

Solid Waste Line of Business

**February 25, 2014 Discussion
with the Council SPUN Committee**

Seattle
 Public
Utilities

Structure of Presentation

1. Then and Now
2. Overview Facts and Figures
3. Customer Services & Service Levels
4. Solid Waste Investments
5. Cost of Services

Solid Waste Then: Landfills in south King County 1970s to 1980s



South Park garbage dump (1932)

- 1970s-1980s Seattle garbage sent to landfills in south King County
- Thanksgiving Day 1985, families evacuated from homes near Midway landfill due to methane gas in basements
- Both landfills closed as superfund sites

Solid Waste Now: Curbside recycling & Oregon landfill

- By 1986 Seattle needed a long-term waste reduction strategy
- 1988 – curbside recycling provided to residents
- Garbage begins going to Oregon landfill

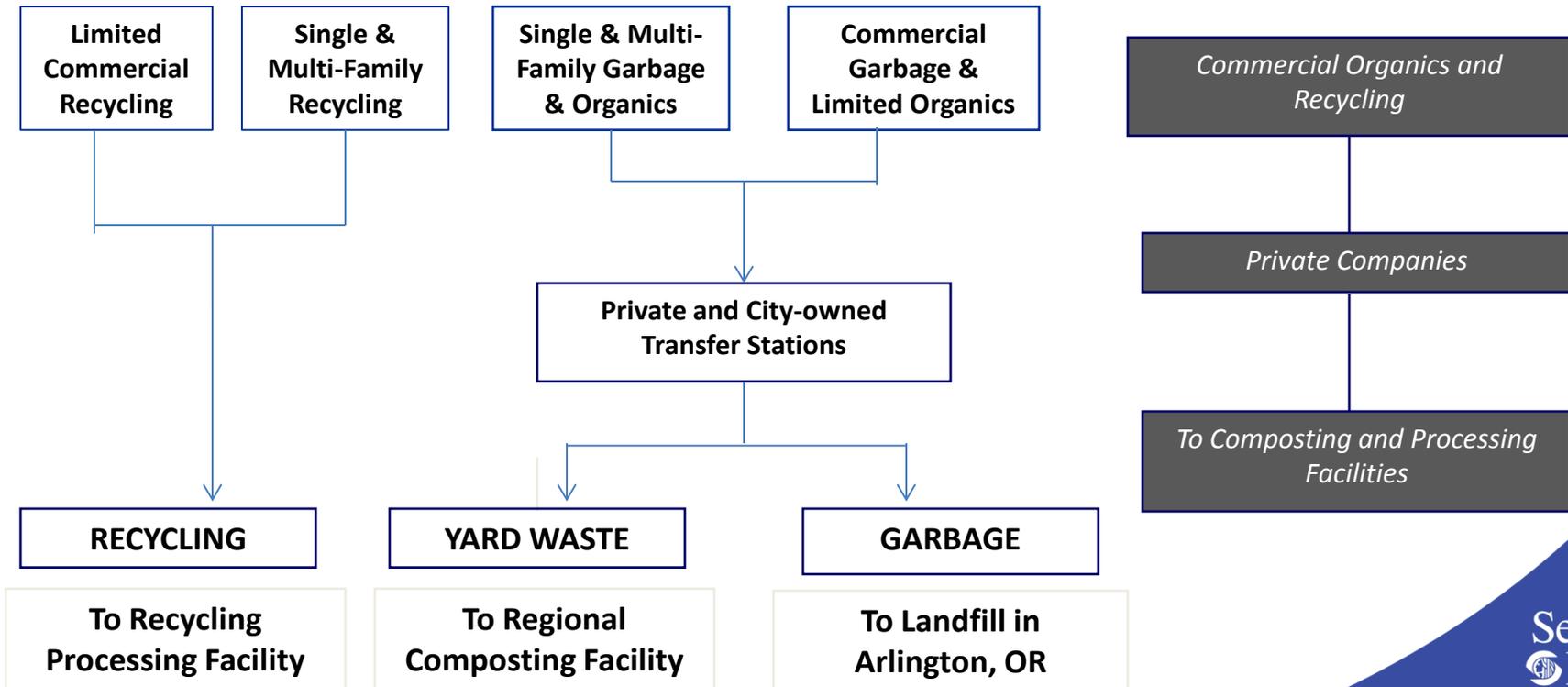


Solid Waste Now: Composting Yard and Food Waste

- 1989 – curbside yard waste collection
- 2009 – curbside food waste collection, Clear Alleys program
- 2011 - food and yard waste added to multi-family service
- Apartments, condos (5+units) must provide food waste cart for residents



