

# 32 26-0575 Public comment  
BOS Recd 5/8/26

 Outlook

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**Public Comment -- 5/12/26 BOS Meeting -- Legistar 26-0575 Mandatory Residential Waste Service Ordinance**

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From Peter Turner <threepeter@gmail.com>

Date Fri 5/8/2026 3:30 PM

To BOS-Clerk of the Board <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

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Dear El Dorado County Board of Supervisors:

My name is Pete Turner and my family has been a West Shore El Dorado County property owner (Fee Parcel #017-061-007-000) for over 65 years. I strongly support responsible waste management, wildfire safety, bear protection, and efforts to reduce illegal dumping. That said, before El Dorado County adopts mandatory year-round residential waste service for all residential parcels—including vacant seasonal homes—I respectfully request that the Board require a clear evidentiary and legal basis for this proposal.

My parents built our 700 square foot A-frame summer cabin on the West Shore in 1959. We only use it from June through September, and activate Tahoe Truckee Sierra Disposal service during those months. My concern is not with waste collection itself, but with imposing full-year mandatory charges on seasonal cabins that may be unoccupied for eight or more months annually and generate no waste during that period.

Seasonal homeowners already contribute significantly through property taxes and local spending, and many of us actively support environmental stewardship and defensible space efforts. A one-size-fits-all year-round billing structure penalizes responsible part-time residents while failing to distinguish between full-time occupancy and vacant properties. To justify this ordinance there needs to be a rational basis supported by an administrative record demonstrating that seasonal homeowners with suspended service are illegally dumping and littering the highways. Absent such evidence, the proposed mandatory residential waste ordinance operates more as a property-related fee than a true service fee, thereby requiring the County to comply with the fee proportionality requirements of Proposition 218. Charging seasonal homeowners like myself for 8 months of unused service significantly exceeds the "reasonable cost" of service attributable to our parcel.

Before approving the proposed ordinance, I respectfully request that the County publicly provide:

1. Data showing the number of illegal dumping, roadside litter, and wildlife-related waste incidents in the Tahoe Truckee Sierra Disposal West Shore service area over the past five years.
2. Evidence demonstrating that such problems are materially caused by seasonal or suspended-service homeowners.
3. A cost-of-service analysis showing why year-round mandatory billing for vacant seasonal homes is proportional and necessary.

4. Documentation explaining why less restrictive alternatives were rejected, including:

- Seasonal suspension with verification,
- Vacancy affidavits,
- Reduced standby fees,
- Occupancy-based service requirements, and
- Minimum service tiers for second homes.

Absent such evidence, this proposal risks appearing to prioritize administrative convenience and/or revenue stability over fairness, proportionality, and data-driven policymaking.

I respectfully ask the Board to ensure that any final ordinance:

- Is supported by transparent, publicly available evidence,
- Demonstrates a clear nexus between the burden imposed and the problem identified, and
- Includes a fair accommodation for seasonal or vacant homes.

I support the County's broader environmental and public safety goals, but urge you to design this program in a way that reflects the unique realities of the Tahoe Basin's large seasonal homeowner population. The proposed one-size-fits-all mandate is unnecessarily burdensome absent an administrative record demonstrating that seasonal properties are a significant driver of the problems this ordinance seeks to solve.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Pete Turner