



Metro Central solid waste transfer station gets new operator

Frequently asked questions

Q: Why is Metro hiring a new contractor to operate Metro Central Station?

A: With the current five-year contract to operate Metro's two solid waste transfer stations expiring March 31, 2010, the agency in 2009 launched a comprehensive procurement process now nearing completion. Metro has hired top-ranked proposer Recology Oregon Recovery Inc. to operate Metro Central in Northwest Portland.

Q: Will this change affect disposal rates?

A: Metro expects little to no impact on disposal rates.

Q: How will the change in operators affect service at the transfer station?

A: Eventual service enhancements include facility modifications and traffic changes to help staff recover more recyclable materials and to expand options for customers wishing to set aside reusable items for third-party vendors.

Q: Does this change affect the types of materials accepted for disposal or recycling?

A: Yes. The list of materials accepted for recycling eventually will expand to include separated items such as clean drywall and rubble.

Q: How does the new contract further enhance sustainability practices at Metro Central Station?

A: Metro values sustainability in its facility operations and business practices. The contract includes provisions to accomplish the following:

- Double recovery of recyclable materials to 34 percent.
- Reach carbon-neutral status by 2015.
- Reduce pollution from diesel-powered equipment.
- Increase water conservation.
- Ensure accountability for sustainability practices.
- Provide a quality work life with benefits such as health insurance for all employees.
- Attract a diverse network of subcontractors and other vendors.

Q: Will the new contractor hire additional staff?

A: Yes. The contractor will hire additional staff such as pickers for its mechanical waste-sorting line.

Q: How can I learn more about job opportunities at Metro Central Station?

A: To learn about upcoming job opportunities, call Recology human resources manager Angelica Villarreal at 415-875-1000.

Q: What is the status of Metro South Station's current operator?

A: Metro is nearing final agreement with Allied Waste Transfer Services of Oregon LLC ("Allied Waste"), the top-ranked proposer for Metro South operations in Oregon City, and recently issued a notice of intent to award the contract. Allied Waste currently operates both Metro Central and South transfer stations under a contract expiring March 31, 2010.

Q: How can I get more information on the recent procurement process related to Metro transfer stations?

A: Visit www.oregonmetro.gov/solidwasteoperations for more information such as a brief overview and an evaluation of the submitted proposals. For general information about Metro transfer stations, visit www.oregonmetro.gov/garbage.