

**Item Title:** Approve Changes to Tip Fees at the South Wake Landfill and East Wake Transfer Station

**Specific Action Requested:**

**That the Board of Commissioners sets the tip fee to \$37/ton at the South Wake Landfill and \$49/ton at the East Wake Transfer station in line with the FY 2023 Adopted Budget**

**Item Summary:**

**Purpose:** The Board of Commissioners sets user fees as authorized in Section 153(A)-102 of the North Carolina General Statutes

**Background:** The South Wake Landfill and East Wake Transfer Station are fully funded through user fees, and the user fees are reevaluated as part of the annual budget process to ensure the enterprise fund is fully self-sustaining. The County Manager's Recommended Budget included changes to these fees, but the changes were inadvertently left out of the adopted budget ordinances. This action would increase the tip fee at the South Wake Landfill from \$32/ton to \$37/ton and the tip fee at the East Wake Transfer Station from \$41/ton to \$49/ton as presented in the FY 2023 Adopted Budget materials. The landfill tip fee will increase for the first time since the landfill opened in 2008.

**Board Goal:** This action supports routine County operations.

**Fiscal Impact:** This fee aligns with the South Wake Landfill Fund revenue projections incorporated in the FY 2023 Adopted Budget

**Additional Information:**

The South Wake Landfill and East Wake Transfer Station are fully funded through user fees. The operational costs of the landfill and transfer station are evaluated annually and the increase in operational costs, particularly multi-year operational contracts, resulted in the need for a fee increase. Revenues that support landfill and transfer station operations come from tipping fees. Included in the fee is a \$2 per ton solid waste tax levied by the State of North Carolina for all solid waste disposed of at landfills. The tax revenue generated is remitted to the state as required. With the tax, the tipping fee at the South Wake Landfill is \$37 per ton for commercial, municipal, and other users. For the City of Raleigh, which receives a \$3 per ton large volume discount through an Interlocal Agreement, the tipping fee is \$34 per ton. The fee at the South Wake Landfill was last set with the opening of the landfill in 2008 and the fee at the East Wake Transfer Station was last raised in 2014, and the new fees are lower than the average fee for landfills and transfer stations statewide. The user fee was presented to the Board of Commissioners with the County Manager's Recommended Budget message on May 2, 2022. The Solid Waste division engaged municipal partners and commercial stakeholders throughout the past year, including the Technical Advisory Committee and the Solid Waste Advisory

committee, and the municipal partners were supportive of the change. The division also held several open meetings with commercial haulers during the past 6 months as well.

	Current	Proposed
South Wake Landfill	\$32/ton	\$37/ton
East Wake Transfer Station	\$41/ton	\$49/ton