

Bid Title: Solid Waste Rate Study
Category: Public Works
Status: Open

Description:

Gunnison County is initiating a comprehensive Landfill Rate Study to ensure that the County's solid waste system remains financially sustainable, operationally resilient, and aligned with long-term environmental and community goals. As Landfill operations become increasingly complex, it is essential that the County base its fees on a clear understanding of true operating and lifecycle costs. This study will provide that foundation.

The primary objective of the study is to develop a full cost-of-service analysis that identifies the actual resources required to operate, maintain, and plan for the future of the Landfill. This includes current operating costs, capital projects, equipment replacement needs, and state-mandated closure and post-closure obligations. Understanding these costs will allow the County to determine the revenue required to maintain safe, compliant, and reliable service over both the short and long-term.

A second objective is to design a fair and equitable rate structure that allocates costs appropriately across user groups. By analyzing customer types, waste streams, and tonnage patterns, the study will help the County establish rates that reflect cost-causation and are transparent and defensible. This ensures that no customer class is subsidizing another and that rates remain consistent with industry standards and best practices.

The study also aims to provide rate alternatives and policy options for consideration by the Board of County Commissioners. These options may include adjustments to tipping fees, surcharges, minimum-load fees, or incentives that support waste reduction and diversion goals. Each alternative will be accompanied by financial impacts, operational considerations, and customer impacts to support informed decision-making.

Additionally, the study will develop a long-range financial outlook to help the County plan for major capital improvements, equipment needs, and the ultimate closure and post-closure care of Landfill cells. This forward-looking modeling will aid in building stable reserves, smoothing future rate adjustments, and mitigating financial risks.

Finally, the study will support public transparency and communication. The resulting documentation, models, and presentations will help explain how rates are determined, why changes may be necessary, and how the County is managing its solid waste system responsibly and sustainably.

Publication Date/Time:

5/29/2026 12:00 AM

Publication Information:

Solid Waste Rate Study

Closing Date/Time:

7/1/2026 4:00 PM

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Download Available:

<https://www.gunnisoncounty.org>

Qualifications:

See Proposal

Special Requirements:

See Proposal

Miscellaneous:

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