



Funding Mechanisms for Solid Waste

June 30, 2017 FINAL

Stakeholder Feedback on Proposed Options

Cascadia engaged solid waste system stakeholders through a web-based survey conducted April 3–21, 2017. The Department of Ecology sent invitation emails to the State Waste Plan listserv; local jurisdiction recycling coordinators, solid waste directors, environmental health directors, and moderate risk waste coordinators; members of the Waste 2 Resources Advisory Committee; and Ecology Waste 2 Resources staff members. In addition, the Washington State Recycling Association (WSRA) included a notice of the survey in its email newsletter. The Department of Ecology also asked the Washington Refuse and Recycling Association (WRRRA) to distribute the survey to its members. The survey asked respondents for their input on potential state- and local-level funding options that Cascadia identified as most promising in Part 2. Respondents were asked to identify benefits and drawbacks for the following options. Details about each option can be found in the Part 2 report.

State-level funding options	Local-level funding options
<p>New mechanisms and revisions to existing mechanisms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase of the solid waste collection tax• Expansion of the solid waste collection tax to include recyclable and compostable materials.• Expansion of products covered by the litter tax• Expansion of extended producer responsibility to additional products• New business solid waste reduction planning or generation fees• New advanced recovery fees for targeted products	<p>Expanded use of existing mechanisms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Excise taxes through disposal districts• Solid waste planning fees in unincorporated areas• Board of health fees• Embedded services in contracts or service level standards

Overall, 112 respondents participated in the survey. Cascadia included questions regarding demographics to assess whether respondents represented the range of solid waste system stakeholders. A summary of survey results is provided below. The survey instrument and verbatim responses are provided in Appendix 1.

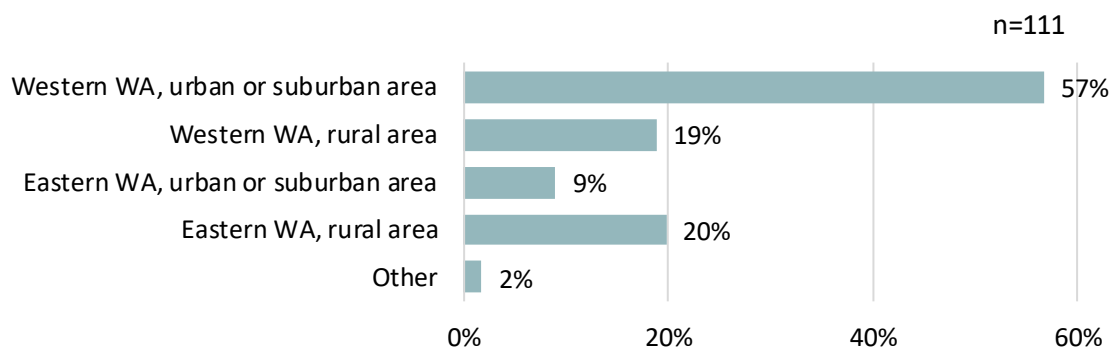
To request ADA accommodation, call Ecology at 360-407-6900, Relay Service 711, or TTY 877-833-6341.

Respondent Demographics

Respondents represented a broad cross-section of the solid waste industry by geography, organization type, solid waste material, and solid waste system component. Percentages sum to more than 100 percent because respondents were invited to select all responses that applied to them.

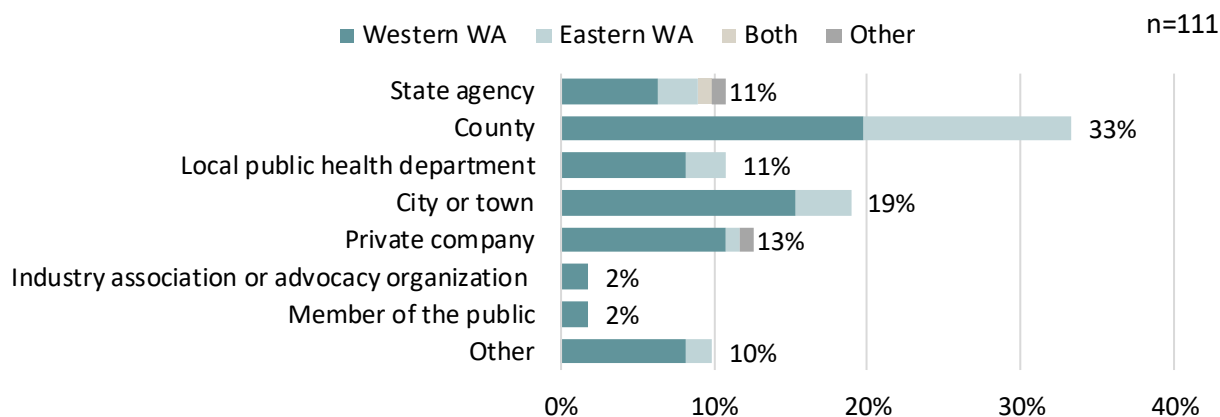
Figure 1 shows the distribution of survey respondents across Eastern and Western Washington as well as across urban/suburban and rural areas. The majority of respondents (73%) said they work in (or live in, for members of the public) Western Washington while approximately one-quarter (26%) work or live in Eastern Washington. Approximately two-thirds (65%) said they work in an urban or suburban area, and over one-third (38%) said they work in a rural area, with some respondents working in both types of areas. Respondents who selected “Other” indicated that they worked in all areas of the state or out of state.

Figure 1. Survey Respondents’ Area of Work by Geographic Area and Population Density (select all that apply)



The types of organizations that survey respondents worked for or represented are shown in Figure 2. Nearly three-quarters (74%) of respondents worked for a state, county, or city. Respondents who selected “Other” described themselves as members of federal or federally-funded agencies, non-profit organizations (including non-profit recyclers), and university staff.

Figure 2. Organization Types Represented by Survey Respondents

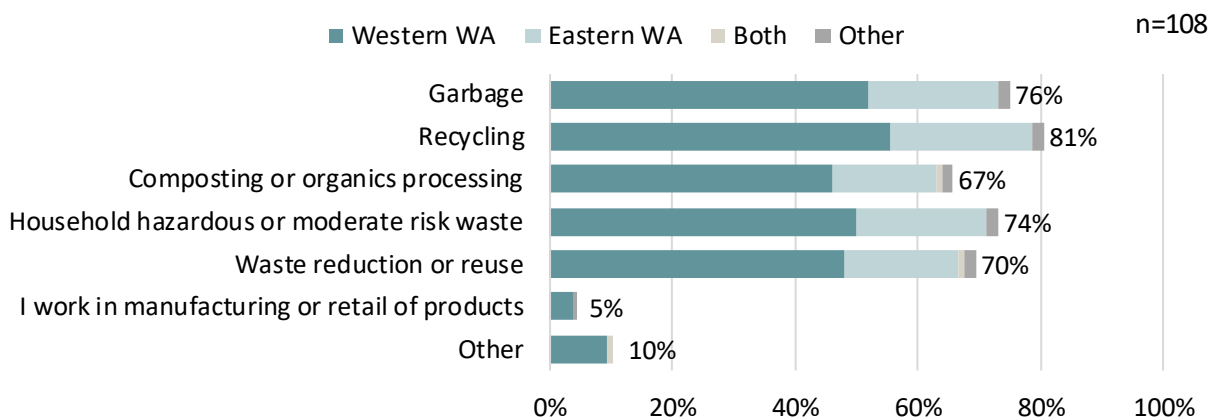


STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK ON PROPOSED OPTIONS

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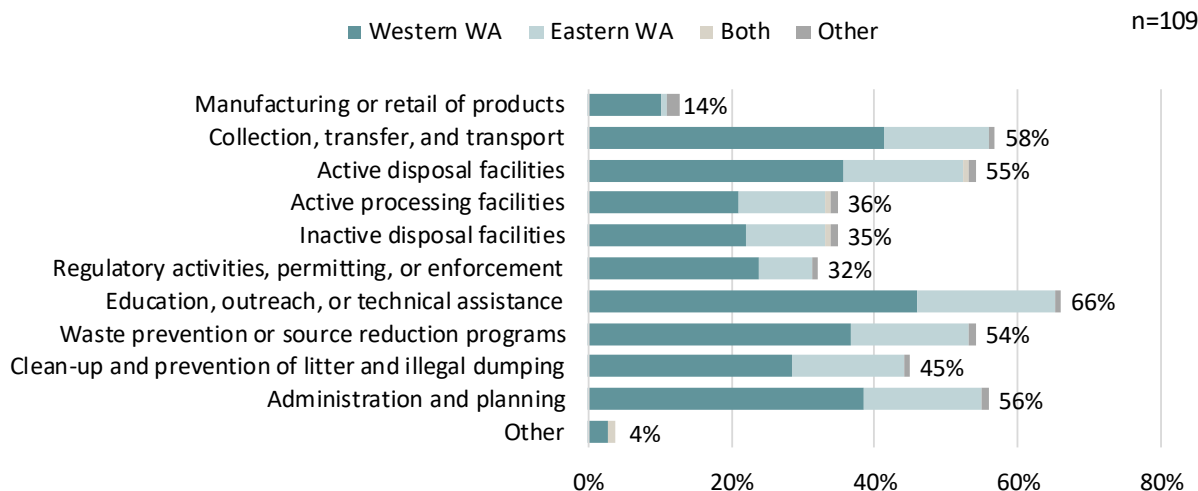
Most respondents reported working on multiple waste types. As shown in Figure 3, over three-quarters of respondents reported working on garbage (76%) and/or recycling (81%). Each of the other major material type areas (composting or organics processing, household hazardous or moderate risk waste, or waste reduction or reuse) were represented by at least two-thirds of respondents. Other areas written in by respondents included transit, construction and demolition waste, environmental remediation, waste-to-energy, and agricultural waste. Respondents also noted other areas that were solid waste system components, such as collection, enforcement, and education.

Figure 3. Solid Waste Types with which Respondents Work (select all that apply)



Finally, the survey asked respondents to indicate which components of the overall waste system they worked on. Figure 4 shows which solid waste system components respondents reported working on. Over half of respondents reported working on education, outreach, or technical assistance (66%); collection, transfer, and transport (58%); administration and planning (56%); and waste prevention or source reduction programs (54%). Other solid system components for which respondents wrote in responses included waste-to-energy, policy development, technology research and development, and regulated hazardous waste.

Figure 4. Solid Waste System Components in which Respondents Work (select all that apply)





STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK ON PROPOSED OPTIONS

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In general, the organization types, solid waste types, and solid waste system components in which respondents worked were similarly distributed among respondents working in Eastern and Western Washington. Key differences were:

- Compared to respondents in Western Washington, Eastern Washington respondents were more likely to report working for a county (54% Eastern and 28% Western) and less likely to report working for a private company (4% Eastern and 15% Western).
- Eastern Washington respondents were more likely to report working on any type of materials, particularly recycling (93% Eastern and 78% Western) and household hazardous or moderate risk waste (85% Eastern and 70% Western).
- Eastern Washington respondents were more likely to report working on the system components of active disposal facilities (64% Eastern and 51% Western), active processing facilities (46% Eastern and 30% Western), and clean-up and prevention of litter and illegal dumping (61% Eastern and 40% Western).

Benefits and Drawbacks of Proposed Options

For each proposed funding option, respondents were asked the following open-ended questions:

- What benefits do you see with this funding option?
- What drawbacks do you see with this funding option? How could they be addressed?

For local-level options, respondents were also asked:

- Has your county or city considered using this funding option?

For this question, the number of positive responses does not necessarily indicate the number of jurisdictions that are currently using or considering the mechanism because multiple individuals may have responded from the same jurisdiction.

A summary of the survey responses for each proposed option is provided in the sections that follow. Overall, across multiple funding options, participants identified increasing revenue and increasing incentives to divert waste as top benefits. The most commonly mentioned drawbacks were the potential to increase costs to customers, lack of political will required to implement options, and the potential for state-level funding to be redirected to other uses. As used in the sections that follow, political will includes resident and business complaints, industry lobbying, and other anticipated public or elected official pushback to implementation.

In several comments, respondents also expressed concerns that increasing costs of disposal would contribute to illegal dumping; however, research does not support this assertion. The research on costs as a driver of illegal dumping is inconclusive, although the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and many U.S. municipalities take the view that increasing the cost of garbage disposal is not a driver for

illegal dumping if implemented in combination with effective enforcement and education.^{1,2} In general, literature supports that lack of access to convenient and legal disposal options (such as due to long distance to a transfer station) is a larger driver of illegal dumping and that increasing enforcement activities or penalties for illegal dumping is an effective deterrent.^{3,4,5,6}

The number of survey respondents who provided feedback about proposed funding options decreased as the survey progressed, resulting in the most feedback on changes to the Solid Waste Collection Tax (63 respondents, over 50% of all survey respondents) and the least feedback on Solid Waste Management Planning fees (21 respondents, less than 20% of all survey respondents). Table 1 documents the number of respondents for each proposed option in the survey.

Table 1. Number of Survey Respondents by Proposed Option

Proposed Options	Number of Respondents
State-level funding options	
Increase to Solid Waste Collection Tax	63
Expansion of the Solid Waste Collection Tax	61
Update of the Litter Tax	59
Extended Producer Responsibility	49
Solid Waste Reduction Planning and Generation Fees	47
Advanced Recovery Fees	35
Local-level funding options	
Excise Taxes through County Disposal Districts	30
Solid Waste Management Planning Fees	21
Board of Health Fees	23
Embedded Services in Contracts or Service-level Standards	22

¹ Skumatz Economic Research Associates. *Pay as you throw (PAYT) in the US: 2006 Update and Analyses*. December 2006. <https://archive.epa.gov/wastes/conserve/tools/payt/web/pdf/sera06.pdf> (Accessed April 2017).

² U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. *Illegal Diversion*. <https://archive.epa.gov/wastes/conserve/tools/payt/web/html/top8.html#three> (Accessed April 2017).

³ Webb et al. *Fly-tipping: Causes, Incentives, and Solutions*. Jill Dando Institute of Crime Science, University College London. May 2006. <http://www.tacklingflytipping.com/Documents/NFTPG-Files/Jill-Dando-report-flytipping-research-report.pdf> (Accessed April 2017).

⁴ *Illegal Dumping Research Report*. NSW Environment Protection Agency. June 2015. <http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/resources/illegal-dumping/150481-illegal-dumping-report.pdf> (Accessed April 2017).

⁵ Sedova, B. *On the causes of illegal waste dumping in Slovakia (working version: 17 April 2014)*. https://www.minzp.sk/files/iep/on-causes-illegal-waste-dumping-slovakia_wp.pdf (Accessed April 2017).

⁶ Ichinose, D. and Yamamoto, M. *On the relationship between the provision of waste management service and illegal dumping*. Resource and Energy Economics. January 2011.

State-Level Funding Options

Increasing the Solid Waste Collection Tax

A total of 63 respondents provided comments on increasing the solid waste collection tax rate. Over one-quarter of respondents identified the top benefits as increasing revenue or improving service provision (40%) and incentivizing diversion (27%). Respondents identified the top drawbacks as the potential for redirection of revenue to non-solid waste uses (35%), reliance on disposal (22%), and political will required to implement this option (21%).

Figure 5. Benefits of Increasing the Solid Waste Collection Tax

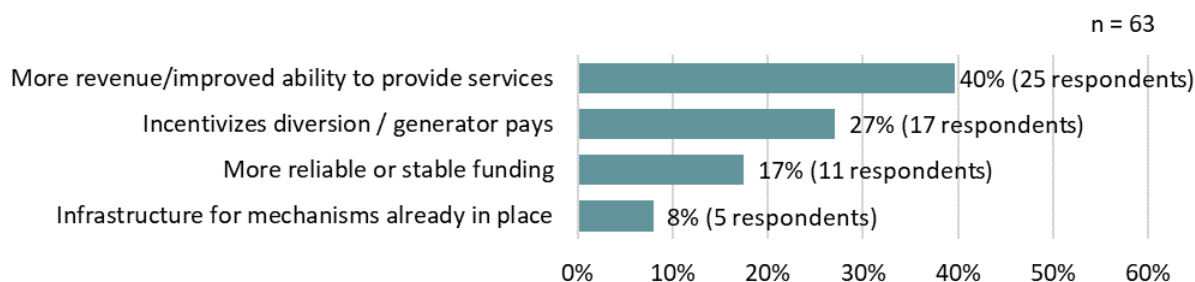
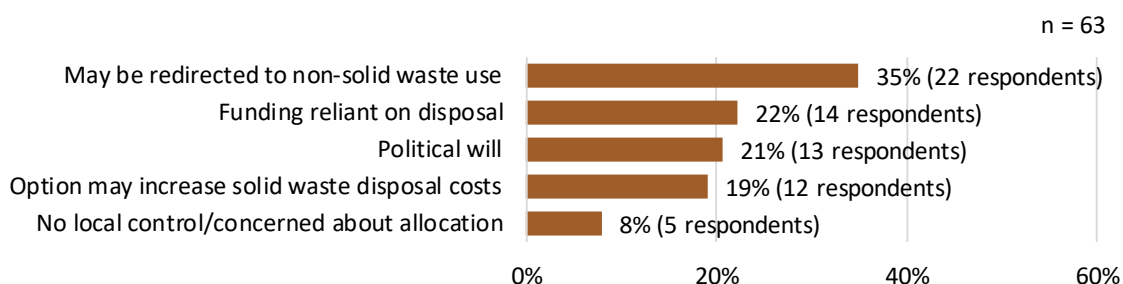


Figure 6. Drawbacks of Increasing the Solid Waste Collection Tax



Other comments provided by one or two respondents each regarding increasing the solid waste collection tax include the following:⁷

- A small percentage increase can have a large funding impact.
- The tax should be fully dedicated to solid waste.
- Ensure local counties get adequate allocation of collected revenue.
- If the tax has been raised in the last 10-20 years, it may be too soon for an increase. It would be good to have historical information about this tax.
- Tax increase could lead to increased recycling contamination and roadside dumping.

⁷ Other comments, presented by one or two respondents each, are presented here and in sections regarding other mechanisms by listing benefits first, followed by unclear or neutral comments, then drawbacks.

Expanding the Solid Waste Collection Tax

A total of 61 respondents provided comments on expanding the materials covered by solid waste collection tax to include recyclable and compostable material. Respondents identified the top benefit as increasing revenue or improving service provision (43%) and the top drawback as the reduction of incentives to divert waste by charging for recycling (40%).

Figure 7. Benefits of Expanding the Solid Waste Collection Tax

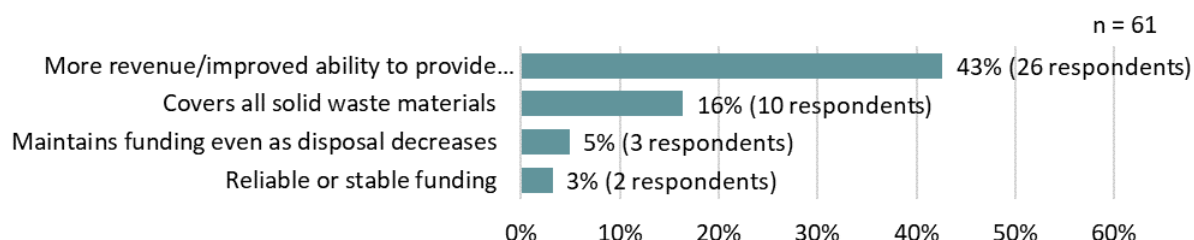
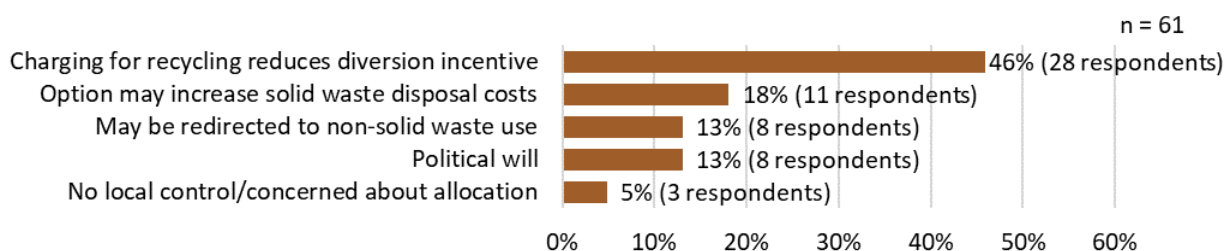


Figure 8. Drawbacks of Expanding the Solid Waste Collection Tax



Other comments provided by one or two respondents each regarding expanding the solid waste collection tax include:

- The funding is beneficial if collected revenue specifically goes to recycling enforcement.
- Tax would incentivize source reduction.
- Should also tax materials sent to solid waste exempt facilities.
- Consider permit fees instead of a tax on recycling and organics.
- The respondent's jurisdiction does not charge for recycling, and they cannot tax what isn't charged.
- This structure could lead to counties with higher recycling rates subsidizing counties that are not recycling well; the respondent would prefer proportional allocation of revenue by tax revenue collected.
- Added costs may threaten curbside collection programs, which operate on thin margins.
- May appear to the public as a duplicate tax (public may view garbage and recycling together).
- Tax would increase the cost of recycling and composting.

Updating the Litter Tax

A total of 59 respondents provided comments on expanding the materials covered by the litter tax to include additional items found in roadside litter. Respondents identified the top benefit as increasing revenue or improving service provision (27%) and the top drawback as potential redirection of revenue to non-solid waste activities (22%).

