

City of Waukesha

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Date: 11/1/2022	
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City Administrator Approval: Kevin Lahner, City Administrator	
City Attorney's Office Review: Brian Running, City Attorney	

Subject:

Review and act on the revised Intergovernmental Agreement with Waukesha County regarding the Municipal Recycling Dividend Program.

Details:

Since 1990, the City of Waukesha has partnered with Waukesha County to facilitate a state sanctioned recycling program. The county has served in the role of Responsible Unit of government for many municipalities, including the city. As part of the agreement, the county manages the finances of the program including contracted operation of the Materials Recycling Facility and processing of the materials in addition to community education and compliance enforcement. This agreement is an amended contract updating the terms and calculations of potential dividend payments and/or tipping fees for the municipal partners in the program. The city participated in a workgroup, along with other municipalities, to help develop this revised agreement.

Options & Alternatives:

The city has explored options for alternative recycling responsibility and processing, including consulting with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to learn about all options, and has been informed we are not allowed to secede from our agreement to participate under Waukesha County as the Responsible Unit. It is also not conclusive that the city would gain any significant advantage by seceding and becoming our own Responsible Unit if we were allowed.

Financial Remarks:

This updated agreement revises the calculations for potential dividends to the participating municipalities from recycling program revenues and introduces the possibility of paying a tipping fee for recyclables should recycling program expenses fall below a determined threshold. The city may receive revenue from the recycling program (a dividend). The city also takes on risk with this agreement to incur future tipping fee expenses. The agreement calls for an adequate amount of time to budget for any future revenues and expenses.

Executive Recommendation:

Approve as presented.