

# Mammoth Lakes Town Council Agenda Action Sheet

**Title:** Approve the Solid Waste Parcel Fee Agreement with Mono County for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 to allow the levy and collection by Mono County of Solid Waste Parcel Fees in the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

**Council Meeting Date:** 6/19/2024

**Prepared by:** Pam Kobylarz, Assistant to the Town Manager  
Rob Patterson, Town Manager

**Recommended Motion:** Approve the Solid Waste Parcel Fee Agreement with Mono County for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 to allow the levy and collection by Mono County of Solid Waste Parcel Fees in the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

**Summary:** The collection of Mono County Solid Waste Parcel Fees in the Town of Mammoth Lakes has been approved by the Town since 1987. The fees are restricted in use to solid waste services and programs and are levied County-wide. For FY16-17 through FY20-21, a portion of the Fee was remitted back to the Town to support solid waste programs within the Town of Mammoth Lakes, most notably enhanced recycling efforts and meeting State diversion mandates. The sharing of the Fee was part of the flow agreement, which committed the Town to a minimum amount of solid waste to flow to the Benton Crossing Landfill. The flow agreement expired December 31, 2021 and Benton Crossing Landfill closed on December 31, 2022.

For FY21-22 and FY22-23, the County did not include any sharing of the Fee under the Parcel Fee collection agreement and the Fees were primarily directed to closure and post-closure costs for the Benton Crossing Landfill. A portion of the Fees collected within Town will be necessary to assist with the ongoing post-closure costs estimated at \$125,000 to \$150,000 per year for at least 30 years. The Town portion of the Parcel Fee generates approximately \$425,000 in revenue each year. With the closure of Benton Crossing Landfill, Mono County has continued certain programs at the Pumice Valley Landfill previously provided at Benton Crossing (construction and demolition disposal and some recycling services).

Over the past two years, the Town has reviewed its level of use for the Pumice Valley Landfill, its commitment to support ongoing post-closure costs for Benton Crossing Landfill, the need to fund and implement increasing State mandates placed on the Town related to solid waste and recycling, and desire to continue and expand solid waste and recycling services to our residents to determine appropriate sharing of the Parcel Fee moving forward. The Town is utilizing Pumice Valley Landfill for some larger items and green waste and enjoys other limited benefits from the Landfill. For FY23-24, the Town will receive 40% of the Fee from Mono County, which will allow us to continue our obligations to support post-closure costs for Benton Crossing Landfill and provide some support for Pumice Valley Landfill operations while ensuring funding is available to support our own solid waste programs and meet State mandates.

On February 21, 2024, the Town Council adopted a draft five-year Solid Waste Parcel Fee Agreement that reflected 60% remittance of the Fees back to the Town for the duration of the Agreement to ensure a steady stream of income to fund solid waste initiatives within the Town of Mammoth Lakes for the coming years. However, the Town and County were not able to come to terms on that agreement, so we are proposing another one-year agreement at this time, as has been approved in previous years. The proposed Agreement will remit 50% of the fees back to the Town for FY 24-25. The Town and County have committed to continued discussions on this matter with the goal of developing a longer-term agreement in the future.