STAFF REPORT

IN CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE NO. 19-1434 FOR THE PURPOSE OF APPROVING AN INCREASED TONNAGE ALLOCATION AND AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER TO ISSUE AN AMENDED SOLID WASTE FACILITY FRANCHISE FOR GSS TRANSFER, LLC.

Date: March 21, 2019 Department: Property and Environmental Services Meeting Date: April 4, 2019 Prepared by: Hila Ritter, 503-797-1862, <u>hila.ritter@oregonmetro.gov</u> Presenters: Roy Brower and Hila Ritter Length:

ISSUE STATEMENT

GSS Transfer, LLC, (partner company of Gresham Sanitary Service) a Metro-franchised transfer station located in the city of Gresham, seeks to increase the tonnage allocation authorized under its solid waste facility franchise. Metro Code Section 5.01.180 states that the Metro Council may determine whether to approve or deny an application for a solid waste franchise.

ACTION REQUESTED

Staff recommends approval of Ordinance 19-1434 which will authorize the Chief Operating Officer to amend the solid waste facility franchise for GSS Transfer, LLC to increase the amount of putrescible waste that the transfer station may accept in 2019. Approval of this ordinance will increase GSS Transfer's tonnage authorization from 23,687 tons to 49,000 tons for calendar year 2019.

IDENTIFIED POLICY OUTCOMES

Approval of this ordinance will support the goals of the 2030 Regional Waste Plan adopted by Metro Council on March 7, 2019, via Ordinance No. 19-1431.¹ It will also help achieve the transfer system configuration policy objectives that Council adopted in 2016 via Resolution No. 16-4716. The staff report to Ordinance 19-1434 provides a fuller description of these expected policy outcomes.

POLICY QUESTION

Does the Metro Council grant the Chief Operating Officer authority to amend the franchise for GSS Transfer to increase the amount of waste that the facility may accept in calendar year 2019 according to the provisions of Metro Code Chapter 5.01.230 and as described in the ordinance?

¹ Goals 12, 13, 16 and 18 as described in the strategic context section of this report. Staff Report to Ordinance No. 19-1434 Page 1 of 5

POLICY OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER

- 1. Approve the ordinance as proposed to authorize the Chief Operating Officer to amend the franchise to increase the tonnage authorization up to 49,000 tons for 2019.
- 2. Amend the ordinance to grant a different tonnage authorization than that requested by the applicant.
- 3. Do not approve the ordinance.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends adoption of Ordinance No. 19-1434 to approve the increased tonnage allocation requested by the applicant. If Council approves this ordinance, the new tonnage allocation will become effective during the calendar year and will apply to 2019 in its entirety.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT & FRAMING COUNCIL DISCUSSION

The 2030 Regional Waste Plan, adopted by Metro Council on March 7, 2019, sets the policy direction to shape the future of the solid waste system to better attain public benefits and improved sustainability. A major component of this plan is to take a broad look at the role, configuration, and services offered by publicly and privately-owned transfer stations. Prior to this, on July 21, 2016, the Metro Council adopted a transfer system configuration policy. The primary objectives of the policy are to: 1) ensure that the region's transfer system provides maximum public benefit, 2) maintain the current configuration of publicly and privately-owned transfer stations, 3) ensure that an adequate amount of putrescible waste flows to publicly owned stations (at least 40 percent of the region's putrescible tons), 4) limit the amount of putrescible waste that any one company may accept for transfer within the region (no more than 40 percent), and 5) improve rate transparency. The configuration policy also seeks to promote efficient off-route transport of waste to reduce greenhouse gas and provide opportunities for small, locally based businesses to participate in the region's solid waste system.

In addition to the objectives above, the configuration policy shifts Metro away from its current "tonnage cap" approach, in which the Metro Council establishes annual facility tonnage limits, to a more systematic and predictable "tonnage allocation" system, in which tonnage authority is proportionally allocated to privately owned stations each year beginning in 2020. Staff is developing the detailed methodology for future tonnage allocations for adoption as administrative rules later this year, which will be effective in 2020. This proposed 49,000-ton allocation amount for GSS Transfer is intended only for calendar year 2019. In the future, Metro will determine and adjust tonnage allocations for allocation methodology currently being developed using the allocation framework that Metro Council adopted in November 2018 under Ordinance No. 18-1426.