Figure 9. Benefits of Updating the Litter Tax

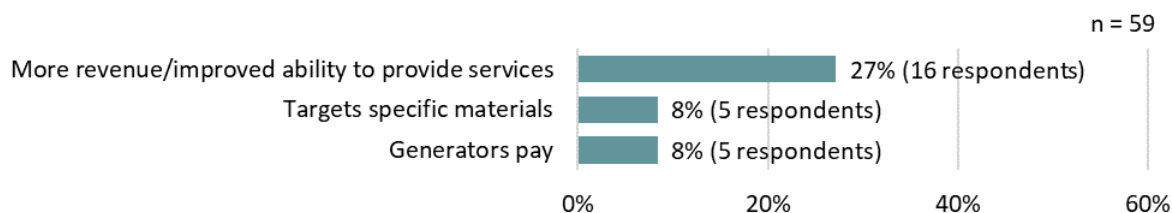
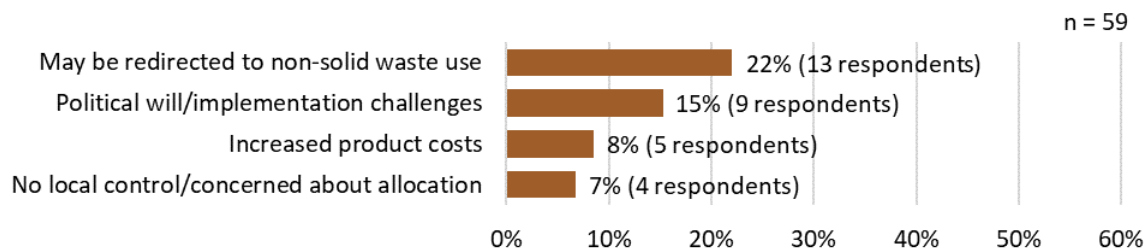


Figure 10. Drawbacks of Updating the Litter Tax



Approximately one-third (32%) of respondents provided a comment that did not fit into one of the benefits or drawbacks shown above. Other comments provided by one or two respondents each regarding expanding the solid waste collection tax include:

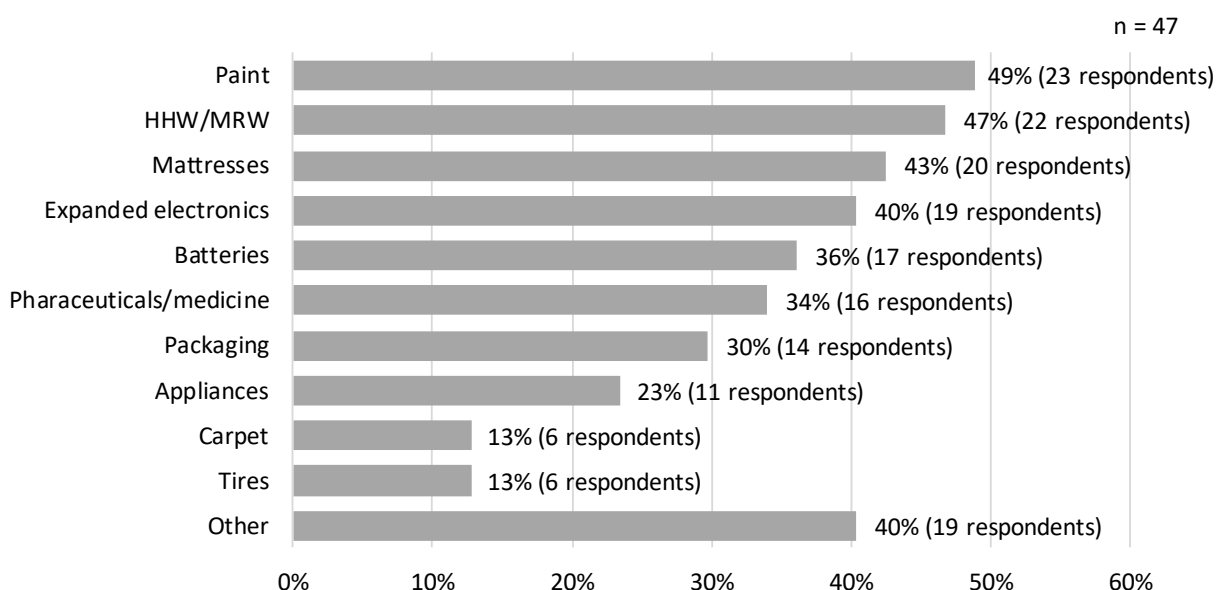
- This option may have more traction than others.
- Updating the list of taxable items can improve the equity of the tax.
- Consider applying the tax to single-serve beverage containers.
- This tax should apply at the manufacturing level, not at the consumer level.
- The existing litter tax seems ineffective.
- If litter tax funds are re-dedicated to the litter account, there is no need to modify the tax.
- This option is insufficient for larger system funding needs.

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Programs

In addition to benefits and drawbacks of extended producer responsibility (EPR), survey respondents were also asked to identify for which products EPR would be a good option to cover. A total of 47 respondents provided suggestions for materials—the three most commonly suggested materials were paint (49%), HHW/MRW as a broad category (47%), mattresses (43%), and electronics not already covered in the State E-Cycle program (40%).

Among respondents categorized as mentioning HHW or MRW products in general, two were included because they mentioned broad product categories (such as pesticides, fertilizers, and household chemicals) even though they did not specifically cite “all HHW.” Examples of other material suggested by respondents for EPR included furniture, lighting products not currently covered by an existing EPR program (such as LEDs), solar panels, expanded polystyrene/Styrofoam blocks, and vehicles.

Figure 11. Suggested Materials for Future EPR Programs



A total of 49 respondents provided input on the benefits and drawbacks to EPR programs. Respondents identified improved infrastructure for collection (e.g., more places where people can drop off material for recycling or safe disposal) as the top benefit (41%), followed by placing the burden for end-of-life management on manufacturers (29%) and that the mechanism is one in which generators (which includes customers) pay (29%). Respondents identified political will required to implement EPR (35%) as the top drawback, followed by increased product costs to consumers (24%) and increased administrative and program management requirements (20%). Comments regarding rural access and administration mentioned concerns regarding a lack of drop-off locations, difficulty recruiting businesses to implement take-back programs, and lack of staffing or facilities to support EPR in smaller communities.

Figure 12. Benefits of Implementing EPR Programs

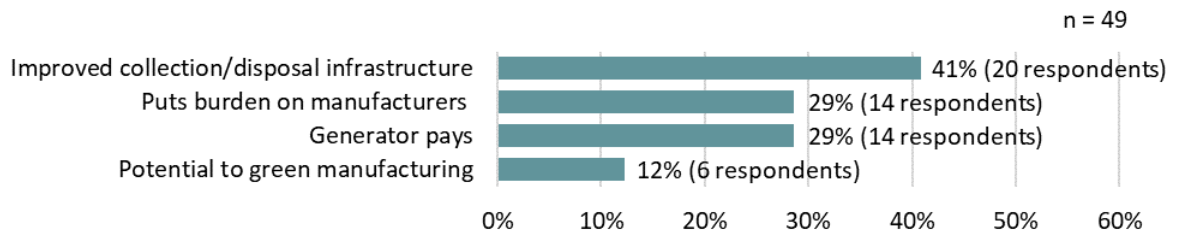
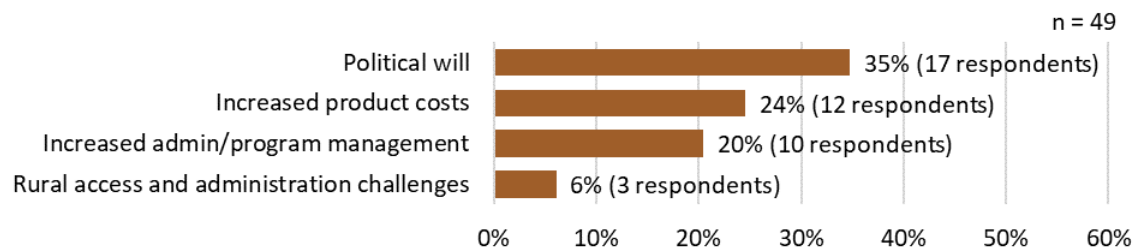


Figure 13. Drawbacks of Implementing EPR Programs



One-third (33%) of respondents provided a response that did not fit into a category shown in Figure 12 or Figure 13. Other responses mentioned by one or two respondents each on implementing EPR programs include:

- EPR may reduce waste disposal.
- Product take-back centers need to be engaged in implementation of EPR.
- Drop-off locations may not be efficient for or central to residents.
- There is minimal benefit to local governments.
- Separate collection programs for different types of material can be confusing to residents.

Solid Waste Reduction Planning and Generation Fees

A total of 47 respondents provided input on the benefits and drawbacks to solid waste reduction planning and generation fees. Respondents identified increased revenue as the top benefit (23%). Respondents identified political will required to implement these fees (30%) as the top drawback, citing primarily resistance to new fees by businesses.

Figure 14. Benefits of Solid Waste Planning and Generation Fees

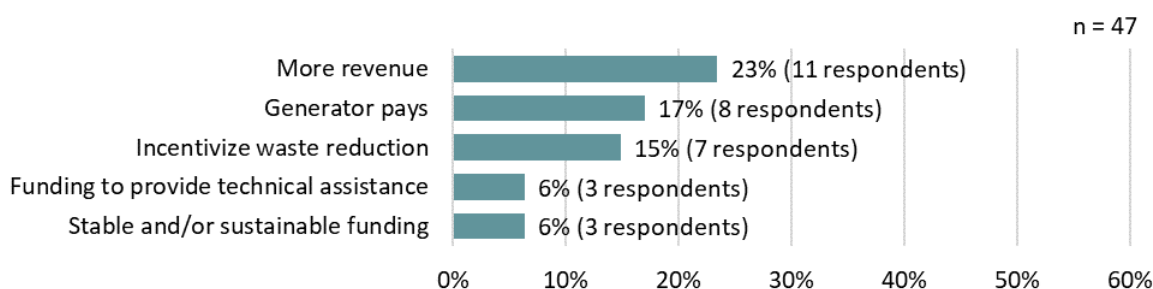
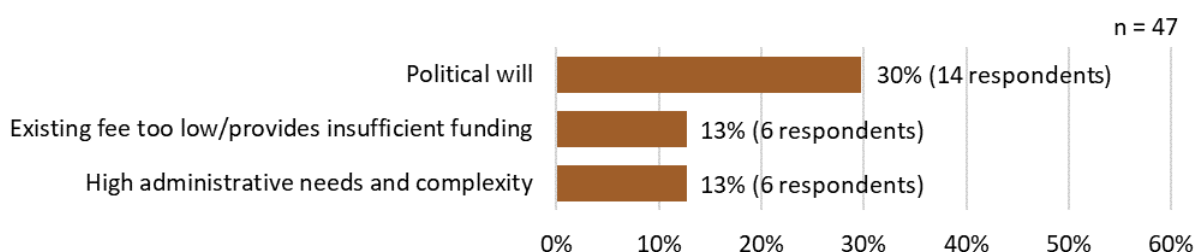


Figure 15. Drawbacks of Solid Waste Planning and Generation Fees



Approximately 40 percent of respondents provided a response that did not fit into a category of benefits or drawbacks shown above. These other responses (each mentioned by one or two respondents) included the following:

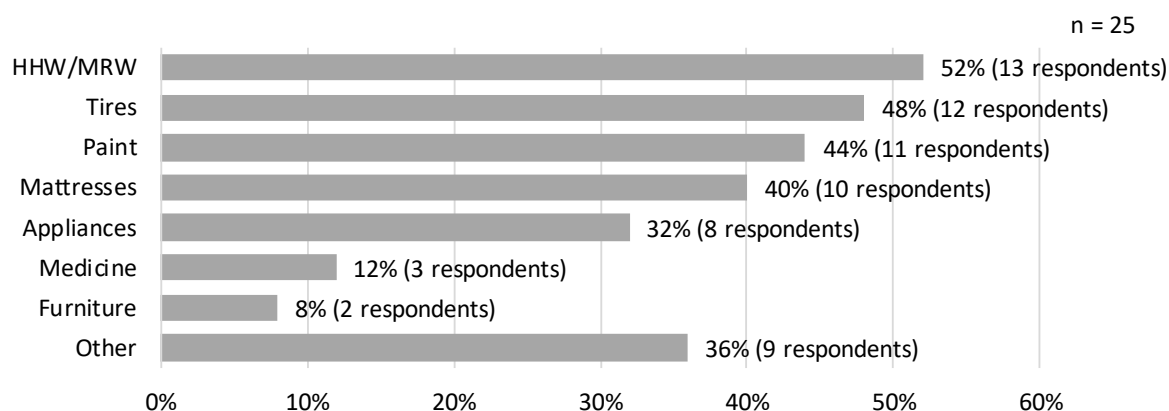
- Make allowances for voluntary waste reduction actions. For example, lower or eliminate fees for businesses that meet certain goals beyond required performance.
- Need to have mechanisms built in to incentivize waste reduction and recycling.
- Need local, not state-level funding options.
- Tier fees by business size or number of employees; a flat fee may not be tied to service.
- Funding source does not match use—it is unfair to target businesses for residential programs.

Advanced Recovery Fees (ARFs)

In addition to benefits and drawbacks, survey respondents were also asked to identify for which products advanced recovery fees would be a good option to cover. A total of 25 respondents provided suggestions for materials—the three most commonly suggested materials were HHW/MRW as a broad category (52%), tires (48%), paint (44%), and mattresses (40%).

Among respondents who mentioned “HHW/MRW” as a broad category, two were included because they mentioned broad product categories (such as pesticides, fertilizers, and household chemicals) even though they did not specifically cite “all HHW.” Examples of other non-HHW material suggested by respondents for ARFs included carpet, aerial boat flares, vehicles, grills, container glass, single-use packaging, and expanded polystyrene/Styrofoam blocks.

Figure 16. Suggested Materials for Future ARFs



A total of 35 respondents provided input on the benefits and drawbacks to advanced recovery fees. Respondents identified improved infrastructure or mechanisms for collection and disposal (29%) and increased consumer responsibility (26%) as top benefits. Respondents identified increased administrative requirements to government (26%) as the top drawback.

Figure 17. Benefits of ARFs

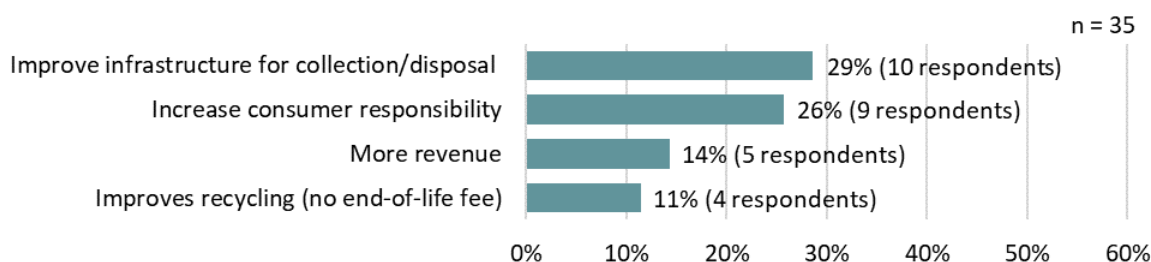
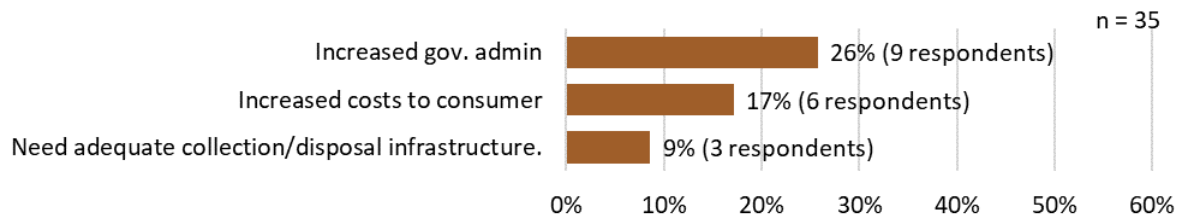


Figure 18. Drawbacks of ARFs



Approximately 46 percent of respondents provided a comment about ARFs that did not fit into a category of benefits or drawbacks shown above. These other responses (each mentioned by one or two respondents) included the following:

- Need accompanying public education on recycling the product at its end-of-life.
- Ensure the ARF amount is determined by appropriate methods.
- Prefer EPR over ARFs.
- Concerned about potential government redirection of funds to other uses.
- Anticipate some lobbying or that the mechanism will be viewed as a negative.

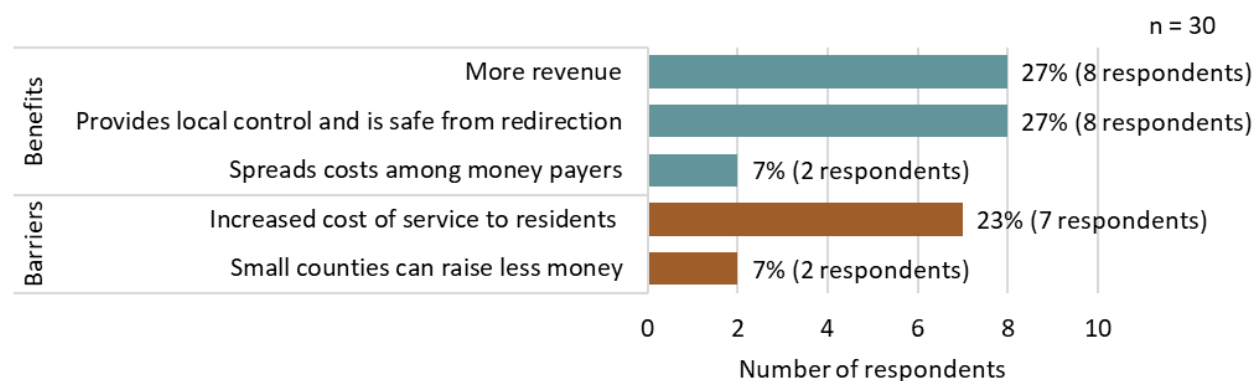
Local-Level Funding Options

Excises Taxes through County Disposal Districts

Of the 50 respondents who provided input on whether their county has considered excise taxes to fund solid waste, eight respondents (16%) said that their county already uses this option; however, this does not mean that eight counties use this option because multiple individuals may have responded from the same county.

A total of 30 respondents provided comments about benefits and drawbacks to excise taxes. Respondents identified the top benefits to excise taxes as increased revenue and local control of revenue raised. The top identified drawback was increased cost of service to residents.

Figure 19. Benefits and Drawbacks of Excise Taxes



Eighteen responses did not fall into a category of benefit or barrier identified in Figure 19. These other responses (each mentioned by only one respondent) included:

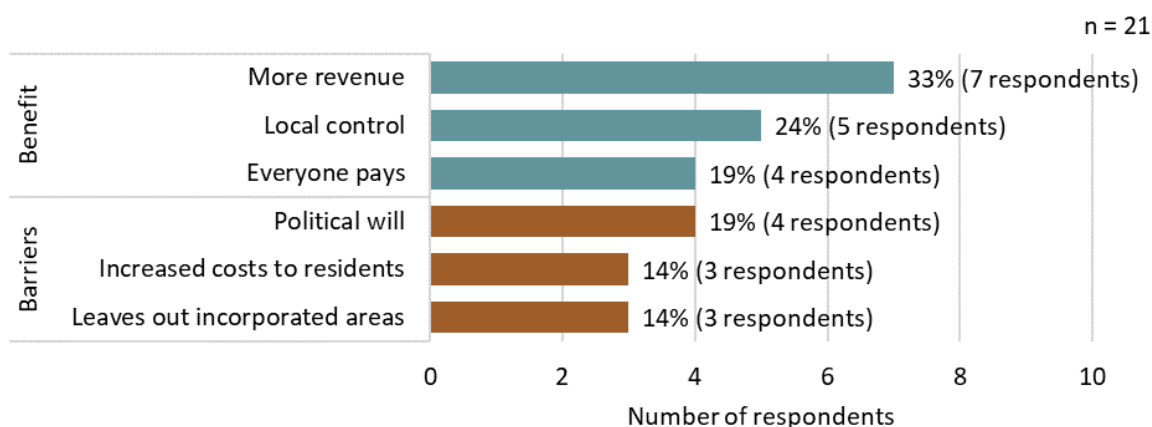
- There is a direct connection between the tax and the programs it funds.
- Need good county/city working relationships to implement.
- The mechanism taxes solid waste twice (already paid through the solid waste collection tax).
- Counties may not have the staff needed for administration of these taxes.
- Implementing a disposal district would require setting up new collection and accounting structures.
- Local funding leaves other jurisdictions out; a statewide funding solution is more equitable.
- Certain industries may negotiate exemptions or fee reductions.

Solid Waste Management Planning Fees

Of the 49 respondents who provided input on whether their county has considered solid waste management planning fees, three respondents (6%) said that their county already uses this option.

A total of 21 respondents provided comments about benefits and drawbacks to solid waste management planning fees. Respondents identified the top benefits as more revenue and the top drawback as political will needed to implement this mechanism.

Figure 20. Benefits and Drawbacks of SWMP Fees



Eight responses did not fall into a category of benefit or barrier identified above. These other responses, each identified by one or two respondents, included:

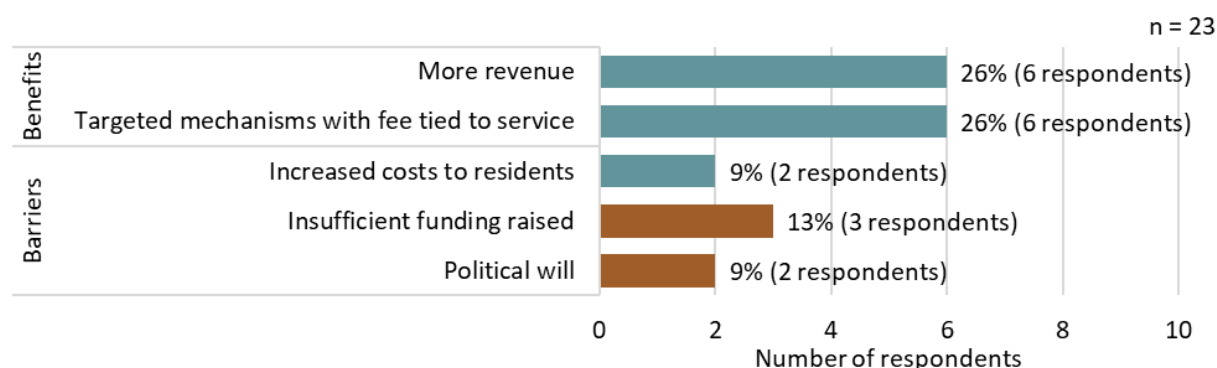
- Adds diversity to funding sources.
- Anticipates increased customer collection costs, discouraging subscription to service.
- Could raise insufficient funds for small counties.
- Does not include recycling quantities, which still incur costs.
- This option has limited uses.

