



CITY OF HOUSTON - CITY COUNCIL

Meeting Date: 12/12/2023

ALL

Item Creation Date: 11/27/2023

SWMD Container Lease Fee

Agenda Item#: 20.

Summary:

ORDINANCE Amending Section 39-62 of the Code of Ordinances, Houston, Texas, establishing a fee for the lease and management of containers for garbage and recyclables for residential units; establishing an effective date; containing findings and other provisions relating to the foregoing subject; making other conforming amendments; providing for severability; and declaring an emergency.

Background:

The Director of the Solid Waste Management Department (SWMD) recommends amending section 39-62 of the Code of Ordinances, establishing a fee for the Lease and Management of Containers for Garbage and Recyclables for Residential Units to remove the sunset provision until otherwise amended by City Council.

The current ordinance originated on May 12, 2020 and has a sunset provision in chapter 39-62(a)(1) to expire on July 1, 2024, unless otherwise amended or extended by City Council. This ordinance, will amend the language in the current ordinance to remove the sunset provision. In addition, the ordinance removes language for container delivery, retrieval and cleaning fees that were never charged under the container lease program. These adjustments allow SWMD to continue to recover the cost of managing the container lease program as set forth in the original ordinance.

On May 12, 2020, Council approved Ordinance 2020-425 which amended chapter 39 of the code of ordinances and established the container lease fee. Once approved by Council, the fee was added to the City's fee schedule and is subject to the annual CPI increase. The purpose for the creation of the fee was to "support appropriate purchasing levels of both black and green containers; replacement parts and tools; rolling stock; and personnel to support deliveries and customer service in the four solid waste operations quadrants". While the Finance Department has been tracking both revenues and expenditures related to the program, the creation of a separate fund was brought to Council on November 2, 2022 to isolate revenues and expenditures in a special revenue fund to make the fee more transparent internally and to the public.

Fiscal Note:

No significant fiscal operating impact is anticipated as a result of this ordinance.

Director's Signature:

Mark C. Wilfalk
Director, Solid Waste Management Department

Prior Council Action:

May 12, 2020, Council approved Ordinance 2020-425
November 2, 2022, Council approved Ordinance 2022-865

Amount and Source of Funding:

Contact Information:

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