This proposed ordinance is consistent with Metro's transfer system configuration policy and the 2030 Regional Waste Plan (goals 12, 13, 16, and 18) because it promotes efficient off-route travel which reduces environmental impacts (goal 12), continues to support investment in the host community by way of the Community Enhancement Grant program (goal 13), implements the configuration policy (goal 16.7), and supports a small, locallybased business that is part of the region's solid waste system (goal 18).

Known Opposition/Support/Community Feedback

Metro posted notice and provided an opportunity for the public to review and submit comments on the change of authorization application. A detailed description of the community response is provided in the *Public Comment Report* included as Attachment 2 to this staff report. Overall, the comments that Metro received indicated general support for the proposed tonnage increase requested by GSS Transfer for calendar year 2019.

In addition to posting the application for public review and comment, staff also attended a meeting of the Northwest Neighborhood Association (NWNA) on January 28, 2019, to discuss GSS Transfer's application. As explained further in the *Public Comment Report*, NWNA currently considers GSS Transfer's operations reasonable, but has some concerns about expanded transfer station operations. The city of Gresham staff supports the proposed increase at GSS Transfer because the facility's rates are on par with those at the publicly-owned transfer stations, and it allows their licensed haulers to increase route efficiencies which keep rates stable for its ratepayers.

Staff finds that GSS Transfer has a good compliance history and adequately demonstrated that it will appropriately manage the increased tonnage without creating negative off-site impacts. Staff finds it is in the public's interest to authorize an increased tonnage amount for GSS Transfer for calendar year 2019.

Legal Antecedents

Metro Code Chapter 5.01, entitled "Solid Waste Facility Regulation." Specifically, section 5.01.230(a)(3) states that a franchisee must submit an application to Metro when the franchisee requests to modify other limiting conditions of the applicant's franchise.

GSS Transfer submitted a complete change of authorization application to Metro on November 28, 2018, including the \$100 application fee.

Anticipated Effects

Adoption of Ordinance No. 19-1434 will authorize an increase from 23,687 to 49,000 tons for GSS Transfer for calendar year 2019. If the proposed ordinance is adopted, the amended franchise will become effective 90 days after the date of adoption. Upon adoption, the tonnage allocation of 49,000 tons applies to calendar year 2019 in its entirety.

Financial Implications (current year)

GSS Transfer is seeking a change of authorization to its franchise to increase the amount of waste it is authorized to accept by an additional 25,313 tons of putrescible waste for calendar year 2019. While approval of this ordinance is expected to reduce the amount of putrescible waste received at Metro's transfer stations, it is not expected to decrease Metro's share of the overall putrescible waste tonnage in the region by a commensurate amount. A portion of the tonnage that the applicant plans to divert from other transfer stations (including Metro Central and South) will likely be backfilled, at least in part, by the

subsequent shifting of tons in order to fully utilize the regional system. Notwithstanding, staff expects that Metro Central and South will experience a slight decrease in putrescible waste tonnage through direct diversion to GSS Transfer. Whenever Metro stations receive lower tonnage amounts, it results in higher per unit processing costs in the short term. Therefore, approval of the proposed ordinance is expected to impact Solid Waste Fund operating costs and revenues in the short term until rates are adjusted to account for future tonnage amounts. Furthermore, beginning in 2020, as part of Metro's tonnage allocation methodology, Metro will require that at least 40 percent of the region's putrescible waste tonnage flows to publicly owned transfer stations (Metro Central and South).

The full amount of GSS Transfer's proposed tonnage increase was not included in the forecast for FY2019-20, nor factored into the FY2018-19 rates. This would have resulted in an increase of approximately \$0.50 per ton to the mixed solid waste fee charged at Metro Central and South. Any shortfall this fiscal year can be recouped by Metro by adjusting its tonnage charge for mixed solid waste in FY2020-21.