Board of Health Fees

Of the 47 respondents who provided input on whether their county has considered Board of Health fees, 18 respondents (38%) said that their county already uses this option.

A total of 23 respondents provided comments about benefits and drawbacks to Board of Health fees. Respondents identified the top benefits as increased revenue and that it is a targeted mechanism with a fee tied to the provided service. Top drawbacks were increased costs to residents, insufficient funding from this mechanism, and political will needed to implement new fees.

Figure 21. Benefits and Drawbacks of Board of Health Fees



Ten responses did not fall into a benefit or barrier identified above. These other responses generally applied to permit fees rather than the more general way that King County uses Board of Health fees to fund broad HHW/MRW activities. Responses included:

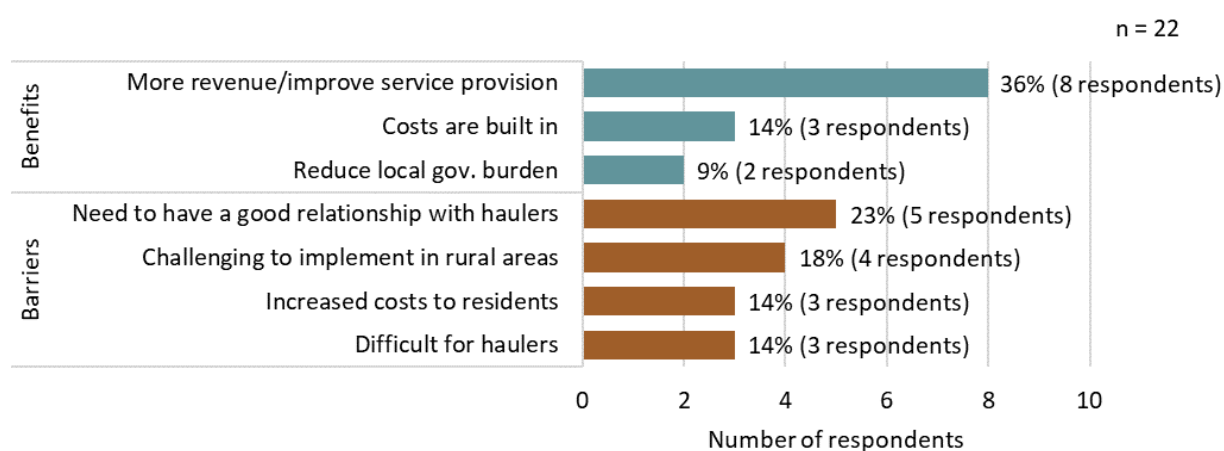
- Only covers permitted, not exempt facilities.
- Offers local control of funds, but uses for funds are limited.
- Large costs are spread across relatively few facilities.
- Fees should be matched to service; permit fees should not be used for general education.
- Funds to jurisdiction health district do not cross into the solid waste system.

Embedded Services in Contracts or Service-level Standards

Of the 46 respondents who provided input on whether their city or county has considered embedding services in contracts or service-level standards, 16 respondents (35%) said that their municipality already uses this option.

A total of 22 respondents provided comments about benefits and drawbacks to embedding services. Respondents identified the top benefits as increased revenue or improved service provision. Top drawbacks were a need for a good relationship with collection companies and implementation challenges in rural areas.

Figure 22. Benefits and Drawbacks of Embedding Services in Contracts



Eleven respondents provided comments that did not fit a benefit or barrier identified above. Other responses each mentioned only by one respondent included:

- This option works well where it is used and could be used by more cities.
- Collection companies have more direct information on service to provide public.
- Oversight is needed for this option to work.
- Not all residents may benefit from or use the additional service that they will pay for.



Stakeholder Survey Instrument and Comments

The following attachment contains:

- The survey instrument.
- Verbatim stakeholder comments regarding the potential funding mechanism changes.

Funding Mechanisms for Solid Waste - Dept. of Ecology Survey

Introduction

Thank you for providing input on potential funding options for solid and household hazardous waste in Washington State. The options in this survey are those that the consultant identified as the most likely to meet the criteria of financial strength and stability, environmental and social sustainability, and feasibility.

After a few questions about your work and location, this survey asks for your feedback on potential new state-level funding options, potential adjustments to existing state-level funding options, and on barriers to using existing options that are currently available to counties and cities.

1. Which of the following best describes you?

- ☐ I work for a **state agency**.
- ☐ I work for a **county**.
- ☐ I work for a **local public health department**.
- ☐ I work for a **city or town**.
- ☐ I work for a **private company**.
- ☐ I work for an **industry association or advocacy organization**.
- ☐ I am a **member of the public**.
- ☐ **Other** (please explain)

2. Which of the following best describes where you work (or live for members of the public)? (Select all that apply.)

- ☐ Western Washington, urban or suburban area
- ☐ Western Washington, rural area
- ☐ Eastern Washington, urban or suburban area
- ☐ Eastern Washington, rural area
- ☐ Other or outside of Washington (please explain)

Funding Mechanisms for Solid Waste - Dept. of Ecology Survey

Demographics

3. Which type(s) of solid waste does your work relate to? (Select all that apply.)

- ☐ Garbage
- ☐ Recycling
- ☐ Composting or organics processing
- ☐ Household hazardous or moderate risk waste
- ☐ Waste reduction or reuse
- ☐ I work in manufacturing or retail of products
- ☐ Other (please explain)

4. Which part(s) of the solid waste system does your work relate to? (Select all that apply.)

- ☐ Manufacturing or retail of products
- ☐ Collection, transfer, and transport
- ☐ Active disposal facilities (transfer station, landfill, or incinerator)
- ☐ Active processing facilities (recycling or organics)
- ☐ Inactive disposal facilities (landfill or incinerator)
- ☐ Permitting, enforcement, or other regulatory activities
- ☐ Education, outreach, or technical assistance programs
- ☐ Waste prevention or source reduction programs
- ☐ Clean-up and prevention of litter and illegal dumping
- ☐ Administration and planning
- ☐ Other (please explain)

Funding Mechanisms for Solid Waste - Dept. of Ecology Survey

State-level Funding Options

State-level funding options are those that would be applied by a state agency or the legislature. This section asks about potential new statewide funding options and potential ways to make existing statewide solid waste funding options more stable, reliable, or available.

Funding options include:

- Changes to the Solid Waste Collection Tax
- Changes to the Litter Tax
- Additional extended producer responsibility programs (product stewardship)
- Solid waste reduction planning or generation fees
- Advanced recovery fees

Funding Mechanisms for Solid Waste - Dept. of Ecology Survey

Solid Waste Collection Tax - Increase

Increasing the Solid Waste Collection Tax

Washington State charges collectors of solid waste an excise tax of 3.6%, levied on the price of transfer, storage, and disposal services provided. To prevent duplicate taxation for the same transaction, the Solid Waste Collection Tax does not apply when a solid waste collector uses the services of another solid waste collector. Self-haul customers delivering their own waste pay the tax at the disposal site. The tax is charged on garbage only; materials collected for recycling, composting, salvage, or hazardous waste management are not subject to the tax.

The Solid Waste Collection Tax is currently not dedicated to solid waste uses. Considering the state's current funding challenges, dedicating this tax exclusively to solid waste purposes may be unlikely in the near term. One option could be to increase the Solid Waste Collection Tax rate above 3.6% and dedicate the increase to solid waste uses.

This tax could potentially be used to fund any aspect of the solid waste system.

5. What benefits do you see with this funding option?

6. What drawbacks do you see with this funding option? How could they be addressed?

Funding Mechanisms for Solid Waste - Dept. of Ecology Survey

Solid Waste Collection Tax - Expand

Expanding the Solid Waste Collection Tax to recycling and composting

As Washington's recycling rates increase, another funding option could be to extend the Solid Waste Collection Tax to include collection and handling of recyclables and organics, potentially at a lower rate than the tax on garbage handling. The new revenues could also be dedicated to solid waste uses.

7. What benefits do you see with this funding option?

8. What drawbacks do you see with this funding option? How could they be addressed?

Funding Mechanisms for Solid Waste - Dept. of Ecology Survey

Litter Tax

Washington State charges an excise tax of 0.015% on the value of products deemed likely to become litter. The list of items subject to the litter tax has not been adjusted since the law's creation in 1971.

Assuming the Litter Tax would be rededicated to litter prevention, litter clean-up, and waste reduction and recycling, one option could be to update the list of covered products to ensure it covers the range of products that are commonly littered or illegally dumped.

9. What benefits do you see with this funding option?

10. What drawbacks do you see with this funding option? How could they be addressed?

Funding Mechanisms for Solid Waste - Dept. of Ecology Survey

Extended Producer Responsibility (Product Stewardship)

Extended producer responsibility (EPR) programs transfer the cost and burden of managing disposal and recycling of specific products from individual consumers and local governments to manufacturers or retailers of those products. EPR programs in Washington State currently cover certain electronics (E-Cycle Washington) and mercury-containing lights (LightRecycle) at the state level. Several counties in Washington have passed EPR laws regarding pharmaceuticals.

Jurisdictions in Canada and Europe use EPR programs to manage the collection and recycling of more products as well as broader product categories, including printed paper (such as newspapers and magazines) and packaging (such as cans, bottles, and boxes).

One option to fund collection, recycling, and disposal is to expand EPR to additional products, such as electronic devices not currently covered by E-Cycle Washington, batteries, mattresses, appliances, architectural paint, household hazardous waste, printed paper and packaging, or other products.

This mechanism would fund the collection and recycling or safe disposal of the targeted product as well as outreach and enforcement related to the program.

11. For which products, if any, do you think extended producer responsibility would be a good option to cover?

☐ No more products—Extended producer responsibility programs should not be added

☐ The following product(s):

12. What benefits do you see with this option?

13. What drawbacks do you see with this option? How could they be addressed?

Funding Mechanisms for Solid Waste - Dept. of Ecology Survey

Solid Waste Reduction Planning or Generation Fees

Currently, generators and users of large quantities of hazardous substances are required to develop a voluntary hazardous substance reduction plan and pay a fee to cover the Department of Ecology's cost of administration, review, and technical assistance associated with these plans. In addition, all businesses that generate hazardous waste are required to pay an annual fee of \$49, which the Department of Ecology uses to provide technical assistance and compliance assistance to these businesses.

One option to fund waste reduction and recycling technical assistance is to establish similar fees for business generators of solid waste, potentially with a minimum threshold to exclude businesses that are small or that generate little waste.

14. What benefits do you see with this funding option?

15. What drawbacks do you see with this funding option? How could they be addressed?

Funding Mechanisms for Solid Waste - Dept. of Ecology Survey

Advanced Recovery Fees

With advanced recovery fees (ARFs), consumers pay a fee on a product at the point of sale to help cover future disposal or recovery costs when that product reached the end of its life—reducing the consumer's barriers to recycling. While ARFs can be used in government-run or manufacturer-run collection programs, this page focuses on government-run programs. This distinguishes ARFs from extended producer responsibility (EPR) programs, which are run by producers.

Advanced recovery fees are a potential option to fund recycling for specific products that are not regularly accepted in recycling programs, present a public health problem when improperly disposed of, or present a dumping problem. Products to consider include tires, mattresses, appliances, paint, and household hazardous wastes. *(Note: the existing Tire Retailer Fee does not pay for tire recovery for customers.)*

This mechanism could potentially be used to fund recovery and/or disposal, in a government-run program of the targeted products.

16. What product categories, if any, do you think should be included?

☐ No more products—Advanced recovery fees should not be used

☐ The following product categories:

17. What benefits do you see with this funding option?

18. What drawbacks do you see with this funding option? How could they be addressed?

Funding Mechanisms for Solid Waste - Dept. of Ecology Survey

Local-level Funding Options

The recent recession and education funding challenge has shown that state-level funding sources for solid waste are vulnerable during state budget shortfalls. Coordinated Prevention Grants and litter programs have suffered budget cuts in recent years as funds have been redirected to other uses. Collecting funds locally may give individual jurisdictions more control over their solid waste funding than relying on state-level funding sources.

Existing local options include:

- Excise taxes through county disposal districts
- Solid waste management plan fees in unincorporated areas
- Board of health fees
- Services embedded in collection contracts or service level standards

Funding Mechanisms for Solid Waste - Dept. of Ecology Survey

Excise Taxes through Disposal Districts—Applicable to Counties

Counties are authorized to charge excise taxes on waste collection, if they establish a disposal district (RCW 36.58.100). For example, Whatcom County uses this option to fund its 25% Coordinated Prevention Grant (CPG) match and most other components of its solid waste management program that are not funded by CPG, with participation from cities through interlocal agreements.

This mechanism could potentially be used to fund any component of the solid waste system.

19. Has your county considered using this funding option?

- ☐ My county already uses this option.
- ☐ My county has not considered this option.
- ☐ My county has considered and rejected this option.
- ☐ I do not know.
- ☐ Other (please explain)

20. What benefits do you see with this funding option?

21. Besides political will, what barriers do you see to using this funding option? How could they be addressed?

Funding Mechanisms for Solid Waste - Dept. of Ecology Survey

Solid Waste Management Planning Fees in Unincorporated areas—Applicable to Counties

Counties are authorized to charge a fee on collection services throughout unincorporated areas to pay for expenses incurred in complying with state requirements to develop a Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) (RCW 36.58.045). For example, Franklin County uses this option to fund its 25% Coordinated Prevention Grant (CPG) match as well as planning, implementation, and enforcement of programs related to its solid waste management plan that are not funded by CPG.

This mechanism can only be used to fund planning, implementation, and other expenses incurred in complying with state requirements for a SWMP.

22. Has your county considered using this funding option?

- ☐ My county already uses this option.
- ☐ My county has not considered this option.
- ☐ My county has considered and rejected this option.
- ☐ I do not know.
- ☐ Other (please explain)

23. What benefits do you see with this funding option?

24. Besides political will, what barriers do you see to using this funding option? How could they be addressed?

Funding Mechanisms for Solid Waste - Dept. of Ecology Survey

Board of Health Fees—Applicable to Counties

Local boards of health are authorized to charge fees to pay for services that protect public health (RCW 70.05.060). Many boards of health charge permitting fees for solid waste facility permits. In 1991, the King County Board of Health established fees on garbage collection service, transfer station use, and wastewater treatment to provide services related to moderate risk waste.

This mechanism could be used to fund moderate risk waste programs, permitting and enforcement, litter and illegal dumping prevention and clean-up, landfill monitoring and remediation, and other programs that protect public health.

25. Has your county considered using this funding option?

- ☐ My county already uses this option.
- ☐ My county has not considered this option.
- ☐ My county has considered and rejected this option.
- ☐ I do not know.
- ☐ Other (please explain)

26. What benefits do you see with this funding option?

27. Besides political will, what barriers do you see to using this funding option? How could they be addressed?

Funding Mechanisms for Solid Waste - Dept. of Ecology Survey

Services Embedded in Contracts or Service Level Standards—Applicable to Cities and Counties

Cities that contract for waste collection can include additional services beyond curbside collection in these contracts. For example, the City of Bellevue's contracted collector is required to provide education and outreach to customers as well as community clean-up services. The City of SeaTac's contracted collector is similarly required to provide education and outreach to customers and to provide curbside collection for used motor oil.

Counties and cities can establish service level standards that solid waste collection companies must meet, such as providing recycling and composting whenever they provide garbage service, providing a minimum level of customer education, or providing curbside collection for materials such as bulky items or properly packaged used motor oil.

28. Has your city or county considered using this option?

- ☐ My city or county already uses this option.
- ☐ My city or county has not considered this option.
- ☐ My city or county has considered and rejected this option.
- ☐ I do not know.
- ☐ Other (please explain)

29. What benefits do you see with this option?

30. Besides political will, what barriers do you see to using this option? How could they be addressed?

Funding Mechanisms for Solid Waste - Dept. of Ecology Survey

Commonly Used State-Level Mechanisms

State-level Funding Options

Other existing funding mechanisms that are commonly used include:

- Fees on gross revenues paid by solid waste collectors to the Utilities and Transportation Commission for regulatory oversight.
- Refundable core battery charges, collected and refunded by retailers to promote battery recycling.
- Tire retailer fees, a portion of which funds illegal dumping enforcement and cleanup related to used tires (most fees are used for highway maintenance related to road wear).

31. **Do you have any comments on these existing state-level funding options?**

Funding Mechanisms for Solid Waste - Dept. of Ecology Survey

Commonly Used Local Mechanisms

Local-level Funding Options

Other existing funding mechanisms that are commonly used include:

- Transfer station and landfill tipping fees, which cities and counties can use to fund any component.
- Collection rates or franchise/administration fees in collection contracts, which cities can use to fund any component.
- Service level ordinances or standards, which cities and counties can use to ensure customers receive specific recycling, composting, or moderate risk waste (MRW) curbside collection or education and outreach services.
- Solid waste facility permit fees, which local health departments can use to fund inspection and enforcement activities.
- Revenue-sharing agreements in which counties and certificated haulers in unincorporated areas cooperate to use recycling commodity revenues on activities that promote and increase recycling.

32. **Do you have any comments on these existing local-level funding options?**

Funding Mechanisms for Solid Waste - Dept. of Ecology Survey

Other Comments

33. If you have any other comments regarding sustainable funding options for solid waste in Washington State, please share them here:

Thank you for your input!

For more information, contact the project managers:

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Increase the Solid Waste Collection Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
County	Western WA	Increased availability of funds for research or grants, implementing programs for enhancing recycling and organics recovery, and decreasing landfilling. Education and outreach programs to target low recycling rate areas. Key area of implementing product stewardship programs for waste stream items such as pharmaceuticals and personal care products that degrade slowly in the environment. Enhanced research on environmental protection measures for modern landfills, and diverted funds for the cleanup of older landfills (unlined/uncovered).	People hate tax increases, even when they benefit society. Need more education and outreach discussing why the current cost structure of landfill disposal is a poor long term solution, and the state definitely has responsibility for providing support/programs/legislation that will assist with minimizing long term impacts of the practice of shoving garbage into the ground and letting it sit there for a very long time.
State agency	Western WA	Increased tax could be an incentive to prevent/reduce garbage.	Increased tax could lead to more illegal dumping, but I think the benefits of waste prevention/reduction would outweigh this.
County	Western WA	Desperately need additional funding - this is a good start	
Private company	Western WA	Dedicating a portion of the higher tax seems like it will secure some funding. The system stays the same for the customer and only the amounts change.	Reducing waste is a top priority for many solid waste outreach programs. We may want to switch our tax system to a different mix of items as solid waste (hopefully) decreases.
Local public health department	Western WA	Covering required solid waste enforcement, Permitting, and education. Having a stable funding source gives the program the long-term stability to plan and implement larger objectives.	Why is the collection tax not currently dedicated to solid waste? The program or service that the tax currently supports may be cut or reduced.
State agency	Eastern WA	Obviously more revenue to disperse.	Nobody wants to pay more tax! Higher dumping fees equal more illegal dumping. I'm not sure how to increase taxation on an already overtaxed nation and have it happily accepted.

Increase the Solid Waste Collection Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
County	Eastern WA	As long as the amount greater than 3.6%, was dedicated to funding solid waste issues, this would help create stability for local recycling and hazardous waste programs as well as education programs.	I would be concerned that the legislature would not dedicate the funds to solid waste. It may start that way, but when the money is needed to balance the budget, the legislature would take the funds. I would also wonder how the funds would be allocated among the different governments. I am not sure how to address my concerns regarding the legislature. To address the allocation issue, Ecology would need to form a work group that represents the governments who would receive the money.
City or town	Eastern WA	Local governments provided direct allocations to spend as needed.	WTE is exempt from the tax therefore, would probably not be eligible for a direct allocation. The increased tax would also increase the cost of solid waste collection and disposal.
Local public health department	Western WA	It is a potential benefit for obvious budget issues, but the state has already done this and now spends the funds elsewhere.	Why should we be asking for more taxes when it's already being mismanaged? What is going to keep the legislature from dipping into these fee's and appropriating them for other funds - just as they have done for current solid waste and dangerous waste taxes?
State agency	Eastern WA	None. If the current funding is being redirected, what will keep the legislation from redirecting the additional funds? Reinstating the funds that have been shifted should be the objective.	The additional funding, even if dedicated for solid waste, could be redirected to another agency.

Increase the Solid Waste Collection Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
County	Eastern WA	Benefits would be funding for Solid Waste systems, in particularly hazardous waste is both extremely expensive and of the highest detriment to our environment if left to be dumped.	Increased taxes is duplicating. Efforts should be made to direct the tax collected back to the appropriate place, solid waste industry, including disposal (not just recycling). This should be a high priority and is an obvious displacement of solid waste taxes. Why double the tax? To add a tax to recycling will be more administrative costs for Counties. And how do you collect a tax for drop off recycling? How do you collect a tax for waste reduction? Counties pay B and O tax on top of solid waste tax, and it is costing a lot for people to bring waste in. So, more illegal dumping of garbage. And this will increase garbage costs further.
Local public health department	Eastern WA	This seems like it would provide a more reliable stream of income.	Depending on how much the increase was, it may negatively affect customers bringing waste to facilities and cause more illegal dumping to occur.
Local public health department	Western WA	Flexability, users pay fees, should be dedicated and adjusted for inflation	doesn't capture parts of system that still costs money, recycling, MRW etc.,
County	Western WA	The tax is collected by those that transfer, store and dispose of solid waste. There is certainly a nexus between this tax and the regulation of solid waste, including evaluation of landfill facilities (closed and active).	If the tax was not legislatively mandated to support solid waste regulation then the legislature will find a way to spend it on other programs or services.
Private company	Eastern WA	I see no benefit. The tax is not administered consistently. The Spokane Waste to Energy Facility does not pay this tax.	Should be applied to all solid waste generated. No exemptions so it is fair to everyone.
County	Western WA	Collection system already in place.	Tax does not evenly impact stakeholders.

