



Memorandum

TO: SATPAL SIDHU, COUNTY EXECUTIVE

FROM: Jennifer Hayden, Environmental Health Supervisor

DATE: January 30, 2024

RE: Request to amend Whatcom County Code 8.10

Chapter 70A.205 of the Revised Code of Washington directs the County to establish a service level for residential waste generators in its local solid waste management plan. Whatcom County Code 8.10, Solid Waste and Residential Recycling Collection, specifies service levels for recycling and solid waste collection that encourage recycling and waste reduction. Current code language requires that solid waste collection companies shall collect source-separated recyclables from residences in unincorporated portions of Whatcom County.

In March 2023, Bellingham City Council approved a resolution to modify the city's contract with Sanitary Service Company to change their curbside residential recycling from a source-separated system to a single stream system. The change was made in an attempt to stabilize the cost of recycling, reduce greenhouse gases, and reduce employee injuries. In order to support a consistent recycling system across Whatcom County, the code will need to be revised to remove the source separated requirement.

Additionally, some of the historic reporting requirements currently in the code are either unnecessary or duplicative and should be removed.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Support the revision of Whatcom County Code 8.10 in order to be consistent with industry practice across the County.

Please call Jennifer Hayden at 360-778-6036 if there are any questions. Thank you.