



**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
PROPOSED CHANGES IN CITY OF SANTA BARBARA TRASH & RECYCLING  
RATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021**

**Date: Tuesday, June 23, 2020, 2:00 p.m.**

**Place: City of Santa Barbara Council Chambers, City Hall  
735 Anacapa Street, Santa Barbara**

## **PROPOSED RATE CHANGES**

You are receiving this Notice because our records indicate that you are a City of Santa Barbara utility customer. This Notice describes the proposed trash and recycling rate changes, and explains how you can file a protest and participate in the process. Some customers are billed by the City for some, but not all services. This notice applies only to the services that appear on your bill from the City.

### ***Trash & Recycling Revenue Requirement Increases***

According to the contract terms with the City's waste hauler, the City must increase rates to pay MarBorg for increases in inflation of 2.2% as measured by the Consumer Price Index, plus 4.7% for an increase in processing and disposal fees. The resulting proposed rate schedule increase for all sectors is 6.9%.

### **Resource Recovery Project**

In order to meet State of California's 2020 recycling and climate legislative requirements, the City is working with the County of Santa Barbara and other regional cities to construct the Resource Recovery Project, a regional waste processing plant that will divert at least 60% of our brown bin waste from landfill disposal. To do this, the project includes a facility that will pull out recyclables mistakenly sent to the landfill and an anaerobic digester to process organic material. Among the project's most significant achievements are:

- Increases in our community's recycling rate to above 85%
- Generates enough green energy to power 2,000 homes annually
- Reduces greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to taking 24,000 cars off the road annually
- Extends the life of the Tajiguas landfill

The facility is currently being constructed at the Tajiguas landfill and is expected to begin processing our waste in 2021. To fund the construction of the Resource Recovery Project, the fee for receiving trash and recycling from the City of Santa Barbara is increasing from \$150 per ton to \$158 per ton on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020. Commercial recycling currently being processed at \$30 per ton will also be increased to \$158 per ton. This cost increase is the driver of the 4.7% increase in disposal fees. For more information about the Resource Recovery Project please visit the County of Santa Barbara's website, [www.lessismore.org](http://www.lessismore.org).

### ***How will the proposed changes impact my trash & recycling bill?***

Representative trash & recycling service levels are demonstrated in the table on reverse.

To preview your July 2021 estimated bill please visit our Trash & Recycling Bill Calculator at [www.SBRecycles.org](http://www.SBRecycles.org) or call City Trash & Recycling at (805) 564-5631.

Customer Profile	Representative Service	Current Rates*	Proposed Rates*	% Change
<b>1 Unit Small Residential</b>	65-gal trash, 65-gal greenwaste, 65-gal recycle, 1x/week	\$48.90	\$52.37	7.10%
<b>2-4 Unit Small Residential (Cart/Can Service)</b>	3-65 gal trash, 95-gal greenwaste, 3-95 gal recycle, 1x/week	\$86.70	\$92.85	7.09%
<b>5+ Unit Large Residential (Cart/Can Service)</b>	5-95 gal trash, 95-gal greenwaste, 5-95 gal recycle, 1x/week	\$348.16	\$368.53	5.85%
<b>5+ Unit Large Residential (Small/Medium Dumpster Service)</b>	4 yard trash, 2 yard recycle, 1x/week	\$459.10	\$485.94	5.85%
<b>Business (Cart/Can Service)</b>	3-95 gal trash, 3-95 gal recycle, 2x/week	\$487.56	\$520.50	6.76%
<b>Business (Dumpster Service)</b>	4yd trash, 4yd recycle, 2x/week	\$1371.51	\$1464.24	6.76%

\* Not including 6% utility tax on trash/recycling collection, as applicable

### ***How Can I Lower My Bill?***

In general, some customers may be able to lower their bills by “right-sizing” their service. Customers can make sure that they are diverting lower-cost recyclables from their higher-cost trash containers, increasing recycling service while decreasing trash service, if possible. Many Business and Large Residential (5+ unit) customers are also subscribed to more greenwaste service than they need, especially if they have landscapers that can self-haul trimmings instead of using greenwaste containers for disposal.

### ***How do I protest?***

If you wish to submit a written protest of any of the above increases, your protest must be received by the City Clerk of the City of Santa Barbara at 735 Anacapa Street, Santa Barbara, CA, 93101, prior to the City Council’s consideration of this item on June 23, 2020. Protests must include your name, service address, and whether you are protesting the amount of the fee increase, the basis for calculation of the fee, or both. Due to social distancing practices, mailed protests are encouraged. Written protests may be delivered in-person at the address above, deposited in the bill payment drop box slot located on the exterior of the building on the De La Guerra Plaza side. Only written protests received before the close of the public hearing on June 23, 2020, will be counted. During the hearing, the City Council will consider all written protests received before the hearing, as well as public testimony. Protests are public records. The public hearing may be conducted via teleconference or other electronic meeting format, and the Council Chambers may not be open to the general public. Submission of written protests by personal delivery during the meeting may not be permitted.

### ***When do the new rates take effect?***

City Council will consider adopting these rates on June 30, 2020 (one week after the public hearing). The new rates will be effective starting July 1, 2020.

### ***How can I get more information and copies of the proposed rate schedules?***

See [www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/UtilityBilling](http://www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/UtilityBilling) or (805) 564-5631 for trash/recycling. Para información en Español, llame al (805) 564-5343.