Overview: Snapshot of Solid Waste Process

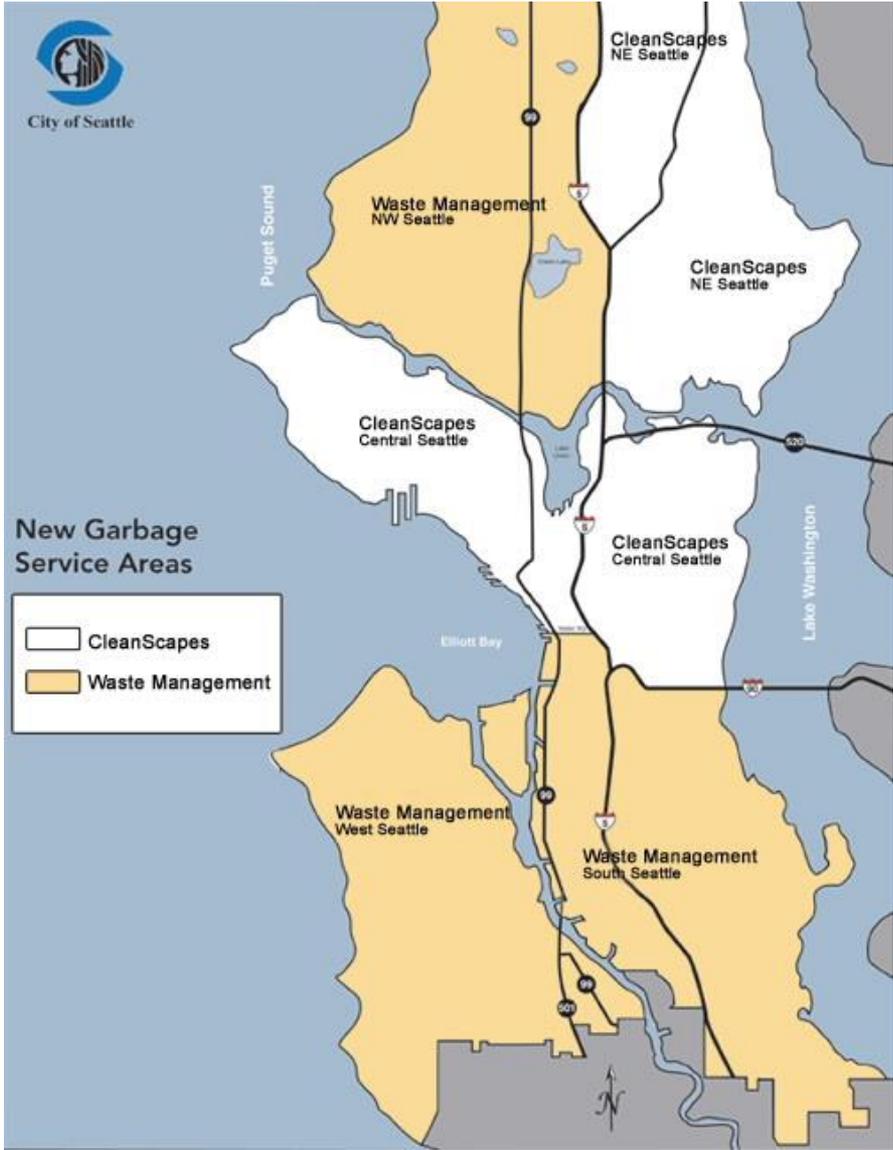


Overview: Solid Waste Collection Process



- Two private companies (Waste Management and CleanScapes) provide service by geographic area
- Enhanced services in 2009 include:
 - Weekly residential organics collection with all food scraps accepted
 - Commingling of recyclables
 - Clear Alleys Program (no dumpsters)