Increase the Solid Waste Collection Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
Local public health department	Western WA	If it were a dedicated funding source that could not be swept or diverted it would be a good option. Solid waste taxes should fund solid waste work.	It would make so much sense for the tax charged by the state for transfer, storage and disposal services to go back to pay for the work that is being done in the solid waste system. I am afraid that an increased rate would eventually go to the other source that receives the current funding and not to solid waste
City or town	Western WA	This option might help increase recycling and composting.	
County	Western WA	There is no benefit, since the chances are high our Governor will give the SWRT funding to another agency such as Parks	The SWRT should be used solely for Solid Waste purposes
Local public health department	Western WA	Could provide some funding for solid waste program activities. Better to increase the solid waste collection tax on disposal instead of imposing the solid waste collection tax on recycling and composting activities.	When you already have 3.6% collected, but not going to solid waste programs, the public could view the increase (as a whole) and say this is too much and it isn't being used efficiently. Another issue is it is regressive. We already have people illegally dumping garbage because of the rates, this will increase the overall disposal costs for all economic groups.
County	Eastern WA	Paying for the enforcement of the activity that original generates the waste makes sense.	It may be a small revenue source.
County	Western WA	If the tax is truly a dedicated fund, the funds could be a reasonably reliable source of revenue. It also creates somewhat of a "sin tax" model - which has historically shown to be a good deterrent from consumption.	If history is any indication, these funds could be raided, if not protected by some statutory means. Additionally, we would still be relying on disposal to pay for waste reduction programs. In other words, we would be trying to eliminate the source of our own funding.

Increase the Solid Waste Collection Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
City or town	Western WA	The benefit of taxing solid waste to pay for solid waste uses seems logical. The benefit is a scaled fee. Taxing the garbage could help pay for recycling programs that do not fully fund themselves. This increases cost to landfill and could help drive recycling.	The drawbacks are two-fold. One, the money is hi-jacked for uses other than solid waste. So even if the new tax is dedicated to solid waste today, the future will remain uncertain. There is no assurance the new tax won't be reallocated. The way to address this is pass legislation requiring taxes and fees to be used for the intended purpose. A solid waste tax must be used for solid waste and recycling issues. Taxing the garbage is a way to help fund recycling and waste reduction. The drawback is that as garbage declines, then resulting revenue declines, and if recycling programs depend on trash revenue, the funding for recycling dries up. It's a catch 22 of sorts.
County	Eastern WA	More funding, however I don't like that the state would control who, what and where this goes.	No control over funds for small local rural areas. We lose, the voting power is all on the west side of the state.
Local public health department	Western WA	It's not a new tax...just a repurposing of the tax revenues or an increase to an existing tax.	If only applied to garbage, it misses the broad spectrum of all solid waste that is handled by our systems across the state.
City or town	Western WA	More revenue	Not sure how long it's been since the previous tax increase, it would be good to get historical info, to see if a tax increase is warranted on the basis of it's been 10-20+ years.
State agency	Western WA	A nominal increase or increased dedication to waste-related programs would increase available funding for waste-related programs	People hate taxes. If the increase is small, they won't notice or care. For a regular self hauler it's a non-issue. Current users of this funding source will need alternatives.

Increase the Solid Waste Collection Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
City or town	Western WA	Additional funding source is always beneficial, especially for those jurisdictions that rely on state funding.	The main drawback is that there is no guarantee that the tax will remain dedicated to solid waste activities. Unless a mechanism is in place that guarantees the tax stays dedicated to solid waste, it is just another potential revenue source for the legislature. Also, taxes are high enough on just about everything.
County	Western WA	The SW tax should not be increased.	Raising rates may discourage folks from disposing of waste and recyclables safely.
County	Western WA	Huge benefits! Our Coordinated Prevention Grant funds have been cut in half. Our education and outreach has been dramatically curtailed. Consequently, our recycling rates are down and our solid waste to landfill has gone up. We are not able to address illegal dumping, which is a huge issue in our rural county. The CPG funds are unstable in the current configuration using MTCA resources. This option would provide more stable funding for these critical needs.	People have issues with any tax increases. If there was pushback on the bill to increase the tax amount from 3.6% to say, 4.0%, a campaign to the public for '0.4% for Less Landfill' or something to that effect.
County	Western WA	It is an existing funding stream and collection mechanisms are already in place. It would not be difficult to accommodate an increase.	Since the tax is not dedicated to solid waste uses any increase could also be subject to raiding for other purposes in later years.
County	Eastern WA	I like it.	None
County	Eastern WA	This sounds like a great option, diverting MRW and increasing recycling has a cost associated with it. It seems like the natural choice should be to have refuse tax help offset this cost. In many rural Eastern Washington communities eliminating or limiting MRW turn in and recycling options would lead to increased illegal dumping, but with less and less funding available it is a burden to continue these programs.	

Increase the Solid Waste Collection Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
County	Eastern WA	An avenue for funding that could in whole or partially fund the solid waste industry which the current 3.6% should be doing rather than funding programs not even related to the industry.	the funds getting diverted just like what is happening now
Local public health department	Eastern WA	Funding tied directly to the amount of solid waste handled makes sense. Additional funding allows for additional services if the money is well-managed.	Increased disposal costs may discourage proper disposal, causing an increase in illegal dumping. Do not increase the tax, but use the existing 3.6% to fund the solid waste system.
County	Eastern WA	User fee	Not used for the solid waste purposes. Need to dedicate this to solid waste.
City or town	Western WA	If a tax is collected and associated by it's name with a particular activity it seems essential that the funds be utilized as intended.	We have historically used fees collected on disposed solid waste to support recycling/diversion as well as outreach and education efforts. If we are successful in meeting goals, this has limited potential as the volume of solid waste should be going down.
Industry association or advocacy organization	Western WA	It would be a reliable source of funding	political realities
County	Western WA	That those users of the solid waste system would help to fund necessary improvements and expansions of that system, especially if the funds were dedicated.	Many of our self-haulers pay the minimum flat rate when disposing at our site. If the tax rate was increased, we wouldn't likely increase that flat rate so in our case more funds would go to paying taxes from those flat rate customers.
County	Western WA	It would provide a more stable source of revenue for solid waste operations	It is not applied fairly to the residents. Only the self-haulers pay the tax not those on route collection by the certificate hauler. Increasing the cost of disposal will increase the amount of illegal dumping.

Increase the Solid Waste Collection Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
City or town	Western WA	This is the best scenario for the solid waste tax	The draw backs is this model of tax should be applied to recycling also to show the true costs to the system as a whole.
County	Eastern WA	If we had a revenue source that wasn't dependent on the governor's Budget we could continue to keep our programs running that benefit the counties. Without the revenue we are unable to provide important programs such as Household Hazardous Waste Collections or even keeping MRW Facilities operational. All of that hazardous waste could potentially end up being disposed of improperly.	Residents don't want to pay more taxes, none of us do.
Other	Eastern WA	Increasing taxes on garbage will encourage people to recycle thus cutting down on landfill usage. People need to be prodded into recycling through their pocketbooks. Increasing taxes on garbage will encourage people to recycle. There should be a fund dedicated to solid waste.	

Increase the Solid Waste Collection Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
City or town	Western WA	Benefits include raising funds and increase the cost of disposal, making non-disposal options more financially attractive.	Taxes that are collected should be dedicated to some related to the taxed material. It is unfortunate that this isn't the case for the sw excise tax. I am personally unclear how this tax increase would pass through to our city rate payers, so that would have to be considered as we are trying to stay within specific rate increase pathways. So if a state tax increase, passed through to our ratepayers, put us above our intended rate path, we might actually have to cut programs covered by our rates to stay within our own rate path. That would be a problem. Also, even if you say the additional funds will be dedicated to solid waste, that is meaningless as we know the legislature will grab whatever money they want when they want for what they want, unless specific barriers are put in place that can't be overturned.
Other	Eastern WA	Providing funding to underwrite recycling expansion, education & outreach, and waste prevention efforts.	Distribution of funds. In our county (Okanogan) recyclers include the county and two non-profit organizations. All struggle to fund their work and function in discreet geographic areas. Garbage collection is not mandatory so some is done by the licensed hauler and some is self-hauled to local transfer stations. Education for consumers. Making sure they understand the cause and benefit of the price increase. Those who are anti-tax of any kind will object strenuously.
County	Eastern WA	As long as it is direct funding it would be based on the amount of waste collected.	As we continue to go from waste to recycling and reuse we would continue to lose a funding source.

Increase the Solid Waste Collection Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
Local public health department	Eastern WA	Solid waste funds pay for solid waste activities, it makes sense. Considering the amount of solid waste generated it seems a small percentage could be a substantial amount of funding.	A potential shift in funding and the hole it can leave in the budget of the current benefactor.
Private company	Western WA	A more appropriate dedication of those taxes- to address management concerns of solid waste.	I believe that currently these tax dollars are dedicated to local, county government. This will take that money away from local government programs.
Local public health department	Western WA	It would guarantee that solid waste funding would be used for solid waste work and not be siphoned off to support other legislative mandates.	Increasing the tax will always draw ire. I could see pushback from collectors as they are asked to pay more for the same service.
City or town	Eastern WA	Additional taxation is not a benefit.	Adding more funds to a dedicated fund not applied to solid waste uses seems pointless. Change the law so that the solid waste tax is required to be used for solid waste purposes.
Other	Western WA	It taxes garbage, so it potentially reduces garbage generation. This is why the tax may need to be increased, so the more challenging areas of garbage generation get needed attention.	As the tax goes up, the incentive is to reduce garbage generation, which also reduces tax collections.
State agency	Western WA	Better services statewide.	Increased costs, but seems only marginal.
County	Eastern WA	This option could increase our funding for education programs on waste reduction as well as allow recycling programs to offer more services.	If solid waste collectors are taxed at a higher rate they may raise the cost of their services which would make it more difficult to make recycling available to the public.
County	Western WA	I support additional tax if it will support our solid waste system including coordinating reuse, recycling, and meeting the State Goal of Zero Waste.	

Increase the Solid Waste Collection Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
Other	Western WA	Increased revenue for solid waste management programs. Increased charges could encourage waste reduction.	Ripple effect of increased operating costs for solid waste handlers and their customers.
State agency	Eastern WA	Dedication to solid waste uses.	Higher tipping fees. Redirecting all or part of the 3.6% would be better.
City or town	Western WA	Brings a "secure" funding source to the solid waste system. Secure as long as the legislature doesn't designate it for something else down the road.	The public is being taxed, taxed, and then taxed some more - they are tired of increased taxes. Educating on what the tax is going to be used for could help.
Other	Western WA	Increased revenue through a means that is already established. Avoids trying to establish a completely new revenue source and completely new laws and rules, etc.	Increasing the revenue source through this tax may still be appropriated for non-solid waste uses. Any increase to this tax must be protected through law or rule to ensure that it is committed to the state's solid waste management system. Also, over time the initial 3.6% tax should be slowly shifted back into solid waste funding. What is it currently being used for? This seems wrong.
State agency	Other	generates revenue	doesn't address declining disposal - goal of waste prevention and recovery programs
Other	Western WA	More money for solid waste reduction programs. Incentive for waste reduction/diversion by waste producers	More contamination in recycling and compost. More roadside dumping Address through penalties
County	Western WA	would increase revenue	Will produce diminishing returns if people recycle more, or produce less waste. Could be difficult to maintain as a dedicated fund
County	Western WA	None if the funds are being diverted to other uses.	Requires a legislative fix. The funds are diverted to other uses. If there was the political will to ensure that the funds are dedicated to solid waste programs and infrastructure it might be worth considering. But not hopeful in the near future.

Increase the Solid Waste Collection Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
Member of the public	Western WA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Funds (from the increased solid waste collection tax) would be generated from solid waste activities and used for solid waste activities. That's a good match.- Would increase disposal costs, and create a bigger differential between the cost of disposal compared to the cost of recycling and composting. This would provide a greater incentive to recycle and compost.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Funds from the increased tax could be diverted to uses other than solid waste.- It will be politically difficult to pass. There would be a need to build a strong and diverse coalition in support of this option.

Expand the Solid Waste Collection Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
County	Western WA	Recycling and organics recovery are not free services; we must charge people appropriately for disposal of these waste stream fractions, or we will never be able to sustainably collect and reuse/process these fractions.	People hate paying more. Organics recovery is riddled with technologic/economic challenges, and may not be viable as a money maker. However, if we continue to dispose of organics, the increased costs to control landfill GHG emissions will continue to rise as waste tonnage increases. Hauling out of the region also has an increased environmental impact that must be considered with regards to climate change. Less waste, more reuse, closer to home processing and re-purposing is key.
State agency	Western WA	By making the costs of handling all materials similar, it might help reduce the garbage intentionally placed in organics bins. On the flip side, keeping costs for organics and recycling lower, provides an incentive to choose these instead of garbage.	Increased cost in organics/recycling might discourage some from composting and recycling. Boost educational programs and make it a "norm" in all counties of WA State.
County	Western WA	This would be beneficial if the money went to the enforcement of recycling operations	
Private company	Western WA	As the mix of materials disposed shifts to include more recycling and organics, including them in the tax system makes sense. I think it will be more secure funding.	The tax might discourage recycling and composting. But, I think the price of service/hauling/disposal will be more compelling to customers than the tax. If solid waste disposal rates and hauling costs are high and recycling/compost low, the tax might not factor in as much of a discouragement. Also, I wonder if customers widely know which items are currently taxed and which are not - a system that taxes all items disposed makes sense - perhaps some people already mistakenly think it's the case anyway.
Local public health department	Western WA	Increase local government support to encourage recycling and education programs that have been cut over the past few years.	Possible issues with businesses not understanding the reason behind the tax. Solid Waste Exempt facilities monitored by the Department of Ecology would need to be included in any taxing or permitting changes.

Expand the Solid Waste Collection Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
State agency	Eastern WA	Again, more revenue.	If you put a tax on my organic waste, I'll start burning it. I win but I still pay a fee because it's the right thing to do. Tax me and I'm done. People collect recyclable items because there is money in it. The number one complaint I hear is there is not enough money in it but at least it's something. A tax will decrease the money even more. Two words: ILLEGAL DUMPING!
County	Eastern WA	I do not see any benefits to this funding option. We want to encourage recycling and taxing the collection and handing of recyclables would not do that.	Please see above. I do not see this as a viable option.
City or town	Eastern WA		Would make recycling and composting more expensive being a disincentive.
Local public health department	Western WA	I do not	Taxing these types of facilities may discourage composting
State agency	Eastern WA	If the funds are not shifted, the additional funding could help the smaller operators to improve their operations and facilities.	The collected taxes would need to be distributed equitably across the state. If Ecology is promoting increased collection of recyclables, more money is needed for the struggling smaller communities/operators. Consider using square miles as a parameter instead of population.
County	Eastern WA	Yes the funding should be for all solid waste uses, not just recycling and not in loans.	Spend this money on research and tools to direct the original tax funds back to solid waste. The funds have been robbed and only loaned back with conditions. Why so many restrictions on using the funds for solid waste systems? What stops it from being used in other places again?
Local public health department	Eastern WA	It would provide more income to solid waste activities.	It makes recycling more prohibitive, especially in rural areas where is this already a big challenge, as this is generally free for many people currently.
Local public health department	Western WA	captures all activities which costs the system to administer	dis-incentive for recycling

Expand the Solid Waste Collection Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
County	Western WA	Generates new revenue.	Could discourage recycling by charging a tax on what is generally free today.
Private company	Eastern WA	No benefit. Recycling should not be taxed.	Sends the wrong message the more you recycle the more you are taxed.
County	Western WA	Increased funding that increases the stakeholders same involved.	May affect recycling rates or services that are encouraged to be used to protect the environment.
Local public health department	Western WA	It could be a good source of funding, but we don't want to create an unintended consequence of "pricing recycling out of the market" since the recycling rates are finally increasing.	I don't know if it is still the issue, but at one time it cost the vendor money to recycle. By adding additional taxes to the program we may be causing an undue burden.
City or town	Western WA	None	It might discourage recycling and composting.
County	Western WA	Recycling always has cost money, garbage collection brings money into each jurisdiction and recycling eats those dollars up in processing. The simplest way would be to cut down on the types of recycling to lessen the burden of local governments paying for recycling.	Robbing Peter to pay Paul is not a sensible alternative.
Local public health department	Western WA	none	Not a good idea when we want recycling and composting to be economically favored over solid waste disposal. By expanding the solid waste collection tax to recycle & compost, you are increasing costs on the actions you are trying to promote.
County	Eastern WA	All additions to the pot are useful.	Recycling is difficult to get buy in on, and adding tax may reduce the users.
County	Western WA	A funding source that would increase in revenue with increased waste reduction and recycling.	May inhibit the ability to sell recycling as a cost-effective alternative to disposal, particularly in areas where disposal rates are low and recycling margins are already tight.

Expand the Solid Waste Collection Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
City or town	Western WA	Would help fund recycling programs. It puts more dollars to recycling and waste reduction.	A drawback is that it will increase the cost to recycle and compost at the curb. This increase will need evaluated. This could have a negative effect on recycling participation, whereas recycling program success often depends on it being cheaper than garbage. If the funding is created and then reallocated to uses other than recycling and waste, it defeats the purpose. If passed, the legislation would need a requirement for eternal use.
County	Eastern WA	No benefits	Again we on the east side do not see any or little funding with little to match funds.
Local public health department	Western WA	Broadens the base from which a tax would be collected. The Solid Waste System is much more than just garbage.	None.
City or town	Western WA	Keeping a tax strictly to garbage reinforces the solid waste hierarchy, with emphasis on diversion from the landfill through recycling and composting. That being said we should no longer tell the story that recycling or composting pays for itself. Rate payers (the public) need to understand that everything has a cost and it's not only garbage.	Less participation in recycling or composting programs where it's not mandated, because the bottom line is a key driver to get folks to jump on board with these programs.
State agency	Western WA	Provide funding for needed and expanding services	Participation in these programs will be negatively impacted by any direct costs to users.
City or town	Western WA		Negative financial incentive/impact on recycling and composting. Also the same issue as described earlier - unless a mechanism is in place that guarantees the tax stays dedicated to solid waste, it is just another potential revenue source for the legislature.
County	Western WA	The SW tax should not be increased.	Raising rates may discourage folks from disposing of waste and recyclables safely.

Expand the Solid Waste Collection Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
County	Western WA	Huge benefits! Our Coordinated Prevention Grant funds have been cut in half. Our education and outreach has been dramatically curtailed. Consequently, our recycling rates are down and our solid waste to landfill has gone up. We also have to system to handle household organics, and funding might support implementation of a curbside program.	Same issue. People are tax-averse.
County	Western WA		Recycling at our transfer station is currently free. To implement a tax we would also have to implement a fee for recycling that can be taxed. This could lead to a reduction in recycling and an increase in illegal dumping or solid waste tonnage. Curbside recycling rates would also rise which could also reduce recycling rates.
County	Eastern WA	I like it.	None
Local public health department	Eastern WA	Additional funding allows for additional services if the money is well-managed.	Any tax on recycling discourages that activity. Don't do it!
County	Eastern WA	More revenue.	Increase in taxes. Not perceived well by public.
City or town	Western WA	This gets around the drawback noted above of losing revenue when disposal volumes are decreased.	A goal has been to recognize and inform citizens that recycling is not always free, it does have a cost to help cover say the convenience of curbside, but if the fundraising element is too great it might also take away the incentive to recycle (unless we maintain a higher differential to dispose).
Industry association or advocacy organization	Western WA	again, reliable	puts a burden on something we are trying to incentivize
County	Western WA	Taxing the handling of composting and recycling would help pay for those programs, which many customers do want and which do not pay for themselves. We might	On the other hand, we are trying to encourage diversion from the solid waste stream by composting and recycling and adding a tax on those services might disincline some of our customers from participating.

Expand the Solid Waste Collection Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
		be able to expand those services to underserved areas.	
County	Western WA	None beyond generating money.	More illegal dumping and less recycling in areas where there is no additional cost for recycling.
City or town	Western WA	I agree with the expanding of the tax, however those funds collected from recycling and composting should be used for those purposes, Recycling should be used for recycling purposes and organics for organics. I know you will say that's a lot of work but it makes the most sense.	You will get push back from the recyclers and organics companies but ultimately those increases will get passed to the consumer. The thought processes should be that garbage costs more to get rid of. You will save more money recycling and organics than putting it in the solid waste stream. That's the savings.
County	Eastern WA	I believe this should extend to recycling as it is a very important component of ensuring the longevity of our landfills and the decrease in the toxins.	Depending on who monitors this revenue the funds could get re-allocated at any time.
Other	Eastern WA	None. Bad idea!!!	I don't see any benefits to increasing rates on recycling and composting. We need to encourage folks to recycle and compost and increasing the cost will not do so. Keeping recycling free while raising taxes on garbage will address the budget problem while still encouraging more recycling.

Expand the Solid Waste Collection Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
City or town	Western WA	Spreads potential for tax income across wider range of materials a we move toward smaller percent disposed, but who cares since it is diverted anyway.	Taxes that are collected should be dedicated to some related to the taxed material. It is unfortunate that this isn't the case for the sw excise tax. I am personally unclear how this tax increase would pass through to our city rate payers, so that would have to be considered as we are trying to stay within specific rate increase pathways. So if a state tax increase, passed through to our ratepayers, put us above our intended rate path, we might actually have to cut programs covered by our rates to stay within our own rate path. That would be a problem. This is true if the tax is on garbage, recycling, or organics. Also, even if you say the additional funds will be dedicated to solid waste, that is meaningless as we know the legislature will grab whatever money they want when they want for what they want, unless specific barriers are put in place that can't be overturned. In addition, in some cases, recycling and organics programs are only considered viable if less expensive than garbage services. As true costs of recycling and organics management increase and commodity values fluctuate, then the economic drivers favoring recycling and organics decrease and are even at risk.
Other	Eastern WA	Hmm.	Our area's curbside collection is voluntary and operates on a very thin margin. Additional tax may threaten it's viability. If there were any potential for urban areas to help underwrite rural areas that would be extremely helpful.
County	Eastern WA	first we would need to start charging for recycling.	Currently we do not charge for recycling so adding a tax would be difficult.