Community enhancement committee in the city of Gresham could receive up to an additional \$25,313 per year under the proposed tonnage increase – for a total of up to \$49,000 for 2019. As a result of this action, the city of Troutdale enhancement committee might experience a reduction in funds based on potential tonnage shifts from Troutdale to Gresham. In addition, it is likely that the Metro Central and South community enhancement committees would also experience a reduction in fees from any tonnage diverted to other facilities.

Staff is developing an administrative rule that sets forth a detailed process for determining and adjusting future tonnage allocations. Staff notes that this prescribed tonnage allocation process, beginning in 2020, may result in a different, not yet determined, tonnage allocation for GSS Transfer.

BACKGROUND

The applicant, GSS Transfer, is a partner company of Gresham Sanitary Service, Inc. - a local, family-owned waste collection business established in 1948. Gresham Sanitary began operations as an "exempt" solid waste reload facility in 1992 at its base of operations located at 2131 NW Birdsdale Avenue in Gresham. In 2016, the Metro Council authorized Gresham Sanitary to expand its operations from simply reloading waste to other transfer stations, to becoming a franchised transfer station that transports waste directly to a landfill.² Gresham Sanitary has collected putrescible waste from residential and commercial customers within the city of Gresham, East Multnomah County, and the Port of Portland for nearly 30 years. Gresham Sanitary also holds a solid waste transfer station permit issued by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) in 2016.³

Metro has conducted seven inspections of GSS Transfer during the term of the current franchise. GSS Transfer is currently in compliance with Metro's requirements and it has

² Ordinance No. 16-1391-A

³ Sold Waste Disposal Site Permit No. 1392

not had any compliance issues during the term of its current franchise. In addition, DEQ and city of Gresham staff have reported that there are no enforcement or compliance issues associated with this site.

Currently, Gresham Sanitary collects waste from its routes in small trucks and transports it to its facility for consolidation and top-loading into transfer trailers. The consolidated waste is then transported to a landfill for disposal, primarily Wasco County Landfill.

The applicant seeks to continue its current practice of consolidating putrescible waste from its collection routes at its facility, but seeks increased tonnage allocation to ensure a more sustainable operation, expand its operation to allow third-party haulers, and avoid the added costs of travel time and tipping fees using other transfer stations.

On November 28, 2018, the applicant submitted to Metro a complete solid waste facility change of authorization application accompanied by payment of the appropriate application fee. The applicant requested to both increase its annual franchise tonnage authorization from 23,687 tons to 49,000 tons and amend its non-system license (N-019-16E) to similarly increase the annual tonnage it is authorized to transport to Wasco County Landfill. The proposed non-system license amendment will be brought to Metro Council for consideration on April 11, 2019 under Resolution No. 19-4980.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Exhibit A to Ordinance No. 19-1434: Draft Franchise No. F-019-16C
- B. Attachment 1 to Staff Report: Images
- C. Attachment 2 to Staff Report: Public comment report

Attachment 1: Images



Attachment 1 to Staff Report for Ordinance No. 19-1434

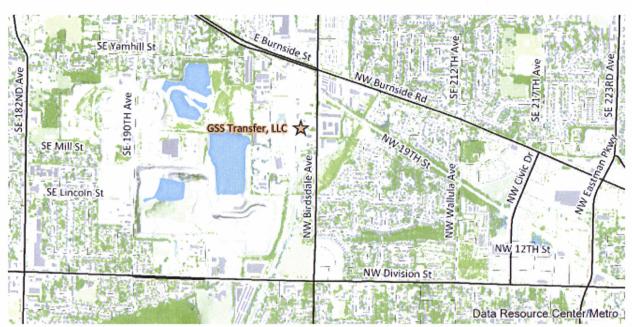


Photo 1: Map of GSS Transfer, LLC.



Photo 2: GSS Transfer located at 2131 NW Birdsdale Ave. in Gresham



503-797-1862

Prepared by: Hila Ritter

Attachment 2 to Staff Report for Ordinance No. 19-1434

March 21, 2019

Background

Adoption of Ordinance No. 19-1434 will authorize the Chief Operating Officer (COO) to amend the solid waste facility franchise for GSS Transfer, LLC to increase the amount of waste accepted at its transfer station located in the city of Gresham and to transport that waste to the Wasco County Landfill.