Overview: Collection Service Territory Map



Overview: Solid Waste Reduction, Re-use, Recycling and Transfer Processes



New South Transfer Station
(South Park)



Present North Transfer Station
(Wallingford)

- Upgraded and modernized transfer stations will help us reduce solid waste and more effectively recycle
- Cost of two new transfer stations = \$168 million

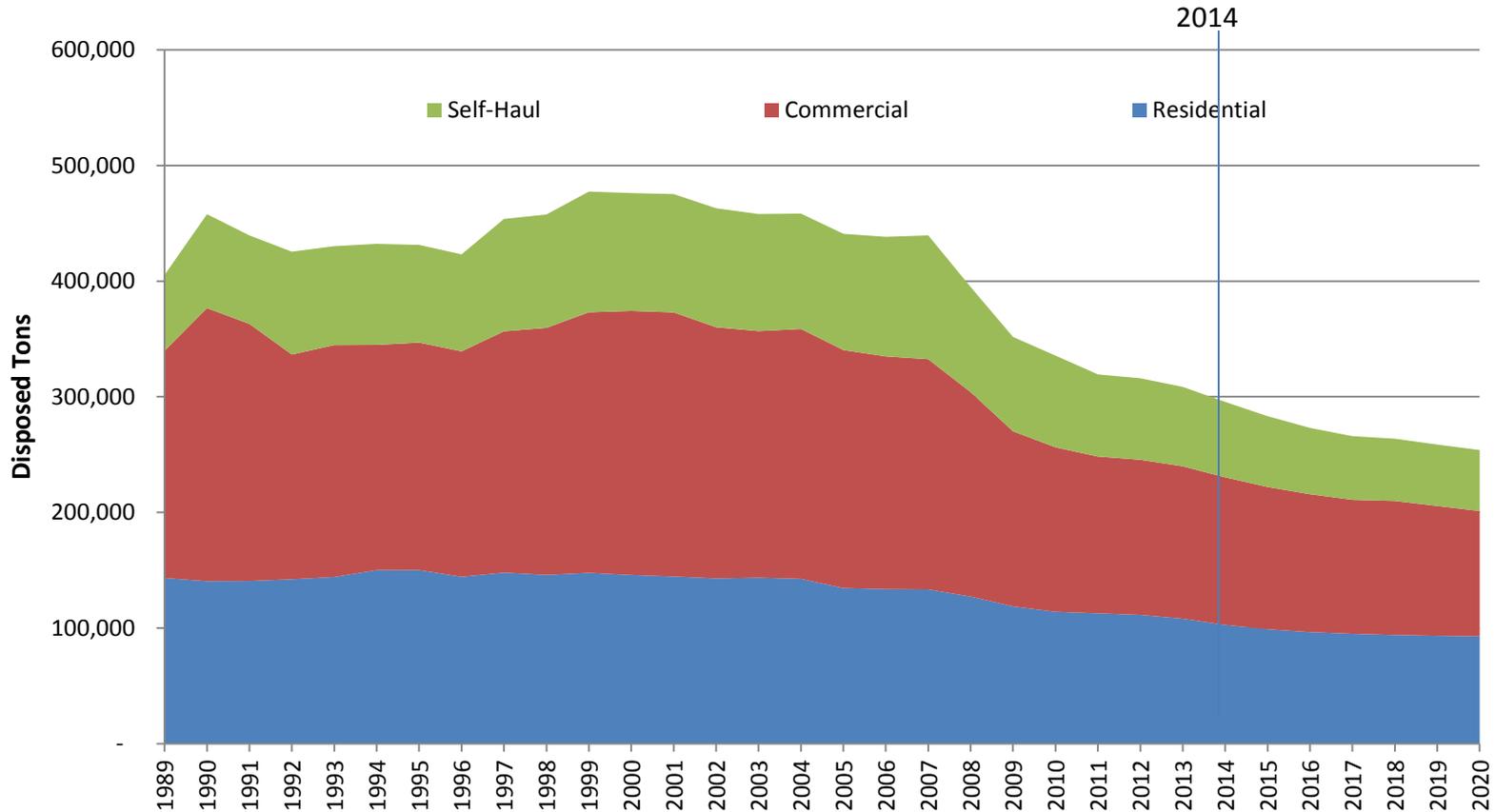
Overview: Solid Waste Disposal Process



All non-recycled waste is delivered to the rail yard in Seattle for long-haul to Arlington, Oregon by Union Pacific under contract to Waste Management

