



City of Lake Forest
 100 Civic Center Drive
 Lake Forest, CA 92630

PRSR STD
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 PERMIT NO. 104
 LAKE FOREST, CA



**IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING
 PROPOSED SOLID WASTE RATE INCREASE**

PLEASE OPEN FOR MORE INFORMATION

All Lake Forest property owners of record and tenants are invited to attend this public hearing. The Lake Forest City Council will hear and consider all materials and testimony as well as all written protests against the proposed rate increases. At the close of the public hearing, the City Council may adopt new rates if written protests against the proposed increases are not presented by a majority of identified parcels upon which the proposed rates are to be charged. If adopted, the rates shall take effect July 1, 2025. As noted in more detail below, the rates may also be adjusted for Annual Automatic Adjustments for a five-year period.

WHAT IS THE PUBLIC HEARING PROCESS?

CR&R Incorporated ("CR&R") provides Solid Waste Service within the City pursuant to an exclusive agreement. The rate for monthly Solid Waste Service is for two customer classes: (i) residential; and (ii) commercial. The rates for Solid Waste Service for each customer class is determined based on: (i) the size of the container serving the property; (ii) the materials accepted in the container (e.g., trash, recyclables, or organic waste) serving the property; and (iii) the frequency of pickups per week.

HOW ARE RATES DETERMINED?

In 1996, California voters approved Proposition 218, which establishes a specific process for cities to impose or increase certain types of fees. Proposition 218 provides that certain "property-related" rates are subject to a noticed public hearing and "majority protest" process. This notice is being provided to you in accordance with Section 6 of Article XIII D of the California Constitution (Proposition 218) which requires that notification be sent 45 days in advance of the public hearing. The City is conducting this Proposition 218 majority protest proceeding out of an abundance of caution and without conceding the applicability of Proposition 218 to Solid Waste Service.

WHAT IS PROPOSITION 218?

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Tuesday, April 1, 2025 at 6:30 p.m., or as soon as possible thereafter, the Lake Forest City Council will hold a public hearing in the City Council Chambers, located at 100 Civic Center Drive, Lake Forest, CA 92630, to consider adopting increases to the rates for collection and handling of trash, recycling, and organic waste services within the City (collectively, "Solid Waste Service"). Said public hearing will be held to consider all oral testimony and written protests to, and the adoption of the proposed rate increases.

WHY AM I GETTING THIS NOTICE?

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED INCREASE IN SOLID WASTE SERVICE RATES

BASIS FOR RATE INCREASES

The request for the proposed rate increases is based upon the new solid waste agreement (“Agreement”) with CR&R. Revenues derived from the Solid Waste Service rates are used solely for the purpose of defraying costs incurred in providing efficient Solid Waste Service and to ensure continued compliance with State law, including but not limited to, trash, recycling and organic waste pick-up, transportation, processing, disposal, facilities and equipment maintenance, capital projects and financing, and billing and account management. If the rates for Solid Waste Service are approved by the City Council, CR&R will implement the Solid Waste Service rate increases effective July 1, 2025.



FUTURE RATE INCREASES

Because the City anticipates future increases in the cost of providing Solid Waste Service that CR&R will charge pursuant to the Agreement, the City is also proposing to annually adjust the maximum rates for: (1) the collection component based on the annual percentage change (January – December) in the Producer Price Index (“PPI”), (2) the processing component based on the annual percentage change (January – December) in the PPI, (3) the change in disposal charges (tip fees), (4) the change in the City’s pavement impact costs, (5) the change in the City’s regulatory compliance costs, and (6) the change in recovered organic waste procurement costs resulting from the Senate Bill 1383 regulations (collectively, the “Annual Automatic Adjustments”). A full explanation of the rate methodology is available at www.lakeforestca.gov/en/trashandrecycling.

If approved, beginning July 1, 2026, and each July 1 thereafter for a five-year period, through and including adjustments effective on or after July 1, 2030, the rates for Solid Waste Services may be adjusted annually, without a further public hearing. In no event may an automatic increase exceed the City’s cost of providing Solid Waste Services. If the adjustments are approved, a written notice will be mailed to all parties subject to future annual rate adjustments, not less than 30 days prior to the effective date of the adjustment.

PROPOSED RATES

If passed, the proposed rates will take effect on July 1, 2025. Below is a summary of the proposed rates and a full list is available at the City’s website.

Scan the QR Code to the right or visit www.lakeforestca.gov/en/trashandrecycling.



PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL RATES- FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026			
SERVICE DESCRIPTION	CURRENT RATE	RATE CHANGE	PROPOSED RATE
35-gallon carts	\$21.86	\$0.27	\$22.13
65-gallon carts	\$22.35	\$1.36	\$23.71
95-gallon carts	\$23.00	\$2.02	\$25.02

NOTE: Rates for residential services are for a three-cart bundle serviced once a week, billed monthly

PROPOSED COMMERCIAL AND MULTIFAMILY RATES - FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026			
SERVICE DESCRIPTION	CURRENT RATE	RATE CHANGE	PROPOSED RATE
2yd Trash	\$98.60	\$26.46	\$125.06
3yd Trash	\$124.88	\$49.91	\$174.79
4yd Trash	\$138.00	\$95.05	\$233.05
2yd Recycle	\$50.70	\$11.83	\$62.53
3yd Recycle	\$64.26	\$23.14	\$87.40
4yd Recycle	\$71.01	\$45.52	\$116.53
2yd Food Waste	\$48.66	\$5.71	\$54.37
35-gallon Food Waste	\$33.15	\$7.03	\$40.18
65-gallon Food Waste	\$34.26	\$8.34	\$42.60

NOTE: Rates for commercial and multifamily services for a single container serviced once a week, billed monthly

HOW TO PROTEST

Any property owner whose property will be subject to the imposition of the proposed solid waste and recycling rates and any tenant directly responsible for the payment of such rates (i.e., a customer of record) may submit a written protest to the proposed changes. Oral, telephonic and e-mail protests will not be accepted. Written protests may be submitted by mail or in person to the City Clerk’s Office at 100 Civic Center Drive, Lake Forest, CA 92630 or at the Public Hearing on April 1, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. at Lake Forest City Council Chambers, 100 Civic Center Drive, Lake Forest, CA 92630, provided they are received prior to the conclusion of the public comment of the Public Hearing. A valid protest must include all of the following information:

1. A statement of protest (“I protest” will suffice);
2. Service address or Assessor parcel number (by assessor’s parcel number, street address, or customer account);
3. Written evidence (example: current copy of a utility bill) that the person is the property owner, if the person was not shown on the County of Orange’s last equalized assessment roll as the property owner or that the person is a tenant who is currently residing at the property and is responsible for the payment of utility fees; and
4. Name and signature of the property owner or tenant submitting the protest (photocopies will not be accepted). The City Clerk will only accept one protest per parcel.