Expand the Solid Waste Collection Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
Local public health department	Eastern WA	additional money that would help justify chasing down illegal dumps of compostable/recycleable materials and help support diversion and education programs that bolster the bottom line of composters	Recyclables and organics such as composting are usually associated with facilities who do or could pay a permit fee already.
Private company	Western WA	Obviously more revenue being generated. These other waste streams are not without a cost in terms of management; for example, education. Our program spends time/labor explaining the various options and avenues customers have. Why not tax hazardous waste as well? Stericycle, for example, is currently taxing MRW (non-recycled) because they define it as "Solid Waste" and not meeting the Ecology definition of "Hazardous Waste".	"New taxes"- a political nightmare. The only option seems to be an educational program- to explain the ramifications of not better and more solid funding for these programs. The costs will simply shift to local governments and state in terms of clean-up and remediation and we'll all pay a price in environmental degradation.
Local public health department	Western WA	Single source taxation is easier to regulate.	Objections from those not doing recycling? Separate fund streams would still be necessary.
City or town	Eastern WA	There needs to be more income for handling materials that are mandated to be collected.	This seems to be duplication. Public probably doesn't appreciate the difference, especially if both recyclables and organics are collected at curbside as the garbage.
Other	Western WA	It creates an incentive for source reduction. As positive as recycling and composting are, they are part of a statewide management system that requires funding to function effectively. These parts of the system need to contribute a fair share.	Depending on the level of taxation, the cost might drive some generators to dump material illegally, especially organic materials (yard and garden, landscaping, or landclearing debris).
State agency	Western WA	Better (more even) service provision around the region.	Increased costs.
County	Eastern WA	This option would provide even more funds to run more programs and improve existing ones, increasing education opportunities.	Some recycling programs are free to residents so there would be no taxable rates. Free recycling programs are one of the many benefits that having more funding would create.

Expand the Solid Waste Collection Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
County	Western WA	See above. (I support additional tax if it will support our solid waste system including coordinating reuse, recycling, and meeting the State Goal of Zero Waste.)	
Other	Western WA	Increased revenue for solid waste management programs.	Possible disincentive to recycling & composting efforts. Could counteract this by dedicating revenue to subsidizing new recycling/composting technologies.
State agency	Eastern WA	Dedication to solid waste uses.	Organic collection usually has a tip fee already so paying a little more in taxes would be easy. Recyclable collection, however, is usually segregated at facilities that serve the general public and redirecting the flow of this traffic to weigh tonnage could be problematic.
City or town	Western WA	There is a cost to recycling and a lot of work is put into educating the public on how to properly recycle. Maybe adding a tax can address some of the costs that go in to waste reduction and recycling education.	It is hard enough to get people to take the extra step to recycle and/or compost. It may be even more difficult if there is an increased cost.
Other	Western WA	A new tax would mean revenue, so that's good.	Could create a decrease in recycling rates if consumers have to pay a tax for recycling. Currently most recycling is free of charge at our facilities. May set up a situation where counties with higher recycling rates (doing a good job diverting material) are subsidizing counties that aren't recycling at the same rate. Preference would be that this type of tax be proportionally allocated to counties based on the amount of incoming tax revenue - which could also be an incentive to other counties to increase their recycling rates.
State agency	Other	generates revenue	increases costs of waste recovery lose incentive for recovery
Other	Western WA	Increased recycling and composting	Contamination uptick in recycling and composting Stress the positives of recycling and composting

Expand the Solid Waste Collection Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
County	Western WA	applies the tax more fairly to all solid waste services sustains funding for programs as recycling and organics separation increases	Still could be difficult to maintain as a dedicated fund
County	Western WA	The benefits depend on 1) whether the new revenues can be DEDICATED to recycling and 2) the authorized uses of the funds.	Requires a legislative fix. Potential diversion of funds and limited use of funds.
Member of the public	Western WA		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Would decrease the differential between the cost of disposal compared to the cost of recycling and composting, providing less of a financial incentive to recycle and compost. This could be especially problematic for businesses and institutions, and result in decreased quantities recycled or composted. Within the world of solid waste, taxes should be levied on things we want less of - not on things we want more of. - Funds from the new tax could be diverted to uses other than solid waste.

Update the Litter Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
County	Western WA	Should be done regularly to ensure the list stays current.	Industry will fight back hard, as it always does. Bottom line is obviously much more important than responsible stewardship of all the waste/1-Use products we introduce into our consumer stream. Force it down their throats. The right thing is the right thing, even if it means a fight. In 2017, it should be apparent that litter is not acceptable, but it still happens; hence, yes we should have programs based on litter frequency that are funded by a tax on said items. End game though: develop programs that educate people on why litter continues to be a problem (aquatic environment degradation, environmental bioamplification, etc), as the problem only goes away once people realize that trash, regardless of whether it is a can or on the ground, is best addressed by never creating/using the 1-Use item (e.g. plastic/paper bags vs re-useable totes for grocery shopping).
State agency	Western WA	It would generate more revenue to clean up the most commonly littered items. I think I've heard semi-truck tires are currently exempt which is ridiculous considering how there are tons shredded tires on the sides of the roads.	I can't think of any drawbacks.
County	Western WA	Updating the list makes a lot of sense to me.	You would need to make sure the Legislature does not take the money back, like they are prone to do.
County	Western WA	Good if used for roadside/illegal dumping cleanup	

Update the Litter Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
Private company	Western WA	Yes! Update! It looks to me like the tax mainly targets packaging from fast food restaurants. I'd like to see plastic water bottles, cans of beer/energy drinks, candy wrappers, energy bars, and plastic bags included. I wonder if the plastic bag tax could be charged to grocery stores when purchasing in bulk. Expanding the programs the tax funds to include waste reduction/litter-prevention education makes a lot of sense. Visually, beach litter is so compelling - it seems like an easier case to make. Update and raise.	Complaint from stores selling convenience foods/drinks/bags/packaging. Perhaps they would be motivated to purchase more items with minimal packaging or packaging styles that aren't taxed. The tax could apply to the manufacturer or the store/restaurant. Perhaps all newly items could be given a several year wait-period so stores and manufacturers could make changes to their products to avoid the tax. This might encourage movement to more sustainable packaging. And more use of durable containers.
Local public health department	Western WA	Local resources that respond to illegal dumping and litter control would be supported through this legislation.	The "list of items subject to litter" will not be able to cover the broad range of items found. A survey of local health and local police departments about what is usually found in an illegal dump may be informative.
State agency	Eastern WA	More money for you!	At least people can decide if they want to purchase the items and pay the tax. There seems to be a common theme here on your tax proposals. Words like, "potentially used", "could", and "assuming" all indicate that in a perfect world the tax would be used to better the mechanism it is collect for. However those words leave it wide open to spend these tax monies on anything, not just solid waste endeavors.
County	Eastern WA	This is a relatively small tax and it taxes the generator which I believe should fund possible litter, waste reduction, and recycling programs. It is a very targeted tax and it is easier to dedicate the funds to what they are allocated for.	I don't see a lot of drawbacks with this funding option. The legislature seems to leave this money alone and it is already dedicated to a specific cause. It could be expanded to include recycling and waste reduction.

Update the Litter Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
City or town	Eastern WA	Would be appropriate and allow for direct allocation to local governments to use as deemed appropriate.	A Litter Tax would add cost to certain products. This type of tax, as MTCA would probably be easily accepted by the public.
Local public health department	Western WA	No. The state already has a tax, but has again pilfered this fund to fund other programs outside of the solid waste venue.	Commodities are already on the rise from mandate minimum wage requirements. This will just pass on to the consumer. State should live within it's means and use the current tax for what it is meant for.
State agency	Eastern WA	If the funds are reinstated to the Litter account, there is no need to add items to the product list.	There will be push back because producers will see this as an unnecessary additional tax.
County	Eastern WA	I do not think increasing taxes to fund programs like the Ecology Youth core litter program is cost effective. Why pay full wages to a youth program when jail inmates or correction programs can do the work for 80% less? It is nice to provide youth with a job to help the environment, but that is not enough reason to pay substantially more for a program. I think you need to look at better spending options.	Same, many drawbacks to increasing taxes when the spending of the money should be re evaluated. Cut the ECY programs and pay inmates, rehab, or correction programs. That provides much needed money for the jails, and is saves money for the litter program while cleaning up more garbage.
Local public health department	Eastern WA	Presumably if more products were covered, the overall income stream would increase.	As long as funds were directed to litter cleanup activities, I don't see a lot of drawbacks to this funding option.
Local public health department	Western WA	waste stewardship, waste producers pay more	hard to capture all generators of wastes, no distinction for those who use recyclable materials
County	Western WA	Evenly distributed to products which are likely to become litter.	Legislative debate over what items are likely to become litter.
Private company	Eastern WA	No benefit.	
County	Western WA	Collection system already in place.	Special interests will strongly oppose this action.

Update the Litter Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
Local public health department	Western WA	I don't see any benefits	The litter tax does not seem to be doing what it was intended to at its creation in 1971. Trash along the roads is worse each year.
County	Western WA	We all know that Inslee has taken another 10 Million from litter tax to give to Parks, when will this nonsense stop and the Litter tax be used in the manner it was designed for.	If the litter tax was earmarked and used for it's intended purpose of collecting litter and keeping our highways clean our State would look much better. When Gregoire started raiding the litter fund our beautiful State became a laughing stock.
Local public health department	Western WA	This is a good option to look at revising and updating the list of items subject to the tax (bottled water & drinks, alcohol, packaged foods, fast food establishments, tires) and maybe look at changing it to 0.0175 % The litter tax revenue should be dedicated to litter prevention/cleanup, waste reduction AND solid waste enforcement activities.	Make sure the revenue from the excise tax is earmarked for litter & solid waste enforcement activities otherwise there will be public backlash.
County	Eastern WA	Every addition to the pot helps.	
County	Western WA	This option seems the most logical. Almost a producer-responsibility model.	Historically, this fund has been a target for fund raiding. Would need to be statutorily protected.

Update the Litter Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
City or town	Western WA	My understanding is the litter tax has not been adjusted from 0.015% since 1971, nor the list of items, but the money collected has been reallocated to uses other than litter and solid waste. That 50% to 75% of these funds go to programs such as schools and other legislative priorities. Is this true? If so, the first measure should be to get these funds going where they should and adjust taxes and fees for schools, transportation, etc. The benefit of the litter tax is it funds necessary litter and recycling/waste reduction programming. The list should remain the list of products that are created and that could become litter. Moving to a list of items commonly littered would require extensive research and data. Does this data exist? If not how would it be collected. The benefit of this model is that it levels the playing field and doesn't create loopholes to avoid the tax.	The drawback is how the funding is allocated. Assurances for funding use need to be put in place.
County	Eastern WA	More funds to work with.	Again limited fund and control on these extra funds from the east side small counties.
Local public health department	Western WA	There is far more than just fast food litter along our roadways in the State. This litter tax should be applied to all single serve size beverage containers.	As it exists this would create additional funding for litter clean-up, but would not address the larger system funding needs across the state.
City or town	Western WA	It's a great way to target specific materials (single use items) that often end up polluting our land and waterways. Keep this tax going, but return funds to ecology's solid waste programs.	Funds continue to get earmarked to fund other programs or departments with the state.

Update the Litter Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
State agency	Western WA	Litter related expenses are significant and any additional revenue will be helpful	Businesses that pay this tax will lobby against it, taking significant effort to update this rule. There are potential equity issues. A portion of these funds could be used for anti-litter outreach- not sure how effective that has been
City or town	Western WA		It depends on what categories would be added. Even though it is outdated, the list seems to include a lot of the materials that could be considered litter.
County	Western WA	encouraging consumers to buy goods with less packaging	none
County	Western WA	Again, huge benefits! We have a terrible litter problem in this state. Too much goes to landfill.	This tax increase might have more traction than the others. No one likes litter. Also, a group of high school students is currently promoting a Bottle Bill and getting traction in Olympia. That could be a positive way to address some of the litter.
County	Western WA	Would tax products that are causing the most litter problems and put the money to addressing those issues. There is a good correlation there.	
County	Eastern WA	I like it	None
Local public health department	Eastern WA	Sounds reasonable. If the money is needed, this source makes as much sense as any.	Philosophically speaking, there is an argument that this tax punishes all for the actions of the few. On the other hand, almost everyone benefits from litter prevention and clean-up activities. Necessary evil - let's do it!

Update the Litter Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
City or town	Western WA	A wide scope of products help cover the cost for managing and preventing litter that is (at least in theory) associated with them. Producers should have some role in supporting sustainable management of their products. If you purchase those products you are contributing to addressing the mess that is partly associated with them (but also associated with some bad behavior which is not necessarily the particular products fault). All producers/distributors/retailers contribute across the board (maybe in a fairly small and almost inconsequential way) support the program.	Funds have been diverted in the past - so not a good sign that we should trust them with any more. Good product design (for either better recycling or less littering) does not gain any incentive for producers/distributors/retailers. Everyone pays into this funding whether or not they litter and even if they have limited income - so not sure that it is entirely fair
Industry association or advocacy organization	Western WA	reliable	this is being diverted by the legislature
County	Western WA	We should make sure that those products being targeted are actually the ones that we see show up in the litter stream now. I would think with the amount of litter crews operating in Washington state, that we would have a good idea of what products are being littered.	Just complaints from those manufacturers.
County	Western WA	I'm not sure I have all of the information necessary to site the benefits of this option. What items are currently on the list and what items should be added? After the State pays for litter prevention and clean-up, how much would be left for waste reduction and recycling? This is akin to producer responsibility.	This option would only target specific items for taxation to fund programs. Sooner or later, all products and or their packaging are at the end of life and need to be disposed of or recycled. The cost associated with this should be distributed across all products.

Update the Litter Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
City or town	Western WA	Finally getting the litter cleaned up again, please do let politics get in the way of getting the state cleaned up. Great idea!	No draw backs.
County	Eastern WA	We have a youth litter crew that only works for 7 weeks. With additional funding we could extend the litter pick up to additional months.	
Other	Eastern WA	Good option!	This should be done at the manufacturing level and not the consumer level. Manufacturers should be given incentives to make products that are easily recycled. For example, taking glass bottles back at a convenient location would lessen glass being littered or put in the landfill.
City or town	Western WA	Yes, should be updated and yes this would be a good thing to do, but the assumption that the litter tax will be rededicated is risky. But this should be done regardless.	The risk is simply that more tax income will result but will still be diverted. I think it will be a hard sell with industry to state that an update is needed but the funds haven't been used for their intended purpose anyway.
Other	Eastern WA		This funding pool is all but invisible in our county, and is only made available to cleanups for which the county is responsible. Nonprofits coordinating community volunteers do not have access to these funds. Making this a competitive or zip code linked funding opportunity could change this.
County	Eastern WA	It would be help fun since many of the plastic bottles and the type of fast food container have changed over the years. It could generate addition funding for waste reduction and recycling.	
Local public health department	Eastern WA	an increase in the tax may reduce the amount of items that could become litter	It would hopefully reduce over time.

Update the Litter Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
Private company	Western WA	Easy to make the case that there is a need to update this list and therefore not actually raise a tax or create a new one. For example, were fluorescent lights on that list?	It assumes bad behavior on the part of citizens. Unfortunately decades of experience demonstrate this to be an actual event/concern. It also appears to somewhat contradict the existence of recycling programs- "if people are just going to litter anyway, why have these expensive systems/services? Just dedicate money and action to clean-up." (Bad choice)
Local public health department	Western WA	none	Why charge litter separately. This seems stupid to me.
City or town	Eastern WA	A renewal of definitions and updating of the application is appropriate after 46 years.	It may be too optimistic in a lean budget season to think additional taxes will be applied to litter clean-up. Perhaps there is public perception that labor from Ecology Youth or arrangements with prisons are inexpensive, or already paid for, or free.
Other	Western WA	If items are missing from the list that commonly show up as litter collected, the list should be updated. It seems like a fairness issue. The list should reflect actual littered items. We could also expand the definition of litter to include disposability in general. That is impose a litter tax for littered items, but also impose a disposability tax on various items that fall into categories of disposability. Create a specific incentive toward durable products and away from single-use items.	
State agency	Western WA	I would like to think it would reduce litter, but wonder if the tax would really reach the folks that need to be redirected.	none.
County	Western WA	This will increase funding for litter cleanup on our roads and beaches.	

Update the Litter Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
Other	Western WA	Updating the list of items subject to the tax would make the tax more equitable. It may even be possible to reduce the tax rate.	None
State agency	Eastern WA	More revenue.	None.
City or town	Western WA	As long as the tax on items continues to fund litter cleanup this is a benefit. Much of the state's litter cleanup budget has been cut over the years and it shows. The shoulders of our roads look terrible.	I don't think people would see a drawback with such a small percentage as long as the money was used for litter prevention and cleanup.
Other	Western WA	Since the law was created in 1971, many "litterable" products have been invented. This would bring the law up to date with current conditions. These commonly littered items we suspect, would be disposable items that are often the focus of recycling and waste reduction.	Expanding the list of products is meaningless unless the full tax is redirected back into the programs it was intended to support. Suggest that the existing tax misdirection be corrected first.
State agency	Other	generates revenue helpful to have diverse sources of revenue	litter reduction efforts will reduce funding for efforts not directly related to litter reduction
Other	Western WA	I think it's a great idea to revisit the list. Make sure you check with Ocean Conservancy to include what they find most commonly during clean-ups. I'm impressed that it's already a pretty all-encompassing general and vague ("sundry products"?) list. I would want straws, coffee lids and ear plugs (more common than you'd think) to somehow be included. Makes more money available.	Don't see any. General public does not see this excise tax.
County	Western WA		limited applicability to entire solid waste system
County	Western WA	If the funds could actually be rededicated to recycling and litter cleanup, WRR, it would not require a legislative fix, which is a benefit. The question is, how do you "rededicate" funds?	Redirecting the funds is a major drawback. What is to stop this in the future? A deposit system on containers or an EPR system on printed paper and packaging would be a better solution.

Update the Litter Tax

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
Member of the public	Western WA	- Seems like an obvious and practical thing to do in order for there to be a direct link between the products littered and the products taxed.	- A bottle bill based on producer responsibility could be an effective way to prevent some types of litter.

For which products, if any, do you think EPR would be a good option to cover?

Type of Work	Geography	Products
City or town	Western WA	Carpet, mattresses, furniture, large appliances.
State agency	Western WA	1. Additional electronics- the list should be more comprehensive 2. Disposable products 3. Hazardous materials which require special handling
City or town	Western WA	Paint Medication Sharps - diabetic needles, lancets, veterinary sharps, other Expanding covered electronics - keyboards, mice, speakers, etc. Mattresses Couches
Local public health department	Western WA	Left over medicine(s); Paints; Mattresses; HHW
City or town	Western WA	Batteries (all), pharmaceuticals, sharps, all electronics, household hazardous waste.
County	Western WA	tires, junk vehicles, packaging, moderate risk wastes, mattresses, carpet, paint
Local public health department	Western WA	State wide pharmaceuticals, tires, cell phones, pesticides. Secondary list: gaming equipment, audio equipment, VCR/DVD/DVR, printers.
County	Western WA	Paint and Medicines.
Local public health department	Western WA	Mattresses, furniture and household appliances.
County	Western WA	Paint
County	Western WA	Packaging materials and pharmaceuticals
Local public health department	Western WA	products with lots of packaging, newspaper/advertising industries, fast food restaurants
County	Eastern WA	Too many different places to take, no "one-stop" shop.
State agency	Eastern WA	TIRES, Electronics not currently on the list, CFLs, carpet mfrs, HHW.
Local public health department	Western WA	Computer towers,
City or town	Eastern WA	Only hazardous or dangerous products.
County	Eastern WA	Batteries, electronic devices not currently covered, architectural paint, household hazardous waste, pharmaceutical waste
Local public health department	Western WA	Household hazardous waste products, batteries, mattresses, appliances and tires should all be included.
Private company	Western WA	Paint, mattresses, batteries, plastic bags

For which products, if any, do you think EPR would be a good option to cover?

Type of Work	Geography	Products
State agency	Western WA	Hard to recycle items such as mattresses. Expensive to dispose items like hazardous waste: pesticides, herbicides etc.
County	Western WA	Pharma, for sure. Personal Care Products as well. Paint. Batteries. All electronics, or similar items (i.e. items with plastics and heavy metals). Household chemicals (non-hazardous classification, but still environmentally degrading). Fertilizers. Anything impregnated with flame retardants (so many, many clothes, furniture items, car seats, etc). Bags and packing, for sure (particularly plastics). Bottled water/soda/juice containers. The list goes on and on...
County	Western WA	Expanded electronics, HHW, Batteries, Mattresses, Appliances, Paints, Plastic packaging, Container glass... i.e. the stuff it costs more to recycle than it does to landfill.
County	Western WA	mattresses, batteries, more electronic devices
Industry association or advocacy organization	Western WA	LEDs, mattresses, batteries, paint, etc
City or town	Western WA	Paint is my top choice. Overall, I don't think it makes sense to have a broad set of products that are covered (for example, paper and packaging. We have collectively as a state invested hugely in curbside programs that are set up to deal with these already. products that are difficult to manage and/or are especially problematic/toxic/hazardous or need subsidy to recycle effectively seem better suited to have this funding. We as consumers pay either coming or going so that message needs to be part of the calculation of where it makes sense. Putting it back on industry with message of you make bad stuff so you should pay, really just goes back to the consumer. I'm not wild about trying to deliver these sort of subtle messages in passive/aggressive fashion.
Private company	Western WA	Only to products that may cause a health issue. Wouldn't go as far as to say No more products but not at this time.
County	Western WA	Household Hazardous Waste, batteries
County	Western WA	batteries, please!! Also, appliances and HHW
County	Western WA	all products that have a shorter lifespan than 50 years
Other	Eastern WA	Extend e-cycle to include printers and copiers, paper, plastic, GLASS.