Overview: Garbage Tons

1989-2020 Garbage Tons Disposed



Solid Waste Customer Services & Service Levels

SPU uses the following service targets as key indicators of quality and success:

- No more than 1 missed solid waste collection per 1000 stops
- No more than 1 repeat miss per 10,000 stops
- No more than 2 late container deliveries per 100 requests
- Collect at least 95% of missed solid waste pickups within one business day following notification by customers
- Achieve City's waste reduction & recycling goal of 60% by 2015

Customer Services and Service Levels: Clean City Program

SPU also manages the Clean City Program:

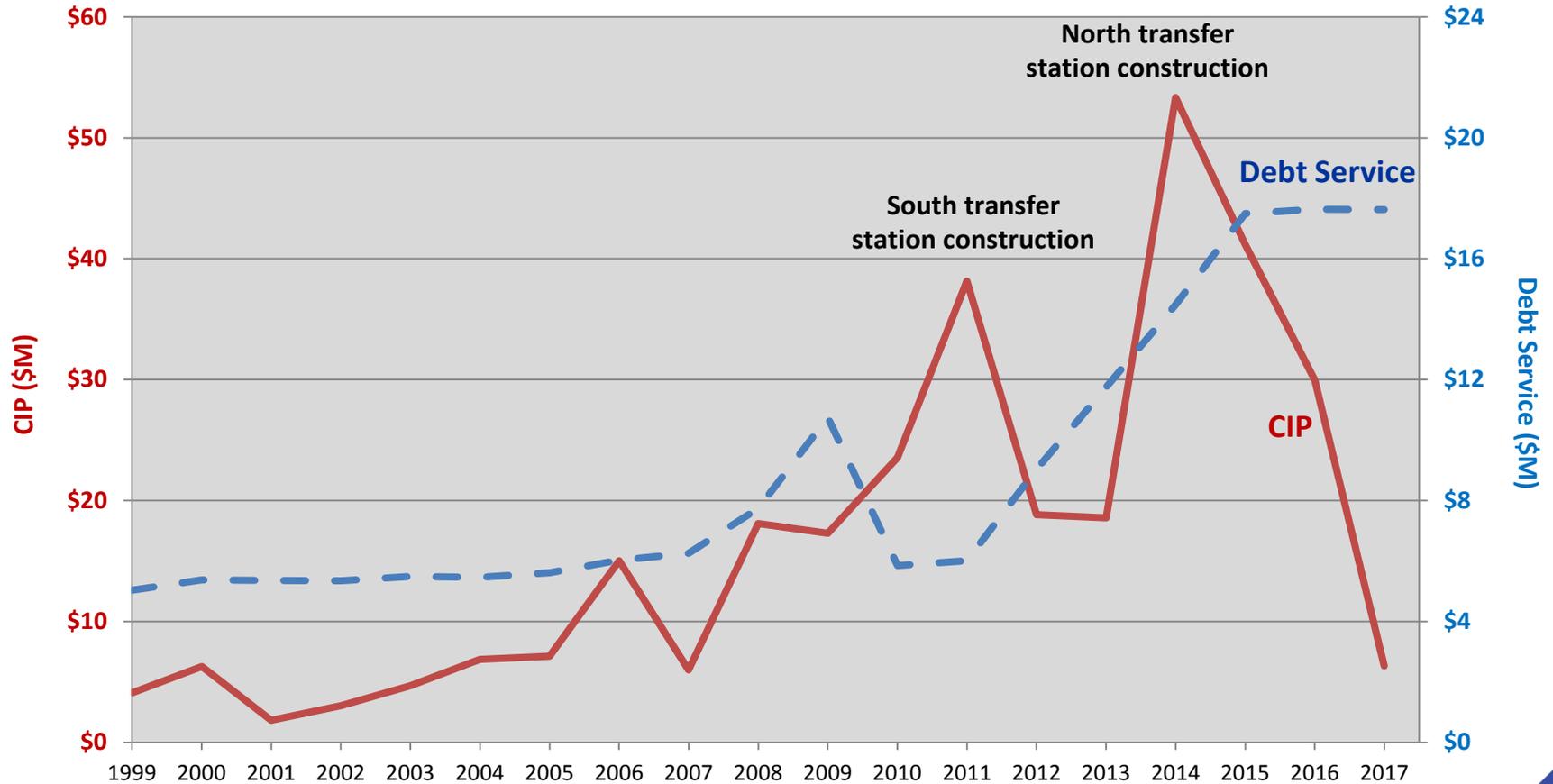
- Services include graffiti, illegal dumping, and street-side litter
- Current service targets are:
 - 90% of graffiti on SPU-responsible property will be cleaned up within 10 business days of being reported
 - No more than 5% of survey respondents rate litter as a major problem
 - No more than 4% of survey respondents rate graffiti as a major problem
- Costs included in the Solid Waste business line, but are mostly funded by general City taxes or solid waste transfer tonnage (the General Fund)