GSS Transfer submitted a change of authorization application to Metro requesting to increase its annual tonnage authorization from 23,687 tons to 49,000 tons and amend its non-system license (N-019-16E) to similarly increase the annual tonnage it is authorized to transport to Wasco County landfill from 23,687 to 49,000 tons.

Public Notice and Opportunity to Comment

Metro posted notice and provided an opportunity for the public to review and submit comments on the change of authorization application. The public notice was posted on Metro's website, mailed to approximately 755 property owners and residents surrounding the proposed facility, and emailed to various other parties that are generally interested in solid waste issues. The 30-day public comment period began on December 28, 2018 and was extended an additional two-weeks at the request of the local neighborhood association (Northwest Neighborhood Association – NWNA), and closed on February 8, 2019.

NWNA invited Metro, DEQ, city of Gresham, and GSS Transfer to attend its monthly meeting on January 28, 2019 to discuss GSS Transfer's application. Metro staff and the aforementioned organizations described the tonnage increase request and answered questions with approximately 55 people in attendance. Subsequent to the meeting, the NWNA Board of Directors submitted a written comment as summarized below, and included in-full below with the other comments received during the public notice period.

GSS Transfer submitted a response to comments, which is also summarized below and attached in-full below.

Summary of written public comments on application

Metro received four comments during the public notice period. Three of the comments are in support of the proposed tonnage increases citing support for local business, reduced costs, improved environmental benefits, no necessary infrastructure improvements required for the change and the applicant's demonstrated ability to manage waste without causing adverse off-site impacts. Metro also received a comment from the NWNA Board of Directors expressing concern about the close proximity of GSS to projected infill residential and commercial customers. In summary, NWNA's letter outlines four areas of concern:

1. Traffic – the expected increase in trucks is between five to 15 additional trucks per day which will not significantly affect current traffic patterns. However, the area is projected to have

Public comment report



Attachment 2 to Staff Report for Ordinance No. 19-1434

redevelopment from the locally approved urban renewal plan, and there is concern about how garbage and semi-trucks will impact neighborhoods.

- 2. Monitoring for negative off-site impacts GSS' current level of attentiveness to sanitation and safety is appreciated. However, increased access to Metro inspection reports is desired for comparison with neighborhood observations of off-site impacts such as: noise, odor, vectors, dust, litter and hazardous waste spills.
- 3. Best facility for public benefit GSS is currently a good neighbor and provides an essential service. However, future evaluations of the location of transfer stations should be conducted and include impact to surrounding community and out-of-direction traffic routes in comparison to other transfer stations.
- 4. Economic benefits shared with ratepayers it is unclear how an increased alliance between GSS and Waste Connections, who is based out of Texas, will benefit local ratepayers, haulers, and independent waste companies.

<u>Applicant response to comments:</u> GSS submitted a response to comments that generally describes its commitment to good housekeeping measures and maintaining a record of zero complaints and positive role in the community. It explains that most of the traffic associated with the facility utilizes a federally recognized freight-way, and that additional traffic impact is insignificant (.01% of total traffic). It addresses livability issues by pointing out that hazardous waste is not accepted at GSS and further acknowledges the oversight responsibilities of regulatory agencies along with underscoring its own responsibility to continue to mitigate off-site impacts. It then explains the economic benefits that could be shared by describing the process by which the City of Gresham performs an annual review process for determining rates and how that can result in reduced costs to the ratepayer. The second economic benefit it describes is the opportunity to accept increased waste from independent operators which are expected to benefit from disposal cost savings, reduced operating costs and lower environmental impacts from decreased transportation.

Metro response to comments: Thank you for the comments in support.