For which products, if any, do you think EPR would be a good option to cover?

Type of Work	Geography	Products
City or town	Western WA	All HHW, and if not all HHW, then all key subsets, such as paint, solvents, propane tanks, all batteries, etc. EPR should be applied to printed paper and packaging, even if for only a portion of costs. EPR should be applied to all packaging, not just recyclable packaging. State-wide it should be applied to pharmaceuticals and sharps. All electronics should be included, well beyond the limited types currently covered. Light Recycle is going to run into trouble as it only covers mercury containing lights. All lighting technology should be included so that regardless of technology changes over time, a financing and take back system is in place (incandescent, CFL, LED, etc.. Solar modules and new technologies should be included as they emerge, not after they are problems. Though there is a tire tax, those funds have also been diverted and the remaining issues around tires remain. Rather than an increase to the litter tax, and litter stewardship fee could be put in place for the same items and the funds kept in the private sector for awarding grants and funding program to fight litter.
Other	Eastern WA	printers, copiers, cellphones, accessories such as keyboards and mice.
Private company	Western WA	Paint, Pesticides and Fertilizers, Appliances, Mattresses
Local public health department	Western WA	pharmaceuticals on a statewide basis; appliances and HHW
City or town	Eastern WA	Carpet, mattresses, couches and appliances often litter our environment because of the prohibitive, expensive process to dispose of them.
Other	Western WA	Yes, more electronic items and batteries could be covered. Toxic or hazardous materials not already covered could be added. Plastics in general, but especially single-use plastics that end up in the world's oceans need to have more producer responsibility attached to them.
State agency	Western WA	All products!
Other	Western WA	All items listed above. I would also like to see companies such as Amazon have a take-back program for shipping boxes (yes, they can be recycled as cardboard but how about having them returned intact via the shippers--UPS, FedEx,, etc--as backhaul)
State agency	Eastern WA	Tires. They continue to be a problem for recycling, disposal, and illegal dumping.
City or town	Western WA	paint, mattresses, tires
Other	Western WA	All stated above: electronic devices not currently covered by E-Cycle Washington, batteries, mattresses, appliances, architectural paint, household hazardous waste, and printed paper and packaging (i.e. junk mail and shipping packaging?) Also, block foam would be a GREAT one. And sharps and meds.
State agency	Other	paint, any of the above.
Other	Western WA	mattresses, carpet, paint, hhw

For which products, if any, do you think EPR would be a good option to cover?

Type of Work	Geography	Products
County	Western WA	packaging difficult to recycle items such as mattresses and furniture
County	Western WA	All HHW, additional electronics (everything with a cord), batteries, paint, PPP, tires, mattresses EPR should be applied to printed paper and packaging including recyclable packaging. Pharmaceuticals and sharps. Leave the door open for other products that are toxic and hard to handle such as new lighting products, solar modules. A stewardship fee could be applied to the products that are currently taxed by the litter tax which could be placed in a dedicated funds in the private sector that would be available to private and public agencies in the form of award grants or other allocation mechanism to fight litter.
Member of the public	Western WA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All electronics, i.e anything with a circuit board and a plug. At a minimum, a next step should be to add printers and other peripherals - Make sure the mercury-containing lights producer responsibility law does not sunset prematurely - Add other types of lights to the mercury-containing lights law - Batteries (both primary and rechargeable) - Oil-based and latex paint - Medicines (both prescription and over-the-counter) statewide - Sharps - All household hazardous waste that are currently collected at hhw facilities - Solar panels - Carpet - Mattresses - Tires - Children's car seats - Cars - Explore product stewardship financing alternatives for packaging and printed paper.

Extended Product Stewardship

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
County	Western WA	Another step towards cradle-to-cradle responsibility. Reduced waste disposal/costs/environmental impacts. Reduced production of items, shipment, lowered greenhouse gas emissions, etc.	People hate paying more (unless they believe in the cause). Educate. Persuade. Help people understand that by caring, aka spending slightly more (also consuming less helps a lot), we make a large difference when multiplied by thousands and millions of people making bigger picture decisions daily.
State agency	Western WA	Less waste in the long run. It also would support markets for non-toxic options.	No drawbacks.
Private company	Western WA	Funding for recycling programs specifically for these items. Increased awareness about disposal hazards/waste.	Retail/consumer opposition.
Local public health department	Western WA	Increase the availability of disposal options for these items.	Product take-back centers need to be informed and involved in the removal of these items from the solid waste disposal chain.
State agency	Eastern WA	None	Higher prices on commodities.
County	Eastern WA	I definitely like that funding is available to take care of items that could cause environmental harm. It sets up locations where people can safely dispose of items without being a burden to local governments.	I am concerned that there is a separate program for each type of waste. It makes it difficult to convey the information to residents when they call asking for information on where to dispose of items. It is very awkward to have to tell them to take each item to different places. I am sure people find it confusing.
City or town	Eastern WA	Safe management of those products.	Minimal benefit to local governments.
Local public health department	Western WA	Effectively manages illegal dumping of such items.	Cost is inevitably passed on to consumers.
State agency	Eastern WA	If the manufacturers remain responsible for disposal, they MAY develop greener products; which would be more easily recycled or reused.	Pushback from manufacturers.

Extended Product Stewardship

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
County	Eastern WA	Options for what the public might perceive as "free" disposal.	The footprint of the project requires the public to drive to many destinations to dispose of items. Not a succinct program, where the collection should be at a central location.
Local public health department	Eastern WA		I think they programs on a whole are a good idea, but rural access is a problem. There are not enough drop off locations to serve people in rural areas as it is, so adding products is not going to be beneficial.
Local public health department	Western WA	things that generate wastes pay	increase costs to products
County	Western WA	Although costs of EPR programs are generally passed on to consumers, they create a dedicated funding mechanism that recognizes of costs of waste generation and disposal.	Increased costs to consumers.
County	Western WA	Directly link the costs to the user/producer.	Difficult to implement.
Local public health department	Western WA	Under this option there would presumably be a place to drop off the item for recycling so we would not see them dumped in the woods or on the side of the road.	Small rural communities may not have the facilities for this larger effort.
County	Western WA	Prevention of improper usage and maintaining safe environment	Cost increase to local jurisdictions and or residents.
County	Eastern WA	It makes sense that the producer pays for some of the disposal.	
County	Western WA	Stable funding, point of sale collection of disposal fees, and revenue that matches consumption rates.	Political will and fear, quite simply. Not sure how we can overcome industry lobbying against this model.

Extended Product Stewardship

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
City or town	Western WA	Target hard to recycle and potentially hazardous products, whether environmental or public health hazards. The benefit is a funding for collection and recycling would give options to a great number of products and a quantity of the waste stream that often gets disposed in a landfill but shouldn't.	I don't see any drawbacks unless the funding is inadequate for the need/demand.
County	Eastern WA	I don't see any.	Added cost to the consumer with little results
Local public health department	Western WA	Put the burden of cost on the manufacturers rather than local / state governments. Let us focus our limited resources on other critical issues. We've seen this EPR system work. Let's extend it out to other products and free our local / state governments from covering the costs of programs that the manufacturers can fund. Ultimately the cost gets back to the consumer, but at a much broader base than leaving it to the local / state gov't entities.	Lack of political will to pass such legislation. Look at the failure of the Secure Medicine legislation during the 2017 Session. Industry lobbyists hold way too much influence / power. Let the State agencies pass the rules without it having to be passed as legislation. Politics get in the way of progress. Let's remove politics from the equation.
City or town	Western WA	Many! Moving up the waste hierarchy chain and engaging product manufacturers to participate and be a part of the discussion of the end of life of their product	The public still knows very little about these programs and retailers have a skewed understanding of what it means. Strong engagement with both groups is needed, more than we've done. Also, if Ecology were to manage the list of retailers or drop-off sites, they need more staff and support to ensure their lists are current and maintain an updated system. I've heard folks are not confident when they use the site because they find outdated sites.

Extended Product Stewardship

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
State agency	Western WA	Allocates costs directly with services Pay as you throw programs proven effective, raise consumer awareness	Manufacturers and retailers fight hard and have deep pockets, perception of anti-business. Benefits must be clear and convincing up front and in advance of negative information
County	Western WA	encourage safe and long life products creation	
County	Western WA	I receive a large number of complaints that alkaline batteries must be put in the trash. We see a large amount of illegal dumping of appliances in our rural county as well as HHW.	I see no drawbacks except for product company complaints. If they could see the benefit of keeping our natural environment free from illegal dumping by having a recycling system, perhaps they could use that in their advertising.
County	Western WA	Bringing manufacturers into the fold with disposal responsibility could remove a large burden on governmental agencies.	Would increase cost of products. That may be good or bad.
Private company	Western WA	None	Let the markets decide
Local public health department	Eastern WA	Revenue source.	There is some level of subjectivity in determining which products are included. Use scientific methods backed up by good data.

Extended Product Stewardship

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
City or town	Western WA	Where particular products should be either recycled or safely managed, and that can't be accomplished by the market place or existing convenient programs this provides an option to generated dedicated funding. Those who purchase products pay for end of life care through higher fees at the time of purchase. Those how don't purchase those products (at least in theory) don't pay.	Requires administrative overhead that takes a bite out of the fees paid - whether it is government or industry organization oversight and management have ongoing costs. Seems advocates of this approach are trying to deliver a message to the manufacturers (some fine distinction between Product Stewardship and EPR - the first seems more voluntary, but not always) and I'm not sure the public always "gets it". That troubles me to a degree, however, I think the existing programs in Washington have been successful, so I'm willing to do more - particularly with Paint if we can get around the legislative complication that has acted in bad faith to this point.
Industry association or advocacy organization	Western WA	it promotes cradle to cradle and addresses hard to manage items	can be hard sell
County	Western WA	Promotes responsible disposal of these products	More programs to manage and increased price of items.
County	Western WA	The consumer is paying for the end of life disposition for the items they purchase and the manufacturer has a responsibility to establish a network of collection facilities or locations where these can be take at the end of life. It would increase diversion and recycling rate if there is no customer cost for the end of life disposition.	It will cost the consumer more money to purchase items in the State. People living near bordering states will shop out of state. Retailers will not like this and they have a powerful lobbying group which would need to be overcome.
Other	Eastern WA	This puts the responsibility on the producer instead of the consumer.	It might discourage businesses from manufacturing in WA.

Extended Product Stewardship

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
City or town	Western WA	There are numerous benefits. A sustainable financing program would be put in place that places the costs of the collection/processing system on the products that create those costs. The funding would be held privately, immune to the whims of government officials who want to grab funds for other purposes. Costs to producers can adjust and fluctuate based on commodity values, costs of system, improvements through technology and efficiencies, etc. There will certainly be efficiencies gained through design of the system but may also be drivers to improve design of products for the environment, for dismantling and reuse and for recycling.	The drawbacks are political: vested interests, such as garbage and existing recycling haulers do not want producers involved in organizing and financing services. Producers don't want additional costs. While comparatively, costs are minimized for governments, there are new costs that currently Ecology doesn't have, for oversight and enforcement. A fairly simple cost benefit analysis should show enormous savings and increased effectiveness from a government standpoint, though Ecology itself would have increased costs regarding the oversight and as such may not promote this approach aggressively.
Other	Eastern WA	Waste diversion. These are all going into our local landfill.	None. eCycle WA and Lightrecycle have been great programs from our point of view.
County	Eastern WA		In rural areas it is hard to find business what at willing to handle the take back programs
Private company	Western WA	Force producer responsibility. Spur the industries affected to be more engaged and promote better, more efficient consumption of their products, and make better products in the first place.	Cost passed on to the consumer and so branded by the industries; claims of government overreach, and the potential creation of a bigger government bureaucracy to manage it.
Local public health department	Western WA	these items are huge problems in the waste stream and need to take responsibility for disposal.	none
City or town	Eastern WA	The manufacturer would make the products in ways that would facilitate recycling. For instance, carpet can be sold by the one-foot square.	Similar to aluminum can recycling, manufacturer interest in recycling might cycle with the perception of the value of the used product.
State agency	Western WA	Capture lifecycle costs by the drivers of those costs.	Not sure.

Extended Product Stewardship

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
Other	Western WA	Less hazardous material going to landfills, better resource conservation.	None
State agency	Eastern WA	Prevent illegal accumulations of tires by forcing manufacturers to have collection programs. Perhaps manufacturers will change their methods and incorporate recycled tires into new tires, or increase the longevity of tires.	
City or town	Western WA	EPR has been successful for items such as electronics and I think the model should be used for other products.	Can be difficult to get bills passed even with industry support (i.e. the paint product stewardship efforts).
Other	Western WA	Companies (assuming no pass through) are paying for the full life cycle of the product, which its disposal is currently shouldered by municipalities (local gov), whose money could be better spent elsewhere. Residents are having a HARD time with understanding what electronics are accepted and which are not; expanding it to have a simpler message would be best. We often do events and pay for the peripherals, and we tell people "anything that plugs in or has batteries."	There would be resistance to any new "tax"; as companies may include this in the cost of the product. However, we think users of these items also have responsibility in its full cost by having bought it. May require big business buy-in, and lobbying should be anticipated.
State agency	Other	revenue to manage part of waste stream shifts responsibility from consumers to producers (ideally) and consumers	Programs need to be structured well too meet product stewardship principles/objectives - and be convenient, coordinated and efficiently operated
Other	Western WA	Less going to landfill More jobs	Storage of large items, storage of chemical waste till pick-up
County	Western WA	Encourages the development of alternatives; shares responsibility with parties that would have the ability to affect the product	Difficult to enforce

Extended Product Stewardship

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
County	Western WA	EPR provides a sustainable financing mechanism that internalizes the costs of collection and safe processing of products. If you buy the product, you also buy the safe recycling/processing of that product. The programs would be run by the private sector with oversight from government, creating and expanding the private sector infrastructure. It provides another mechanism for ensuring that toxic products are managed safely. The funding would be held privately and could not be diverted for other purposes. In addition, third party stewardship organizations are becoming a viable industry, creating jobs and providing a valuable, effective service. Databases have been developed to help with tracking the producers, billing them for their obligations and designing efficient programs. Because it is a statewide system, there are economies of scale that cannot be realized by local government programs that are scattered across the state.	There is opposition from garbage/recycling haulers who see this a taking away "their" waste stream. Some product producers do not want to take on these programs, although it is very common for them to do so in Canada, Europe and Asia. The effectiveness of these programs should be studied as they develop. There would be a shift in the role of state government agencies that may add a cost for oversight and enforcement. However, this could be covered by the producers if included in EPR legislation.

Extended Product Stewardship

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
Member of the public	Western WA	<p>Creates a sustainable, ongoing financing mechanism for a sustainable, ongoing collection and recycling program. Manufacturers are responsible for the products they make from cradle-to-cradle, and establish the recycling program as a cost of doing business. This approach levels the playing field for manufacturers of a product. Recycling is covered in the price of the product. Only residents who purchase a product pay to recycle the product. There's no charge when the resident delivers the product into the recycling system, so there's no financial disincentive to recycle the product. Creates a program that is convenient for residents (and other covered entities) throughout the state. Shifts responsibility from local governments that can't afford to set up programs to recycle all the toxic and hard-to-handle products that are on the market. No need for state government accounts that can be diverted to other uses. More recycling means more jobs. When manufacturers pay to recycling the products they make, they have a financial incentive to design products that are easier to recycle and less toxic.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It can be challenging to pass producer responsibility legislation, especially product by product. Collaboration, diverse coalitions, and persistence are required. - There need to be strong environmental standards established coupled with strong, ongoing oversight by government to ensure responsible recycling.

Solid Waste Reduction Planning or Generation Fees

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
County	Western WA	Increased revenue (should be used solely for solid waste issues). Definitely need a threshold; small businesses (say 25-50 people or less) struggle even today (in a boom economy) to provide fair wages and insurance/benefits for their employees. Waste generators may be incentivized to reduce waste streams as well to reduce costs of disposal.	No one wants to pay more. Incremental increases in fees would help mitigate the shock of paying (depending on how payment system is implemented/total \$ costs).
State agency	Western WA	More technical assistance to business generators is a win-win. Potentially saving businesses money in the long run (prevent fines for illegally disposed materials) and for the environment.	No drawbacks.
County	Western WA		This will be met with extreme resistance from business owners who already pay tax on MSW disposal
Private company	Western WA		Hard to identify businesses that are not compliant?
Local public health department	Western WA	This will encourage these businesses to reduce the amount of materials that they use and encourage environmental compliance with the rest of those businesses.	Do not call it "voluntary" if it is required....
State agency	Eastern WA	Money.	If you do this, make allowances for solid waste stewardship. Whether it's a certain reduction in waste, viable programs, or other sustainable endeavors to lessen the amount of waste, lower or eliminate these fees for businesses that meet certain goals.
County	Eastern WA	It would provide funding and is very targeted.	I think it would create more government bureaucracy. New state employees would have to be hired to collect this tax.

Solid Waste Reduction Planning or Generation Fees

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
City or town	Eastern WA	None	Placing additional cost burden on businesses. Washington should not continue to burden business with more costs.
Local public health department	Western WA	Obvious budget benefit	More regulation
State agency	Eastern WA	Pay to Play is a great idea. If you are in business, paying a annual fee of \$49 is simply a cost of doing business.	Finding a legislator to back this idea may be difficult. There may be a few environmentally conscious legislators who may be interested, but finding them may be frustrating.
County	Eastern WA	large businesses may be incentivized to reduce their waste.	We have never received any technical assistance, other than a review of required state solid waste plans. The county's need the funding to implement the recycling programs, not have a state staff person look at the recycling drop off site and suggest recycling options. More funds need to get down to the local level. No need for technical assistance if county's only have a minimal program,if any. Of course this primarily applies to small rural counties.
Local public health department	Eastern WA	it would provide another revenue stream.	These costs would be passed on to consumers and small business would suffer.
Local public health department	Western WA	users pay	minimal amount of funding for Ecology, maybe should prorate it based on the quantity of HW generated each year
Private company	Eastern WA	No benefit	
County	Western WA	Increased funding from major contributors.	Industry pushback.

Solid Waste Reduction Planning or Generation Fees

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
Local public health department	Western WA	An advantage would be a place to send these questions and for those questions to be answered by a technical expert. I get very tired of people calling our local health department and saying "the person at the Department of Ecology told me to call you". We do not have the expertise or the staffing to do this work. Funding Ecology to keep specialists on staff to work for all of us in the state makes sense.	Often times when a fee is set it does not reflect actual costs of the service. Having an annual fee of \$49 would not even pay for 1/2 hour of technical assist time at today's rates.
County	Western WA	The generator will refuse to apply for a permit if you charge them, at that point who will administer enforcement	Again all of the costs encumbered will be spent on recycling, so where is the common sense in the type of action.
Local public health department	Western WA	not in favor.	I think the tax on solid waste disposal is already covering this area. The solid waste tax is better than a blanket generator fee since there is no incentive to reduce the amount of waste generated by an individual business.
County	Eastern WA	It would be a sustainable source	0
County	Western WA	It's hard to say what the benefits would be. I assume the funding would be stable and secure, but I would be curious to see if the revenue would match the need.	This would target one sector for a system that is comprehensive. I wouldn't be a fan of taxing business to provide residential programs.
City or town	Western WA	A benefit is a use-pay system.	It is unclear what/who is being taxed. Is it all businesses that generate solid waste. A drawback I see is how you will determine how much each pays and how you will evaluated their waste generation.
County	Eastern WA	Technical assistance would be great if the people doing it understood small rural communities and markets to far away.	Too much cost for little to no results.

Solid Waste Reduction Planning or Generation Fees

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
City or town	Western WA	It's low, increase the fee to make businesses take it more seriously and realize the impact of the product they're generating/using on people, animals and the environment.	
State agency	Western WA	No penalties for the little guy Generators who actually cost the State money would contribute more realistically to covering those expenses \$49 is a joke. Please increase this!	Nobody likes to pay more. Tiered structures may help. Fees should not be negotiable
City or town	Western WA		This would be difficult to administer fairly. It would also require developing a new set of administration and government oversight for a segment already beleaguered by regulations and requirements.
County	Western WA	none	too broad without clear incentives
County	Western WA	These fees could help tremendously when our MTCA-funded CPG is cut. We still have to implement these programs, and every year, it seems to be 'do more with less.'	Businesses complaining about additional fees.
County	Western WA	If this fee would result in additional CPG grants this would be ok. If this is just to fund Ecology administration activities I don't see a benefit.	Business generators of solid waste already pay for disposal of their waste. Having them pay a fee to Ecology for planning, when Ecology does not assist financially in the planning of County Facilities, does not seem appropriate. There is no connection there between the fee and the service the fee funds.
County	Eastern WA	None	
Local public health department	Eastern WA	None.	Unfair. Solid waste is solid waste. Don't do it!

Solid Waste Reduction Planning or Generation Fees

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
City or town	Western WA	businesses would be paying more - so likely more dollars. Much of the planning has already been done so the sunk costs of that are not paid or credited (long-term businesses have paid through tip fees, MTCA, litter tax in the past to cover those costs - so now they have to also pay for new planning while the new businesses don't pay for planning already completed.	businesses would be paying more - I think that where we charge volume-based rates, businesses already do pay more if they have more waste and it seems that the more you use the service the more you should pay. If the fee is small it takes a lot to set it up and administer if you are applying to all businesses (large and small). Not sure it is fair to have only large businesses pay a set fee and for small businesses a set fee may have more impact on their profitability/viability; so perhaps a graduated fee based on size, number of employees would be better option.
Industry association or advocacy organization	Western WA	reliable	is this a meaningful amount of funding?
County	Western WA	Again, it would target those users of the programs.	Increased taxes on businesses could lead to complaints.
County	Western WA	It would help spread the cost of these programs and generate funds.	Where do you set the threshold? There are always loopholes that businesses/people will find to circumvent paying. These would need to be identified and addressed first.
Other	Eastern WA	Money talks. If businesses are charged more for their waste they will find ways to produce less.	There needs to be incentives built in. The more you recycle or reduce the less you pay.

