



South Tahoe Refuse & Recycling Services

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November 14, 2013

Ron Briggs, Chair
Board of Supervisors
El Dorado County
330 Fair Lane
Placerville CA 95667

Re: Solid Waste Issues for the South Tahoe Refuse Service Area

Dear Chairman Briggs,

The following items, related to solid waste services in the South Tahoe Refuse franchise area, are submitted for the County Board of Supervisors review and consideration.

Tote Service Rate

The second issue involves an increased use of totes, including animal resistant totes, throughout the service area. The totes, which range between 64 and 96 gallons, exceed our service limitations of 32 or 45 gallon cans and are too large for our employees to unload by hand, given our current collection equipment and operations. However, customers are purchasing them, often with the best intentions of addressing wildlife issues, and are displeased when they are told that the totes do not match our equipment and that trying to lift and unload them without the proper equipment will lead to damage to the totes and injury to our employees.

We are setting the following rules for these customers:

- **Garbage must be bagged.** Our employees will manually transfer **bagged garbage** from the totes to the collection truck. Our employees will not try to lift totes or deal with loose garbage. Bagging garbage also reduces odors that attract wildlife.
- Bag weight may not exceed 30 lbs. each.
- Totes must be placed at the edge of the roadway, with a clear path to them, so that the bags can be transferred safely without risk of tearing.
- Locking devices must be operational and not frozen.
- South Tahoe Refuse is not responsible for damage to totes as we are not able to verify the quality of the design or component materials.
- Additional fees may apply to servicing totes in the future.

An analysis of increased labor costs for servicing totes provides a **\$1.40** rate per pickup.

Rate for Two-Truck Service

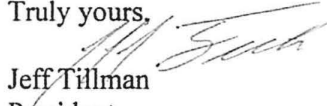
We are suggesting that a rate be established for addressing situations where customers require two trucks to service their account. This is commonly due to facility space and design limitations. We would not anticipate implementing this rate on existing properties, but may want to implement it on new properties that fail to provide for adequate access for service. That fee, based on time and equipment, would be **\$6.75** per pickup.

Rate for Cleaning Litter at Customer Stops

The intention of suggesting a rate for this service is to encourage customers to deal with their solid waste in a responsible manner to reduce the attraction of wildlife and to reduce litter in our communities. The rate is based on cleanups that take over 10 minutes and are reoccurring. A rate suggested during dicussion with the South Lake Tahoe Solid Waste Joint Powers Authority (JPA) would be **\$10.00** per incident, after two (2) warning notices. We would suggest reporting back to the JPA after a year of the program to discuss costs and benefits of the program and possible uses of the funds collected.

We appreciate your time and consideration of these issues.

Truly yours,



Jeff Tillman
President