Are We Meeting our Service Levels?

The short answer is MOSTLY YES

- Met all targets for missed pickups & missed pickup collection in 2013
- Met container delivery target
- On target to meet 2015 recycling goal of 60%
- Met graffiti clean-up target
- Did not meet customer satisfaction target for clean cities services (8% of survey respondents rated litter as a major problem; 6% rated graffiti as a major problem)

Solid Waste Investments: Where We Are in Our Capital Investment Cycle



Solid Waste Investments: Transfer Stations

- Two disposal stations (free to recycle)
- Two household hazardous waste collection centers (free)



Wallingford station (1967) being rebuilt to improve safety, reduce odors and noise, add capacity, and increase efficiency. Expected to reopen in 2016.

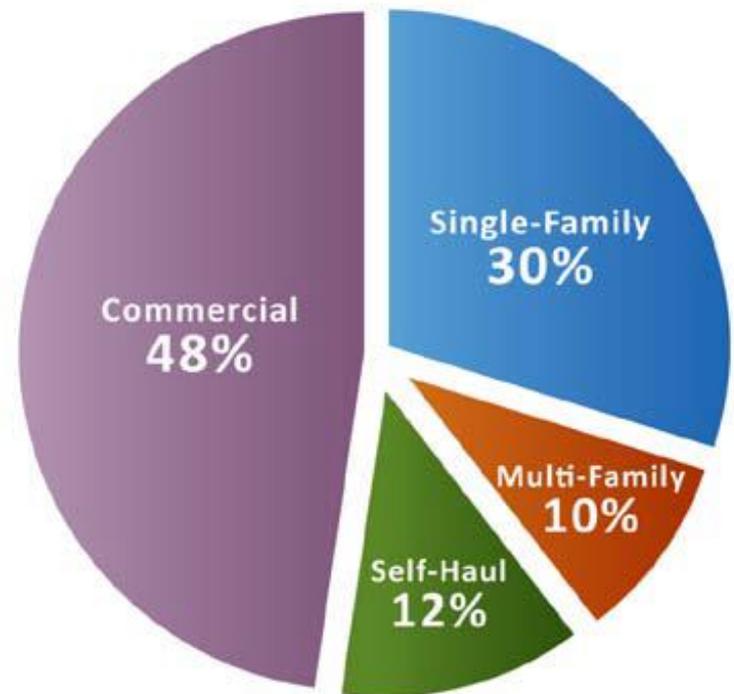


The South Park station (1966) was rebuilt, reopened in 2013

Solid Waste Investments: Recycling

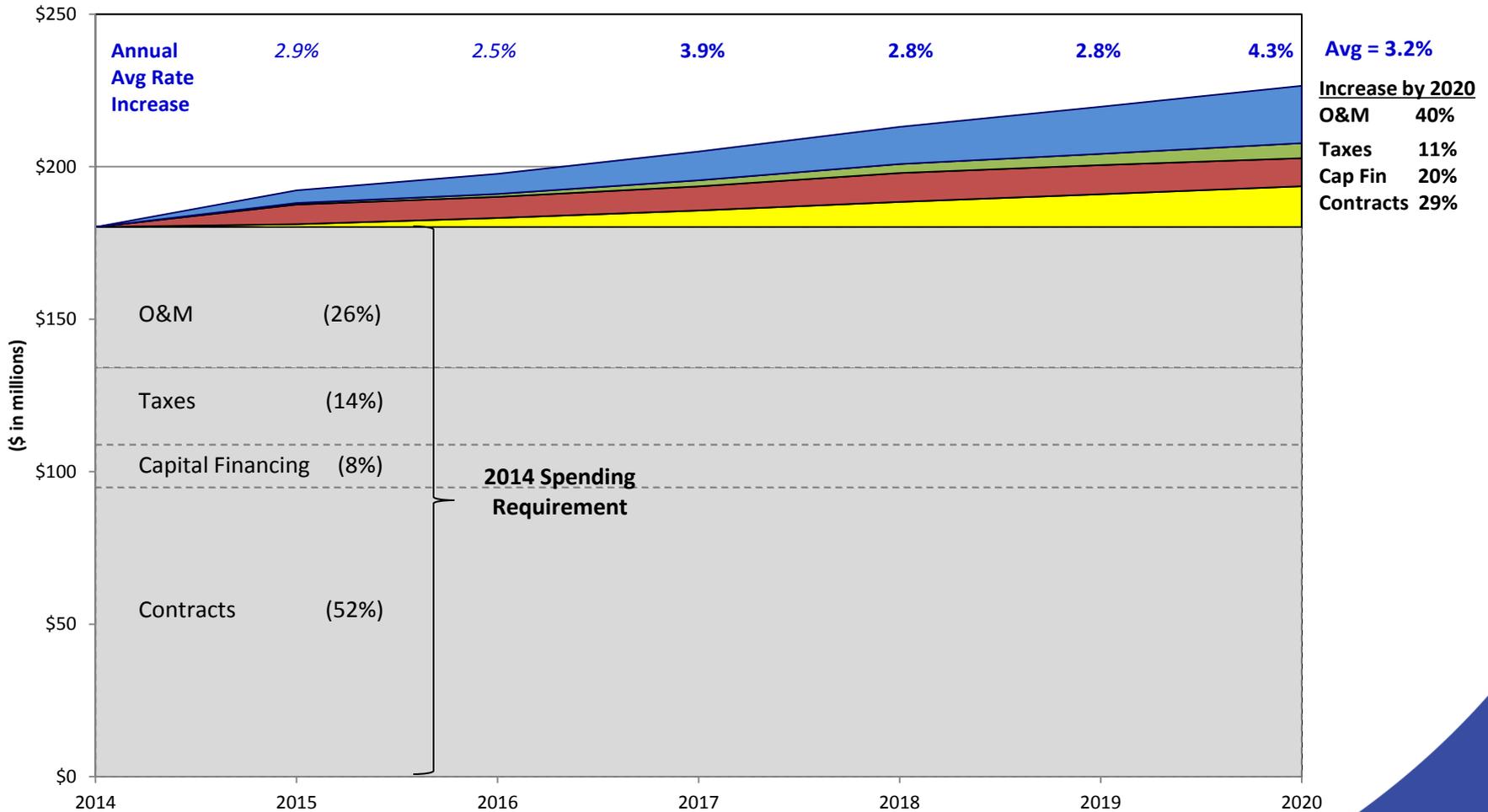
Since curbside recycling began, Seattle has:

- Recycled enough paper to save 9 million trees
- Saved more than \$68 million in avoided landfill fees
- Reduced greenhouse gases by 3.1 million metric tons



