



May 6, 2021

Board of Directors
Ventura Regional Sanitation District
Ventura, California

VRSD ORDINANCE NO. VRSD-116 – FEES AND CHARGES FOR THE TOLAND ROAD LANDFILL

RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. Conduct the first reading, by title only, of proposed Ordinance No. VRSD-116 Prescribing Fees and Charges for the Toland Road Landfill; and
- B. Schedule and Hold a public hearing for the Board of Directors' May 20, 2021, Regular Meeting on proposed Ordinance No VRSD-116; Conduct the second reading, by title only, of Ordinance No. VRSD-116 at that meeting; and Approve and Adopt Ordinance No. VRSD-116.

FISCAL IMPACT

The changes in solid waste disposal fees and charges proposed are expected to generate additional revenue of approximately \$19,000 annually, which is necessary to cover the cost of providing the services being performed.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

The majority of the District's solid waste disposal fees for the Toland landfill were last updated in July 2010 via Ordinance No. VRSD-107, which was subsequently replaced by Ordinance No. VRSD-110 in December 2011 to include handling charges for green waste Alternative Daily Cover (ADC) and green waste erosion control material.

Since July 2010, when the fees were last adjusted, through February 2021 the latest published data, there has been a 24.5% inflationary increase according to the Consumer Price Indices for all urban consumers in the Los Angeles region. Additionally, from FY 2010 to FY 2020, the District's solid waste operating costs have increased by \$1,844,000 or 25%.

While most of the revenues generated by the Toland Road Landfill operations are from contract-based fees or charges, approximately 2.9% of the District's solid waste revenues are generated from service to landfill customers without contracts with VRSD. The proposed revised fee schedule (or "gate rate") would apply to all landfill customers that do not have a direct contract with VRSD.

PROPOSAL

VRSD staff proposes at this time to revise the solid waste disposal fees and charges. If adopted, Ordinance No. VRSD-116 will become effective on July 1, 2021, and will repeal Ordinance No. VRSD-110.

DISPOSAL FEE CATEGORY	EXISTING RATES	PROPOSED RATES	CHANGE	
	Fee Per Unit	Fee Per Unit	\$	%
<u>Refuse</u>	\$39.60 ton	\$40.39 ton	\$0.79	2%
Minimum	30 per vehicle	\$35 per vehicle	\$5.00	17%
<u>Transfer Loads</u>	\$34.54 ton	Not Applicable		
<u>Hard-to-handle</u>	\$110 ton	\$120 ton	\$10	9%
Minimum	110 per vehicle	\$120 ton	\$10	9%
ADDITIONAL FEES AND SURCHARGES				
<u>Freon extraction</u>	\$5 each	\$45 each	\$40	800%
<u>Special pull-offs</u>	\$30 each	\$35 each	\$5	17%
<u>Tires: Outside diameter</u>				
Less than 36 inches	\$100 ton	\$130 ton	\$30	30%
Less than 36 inches	\$5 each	\$7 each	\$2	40%
36 inches to 60 inches	\$30 each	\$35 each	\$5	17%
Over 60 inches	\$200 each	\$220 each	\$20	10%
<u>Beneficial Reuse</u> (when not needed for landfill operations)	Not Applicable	\$40.39		

In general, the proposed rate increases are in-line with inflationary cost increases. However, in the case of freon extraction, the proposed rates are the fees paid by the District to a third party for freon disposal in addition to labor costs.

Additionally, Ordinance 116 includes language that will adjust rates annually for inflationary growth based on the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers within

the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim region in the prior calendar year.

This letter has been reviewed by Legal Counsel as to form.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me by phone at (805) 658-4646 or via email at tinarivera@vrzd.com.