Solid Waste Reduction Planning or Generation Fees

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
City or town	Western WA	This is intriguing and I haven't thought this through before. I like it as it keeps that cost separate from solid waste rates and fees. It would be a fairly universal fee is sliding scale based on amount of waste produced. I'd recommend only placing it on garbage and based on the quantity of garbage generated. This would maybe provide a signal that those producing less garbage can lower their fee, though the fee is likely to be too small to serve as a driver. Perhaps it could be based on their self reported waste (so a simple report would be required). Tonnage generated, tonnage recycled, tonnage organics recycled, tonnage disposed. You might be even able to have them report tonnage prevented or donated for reuse. And assign a fee discount for various levels. Anyway, there's some interesting approaches that could be considered.	Its a tax and resulting tax funds created will be stolen.
Other	Eastern WA		The devil is in the details. I suggest that the threshold would need to focus first on the highest producers, and not reach too low at first. I'm thinking that the 80/20 rule may apply.
Private company	Western WA	More broadly based funding.	New taxes. Politically bad and fraught with a lot of resistance. We already hear a lot of complaints about disposal costs for hazardous waste from those that pay the haz substance tax.
City or town	Eastern WA	The group would be larger, so the fees would be smaller.	Education and outreach for any additional fees in our state is difficult. The perception is that the state is not interested in caring for business interests.
State agency	Western WA	Better awareness of hazardous waste challenges.	None.

Solid Waste Reduction Planning or Generation Fees

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
State agency	Both	Possible technical support to help waste managers understand their options to generate revenue through waste-to-energy opportunities (e.g. high-solids digestion of organics, nutrient recovery, methane capture at landfills and WWTPs, innovative business alliances such as bioplastics).	
State agency	Eastern WA	None.	We currently fund these positions without a fee. Suggest that that continues.
City or town	Western WA	None	Businesses already pay taxes on their disposal. I don't think adding more fees is a solution.
Other	Western WA	This is not as beneficial as several of the other tax ideas. The could create and incentive for businesses (which produce a bulk of the waste) to implement waste reduction strategies and try to get below the threshold to save money (but only if the tax is high enough to be worth the time).	This type of tax would require a lot of additional oversight and management to make it work; to track generation of businesses to know if they are below or above the threshold.
Other	Western WA	Fee pushes them to more likely consider recycling if aren't already	Businesses that are already doing it may complain.
County	Western WA	Theoretically, it could provide some incentive to recycle, but I would need more information about how it is administered, where the funds go and the requirements around it to make a determination of the benefits. Would these businesses be required to develop a "voluntary (not sure how the haz substance plan is really voluntary)" SW plan? Is the fee tied to that? Or would they be charged a flat fee on top of their garbage fees? Would the funds go to Ecology for technical assistance? On the surface it doesn't seem to have many benefits.	I need more information to make an educated assessment - does this require legislation to establish? If so, seem like there would be considerable opposition both in the legislature and by Washington businesses. Would the fund be dedicated? What would the funds be used for?

Solid Waste Reduction Planning or Generation Fees

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
Member of the public	Western WA	- Fees to cover Ecology's costs related to specific business technical assistance could be a useful and direct way to cover those costs.	- The annual fee sounds like it could be "one size fits all." In addition to a minimum threshold, perhaps consider a graduated fee so that larger generators pay more and smaller generators pay less.

For which products, if any, do you think ARFs would be a good option to cover?

Type of Work	Geography	Products
State agency	Western WA	paint and other HHW mattresses appliances
Local public health department	Western WA	Medicine; Paint; Mattresses; HHW
City or town	Western WA	This would be good for large items such as mattresses, appliances, furniture, etc.
County	Western WA	Same suggestions as for EPR
Local public health department	Western WA	Mobile homes & RVs, tires.
Local public health department	Western WA	Tires, mattresses, appliances and furniture
County	Western WA	Tires and appliances.
Local public health department	Western WA	I support these types of fees, but don't know which products should be included
State agency	Eastern WA	Paint. appliances containing CFCs, pesticides, aerial boat flares.
Local public health department	Western WA	Tires, Household Hazardous waste, fertilizer, pesticides, automotive products, automobiles (junk vehicles, parts).
Private company	Western WA	Paint, HHW. Include items that have safer options available for sale.
State agency	Western WA	All items listed above... tires, mattresses etc.
County	Western WA	Pretty much everything I listed in the product stewardship list. The consumer needs to pay for this - it is unreasonable for businesses to fully or even largely absorb the cost. It is the responsibility of the person purchasing a product to ensure that it is a) ethically and environmentally sound, and b) will have an end life that is responsibly derived. In this case, manufacturers and retailers become the facilitators of such efforts by passing along the increased costs to their customers. I know this will drive down demand (to some degree), but the alternative is to continue producing cheap crap that breaks after a year and then you buy more (something which companies know occurs and needs to be rectified - this behavior is reprehensible and must be enforced by the people and the governments that represent them).

For which products, if any, do you think ARFs would be a good option to cover?

Type of Work	Geography	Products
County	Western WA	All of the above, tires, mattresses, appliances, paint, HHW, non-covered electronics, barbecue grills, container glass, plastic packaging... The items that cost more to recycle than it does to landfill.
Industry association or advocacy organization	Western WA	prefer producer responsibility to ARF
Local public health department	Eastern WA	All items listed above and other items as determined by a scientific method using good data.
County	Western WA	Tires!!
Other	Eastern WA	Glass
City or town	Western WA	Single-use service ware and food service packaging.
Other	Eastern WA	I don't know enough about this to comment.
Private company	Western WA	As previous- Paint, Pesticides and Fertilizers, Appliances, Mattresses... and Tires.
Local public health department	Western WA	tires and HHW
State agency	Eastern WA	Tires.
Other	Western WA	electronic devices not currently covered by E-Cycle Washington, batteries, mattresses, appliances, architectural paint, household hazardous waste, and printed paper and packaging (i.e. junk mail and shipping packaging?), block foam, sharps, and meds.
Other	Western WA	carpet, mattresses, paint, hhw, tires

Advanced Recovery Fees

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
County	Western WA	Responsible stewardship of the items/materials/goods we consume/use daily.	People don't want to pay more, and they hate change! Convince people to care....
State agency	Western WA	Huge benefits... less illegal dumping and increased recycling.	People might forget they can recycle for free. Increased education/outreach: it could include providing some sort of tag they can put on the appliance etc that will remind them at the end of the product's life.
Private company	Western WA	Increases consumer awareness of hazardous waste/litter	Address consumer complaint with tax-free, environmentally-preferred options.
Local public health department	Western WA	Appropriately disposing of these items through local governments.	
County	Eastern WA	It would help create funds to help with targeted problem wastes.	Once again, it would increase government bureaucracy. How much would the money would be actually be used to take care of what it was collected for?
City or town	Eastern WA	None	Additional cost for necessary products.
State agency	Eastern WA	There would be more funds available for disposal of these difficult to manage items.	None. Manufacturers should be held accountable for the products they are distributing.
County	Eastern WA	A small percentage of mattresses disposed. Hazardous waste disposal is of high concern and proper disposal is necessary.	Additional tax to hazardous waste. More administration costs for state, thus only a portion will be used for disposal.
Local public health department	Eastern WA		I don't see how a fee "reduces the consumer's barriers to recycling". If there are no facilities available for recycling locally, they most likely will not be recycled regardless of the fee.
Local public health department	Western WA	lets consumers know the price of their choices	administration ?
County	Western WA	These programs already exist in some jurisdictions and consumers are used to paying fees on tire and appliance disposal.	Potential limited revenue generation.

Advanced Recovery Fees

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
Local public health department	Western WA	Making a place available for the items to be dropped off for recycling	Having sites available to outlying rural areas and not just urban population centers
County	Western WA	There is NO benefit	Consumers such as myself and all residents will end up paying more out of pocket for goods.
Local public health department	Western WA	Mobile homes and RVs usually go through several owners until they are ready for disposal. Usually the last owners are economically disadvantaged and they are the least able to afford proper disposal of the RV or mobile home. Put a disposal fee on the front end of the purchase and provide that funding to the county Public Works or other county level solid waste planning entity to be able to dispose of the units at their end of use.	Make sure that the funding gets to the entities doing the actual disposal, not skimmed off on the way.
County	Western WA	See EPR responses.	See EPR responses.
City or town	Western WA	provides a mechanism for hard to dispose and recycle items. But focuses on bulky items. This puts the cost onto the consumer. The fee charged could be given to the seller for them to run a recycling program. So when a mattress or appliance is delivered, the old one is removed.	Some will see it as a negative.
County	Eastern WA	None	Increased cost no results.
Local public health department	Western WA	Puts all of the responsibility on the consumer using the product.	None.
State agency	Western WA	Create and sustain a viable recovery systems on a broader scale	Few local options outside of metro Puget Sound and Vancouver (which is mostly Portland anyway) Regional options needed

Advanced Recovery Fees

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
County	Western WA	We have a tremendous problem with illegal dumping in our rural area and tires are a huge part of those dumps.	Customers might have issues with the fees, but may not realize they are being charged for the service, so it might not be a problem.
Local public health department	Eastern WA	Makes sense as long as the products on the list and the ARF amounts are determined by appropriate methods.	None.
City or town	Western WA	It may provide an opportunity to collect funds for some problem wastes which are a challenge at end of life. I think that the tire fees were an example of this -- seems like they have cycled through a few times, but problems still cropped up with either managing the fund or properly managing the tires - if this was that sort of funding, would be good to check with folks involved to see what could be learned.	I think the overhead of a special funding associated with a particular product is a factor - do we know for sure that the dedicated funds will be used for that purpose. Seems like many retailers still charge environmental fees (including for tires) but they manage internally -- seems maybe preferable to a government being involved.
Industry association or advocacy organization	Western WA	helps address difficult items	would prefer producer responsibility as it is the more logical placement responsibility
County	Western WA	In rural areas where there is not the infrastructure for a producer to have a collection system, the local jurisdictions often provide the services. This would help fund those areas and aid in their waste reduction and recycling efforts.	It's another tax that will drive up consumer prices.
Other	Eastern WA	If this could be applied to deposits on bottles, it would work well. Studies have shown that recycling increases tremendously when consumers are charged for each bottle and recover that charge when the item is returned for recycling.	All of the above listed items are extremely difficult to recycle in a rural area and would require great cost in shipping to a city to recycle.

Advanced Recovery Fees

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
City or town	Western WA	If a \$.05 or higher fee were placed on each single-use food package and disposable cutlery, straws etc. the fee itself would be a driver for lessening the use of wasteful single use packaging. Otherwise, I would say no more products should have ARFs on them. As long as the funds go into a government funds, these funding options are doomed for typical products such as tires, paint, etc. They have all historically been stolen everywhere they have been used to my knowledge, with the potential exception of electronics in CA, which has had a different set of problems.	A pot of money for legislators to raid. Government bureaucracy to manage funds and program.
Private company	Western WA	Incentivizes the consumer to follow through with recycling/disposal.	Expands governmental bureaucracy which is a common complaint among some customers/citizens. (Even this Liberal has limits.)
Local public health department	Western WA	another huge problem with poorly disposed waste	
City or town	Eastern WA	When used for the intended purpose, the fee is helping to spread the cost of disposal or site cleanup across the group of persons or businesses that 'caused' the problem.	Do the fees actually get to the agencies and programs that handle the materials? How do fees get assessed or evaluated to keep up with inflation or other types of increases in costs? A state-imposed tax can hurt retail sales in a city on the border with another state that may not have the same approach.
State agency	Western WA	Improved understanding of life-cycle costs of waste.	None.
State agency	Eastern WA	Better management of tires.	Legislature taking away/diverting funding when economy not going well.

Advanced Recovery Fees

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
Other	Western WA	Users of the products are paying for the product's full life cycle costs. If someone buys the item they need to pay for its full cost on the community.	For sharps and meds, would make sure the program would go for proper disposal of those items, as medical needs are not necessarily a choice and we wouldn't want to place an additional burden on those that have no choice in what meds and sharps they have to use. EPR would be preferred for these two categories. Will be seen as another tax. May require big business buy-in, and lobbying should be anticipated.
Other	Western WA	Consumer awareness of end life of product	I haven't seen any news about light bulb fee complaints. Maybe none?
County	Western WA	IF these were dedicated funds - not subject to diversion - and there was sufficient funding to incentivize take back - such as what happens with lead acid batteries - it might result in more recycling.	I have no faith that these funding options would not diverted to other programs. It also creates a huge government bureaucracy to manage the funds and program. Could be done more effectively through a private sector program.
Member of the public	Western WA	- Because the recycling program will already be financed up-front with an advanced fee, there won't be an end-of-life recycling fee or financial disincentive for residents to recycling.	- These types of government funds can be easily "raided" and used for other purposes. - The funds must be managed by state government and the recycling program must be set up and run by the state, creating larger government bureaucracy. - Residents can push back on these type of fees, especially if there isn't trust about how the fees will be used.

Excise Taxes through Disposal Districts

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
State agency	Western WA	Taxes support infrastructure	Borderlands forming districts are not necessarily mutually beneficial (i.e. rates are significantly different from one county to the next) Benefits of this approach would need locally visible value
City or town	Western WA		If this were the case the counties and cities involved need to have a good working relationship.
Local public health department	Western WA	Broad funding for the entire system. Can facilitate mandatory collection of solid waste throughout most of the county. Major need to curb illegal dumping of solid waste.	I don't know of any.
County	Eastern WA	None	Cost, no assistance.
City or town	Western WA	Adds to CPG funding for programming.	It will impact customer utility rates. Citizens may reject the idea.
County	Western WA	Unsure	Unsure
County	Eastern WA	Locally controlled funding could be more sustainable.	Public concern; could be assuaged by information clarifying the services provided.
Local public health department	Western WA	worth bringing up the concept again	Politically important to not tie this to mandatory collection district. The collection district is usually what really fuels the political problems.
County	Western WA	Depends, on how the county leaders set up the district.	Still costing the tax payer, some of the population wants to recycle everything and those that don't end up paying extra fees to cover materials that have no value.
County	Western WA	Local control.	May not generate much revenue in small counties.
Local public health department	Western WA	it spreads it over a large population, penalizes those who generate lost of trash	certain industries negotiate exemption or reductions in fees.
County	Eastern WA	Counties will receive these funds directly for solid waste systems.	Taxes are already paid on hazardous waste and solid waste (public works fund), yet very little is available for its intended use. A second tax is unfair when an initial tax is not available to use for its intended use.

Excise Taxes through Disposal Districts

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
State agency	Eastern WA	Local taxes for local solid waste issues may be easier to pass.	Some counties may not have the staff to monitor these taxes.
Local public health department	Western WA	CPG has been a great program when we have available FTE to participate and manage the grant	The funding amount has decreased to the point we can not support a FTE staff member, and management costs are almost to the point that it's not worth it.
City or town	Eastern WA	Additional funds for local use.	Adds cost of collection and/or disposal.
County	Eastern WA	It provides funding for specific programs that the state legislature is unable to reallocate. This puts the control into the local governments hands.	Residents may not enjoy seeing an increased cost to their garbage rates.
Local public health department	Western WA	Local taxes stay local instead of going to the state.	
Private company	Western WA	Increased funding source diversity.	Harder to include outlying areas in to mandatory collection areas.
State agency	Western WA	More secure source of funding. More stability. More efficient use of staff time then to have them waste time on something that is funded then is not.	It might be tough for the lower populated counties to generate the funds. They could look to other counties on creative options and/or receive other funds.
County	Western WA	Makes a large amount of sense to me.	Cannot comment - not my area of expertise/experience.
County	Western WA	Is this tax applied to each business and residence serviced by a solid waste route hauler? If so, this would share the cost of funding the programs. If this is just applied to the self-hauler, then the self-haulers are the ones footing the bill for the programs.	This could lead to an increase in illegal dumping.

Excise Taxes through Disposal Districts

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
City or town	Western WA	<p>Not exactly sure how this works - in Clark County the County already gets a set annual/monthly payment from the contracted transfer/disposal contractor, that seems like that though perhaps more linked to X amount per ton. The tip fee is likely higher due to operator paying the County fee, but it is not dependent on volumes (though there is a volume based addition if the operator uses our regional facility for handling some of their out of county waste. It ends up being a relatively low amount when apportioned into the tip fee - but it is very reliable and known revenue stream - set for term of the contract unless amended. The City of Vancouver charges utility tax on solid waste collection - this money supports general fund purposes and it has been raised recently to support public safety/police/streets - with that being the case, I don't think that also having something called an excise tax would be favored (tax on a tax). I believe that Portland Metro does have an excise tax as well as user fees, convenience fees etc. that may for a complicated communication/ messaging - but seems to be accepted and I think has increased over time.</p>	<p>Money might be diverted - so good to dedicate to particular purpose. Might continue to go up - so could limit or have sunset review once initial purpose was satisfied (for example to complete plan, capital project, ongoing admin, etc.)</p>
County	Western WA	<p>There is a direct connection between the tax and the program the tax is funding. Collection mechanisms are already in place.</p>	
City or town	Western WA	<p>I have not thought about this option for so long that I don't feel qualified to provide a response.</p>	<p>Any local funding option leaves other jurisdictions out, so statewide solutions are more equitable and preferable if they can be attained.</p>

Excise Taxes through Disposal Districts

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
Other	Eastern WA		Our county folks should speak to this. They own and operate the landfill, and funding for this is provided through tipping fees. As I understand it a junior taxing district providing funding vs. tipping fees is an either/or, not either/and legal situation. If this can be solved I would be a big fan, assuming funds can be distributed county-wide.
Local public health department	Eastern WA	It may end up being a source that is more directly related to the needs of the local solid waste system	unsure
Private company	Western WA	More financial stability/security for funding assistance.	Misunderstanding by the public at large. Educate citizens that solid waste production by each consumer comes at a cost, individually and collectively. All are stakeholders and if we share the burden collectively, it is more financially manageable individually. We each have an interest in our neighbor doing the right thing too.
State agency	Western WA	Not clear.	Unknown.
State agency	Both	Ability to implement revenue-generating waste-to-energy opportunities (e.g. high-solids digestion of organics, nutrient recovery, methane capture at landfills and WWTPs, innovative business alliances such as bioplastics).	
Other	Western WA	Having local control would be beneficial, and be proportional to population and wastes generated.	There is no disposal district in Clark County. Would require development of new collection and accounting processes and would take time to establish and gain acceptance (i.e. get through local government councils). But right now funding sources are quickly vanishing (i.e. CPG).

Solid Waste Management Planning Fee in Unincorporated Areas

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
State agency	Western WA	These programs can be hard to fund directly and this would help	The benefits of these programs may be perceived as intangible. A direct link needs to be made to demonstrate value. The alternative needs to be clearly undesirable (i.e. other resources with funding challenges used, problems increase)
County	Eastern WA	None	Not going to happen in our area.
County	Western WA	Unsure	Unsure
Local public health department	Western WA		Politically, need to ensure the funding fee would need to be for both incorporated and unincorporated areas otherwise it would never pass.
County	Western WA	Higher costs to residential customers, paying for compliance	Increase of taxes similar to those being instituted by the governor.
Local public health department	Western WA	users pay	doesn't include recycling amounts, which still costs the system
County	Eastern WA	Direct funds to implement the requirements. No administration or limiting contingencies spent reporting to the state.	Increased tax to fund a state mandate.
State agency	Eastern WA	Keep the money local.	Push back would be "More taxes".
City or town	Eastern WA	Additional funds for planning and implementation.	Increasing cost of collection, which could encourage self haul rather than subscription service.
County	Eastern WA	Once again, it puts the control in the hands of the local government.	This only affects the unincorporated areas and doesn't affect the incorporated areas. Residents may not be happy to see this increased cost.
Private company	Western WA	More diversity of funding	Discouragement of subscribing to hauling service. Opposition to mandatory hauling. More people might choose to burn their trash to avoid hiring a hauler and paying a tax.

Solid Waste Management Planning Fee in Unincorporated Areas

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
State agency	Western WA	Same answer as previous page. More secure source of funding. More stability. More efficient use of staff time then to have them waste time on something that is funded then is not.	Same answer as previous page. It might be tough for the lower populated counties to generate the funds. They could look to other counties on creative options and/or receive other funds.
County	Western WA	Again, makes good sense to me.	Cannot comment competently - I do not have enough information/experience in this type of work/area.
County	Western WA	It distributes the cost of program funding evenly but only if it applies to the collection services as well as to the self-hauler.	
City or town	Western WA	Seems like a good way to fund a remote dropbox or recycling site (unattended and without tip fee) in an area where residents prefer to self-haul - everyone pays so this reduces likely hood that they will illegal dump. Without something like this, it would be that those with service would be paying planning, recycling and outreach fees but others would not - maybe a way to discourage burn barrels?	might be seen as another government tax or there might not be clear connection with benefits
County	Western WA	Provide funding for landfill post-closure costs that are needed beyond minimal 30 years post closure	
City or town	Western WA	unincorporated areas need all the help they can get	Not available to incorporated areas based on what you wrote above. Any local funding option leaves other jurisdictions out, so statewide solutions are more equitable and preferable if they can be attained.
Local public health department	Eastern WA	It would be additional funding.	unsure
Private company	Western WA	more broad-based funding.	We all live downstream.

Solid Waste Management Planning Fee in Unincorporated Areas

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
State agency	Both	Exploration of waste-to-energy opportunities (e.g. high-solids digestion of organics, nutrient recovery, methane capture at landfills and WWTPs, innovative business alliances such as bioplastics).	
Other	Western WA	Local control. Funds are generated local and stay local. County can decide on how funds are allocated.	Limited use of the funds.

