



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

July 3, 2018

Motion 15174

Proposed No. 2018-0264.1

Sponsors Dembowski

1 A MOTION acknowledging receipt of a Cedar Hills
2 Tonnage and Capacity Report prepared in accordance with
3 the 2017/2018 Biennial Budget Ordinance, Ordinance
4 18409, Section 107, Proviso P2.

5 WHEREAS, the 2017/2018 Biennial Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 18409,
6 Section 107, Proviso P2, states that \$2,462,500 shall not be expended or encumbered
7 until the executive transmits two reports: the first on solid waste system tonnage and the
8 second on expansion of the Cedar Hills regional landfill, and motions that acknowledge
9 receipt of the reports and the motions are passed by the council, and

10 WHEREAS, Motion 15052, passed January 29, 2018, acknowledged that the first
11 part of Proviso P2 was satisfied by the timely receipt of the 2017 Solid Waste Tonnage
12 Report, and

13 WHEREAS, the ordinance requires the second report to include but not be
14 limited to:

- 15 A. The actual tonnage received for 2017;
- 16 B. A comparison of the costs to expand the capacity of the Cedar Hills
17 regional landfill, with the cost of waste export;
- 18 C. A projected date of closure for the Cedar Hills regional landfill, in the
19 absence of the expansion of the landfill; and

20 D. Recommendation for extending the life of the Cedar Hills regional
21 landfill, and

22 WHEREAS, the executive has transmitted to the council the requested second
23 report and a motion;

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

25 Receipt of the Cedar Hills Landfill Tonnage and Capacity Report submitted

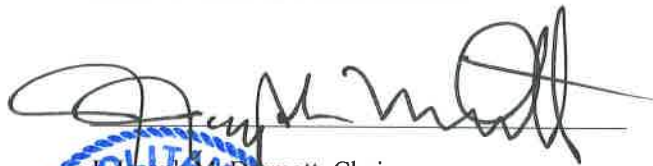
26 as

- 27 Attachment A to this motion in accordance with the 2017-2018 Biennial Budget
28 Ordinance, Ordinance 18409, Section 107, Proviso P2, is hereby acknowledged.
29

Motion 15174 was introduced on 6/4/2018 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 7/2/2018, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Dunn,
Mr. McDermott, Mr. Dembowski, Mr. Upthegrove, Ms. Kohl-Welles
and Ms. Balducci
No: 0
Excused: 0

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Joseph McDermott, Chair

ATTEST:



Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council



Attachments: A. Cedar Hills Landfill Tonnage and Capacity Report

Cedar Hills Landfill Tonnage and Capacity Report

Prepared in accordance with the
2017/2018 Biennial Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 18409, Section 107, Proviso P2

May 2018



King County

Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Solid Waste Division

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Introduction

The King County 2017/2018 Biennial Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 18409, Section 107, Proviso P2 requires the King County Executive to transmit a motion and report to the Council containing the actual tonnage for 2017 and information about the capacity of the Cedar Hills Regional Landfill (Cedar Hills). Specifically, the Ordinance requires the report to provide:

- The actual tons of waste received in 2017.
- A cost comparison of expanding the capacity of the Cedar Hills Regional Landfill versus the cost of waste export.
- The projected closure date of the Cedar Hills Regional Landfill, in the absence of the expansion of the landfill.
- Recommendations for extending the life of the Cedar Hills Regional Landfill.

This report addresses each requirement under a separate heading that corresponds to the particular requirement.

Executive Summary

The Solid Waste Division received 931,000 tons of garbage in 2017, which is 1,000 tons less than projected in the previous proviso report. Based on the most recent tonnage forecast, Cedar Hills, without further development, is estimated to reach capacity in 2028. The cost of disposal would be approximately \$41¹ per ton in 2029 if Cedar Hills is expanded, compared to \$55² per ton for waste export. To extend the life of the landfill, a series of projects is recommended which would add approximately 18 million cubic yards of capacity, with a goal of providing disposal capacity to 2040.

Report Requirements

Actual Tons Received in 2017

In 2017, Cedar Hills received 931,000 tons of garbage which is 1,000 tons less than projected in the previous proviso report.

Cost Comparison of Cedar Hills Landfill Expansion and Waste Export.

In 2029, the year after current landfill capacity is exhausted, the cost of disposal would be approximately \$41 per ton if Cedar Hills is further developed, compared to \$55 per ton for waste export. This waste export cost assumes utilization of existing local rail yard facilities and does not factor in any potential costs for additional capacity development at those rail yards or on the rail itself which is facing future constraints.

¹ Includes capital costs, operating costs, revenue, and post closure maintenance. Shown in 2029 dollars.

² Based on the City of Seattle waste export contract, inflated using 80 percent of the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers in Seattle, and capital cost to purchase 55 rail ready trailers in 2028. Shown in 2029 dollars.

Projected Closure Date of the Cedar Hills Landfill Without Expansion

Based on the most recent tonnage forecast, it is estimate that without further development, Cedar Hills will reach capacity in 2028.

Recommendations for Extending the Life of the Cedar Hills Landfill

Further development of Cedar Hills is one of three long-term disposal options in the recently released draft Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan. If the Council and cities adopt a plan that selects Cedar Hills for long term disposal, several options are available for development of landfill capacity. Under that circumstance, the initial recommendation is to complete a series of projects to add approximately 18 million cubic yards of landfill capacity. The development would include a new refuse area in the landfill's southeast corner and an increase in landfill elevation from 800 feet to 830 feet. Project features would be refined as part of the design and environmental review process. The goal of this landfill development activity would be to provide disposal capacity to 2040.

Conclusion and Next Steps

In 2017, 931,000 tons were managed at Cedar Hills which is projected to reach capacity in 2028 unless further development actions are taken. Adding capacity could extend the use of Cedar Hills at a cost of \$41 per ton in 2029. As an alternative, waste export would cost \$55 per ton. The Council will be asked to select a long term disposal strategy as part of the Solid Waste Comprehensive Plan that will be submitted for adoption in July 2018. Timely action will be essential to ensure adequate funding and time to implement the chosen strategy by 2028.