ALVERTINA RIVERA, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

APPROVED FOR AGENDA:



Chris Theisen, General Manager

Attachments: 1: VRSD Ordinance No. 116

**VENTURA REGIONAL SANITATION DISTRICT
ORDINANCE NO. VRSD-116**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE VENTURA REGIONAL SANITATION DISTRICT
PRESCRIBING FEES AND CHARGES
FOR THE TOLAND ROAD LANDFILL**

WHEREAS, Ventura Regional Sanitation District (“VRSD”) is a county sanitation district created pursuant to California Health & Safety Code §4700 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, VRSD is authorized to provide public services related to the acquisition, construction, replacement, maintenance and operation of disposal systems and facilities; and

WHEREAS, VRSD operates a solid waste disposal facility known as Toland Road Landfill (“Landfill”) located at 3500 North Toland Road in the unincorporated area of the County of Ventura; and

WHEREAS, California Health & Safety Code Sections 4741.7 and 5471 provide that VRSD may prescribe and collect fees in connection with its refuse disposal systems and facilities pursuant to an ordinance adopted by a two-thirds vote of the governing body; and

WHEREAS, VRSD periodically evaluates VRSD’s refuse disposal systems and facilities which includes an evaluation of 1) current users, demands and capacity, 2) regulatory requirements, 3) costs of the existing and future operations and facilities, and 4) alternative methodologies for establishing fair and equitable charges. The planning, engineering, and financial studies associated with these evaluations are utilized during the development of VRSD’s Fiscal Year Final Budget, which is adopted by the Board of Directors annually; and

WHEREAS, VRSD’s periodic adjustment of refuse disposal fees ensures adequate revenues to finance the improvements and programs necessary to implement the mandated disposal regulations, maintain and improve facilities, and retire any debt incurred to finance such improvements in a reasonable manner; and

WHEREAS, VRSD maintains budgets, operations plans, capital improvement programs, reserve studies and financial and engineering reports (collectively referred to as the “Landfill Record”) which have been made available to the public, both prior to and subsequent to their public review, at noticed public meetings; and

WHEREAS, the financial requirements of VRSD, as shown in the Landfill Record, including VRSD’s most recently approved Budget, are based on current, reliable information and data relating to use projections, regulatory requirements, total system and facility operation, construction, maintenance and replacement costs, general administrative costs, including legal, accounting and other professional service costs, and capital costs; and

WHEREAS, the revenues derived under the provisions of this Ordinance will be used by VRSD for the construction, reconstruction, maintenance and operation of VRSD

disposal system facilities, repayments of principal and interest on debt instruments issued for the construction and reconstruction of VRSD facilities, recovery of costs associated with general administrative costs, and provision of necessary reserves; and

WHEREAS, the fees for disposal of refuse and related services at Toland Road Landfill set forth in this Ordinance do not exceed the cost of providing the disposal systems and facilities and related services for which the fees are imposed; and

WHEREAS, the VRSD Board of Directors finds the foregoing fees and charges are for the purpose of: 1) meeting operating expenses, including employee wage rates and fringe benefits; 2) purchasing or leasing supplies, equipment, or materials; 3) meeting financial reserve needs and requirements; or 4) obtaining capital funding for solid waste facilities (including development, closure and post closure projects) necessary to maintain service within existing service areas.

WHEREAS, the VRSD Board of Directors, based on the foregoing, finds that the adoption of this Ordinance is statutorily exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to the provisions of Public Resources Code Section 21080(b)(8) and title 14, California Code of Regulations, Section 15273(a); and

WHEREAS, the fees and charges established by this Ordinance have been approved by the VRSD’s Board of Directors at a noticed public meeting in accordance with all legal notice requirements.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Ventura Regional Sanitation District Board of Directors ordains as follows:

Section 1. Short Title. This Ordinance shall be known as the “Toland Road Landfill Fees & Charges Ordinance” and may be cited as such.

Section 2. Purpose. The purpose of this Ordinance is to establish fees and charges for the Toland Road Landfill.