In regards to the concerns described by NWNA:

- 1. Traffic Metro primarily relies on the local jurisdiction, in this case city of Gresham, to determine traffic allowances. Based upon the information that Metro received from city of Gresham staff, the proposed increase complies with the City's traffic requirements. In addition, the increase in truck traffic is considered negligible, .01 percent of total traffic in the area.
- 2. Monitoring for negative off-site impacts Metro employs two full time solid waste facility inspectors who are trained in environmental compliance and tasked with monitoring the 50+ solid waste facilities authorized by Metro in and around the region. The inspectors generally perform seven or eight inspections of a facility annually. When greater attention at a facility is merited, Metro performs an increased amount of both announced and un-announced facility inspections and complaint investigations in neighboring areas surrounding the facility. Metro has conducted eight inspections of GSS Transfer during the term of the current franchise. GSS Transfer is currently in compliance with Metro's requirements and has not had any compliance issues during the term of its current franchise. In addition, DEQ and city of Gresham staff has reported that there are no enforcement or compliance issues associated with this site.



Attachment 2 to Staff Report for Ordinance No. 19-1434

- 3. Best facility for public benefit It is not Metro's intent to cause any facility to close including GSS Transfer due to regulation. Staff is developing administrative rules to further implement the configuration policy and future tonnage allocations for adoption later in 2019, which will be effective in 2020. This proposed amendment to the franchise for GSS Transfer is for the calendar year 2019 only. Future tonnage allocations for all transfer stations, including GSS Transfer, will be determined and adjusted applying the percentage based allocation methodology currently being developed.
- 4. Economic benefits shared with ratepayers The functions of regional solid waste system are implemented by Metro, cities and counties, and many private for-profit businesses and non-profit organizations. This sharing of responsibilities means that Metro has a strong interest in the success of the private sector at creating, expanding, preserving and broadening efforts that advance waste prevention, reuse, recycling and energy recovery. In addition, Metro has a strong interest in the success of the local jurisdictions in the rate setting process for residents and businesses who depend on garbage and recycling collection services. At this time, Metro does not regulate rates that private facilities or haulers charge their customers, and is working to increase rate transparency at all facilities and throughout the region.

Comments are listed in the order in which they were received:

- 1. We are located in the neighborhood of this business. We hardly know this location exists. They are very considerate of our business. I see no reason why this expansion should not be approved. It seems it will benefit all of us and not create any burden on the area. I appreciate the professionalism I have encountered with this business and believe they have the best interests of community in mind. Please feel free to contact us with questions.
- 2. GreenWay Recycling, LLC supports GSS Transfer application on the basis that it supports local business.
- 3. On behalf of the Gresham Northwest Neighborhood Association [NWNA] membership, thank you for the opportunity to provide public comment While our neighborhood association has appreciated GSS as important, responsibly-operated partners in our business community, adjacent to our neighborhood association boundary (shared with the Rockwood NA boundary), we do have concerns regarding how expanded operations at the transfer station would impact West Gresham residents and property owners

Our Understanding of the Area and GSS Proposal

The most closely impacted neighbors are commercial and industrial properties -- including TriMet's MAX yard on the west side of the Gresham/Fairview Trail The nearest residential neighbors are approximately 1,000 feet from the GSS facility To date we have not received any specific complaints from neighbors Neither have we witnessed any activities that would be considered hazardous or obtrusive We are nonetheless concerned about the close proximity of infill residential and commercial neighbors



Attachment 2 to Staff Report for Ordinance No. 19-1434

In 2003, City of Gresham residents voted for a 20-year urban renewal plan authorizing over \$90 million in tax increment financing for redevelopment projects in Rockwood/West Gresham These efforts have resulted in high-value infrastructure upgrades for one

of the Metro region's most struggling communities Urban renewal projects like this one encourage private investment opportunities which, in Rockwood's case, may vanish or become substantially reduced if 'urban' Rockwood's industrial neighbors directly or indirectly bring further hardship to the community

Upon reviewing the application with GSS management, Metro, DEQ and City of Gresham staff, we understand the intention is

to 'spread out' the intake of putrescible waste during normal hours of operation The extra truckloads will be arriving during currently under-utilized times of day In theory, this would increase operating efficiencies without resulting in traffic bottlenecks, increases in on-site storage of waste or waste-related impacts noticeable from offsite In other words, neighbors should be subjected to substantially the same level of impacts; which are currently considered reasonable

