



TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Department of Solid Waste  
3095 114<sup>th</sup> Avenue North  
St. Petersburg, FL 33716

January 25, 2025

Barry A. Burton, County Administrator  
Pinellas County  
315 Court Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Clearwater, FL 33756

**RE: Solid Waste Technical Management Committee's 3-year Disposal Rate Recommendation beginning Fiscal Year 2026**

Dear Mr. Burton,

A Solid Waste Technical Management Committee (TMC) meeting was held at the Solid Waste Department on Wednesday, January 22, 2024. Per County Ordinance 106, the TMC performed an annual review of the third-party rate study, conducted by Raftelis Financial Consultants, Inc. As recommended by the Raftelis and staff, the TMC voted 6-4 in favor to increase the solid waste tipping fee by 8.0% year-over-year for each of the next 3-years, beginning October 1, 2026. As a result, the tipping fee would be increase as follows:

FY26 From \$54.50 to \$58.86 per ton  
FY27 From \$58.86 to \$63.57 per ton  
FY28 From \$63.57 to \$68.65 per ton

The rate study included projections of anticipated costs and revenues through FY56. This rate study also included all currently known information related to the Solid Waste Master Plan, power brokering as an alternative for post Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with Duke Energy, a forecasted increase for Waste-To-Energy operations, and a detailed 10-year capital improvement plan.

With this 3-year rate increase recommendation, the TMC recognizes the importance to stay the course to expend Solid Waste Fund reserves to bridge the revenue shortfall, while increasing disposal rates until the fund becomes self-sufficient.

Those voting against the motion were (2) representatives from the City of St. Petersburg, the City of Largo and the City of Tarpon Springs. Representatives for the City of Pinellas Park, 'B' Cities/Towns, and 'C' Cities/Towns were absent. The TMC will continue its prescribed practice of reviewing rates each year and providing future annual rate recommendations to you and the Board of County Commissioners.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Willie Joseph".

Willie Joseph, Chair  
Technical Management Committee