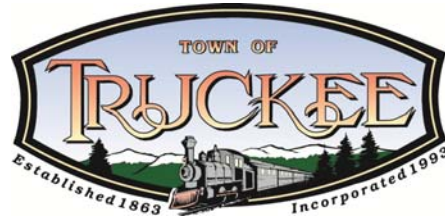


Town Council

Carolyn Wallace Dee, Mayor

David Tirman, Vice Mayor

Patrick Flora, Council Member  
Jessica Abrams, Council Member  
Morgan Goodwin, Council Member



Department Heads

Jeff Loux, Town Manager  
Andy Morris, Town Attorney  
Robert Leftwich, Chief of Police  
(Vacant), Community Development Director  
Kim Szczurek, Administrative Services Director  
Judy Price, Town Clerk  
Daniel Wilkins, Public Works Director/Town Engineer

## **PRESS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 18, 2017

**For additional information, contact:**

Erica Mertens, Recycling Coordinator  
(530)582-2909  
emertens@townoftruckee.com

### **Town Council Approves New Trash and Recycling Services**

Truckee Town Council approved a new 10-year solid waste and recycling franchise agreement at their Council Meeting Tuesday, December 12. The Town's current agreement with Tahoe Truckee Sierra Disposal (TTSD) expires June 30, 2018 which provided staff an opportunity to incorporate community priorities in developing new solid waste services. After extensive community engagement and over a year and a half of negotiations between the Town and TTSD, a franchise agreement with a host of new, sustainable services for residential and commercial customers was brought to Council. A lively community discussion and council deliberation concluded with council members unanimously approving the new franchise agreement.

#### **New Residential Services**

Truckee residents will be moving to containerized recycling and yard waste services over the next three years. All Truckee residents will receive a 64-gallon wheeled blue cart for recyclables and a 96-gallon green wheeled cart for yard waste. Recycling and yard waste carts will be serviced curb-side on alternating weeks. Residents have the ability to opt out of either of these programs and use alternative service options built into the new agreement. For recyclables, residents can continue to use blue bags which will be picked up weekly with their mixed waste. There will also be two locations for recycling drop-off during the summer months. Green bags will not be picked up after June 30, 2018. If residents do not want to use green carts, they may rent a 6-yard dumpster for a week from the expanded dumpster rental

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10183 Truckee Airport Road, Truckee, CA 96161-3306

[www.townoftruckee.com](http://www.townoftruckee.com)

Administration: 530-582-7700 / Fax: 530-582-7710 / email: [truckee@townoftruckee.com](mailto:truckee@townoftruckee.com)

Community Development: 530-582-7820 / Fax: 530-582-7889 / email: [cdd@townoftruckee.com](mailto:cdd@townoftruckee.com)

Animal Services 530-582-7830 / Fax: 530-582-1103 / email: [animalservices@townoftruckee.com](mailto:animalservices@townoftruckee.com)

Police Department: 530-550-2323 / Fax: 530-582-7771 / email: [policedepartment@townoftruckee.com](mailto:policedepartment@townoftruckee.com)

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services through TTSD. Residents may also drop up to 6 yards of yard waste at Eastern Regional Landfill (ERL) each year or have a friend or contractor drop-off yard waste on their behalf.

Other notable service changes include two free pickups of large, bulky items per year and four overage pickups per year where customers can put out up to 96-gallons of mixed waste including yard waste with advanced notice to TTSD. A new online customer tool will be available to provide customers regular access to their account information and a unique customer code required for yard waste drop-offs at ERL.

The service changes will roll out over the coming three years. All Truckee residents will receive yard waste containers in June 2018 to begin use on July 1. Residents can choose to receive up to three 96-gallon containers or opt out of the program entirely. Glenshire residents will receive recyclables carts in September and begin with the new recycling services starting October 1, 2018. The remaining Truckee neighborhoods excluding Tahoe-Donner will start using blue carts in 2019. Tahoe-Donner residents will begin with the new recycling services in 2020. All residents will continue to use their current trash cans for mixed waste.

### **New Commercial Services**

Commercial customers will receive wildlife-resistant food waste carts that will be serviced up to three times a week. These carts will provide more efficient collection of food waste than the current yellow bag program. Businesses will also receive carts for recyclables. Both of these programs will comply with California's state mandated waste collection rules. Commercial trash bins 3-yards or larger will be serviced up to five times a week. Small commercial customers may utilize hauler provided mixed-waste carts. A new town staff member has been hired to provide technical assistance for businesses.

### **Town Council Meeting**

Town Council listened to a robust community discussion and engaged in thorough conversation before making a decision on the new agreement. They noted that the proposed agreement incorporated the directions that Council had outlined to staff throughout the negotiations process. Councilmember Morgan Goodwin stated, "We've had several moments over the last year and a half for council to really align on our priorities of what we found important in this contract and that is what we see here. It's been a really iterative process and I, for one, am really happy with where we have ended up."

Councilmembers supported the reduction in plastic bag use both for practical and environmental purposes. Councilmember Patrick Flora and Mayor Carolyn Wallace Dee both noted that they were on Council when the green bag yard waste program was put in place. "The bags have never been a full time, long term solution to cleaning up your yard of pine needles and yard debris," Patrick remarked. Councilmember Jessica Abrams reflected, "By the time my children's grandchildren

are dead and gone, the green bag I put out last week is still going to be on this planet.”

Council acknowledged the challenges the new services will create for some residents but ultimately determined that the extent of options addressed the wide variety of community needs. Councilmember David Tirman noted, “I understand some of the inconveniences that have been expressed by a number of residents, but at the end of the day this becomes an issue of community and environment over personal inconvenience.” Mayor Wallace Dee concluded the discussion remarking, “We have to start somewhere, and this is the start... We’re going to make it work, by all of us working together.”