

### **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING** PROPOSED CHANGES TO CITY OF SANTA BARBARA TRASH & RECYCLING RATES

# Date:Tuesday, June 10, 2025, 2:00 p.m.Location:City of Santa Barbara Council Chambers<br/>City Hall, 735 Anacapa Street, Santa Barbara

Meeting details will be posted no less than 72 hours prior to the start of the Public Hearing on the City Council meeting agenda located at SantaBarbaraCA.gov/CAP.

You are receiving this Notice because our records indicate that you are a City of Santa Barbara utility customer. This Notice describes proposed trash and recycling rate changes and explains how you can file a protest and participate in the process. **Please note:** some customers are billed by the City for some, but not all, services (trash & recycling, water, wastewater). <u>This Notice applies only to the services that appear on your bill from the City.</u>

#### **Proposed Trash & Recycling Rate Changes**

The Fiscal Year 2026 (FY 2026) proposed rate increases are shown on the chart below. The proposed maximum rate increases for Fiscal Years 2027 – 2030 shown below may be implemented at lower rates depending on actual annual inflation.

Service Sector	Proposed % Change FY 2026	Maximum % Change FY 2027	Maximum % Change FY 2028	Maximum % Change FY 2029	Maximum % Change FY 2030
Small Residential (1-4 Units)	7.40%	7.40%	7.40%	7.40%	7.40%
Large Residential (5+ Units)	4.15%	5.20%	5.85%	5.90%	4.30%
Businesses and Schools	2.65%	3.70%	4.35%	4.40%	2.80%

## Why are Small Residential rates increasing more than those for Large Residential and Business and Schools?

Rates are increasing at different percentages for each sector due to necessary rebalancing to reflect the actual cost of providing service for the Small Residential sector.

#### When do the new rates take effect?

City Council will consider adopting these rates on June 17, 2025 (one week after the public hearing). The FY 2026 rates will be effective starting July 1, 2025.

#### How do I stay informed?

- WATCH City Council meetings live online at SantaBarbaraCA.gov/CityTV or tune in to City TV Channel 18.
- ATTEND City Council meetings. Visit SantaBarbaraCA.gov/CAP for participation details.
- **EXPLORE** updated information on recycling, waste reduction, and program enhancements at **SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Recycling**.
- **CONTACT US** at (805) 564-5631 or TrashAndRecycling@SantaBarbaraCA.gov with questions.

#### How will the proposed changes impact my monthly trash & recycling bill?

Sample trash and recycling service levels are displayed on the table below. To preview your estimated July 2025 bill, please visit **SantaBarbaraCA.gov/TrashRates** to view our Trash & Recycling Bill Calculator. Customers can also contact the City's Clean Community Division at (805) 564-5631 or TrashAndRecycling@SantaBarbaraCa.gov with any questions.

SAMPLE Customer Profile	SAMPLE Service Level	Current Rates	Proposed FY 26 Rates	% Change
<b>1 Unit</b> Small Residential	one 65-gal trash cart one 65-gal yard waste cart one 65-gal recycling cart serviced 1x/week	\$60.60	\$65.05	7.34%
<b>2-4 Units</b> Small Residential	three 65-gal trash carts one 95-gal yard waste three 95-gal recycling serviced 1x/week	\$107.44	\$115.33	7.34%
<b>5+ Units</b> Large Residential (Cart Service)	five 95-gal trash carts one 95-gal yard waste cart five 95-gal recycling carts serviced 1x/week	\$475.36	\$495.15	4.16%
<b>5+ Units</b> Large Residential (Small/Medium Dumpster Service)	4-yard trash dumpster 2-yard recycling dumpster serviced 1x/week	\$626.80	\$652.85	4.16%
<b>Business</b> (Cart Service)	three 95-gal trash carts three 95-gal recycling carts serviced 2x/week	\$635.40	\$652.23	2.65%
<b>Business</b> (Dumpster Service)	4-yard trash dumpster 4-yard recycling dumpster serviced 2x/week	\$1,787.31	\$1,834.68	2.65%

#### How can I lower my trash bill?

Customers may be able to lower their bills by "right-sizing" their service, properly sorting waste and diverting recyclables from higher-cost trash containers to lower-cost recycling containers, and increasing recycling service while decreasing trash service where possible. Many Business and Large Residential (5+ unit) customers receive more yard waste service than they need, especially if they have landscapers that can self-haul trimmings instead of using yard waste containers.

#### How do I protest?

If you wish to submit a written protest of any of the above increases, your protest must be received by the City Clerk of the City of Santa Barbara at 735 Anacapa Street, Santa Barbara, CA, 93101, prior to the close of the public hearing on June 10, 2025. **Protests must include your name, service address, and whether you are protesting the amount of the fee increase, the basis for calculation of the fee, or both.** Written protests may be mailed or delivered in-person to the address above, or deposited in the bill payment drop box slot located on the exterior of the City Hall building on the De La Guerra Plaza side. **Only written protests received before the close of the public hearing on June 10, 2025 will be counted**. During the hearing, City Council will consider all protests and public testimony. Protests are public records. One written protest per parcel or service address will be tabulated. If you later challenge the rates in court, you may be limited to the grounds stated in your protest. If you challenge the City's rate setting action in court, you may be limited to the issues and grounds raised in a written protest or in public testimony at the public hearing. There is a 120-day statute of limitation for challenging any new, increased, or extended fee or charge (California Government Code Section 53759).