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SWA 20-007 – Review of Absorbed Disposal Costs and System Fees

As a follow-up to a Continuity-of-Operations (COOP) meeting with industry representatives on March 25, 2020, the Solid Waste Management Program (SWMP) was asked to review potential measures that it could implement in response to increased operating costs for collectors due to increased residential waste tonnages during the COVID-19 lockdown. This Advisory provides a summary of measures taken to-date by SWMP to address this specific concern as follows:

1. Holding FY21 disposal fees to the FY20 rates (i.e., no price increases);

2. Absorbing increased processing and disposal fees from Covanta (air emission upgrades) and other sub-contractors, and absorbing increased operating costs for SWMP operations; and

3. Streamlining permit renewal and related administrative processes (e.g., eliminating the need for notarized signatures wherever possible, dramatic reductions in paperwork).

As further measures to help contain costs during this difficult situation, the SWMP is pleased to announce the following additional measures to be implemented in the coming Fiscal Year, which begins on July 1, 2020:

1. The elimination of vehicle permitting and associated fees; and

2. The discounted hauler rate ($64.00) will be extended to all licensed collectors and permitted disposal customers.

This is the seventh in a series of Solid Waste Advisories being distributed to the County’s solid waste industry during the COVID-19 emergency. Collectors are advised to closely review these Advisories upon receipt, and to share their contents with customers as appropriate.