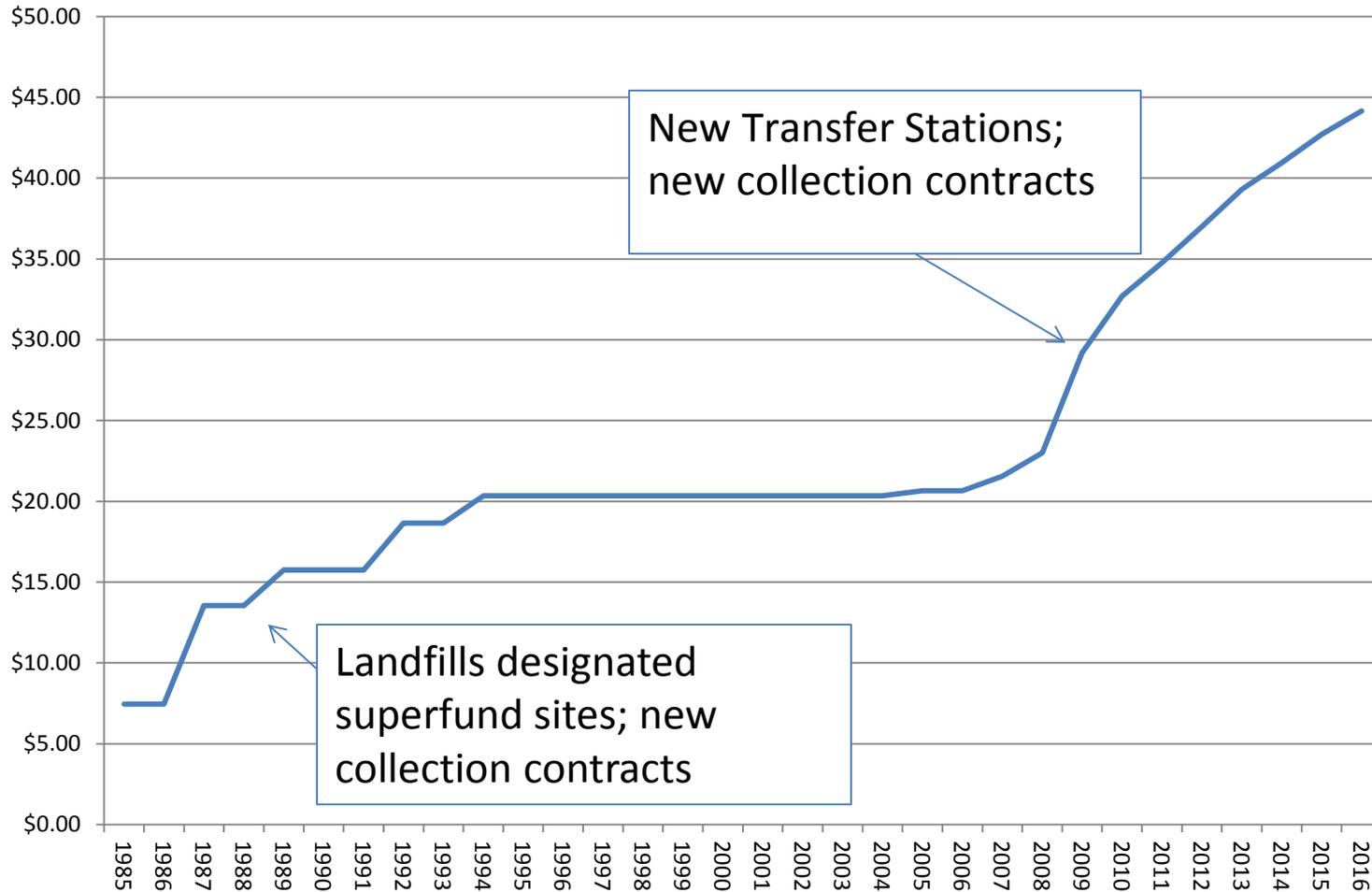
Solid waste generation by sector

Cost of Services Looking Forward: 2015-2020 Baseline (= current services + meeting firm regulatory requirements)



Cost of Services Looking Back

Typical Residential Monthly Solid Waste Bill



Cost of Services

In 2020 baseline, garbage, organics, and recycling are picked up at the curb at an average charge of **\$5.30 per container for each pickup**

In 2020 baseline, average cost **per pound** is **\$0.24**

Typical residential monthly bill in 2014* = **\$39.30**

Typical residential monthly bill in 2014* for household on low income rate assistance = **\$19.65**

*starting April 1