

City of Tacoma

City Council Action Memorandum



SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:

A resolution authorizing the execution of an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with Pierce County to provide for continued cooperation by both parties in the implementation of the 2021 Tacoma-Pierce County Solid & Hazardous Waste Management Plan (SHWMP), and periodic updates or replacement of that plan.

BACKGROUND:

This Department's Recommendation is Based On: The City of Tacoma entered into a prior agreement with Pierce County in January 2011 to formalize the partnership for the purposes of developing and operating under a joint SHWMP required by the State. A new 20-year SHWMP has been developed, and is anticipated to be finalized and adopted this year. This is a new agreement to continue to partner with the County on the implementation and updating of the new plan for the next 20 years.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:

The development of the joint SHWMP affects all residents and businesses within the City of Tacoma and Pierce County. The development process has included engagement with representatives of many stakeholder groups, including the Pierce County Solid Waste Advisory Committee and the Sustainable Tacoma Commission.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Equity and Accessibility:

The City and the County have incorporated equity into the components of the new plan. One of the objectives of the new SHWMP is to implement targeted outreach and engagement to historically underserved demographics and stakeholder groups, with a specific aim at engaging with underrepresented communities to solicit feedback.

Livability: Equity Index Score: Moderate Opportunity

Improve access and proximity by residents to diverse income levels and race/ethnicity to community facilities, services, infrastructure, and employment.

Choose an item.

Explain how your legislation will affect the selected indicator(s).

The development of the new SHWMP has incorporated equity considerations, including evaluating the current Solid Waste infrastructure in the County to assess and address barriers to access, and implementing targeted outreach and engagement to underrepresented communities. The new SHWMP plan has been developed to be in alignment with the City of Tacoma's Climate Action Plan goals and Pierce County's Sustainability plan goals to reduce greenhouse gas impacts within the Solid Waste system.



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ALTERNATIVES:

Alternative(s)	Positive Impact(s)	Negative Impact(s)
1. Do not execute ILA	none	City of Tacoma will not have formal
		authorization to develop the State required
		SHWMP in partnership with the County

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:

The new SHWMP has identified specific goals, objectives, and actions to support the shared vision for continued operations and improvements to the solid waste programs in the County and City. When specific actions are brought forward for implementation that requires new funding or require policy changes, these actions will be brought to the City Council.

STAFF/SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

Environmental Services recommends authorizing the execution of the ILA with Pierce County to allow for continued partnership with the County for implementation of a new 20-year SHWMP.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No cost to the City of Tacoma.

Are there financial costs or other impacts of not implementing the legislation?

Yes

Not executing the ILA will leave the City without formal authorization to operate under a joint SHWMP with Pierce County.

Will the legislation have an ongoing/recurring fiscal impact?

No

Will the legislation change the City's FTE/personnel counts? No

ATTACHMENTS:

• Proposed 2022 ILA with Pierce County