer, on forms provided by the Treasurer.*
2. *Commercial Solid Waste Haulers shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, including but not limited to the New Mexico Solid Waste Act, NMSA 1978, §§ 74-9-1 through -.43, the County Solid Waste and Recycling Management Act, Ordinance No. 2014-10, and the Residential Solid Waste and Recycling Collection and Reporting Ordinance."*

11. PENALTIES AND CITATIONS.

A. Violations of this Ordinance or Ordinance No. 2014-10 shall be punishable by a fine of three hundred dollars (\$300.00) per violation, as allowed under NMSA 1978, Section 4-37-3(A).

B. Prosecutions of violations of this Ordinance or Ordinance No. 2014-10 may be commenced by the issuance of a citation charging the violation, which may be issued by the Director pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 4-37-3(B).

12. **SEVERABILITY.** If a provision of this Ordinance or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of the Ordinance that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Ordinance are severable.

13. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days after it is recorded in the office of the County Clerk.

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY THIS ___ DAY OF _____, 2016.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SANTA FE COUNTY**

By: _____
Miguel M. Chavez, Chair

ATTEST:

Geraldine Salazar, Santa Fe County Clerk

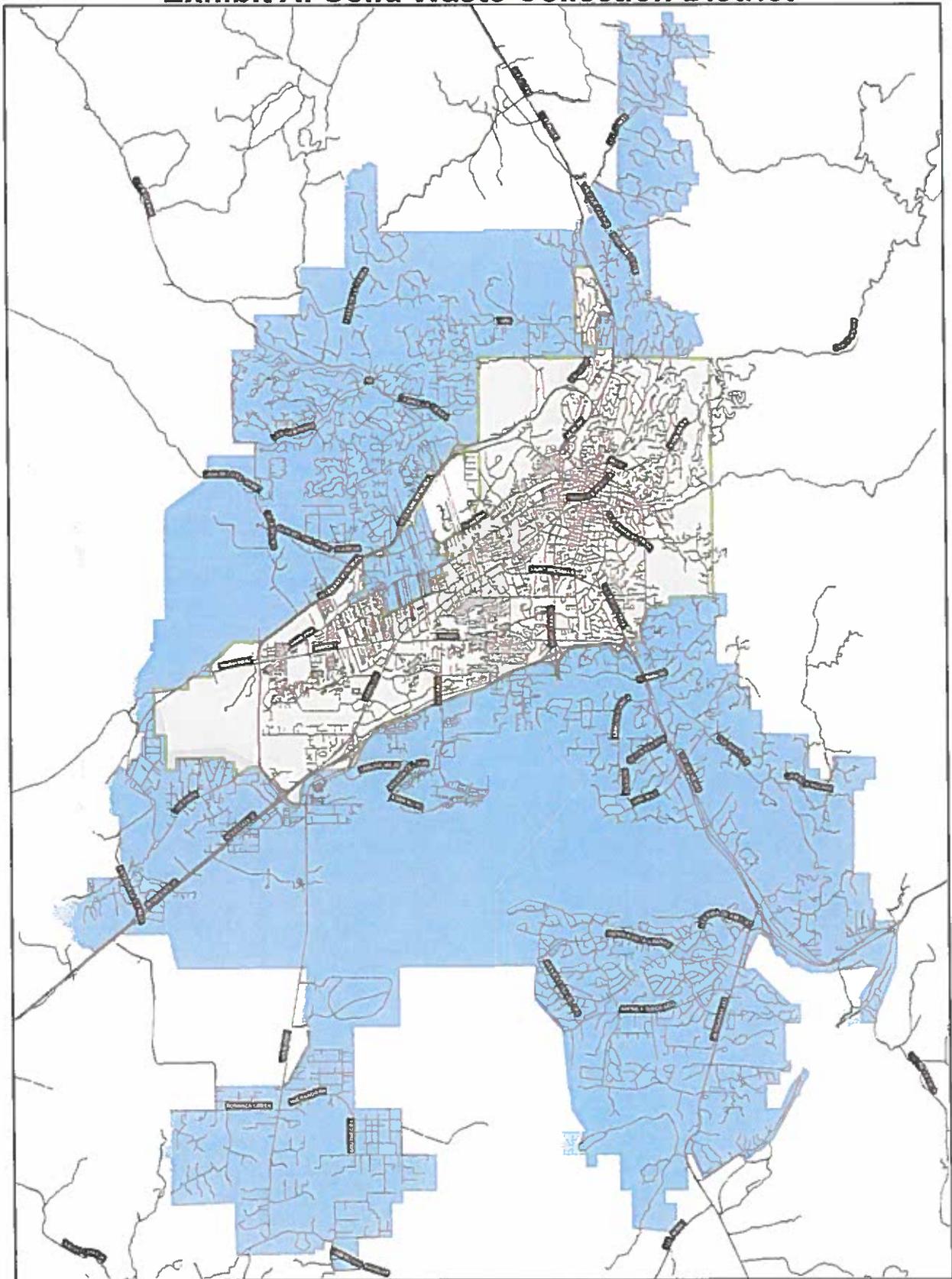
Date: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Gregory S. Shaffer, Santa Fe County Attorney

DRAFT

Exhibit A: Solid Waste Collection District

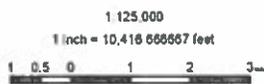


Legend

- Major Roads
- Minor Roads
- Incorporated Areas
- Solid Waste Collection District



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February 4, 2016

