

To: Board of Commissioners
From: Sarah Reeves, Executive Director
Date: November 15, 2024
RE: Proposed Budget Fiscal Year 2026

By Charter, CSWD is required to propose the following fiscal year's budget not later than December 1 of the current year. The rationale for the timeline as established is to provide ample notification to our member municipalities of any intended local assessments, and if any assessments are needed for CSWD that the municipalities have time to incorporate the assessment into local budgets ahead of Town Meeting Day in March. Attached please find the unaudited fiscal year 2024 actuals compared to the current fiscal year budget alongside a preliminary estimate of the FY 2026 CSWD budget.

Key Drivers:

External:

- Cost of Living: Budgeting a 3% increase based on the 12-month rolling average as of October 30. *Final recommendation will be based on data as of January 31, 2025.*
- Health Insurance: Budgeting a 10% increase
- Fuel and Utilities: Budgeting a 10% increase
- Materials Management: Budgeting a 4% increase to the MRF processing fee, 3% increase to hauling DOC materials, and potential 25% increase to mattress disposal fees.

Internal:

- Fees: The MRF, DOC, and ORF tip fees are budgeted the same as FY25; 6% increase to the MRF Average Commodity Revenue rate; slight increase to compliance fine revenue.
- Other Revenue: Modest increase to DOC revenue in general, reflective of increased activity at Burlington DOC and full year of expanded days and hours across five DOCs.
- Solid Waste Management Fee: The proposed budget shows a 1% increase in revenue, based on \$30/ton.
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Proposed Motion:

Be it Resolved that the Board of Commissioners acknowledges the receipt of a proposed Fiscal Year 2026 budget to be further developed through the normal budget process.