Our Concerns about the GSS Proposal

In the interest of resident's health, safety and welfare; and the existing character and future development potential of Gresham neighborhoods, we respectfully raise the following points: 1 - Concern about traffic. Significant new residential development has occurred and additional residential development is planned near the transfer station The neighborhood is concerned that increasing the use of this transfer station will result in both (local) garbage truck and (landfill-bound) semi-truck traffic through the neighborhood According to GSS and City of Gresham staff, the majority of GSS traffic will be routed along E Burnside St / NW Burnside Rd, a federally recognized freight-way, which our neighborhood prefers We understand that the permit anticipates approximately five --and up to fifteen -- additional daily truck trips dropping off waste at GSS The anticipated increase in vehicles will not significantly affect current traffic patterns

2 - Monitoring for negative impact. Neighbors appreciate GSS's current level of attentiveness to safety and sanitation. Adjustments in garbage transfer operations could potentially increase noise, odor and result in other impacts negatively affecting neighborhood livability — such as vector-borne disease, wind-blown dust and litter, and hazardous waste spillage We understand Metro staff conducts six to eight surprise site inspections each year Inspection results are available in staff reports made public as part of the license renewal procedures and are available through public records requests Neighborhood members would like to review staff reports and will compare available data with neighbors' observations to ensure that emissions continue to meet acceptable standards, accidental discharges are properly contained and reported, and insects/rodents associated with waste are controlled within limits acceptable for the neighborhood

3 - Best facility for public benefit. We feel confident that GSS has good intentions and will make every effort to continue being a good neighbor while providing an essential service to the broader community However, if transfer operations do become untenable at the Birdsdale location, NWNA will appreciate efforts to re-evaluate and address the costs/benefits of waste transfer locations. Specifically, which locations offer 1) the least impact to residential and commercial neighbors; and 2) the least out-of-direction routings for local haulers and long-



Attachment 2 to Staff Report for Ordinance No. 19-1434

distance landfill-bound transfer vehicles relative to other transfer facilities in the metro region Metro should consider whether other facilities, for example Waste Management's Commercial Transfer Station in Troutdale, which is nearer to I-84 (and further from established residential areas) would be more-appropriate for the increased waste handling and semi-truck transportation

4-From an economic perspective GSS has stated the requested changes will result in cost reductions and benefits to rate payers. A stronger alliance between GSS and Arrow Sanitary Service — which shares the same Texas-based parent company as Wasco County Landfill — should generate benefits for all players in the waste stream serviced by these companies How will rate payers, and other local haulers, especially independent operators, share the benefits of the proposed changes?

Thank you for considering these comments.

4. We fully support Gresham Sanitary's application to expand their transfer facility. It makes sense for two reasons. 1. It good for the environment in that other Gresham haulers don't have to go miles away to dump. Reduces traffic, wear and tear on the highway, exhaust and fuel saving benefit the environment. 2. Gresham Sanitary already has the capacity to handle the extra tonnage and triggers no new land or zoning permits for the City of Gresham. And, it has virtually no impact on the surrounding neighborhood. Please approve this application.

GSS Transfer response to comments:

Re: Response to public comment regarding GSS Transfer change of authorization.

Dear Ms. Ritter,

We understand that most of the comments received by Metro are positive in nature and do reflect our ongoing commitment to health and safety. As a heavy industrial property owner and a current transfer station licensee, we believe we are a good neighbor as well as an asset to our community.

To date we have not received any specific complaints from neighbors, and during our last DEQ unannounced inspection on January 4t11, 2019, "no violations were observed" and "litter control and waste organization was excellent."

The concern regarding traffic has been addressed. Most local and all landfill-bound traffic is routed along E Burnside St/ NW Burnside Rd which is a federally recognized freight-way. With the increased tonnage, total traffic impact is insignificant when compared to the overall traffic on the street. The added trips are less than .01% of total traffic at these locations.