Section 3. Fees and Charges. The following fees and charges are hereby prescribed for the Toland Road Landfill:

DISPOSAL FEE CATEGORY	Fee/Ton	Minimum Fee
Refuse ¹	\$40.39	\$35.00 per vehicle
Hard-to-handle ²	\$120.00	\$120 per vehicle

¹ “Refuse” is solid waste material legally permitted for disposal at the Landfill.

² Hard to handle fees apply to materials requiring special handling as determined by the Solid Waste Site Superintendent including difficult to handle items, biohazards (red bags, etc.), materials with potential health risks (non-friable asbestos, etc.), and materials with a highly offensive odor. Final determination of whether the fee applies is at the discretion of the Site Superintendent. The following are determined to be hard to handle materials:

- Concrete blocks larger than 2 feet in diameter
- Tree stumps greater than 2 feet in diameter
- Trees greater than 1 foot in diameter and 8 feet long
- Power/telephone poles greater than 8 feet long
- Asbestos pipe
- Wire, rope and fence netting

ADDITIONAL FEES AND SURCHARGES (IN ADDITION TO DISPOSAL FEES)

Freon extraction	\$45.00 each
Special pull-offs	\$35.00 each
Tires: Outside diameter	
Less than 36 inches	\$130.00/ton; \$7.00 each
36 inches to 60 inches	\$35.00 each
Over 60 inches	\$220.00 each
Beneficial Reuse (when not needed for landfill operations) at Refuse Rate	

Section 4. Inflationary Rate Adjustment. Beginning July 1, 2022 and annually thereafter on July 1 of each year, the fees and charges in Section 3 will be adjusted for inflation, if any. The adjustment will be based on the increase in Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers within the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim region in the prior calendar year.

Section 5. Transportation Restriction. Waste transported to the Landfill shall be carried by transfer trucks routed from transfer/materials recovery facilities pursuant to contracts with VRSD, except for waste generated in the cities of Santa Paula and Fillmore and the unincorporated areas of Santa Clara River Valley. All refuse haulers shall comply with the traffic control instructions adopted by VRSD’s current conditional use permit.

Section 6. Accounts. All commercial refuse customers shall establish VRSD Disposal Accounts and shall comply with all conditions and requirements of VRSD’s Disposal Account Agreement.

Section 7. Hours of Operation. Normal Landfill hours of operation for the general public and hours of operation for commercial accounts shall be established by Resolution of the Board of Directors.

Section 8. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective July 1, 2021.

Section 9. Repeal. Ordinance No. VRSD-110 is hereby repealed as of the effective date specified in Section 8 above.

Section 10. Severability. If any term, condition, or provision of this Ordinance is found by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, the remainder of the provisions hereof shall remain in full force and effect, and shall in no way be affected, impaired, or invalidated thereby.

Section 11. Administrative Record. All of the above Recitals are true and are hereby incorporated by reference herein. Each and all of the findings and determinations contained herein are based on the competent and the substantial evidence, both oral and written, contained in the entire Administrative Record relating to the proposed Project, which includes, but is not limited to: (a) the Landfill Record described in the Recitals above and all technical reports and other documentation referenced in the Landfill

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- Agricultural plastic film and tape
 - Irrigation tubing
 - Biohazard waste (red bags)
 - Wastewater treatment plant grit

Record, (b) the taped transcripts of the presentations to the VRSD Board regarding this Ordinance, Landfill fees and the VRSD Budget and all documents submitted therewith, (c) all completed Landfill reports, all completed Landfill correspondence, and all finished Landfill data and documents located in VRSD's official files, and (d) all documents referenced in or relied upon in any of the above listed records. These findings and determinations constitute the independent findings and determinations of the District Board in all respects and are fully completely supported by the substantial evidence in the record as a whole.

Adopted by the Ventura Regional Sanitation District Board of Directors on May 6, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

VENTURA REGIONAL SANITATION
DISTRICT

Jim Freidman
Chairman, Board of Directors

ATTEST:

Juliet Rodriguez
Clerk of the Board

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