Board of Health Fees

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
County	Western WA	Makes good sense.	Can't comment substantially.
State agency	Western WA	Makes sense for this statewide. It would help prevent/reduce health concerns from improper disposal of moderate risk waste.	No barriers.
Private company	Western WA	Tax might get passed on in the price of service to the customer.	May need to wait several years for hauling franchises to end. But, afterward, seems fair and haulers can consider the tax when preparing bids.
County	Eastern WA	It is a targeted fee paid by the facilities and is used to fund the inspection of the same facilities.	In a rural county it still isn't enough to fund the programs.
State agency	Eastern WA	Charging for services rendered is not new.	Pushback again will be, "More taxes".
County	Eastern WA	A lot of money to pay for staff to monitor existing landfills.	Funds do not cross into the solid waste system. We must still pay into the Health district program, yet NO assistance for illegal dumping prevention, clean up and enforcement, no landfill remediation, no funding for moderate risk waste programs. How can the funds be detoured to the solid waste system like moderate risk waste - difficult when the state collects funds for this program and County officials are waiting for funding from state to implement MRW collection.
Local public health department	Western WA	facilities pay their freight, large costs are spread across a relatively small number of facilities	it covers the costs of permitted facilities only,
Private company	Eastern WA	This provides Health Dept. funding for Solid Waste services.	
Local public health department	Western WA	This option gives us the ability to cover the costs incurred in the permitting and technical assistance associated with these facilities	We can only, under the law, collect the fees needed to cover the work. We cannot make money for other activities .

Board of Health Fees

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
County	Western WA	Litter should already be covered by litter tax and not giving those funds to Parks. What does landfill monitoring have to do with public health	You are asking about several different topics that should not be linked together
Local public health department	Western WA	Health department surcharge fees at disposal sites work well.	Facility permit fees should not fund general education, enforcement and technical assistance activities. Surcharge fees at disposal sites provide a more general funding mechanism, but they are still negatively impacted by decreasing disposal rates.
County	Western WA	Unsure	Unsure
County	Eastern WA	None	Not happening
Local public health department	Western WA	Let's JHD's control their own destiny with respect to funding.	Power play from public works partners may impede / prevent JHD's from successfully passing this through local board of health.
State agency	Western WA	These problems are real. This is a preventative strategy and funding it will ultimately cost less. One time or annual fees are more easily budgeted. The money has to come from somewhere	Its a fee and automatically unpopular. Alternatively, charge for it elsewhere
City or town	Western WA	Facilities that have permits pay for (at least some portion of) the cost of inspections. Mostly, it seems like facilities will be able to recover added costs for fees through tip fees - unless long-term financial arrangements are already set and can't be adjusted to accommodate increases.	Some facilities (such as those with recycling exception) pay, though they may need to be inspected. Also some facilities (closed landfills) may not be receiving revenue so unless post-closure fund is adequate they can not handle any increases in these fees.
Local public health department	Eastern WA	Fee for service makes sense.	None.
County	Western WA		There are not enough facilities in our County for these fees to fund programs besides the permitting process.

Board of Health Fees

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
County	Western WA	It pays for the staff to issue the permits and ensure the facilities are operating properly.	
City or town	Western WA	The resulting funding in King County has been admired by surrounding jurisdictions for a long time. It has provided significant funding for accomplishing significant programs.	
Local public health department	Eastern WA	The funds are directly related to the required activities.	unsure
Private company	Western WA	My county imposes permitting fees but I do not know where those fees are distributed. Again, more broad-based funding security.	New fees, new taxes. New costs to consumes. Make sure the fees are targeted to the consumers of the respected programs.
Other	Western WA	Funds are generated local and stay local. County can decide on how funds are allocated. Gives County ability to address special waste streams or problems that may be unique to their communities.	Limited use of funds.

Services Embedded in Contracts or Service Level Standards

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
State agency	Western WA	User-friendly mechanism promoting preventative strategies, increases participation. Makes it easy to do the right thing	Not everyone appreciates the benefit. Not everyone uses the service correctly which can reduce operating efficiency and increase costs. Make it cost neutral or better
Local public health department	Western WA	Provides comprehensive funding for public works and local health within our jurisdiction. Works very well when both sides have a cooperative relationship.	
County	Eastern WA	None	You do not have a realistic view of funding in a small rural area, these questions do not even value realistic views.
City or town	Western WA	provides better customer service, and better recycling.	
Local public health department	Western WA	Could be utilized more in City contracts.	
County	Western WA	The cities will have better service and more options but.... those residents are paying for the extra service that only a few might want	Dividing the citizens between what is really needed and what a small section might want, remember the squeaky wheel gets the grease first
Private company	Eastern WA	Sets a standard of service from the beginning of the contract so cost is built in.	
County	Western WA	Direct service from the collector.	We have one collector in our county so they decide what they want to be in their contract.
Local public health department	Western WA	Cities can pay for outreach and administration of programs at local level	
County	Eastern WA	City's can support some staff and have a small waste reduction or recycling program. Is not as efficient of a system for small and rural cities.	Increased costs for garbage pickup. Supports further illegal dumping.
State agency	Eastern WA	Educating the public is key to increasing recycling, reuse, and composting volumes.	The cost of educational materials, and the additional staff costs in producing the materials.

Services Embedded in Contracts or Service Level Standards

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
Local public health department	Western WA		We are a rural county. It is not feasible to entertain this.
County	Eastern WA	It would provided funding.	Cities already have pressure from residents regarding increasing fees. City staffs in our County do not have dedicated staff for the education while the County already has the necessary staff. I do not think the cities would be eager to give the money to the County.
Private company	Western WA	It is nice to have educators with both government and private haulers. The community then has a choice of where to get information - some may trust their service provider more and others might prefer information from their local government. Also, educators w/ the hauler have more direct information on service to provide the public. Outreach is important for haulers too because they get direct public feedback on their services.	In our County, educators w/ the hauling business is well-received by the public. It can duplicate roles w/ local government, but the opportunities for collaboration are great.
State agency	Western WA	Frees up local government staff and funding to focus on other waste prevention/reduction programs.	No barriers.
County	Western WA	Gives local control of how the waste stream is processed/managed/stewarded, based on county/city/municipality specific issues and/or directives.	Can be tricky for implementing different programs in different municipalities by private sector collectors, haulers, and waste processors. Also, eliminates model of consistency between various regions of the state. Can lead to haulers taking their debris outside the jurisdiction and disposing there.

Services Embedded in Contracts or Service Level Standards

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
City or town	Western WA	Our contracted collector has this requirement and it works well. Hauler/Recycler employees have most direct understanding and responsiveness to their customers. Works pretty well as government is not looking to add employees and have associated long-term benefits.	Making sure education staff is performing well and not diverted to something else - may be a built in financial incentive to handle more waste and less recycling. Annually reviewed workplans for required education staff and specified number of positions are helpful strategies. Long-term partnership expectation with the community also contributes to better working relationship.
Other	Eastern WA	Curbside collection in rural areas would increase recycling tremendously. It is now at the will of the consumer with very little incentive . People have to want to recycle in rural areas. Making it a part of the garbage pick up would help tremendously.	It would cost garbage disposal companies a lot of money to redesign their equipment.
City or town	Western WA	Snohomish and King Counties were able to use Revenue Sharing Agreements to accomplish significant services typically only seen by sharp, well staffed cities through clever contacting. Much can be done through this option if the jurisdiction is willing to provide adequate oversight.	My observation is that RSA haulers need oversight to drive them to do a really good job, and some jurisdictions don't care to invest the resources for oversight despite the significant gains for the public.
Private company	Western WA	Better informed public. Better serviced public.	More cost in terms of labor for the solid waste companies which will be passed on to consumers. Show examples of how well it can work.
City or town	Western WA	Guarantees residents and businesses will get outreach and education regardless of what happens to City staffing during the term of the contract. Collecting items at the curb can be convenient for customers.	Staff have to hold the solid waste collection companies accountable.

Services Embedded in Contracts or Service Level Standards

Type of Work	Geography	Benefits	Drawbacks
Other	Western WA	Contractors are more invested in waste reduction efforts.	Shifts the burden to the private sector, without providing revenue to the County; moves jobs in the public sector to the private sector. Private sector has less interest (typically) in the benefit of the community and taxpayers than public sector and tough decisions would focus more on profit than community benefit; contractor will invest only the minimal required amount of time and money.

Comments on commonly used state-level funding options

Type of Work	Geography	Comments
State agency	Western WA	Good start! Haulers can budget these fees as cost of doing business. Consumers typically use these services infrequently (tires and batteries not replaced often)
County	Eastern WA	Something that is more realistic to small rural communities, we view this as a huge waste of funds.
City or town	Western WA	Refundable core fees seems like a good system and it's working. Good use of funding and a fair system that I think most accept.
Local public health department	Western WA	It has been awhile since the tire retailer fee has been looked at, maybe increase that to help cover illegal dumping enforcement and cleanup at county/Health Dept. level.
County	Western WA	As I stated earlier all of these programs or options will just raise taxes and cost the citizens more out of pocket.
Local public health department	Western WA	Each of these will come under fire by industry. Over the years I have sat in on some of these discussions at the legislature.
Private company	Eastern WA	No
County	Eastern WA	Tire fund has been very helpful in conducting collection events and clean ups. Highway departments are starting to use chipped tires in roadbeds. WUTC is very helpful for counties to oversee large franchised contracts.
State agency	Eastern WA	If the tire retailers were required to pay a fee for each of their own brand of illegally dumped tires, they might do a better job of educating their customers to return the waste tires versus dumping them.
Local public health department	Western WA	Waste tire clean up funds has been a great program for our county.
Local public health department	Western WA	Because the state-level funding is so flexible, small LHD are unable to accurately predict the amount of enforcement they will be able to conduct prior to the legislature's budget.
Private company	Western WA	Not aware of them.
County	Western WA	n/a
State agency	Western WA	No
County	Western WA	All good ideas - must make sure funds are used appropriately. Prevention and environmental protection are the two top priorities to me, but also understand fees have to be reasonably in line with current, local economics.
Industry association or advocacy organization	Western WA	realistically, these should be pursued

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City or town	Western WA	Seems like a mix if needed - so if they are working and well understood - I would favor keeping them but not messing with them too much unless the benefits and challenges with doing so are well understood.
County	Western WA	Since we have such a huge illegal dumping issue in our rural county, and tires are a big part of that waste, I would hope the tire retailer fees send more funds to enforcement.
County	Western WA	no
Other	Eastern WA	All are good mechanisms and could be extended to other items.
City or town	Western WA	Yes. The fees paid to WUTC are useful but their oversight regarding outreach and education, quality of recycling and organics programs is minimal and ineffectual. Much more could be done through true active management in their oversight role. Core battery charges seem to have worked well as a type of deposit return system that should perhaps be considered for glass or other materials. Tire retailer fees have not addressed the on-going problem with tires effectively by focusing just on tire piles and not on collection and recycling systems. And the money has been diverted.
Other	Eastern WA	My concern is that funds set aside in this manner are borrowed from in the budgeting process. This comment relates to earlier questions as well. This practice undermines the credibility of the whole process.
Private company	Western WA	No.
City or town	Eastern WA	Fees related to highway maintenance are probably not adequate to address the need.
Other	Western WA	They do not currently appear to support solid waste enforcement, education/outreach, and/or planning efforts.
County	Western WA	WUTC oversight role needs improvement. Refundable core battery charges are effective in providing consumers with an incentive to return the batteries. To use this mechanism for other products that don't have the value that lead acid batteries have would require strict standards and oversight. It requires markets, ability to recycle/properly dispose and a good collection infrastructure. Products that might benefit from a deposit system include glass and plastic containers. The funds should be dedicated toward developing the LOCAL infrastructure and market development. Tire retailer fees have been diverted from their original purpose. The program only addresses cleanup and not the on-going problem with the development of a safe collection and recycling system. Any new fee program would need to address the full system of collection, recycling/safe disposal, and safe markets for the materials (not recycled rubber mulch!!).

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Type of Work	Geography	Comments
Member of the public	Western WA	While the tire fee has been used to clean up tire piles, it has not resolved the ongoing tire pile problem nor has it created a recycling solution. Tire manufacturers and others need to be engaged in solving this ongoing problem.

Comments on commonly used local-level funding options

Type of Work	Geography	Comments
City or town	Western WA	We use tipping fees to help fund many of our programs.
State agency	Western WA	1. Pay as you throw programs proven effective. 2. Fees cover costs. 3. Recycling incentives help but perceived as inadequate (misconception of value for commodities) 4. Large generators can "shop around" for lower disposal rates
County	Eastern WA	If tipping fees were higher, people may be more inclined to pay for sw pickup instead of hauling their own garbage.
Local public health department	Western WA	The disposal "tip fee" surcharge is very important for funding of HD activities. Since changing the fee surcharge is usually tied in with the overall disposal rate fees, the surcharge doesn't change until the disposal rate changes, which usually is every 10 + years. HD permit fees are only charged to actual permitted facilities. It is not reasonable to charge permitted facilities to cover time for conditionally exempt or non-permitted, or illegal activities nor the general education/technical assistance to individuals and businesses.
County	Western WA	Stop giving CPG or MTCA funds to agencies that are not associated with Solid Waste, Just as Litter should not be funding WA State Parks. I know it nice to have parks but come on Litter and the outrageous amount that is diverted from Litter.
Local public health department	Western WA	We use a transfer station tipping fee. It has not increased since the 1990's. It is the funding source we have used over the years for our 25% match for the CPG funding the Health Department received from Ecology
Private company	Eastern WA	Not all communities have landfills. Outside communities not having a landfill could end up helping pay for services they need themselves.
Local public health department	Western WA	Tipping fees are used in this county and applies to all the municipal jurisdictions
County	Eastern WA	These are additional fees to use, above and beyond the necessary need to collect garbage at a reasonable rate. Garbage collection is elaborate and costly. Too add state required mandated programs to be funded by local funds is not fair, and will increase the cost of garbage. Health Districts already have local funds to conduct inspections and enforcement.
State agency	Eastern WA	Educate the municipalities across the state that these funding options are available to them, THEN, provide direct assistance to push them through their systems.
County	Eastern WA	Our County is likely to use landfill tipping fees to make up the shortfall. It affects all generators in proportion of how much waste they send to the landfill.
Local public health department	Western WA	The citizens of the small counties already pay higher prices for disposal than those same citizens in urban areas. The funds should be administered by the state, with contracts through the local health departments and public works.

Comments on commonly used local-level funding options

Type of Work	Geography	Comments
Private company	Western WA	I'd like to see higher garbage tipping fees. Service level ordinances seem like a good way to decrease illegal dumping and garbage on private property - plus, make collection routes more efficient for haulers.
County	Western WA	none
State agency	Western WA	No
County	Western WA	Enhanced oversight and technical review of solid waste landfills at the state and local health department level would likely benefit the long term outcome of reducing pollution. Solid waste facility permit fees used to fund these types of activities would help to increase the likelihood of these outcomes.
Industry association or advocacy organization	Western WA	same (realistically, these should be pursued)
City or town	Western WA	We rely on a number of these and seems to be working for our system. There is always resistance if fees of any type are increased, but sometimes that is needed. Understand that some areas may have difficulty in engaging political will to make changes or fund recycling. It can be a challenge to have equitable funding throughout the state from other sources and we recognize that not all have the same potential or critical mass of waste/customer numbers to fund to the same degree.
County	Western WA	They are working fine, but with increased fees, we could do our jobs better. I don't know that the public will agree.
County	Western WA	The administration of the Health District function can be made more effective and efficient with current funding.
Other	Eastern WA	In our rural area, recycling was so inconvenient (30 + mile drive for many residents) that residents started their own recycling centers in two areas of Okanogan County. The counties need to make it easy for residents to recycle and fund local organizations doing the work.
City or town	Western WA	All of these have their limited uses and opportunities. Service level ordinances are super effective means of driving services, though they don't address (or haven't) including any producer financing. Revenue sharing agreements can be very effective if properly managed, or can essentially be a give away of rate funds from the rate payer to the hauler. Snohomish and King Counties were able to use Revenue Sharing Agreements to accomplish significant services typically only seen by sharp, well staffed cities through clever contracting. Much can be done through this option if the jurisdiction is willing to provide adequate oversight. My observation is that RSA haulers need oversight to drive them to do a really good job, and some jurisdictions don't care to invest the resources for oversight despite the significant gains for the public.

Comments on commonly used local-level funding options

Type of Work	Geography	Comments
Other	Eastern WA	Rural margins are very small in all constituent groups listed. Agreements between collectors, local government, and recyclers are different than in urban areas. One size does not fit all.
Local public health department	Eastern WA	Permit fees make some sense because the facility should pay for the permission to do the business in some fashion. Although it may be viewed as a conflict by some if the permitting agencies resources (staff) depend on the facility paying the fee and it is also the permitting agencies responsibility to close the facility for non-compliance, therefore losing the fee. It might make more sense to ensure permitting staff will be available through a funding source further upstream.
Private company	Western WA	No.
City or town	Eastern WA	Due to the increased interest in recycling, fees attached to the disposal of solid waste materials need to be re-assessed, since the amounts of solid waste are decreasing.
Other	Western WA	These options are subject to the ebbs and flows of local-level politics as they require council/commission approval. For councils/commissions that have a majority vote that disapproves of any increases in fees or taxes, an increase may never occur, or will have to wait until new members are seated. Clark County currently uses all of the above examples and is looking to increase tipping fees and admin fees in order to compensate for the past and future losses of CPG funding. But only because we now have a council we think it has a higher likelihood to pass through.
Other	Western WA	I wish our city used some of the 5% it receives from waste hauler charges on waste reduction and recycling services. Currently it goes into the general fund.
Member of the public	Western WA	Tipping fees have been a core, critical funding source for solid waste. However, I am concerned that in the long run tip fees will not be adequate to cover programs beyond direct disposal costs. Other funding sources will be needed for recycling, education, waste prevention, MRW facilities, etc.

Other Comments

Type of Work	Geography	Comments
State agency	Western WA	Current contracts and services will need adjustments which will take time to implement. Public process will take time and effort and may not receive adequate support. These problems are not going away and need to be addressed. Penalty approach such as fines not effective. Bans are difficult to enforce and unpopular. Pay for your service strategy works in business. Waste business is either a monopoly or virtual monopoly, which means users pay no matter what. Thank you Janine Bogar for your years of dedication to solving these problems!!!
City or town	Western WA	It's important for fees to be used as they were intended and not be reallocated to something not relevant. It will be important to fund materials closer to the source of purchase to cover collection. I think it would be a hard sell to charge for recycling straight up. EPR, refundable deposits, litter tax, tip fees, etc., are all good programs if the funding stays where it is/was intended. You have forgotten about Cities fitting into Counties for CPG. You have also left out a minority of Cities who perform their own collection who rely solely on customer rates for funding not only collection, but education and outreach too.
County	Eastern WA	Add new chemicals to the hazard substance tax and identify the MTCA specifically to the program it was designed to support; SW implementation and enforcement.
Local public health department	Western WA	It would be really nice to see revenue from solid waste fees used to support solid waste programs but I know that is not how Washington state government works.
County	Western WA	I believe that there are current programs, CPG for example, that have been robbed by the legislature to fund other state priorities. I hope that Ecology will remind their state colleagues that local programs are now suffering from those funding decisions and we expect the robbing to stop.
Local public health department	Western WA	Any funds collected for the purpose of paying for SWM system it should be dedicated funding to prevent the legislature from robbing fees
County	Eastern WA	Thank you for looking at funding options.
State agency	Eastern WA	Find a legislator or two, educate them about solid waste issues, and do not give up until some of these funding issues have been addressed. Good Luck.
Local public health department	Western WA	Carbon tax on large known polluters that would be used for environmental compliance from industry.
State agency	Western WA	Collect fees from grocers that throw away edible food.

Other Comments

Type of Work	Geography	Comments
County	Western WA	People need to realize that proper management of solid waste, along with wastewater, stormwater, hazardous materials, etc...is a massive and long term endeavor that we all have a stakehold in. This must be a point of emphasis taught to us continually from birth to death. Reduced consumption and appropriate diversion or takeback of goods/materials can help to mitigate long term environmental impacts, but ultimately people need to realize that getting rid of their waste should be neither cheap nor easy.
City or town	Western WA	Thanks for the opportunity to participate in the survey! Looking forward to seeing the analysis.
County	Eastern WA	Use current solid waste taxes in solid waste. direct allocation to the agencies that collect waste and recyclables.
County	Western WA	If CPG Grants are cut without alternative funding sources rural counties may have to reduce services which would only increase illegal dumping issues in those counties.
County	Western WA	Thank you for supporting our work on the local level with your great ideas and out-of-the-box thinking!
Other	Eastern WA	I like deposits on glass and perhaps other items just like they have it on batteries.
City or town	Western WA	End of Life fees can have some interim role in providing a service for specialty and hard to handle items but should be considered interim to front end financing through producer responsibility. Also, while not preferred to statewide systems, local EPR laws have been necessary for pharmaceuticals and maybe applied to other types of materials. This deserves additional consideration and research.
Local public health department	Eastern WA	A "How to implement or develop Local Funding Sources" with examples of what has been done guide, would be helpful for policy makers and locals.
Private company	Western WA	WSDA- My understanding is that WSDA imposes a fee/tax on all pesticides imported/sold in WA. This helps fund their Pesticide Roundups which are a positive program. Perhaps some of that money could be directed to local governments and their MRW programs that are still the primary clean-up resource for these products at end-of-life.
City or town	Eastern WA	Business and occupation taxes or other 'upstream' mechanisms need to be explored.
State agency	Western WA	I appreciate the efforts of your program!
Other	Western WA	Recommend on-line shopping taxes for dealing with large volumes of packaging generated by this new phenomena. Thank you for putting together this survey. Two solid waste operations, and two solid waste enforcement folks from Clark County quickly put our thoughts down. So, that may explain some of our answers.

Other Comments

Type of Work	Geography	Comments
County	Western WA	Any funding system that can engage the producers of products that were are trying to manage - so as to increase their understanding of the complexities of dealing with toxic and hard to handle products at the end of life - should be considered. In this global economy, the product producers need to engage - local and state governments will never be able to manage the deluge of products - including wearable electronic gadgets, nano chemicals, solar devices, and other new and scary products - that are heading our way. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
Member of the public	Western WA	MTCA funds are critical for pollution prevention and recycling programs, including CPG and PPG grants. However, there have been recent large shortfalls. One possible solution would be to alter the hazardous substance tax to provide more stable revenue over time through a temporary surcharge that only applies when tax revenues drop below a certain level.