The concern regarding livability has been addressed. Hazardous waste is prohibited from placement in solid waste and is not accepted at our facility. We believe the regulating authorities of the State of Oregon, Metro, DEQ, and the City of Gresham do a good job monitoring and enforcing rules and regulations in the best interest of the public. Our current operating plan, as well as current practices, address and mitigate any negative impacts to surrounding area, GSS Transfer's current level of attentiveness to safety and sanitation can be expected to continue.

Regarding the question about "How will rate payers, and other local haulers, especially independent operators, share the benefits of the proposed changes?"

Public comment report



Attachment 2 to Staff Report for Ordinance No. 19-1434

The City of Gresham reviews the solid waste system's financial performance and collection rates annually. City Staff, and an outside auditor, analyze the financial reports submitted by the City's licensed haulers. The adjusted composite results for the whole system are used as the basis for determining whether rate increases are necessary to cover future collection costs. The reduced disposal fees at GSS Transfer, as well as the decreased operating costs for the Haulers using the facility, will be passed on to the customers through this annual review process.

Regarding the sharing of these decreased costs for "independent operators," a significant portion of the increased tons will come from independent operators. Rockwood Solid Waste is using the GSS Transfer facility, and their trucks are based less than 1/4 mile from GSS Transfer. As a result, in addition to the significant disposal savings, Rockwood Solid Waste will also achieve reduced operating costs and lower its environmental impact.

We appreciate the feedback and comments regarding our proposal. It has given more people a better understanding about who we are, and hopefully clarified our level of commitment to excellence, especially toward our community and neighbors. We welcome continued dialog with stakeholders when desired and will always make ourselves available to do so.

-Matt Miller

Vice President - GSS Transfer

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

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FOR THE PURPOSE OF APPROVING AN INCREASED TONNAGE ALLOCATION AND AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER TO ISSUE AN AMENDED SOLID WASTE FACILTIY FRANCHISE FOR GSS TRANSFER, LLC

ORDINANCE NO. 19-1434

Introduced by Chief Operating Officer Martha Bennett in concurrence with Council President Lynn Peterson

WHEREAS, Metro Code Section 5.01.150 states that a Metro Solid Waste Facility Franchise is required for any person owning or controlling a facility that operates a transfer station; and

WHEREAS, GSS Transfer, LLC ("GSS Transfer") operates a transfer station and holds Metro Solid Waste Facility Franchise Number F-019-16B, which sets an annual tonnage authorization for the franchisee; and

WHEREAS, Metro Council adopted a transfer system configuration policy via Resolution No. 16-4716 that directed Metro staff to establish a predictable and transparent framework for tonnage allocations; and

WHEREAS, Metro Council adopted Resolution No. 18-1426 to establish a framework for allocating the region's putrescible waste tonnage to privately-owned transfer stations beginning in 2020; and

WHEREAS, Metro Code Section 5.01.230(a)(3) states that a franchisee is required to submit an application to Metro when seeking to modify conditions of its franchise; and

WHEREAS, on November 28, 2018, GSS Transfer applied for a change of authorization to its franchise seeking to increase its tonnage allocation; and

WHEREAS, GSS Transfer does not propose to alter any other activities that already occur at its transfer station site; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Operating Officer recommends amending the franchise to increase the tonnage authorization up to 49,000 tons of putrescible waste for calendar year 2019; and

WHEREAS, beginning in 2020, Metro will allocate the region's putrescible waste tonnage to privately-owned transfer stations in accordance with Metro's tonnage allocation methodology;

WHEREAS, beginning in 2020, Metro will require at least 40 percent of the region's putrescible waste tonnage to flow to publiclly-owned transfer stations; and

WHEREAS, the Metro Council finds that the terms, conditions, and limitations contained in Exhibit A to this Ordinance are appropriate; now therefore,

THE METRO COUNCIL ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

1. The increased tonnage allocation for GSS Transfer is approved subject to the terms, conditions, and limitations contained in Exhibit A.

2. The Chief Operating Officer is authorized to issue to GSS Transfer an amended solid waste facility franchise substantially similar to the one attached as Exhibit A.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this \coprod^{h} day of April 2019.



Sam Chase, Deputy Council President

Approved as to Form:

Nathan A. S. Sykes, Metro Attorney

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