

Memorandum

TO: City Council
FROM: Krista Billerbeck , Natural resources manager
DATE: October 20, 2025
SUBJECT: 2026 Recycling budget, fee, and SCORE grant application
ITEM NUMBER: 8.e
SECTION: CONSENT AGENDA

REQUESTED MOTION

To adopt Resolution 25-80 approving the recycling fee and budget for 2026.

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the joint powers agreement between Ramsey County and the City of Shoreview, it is necessary to prepare the annual curbside recycling budget and determine the annual recycling fee for residential properties in the city. The recycling fee is provided to Ramsey County and included on the 2026 Ramsey County property tax statements. Additionally, staff will complete the application to Ramsey County for funding from the state's Select Committee and Recycling and the Environment (SCORE) which is used in conjunction with recycling fees to fund the city's recycling program.

DISCUSSION

Shoreview charges for recycling services as the primary source of funding for the city's curbside recycling program. The city holds a joint powers agreement (JPA) with Ramsey County for collecting recycling fees. Counties have the authority to collect charges for solid waste management services pursuant to Minnesota statutes sections 473.811 and 400.08. The JPA allows the city to charge for the recycling services through the county's waste management service charge.

The following procedures are followed under the joint powers agreement:

- The city determines the residential count of housing units and provides the information to the Ramsey County Department of Property Taxation.
- The city determines its curbside recycling budget, calculates the per parcel charge, and reports the charge to the Department of Property Taxation.
- Ramsey County places the charge on the property tax statements mailed to property owners. Funds are collected and distributed to the city on tax settlement dates.

The recycling budget for 2026 is proposed in the amount of \$1,474,189, as shown in the attached budget document. This compares to last year's budget of \$1,340,051. Expenses associated with the recycling budget include contractual fees for weekly curbside recycling, spring cleanup day, cart replacement, and staff time. The budget reflects the SCORE grant allocation of funds, which is used to fund the recycling program in addition to fees collected. Recycling carts are owned by the city and the budget plans for future replacement. Residents

can choose from three recycling cart sizes and are allowed multiple carts at no additional cost. The current contract with Republic Services, which began in 2024, states a 4.5% percent increase annually. The 2026 recycling fee is proposed at \$110 which equates to \$2.11 per week. This is an increase of five dollars for the year from last year's fee of \$105.

In partnership with Ramsey County, the recycling program includes other services available to residents such as yard waste collection sites, Fix-It clinics, a direct customer service call line, event recycling containers, and business recycling. New this year is the Ramsey County Environmental Center, which offers free drop-off for items such as household hazardous waste, electronics, scrap metal, food scraps, and more.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommend that the city council approve the proposed 2026 recycling budget in the amount of \$1,474,189 and a recycling fee of \$110 that will be collected on 2026 residential property tax statements as per the JPA with Ramsey County. Furthermore, staff recommend that the city council approve the application for 2026 SCORE funding from Ramsey County.

ATTACHMENTS

[Recycling Budget 2026.pdf](#)

[Resolution 25-80 Recycling budget, fee, & SCORE application.pdf](#)