

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

What is a Public Private Partnership (P3)?

Public-private partnerships involve collaboration between a government agency and a private-sector company that can be used to finance, build, and operate projects, such as public transportation networks, parks, convention centers, and in this case, solid waste facilities.

Why did the county choose to evaluate a P3?

The Larimer County Solid Waste Department (SWD) has the full responsibility to design, construct, fund and operate the new solid waste infrastructure facilities described in the Solid Waste Infrastructure Master Plan (SWIMP). These new facilities consist of a new landfill, transfer station, recycling center, compost/food waste facility, and a construction and demolition processing facility. The capital costs to develop all the infrastructure mentioned, is well over the amount the SWD has in reserves. In addition, the risk associated with developing the landfill and transfer station without a guaranteed volume is substantial. The SWD is a public facility and does not have agreements with waste haulers to ensure use of the facilities, which puts a return on investment in a high-risk situation without certainty of volume.

The SWD realized the risk to developing these facilities and chose to follow guidance from the SWIMP regarding the mitigation of risk by developing a Private Public Partnership (P3). The process involved developing a Request for Proposal to solicit qualified partners to design, construct, fund and operate the facilities as a P3 with the County.

After an extensive evaluation and interview process the SWD selected a national waste company (Republic Services) to partner with on the facilities. The Board of County Commissioners approved the SWD to move forward and negotiate with the selected vendor.

With the Larimer County Landfill reaching capacity in the next few years, the Larimer County Solid Waste Department in collaboration with their Municipal partners have worked diligently to continue to offer disposal services, recycling, and soon, opportunities to divert useable materials from certain waste materials.

What was included in the request for proposal?

The selection process included a written proposal from qualified applicants and an extensive evaluation and interview process. The awarded vendor's proposal was most





closely aligned with the review criteria, the county's vision, goals, and future plans for the Solid Waste Department.

Are Republic Services residential waste collection services part of the County's P3 Process?

No. The hauling/collection and disposal are completely separate processes from one another, and the county is not involved in the hauling/collection operations in Larimer County.

Currently, citizens of Larimer County such as those living in the Town of Estes Park and Town of Wellington have the choice to contract their waste hauler of choice in what is known as a "Pure Open Market". Citizens of Loveland's trash collection is managed through what is known as a "Municipal Hauling Utility" where the city owns and operates all their own equipment. The City of Fort Collins has recently initiated a "contracted hauling system" for all single-family, duplex, and small multifamily homes (with seven or fewer units) in the community. This option allows for local government to contract with one or more companies to provide residential trash and recycling collection. The final option is what the City of Fort Collins currently has in place know as a, "Open Market with Licensing" where each household chooses their own licensed hauler and local government issues licenses and may include requirements.

For more information regearing the waste hauling/collection within the City of Fort Collins please visit their website at <https://ourcity.fcgov.com/contract-for-trash>.

What are the current contract negotiation with Republic Services and Larimer County so far?

Currently, the agreement between Larimer County and Republic Services is a nonbinding document called a "Memorandum of Understanding" (MOU). The purpose of an MOU is to have a written formal understanding of the agreement between parties. An MOU details the terms, obligations and commitments of the parties to allow for exchanging information that is pertinent to the agreement. Next steps will include a draft contract agreement to be reviewed and approved by both parties. A link to a copy of the MOU can be found below.

<https://www.larimer.gov/sites/default/files/republic - larimer county mou.pdf>

Please find the links below which will provide information to the Regional Solid Waste Infrastructure Master Plan (SWIMP) and demonstrate the extensive work that explains the elaborate process and evaluation conducted to provide the future solid waste programs and facilities.

[Volume I - Adopted Solid Waste Infrastructure Master Plan](#)

[Volume II - Adopted Solid Waste Infrastructure Master Plan](#)

[Volume III - Adopted Solid Waste Infrastructure Master Plan](#)

[Planning Commission Meeting Presentation 12-2018](#)



How was Republic Services chosen as the company of choice?

Larimer County underwent an extensive Request for Proposal (RFP) to solicit qualified companies. An RFP evaluation committee was created and composed of industry professionals from the Larimer County Solid Waste Department. After much deliberation

by the evaluation committee, Republic Services was chosen as the preferred vendor for the North Landfill, Central Transfer station, and Materials Recovery Facility.

Does Republic Services care about sustainability?

Yes! Republic Services is committed to partnering with customers to create a more sustainable world. They are an industry leader in climate action and the only environmental services provider with a greenhouse gas reduction goal approved by the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi). In addition, they are on track to achieve big 2030 sustainability goals using innovative and collaborative approaches. For more information, please find their 2021 Sustainability Report below.

[2021 Republic-Services-Sustainability-Report.pdf](#)

How long is this partnership for?

The length of term contract varies with the different facility contracts. The landfill contract is proposed to be a “life of site” contract largely due to the environmental and regulatory obligations that will be assumed by Republic Services. These are not the type of services or obligations that the County believes should be rotated to other companies every few years. Rather selecting a firm that has the expertise and responsibility to ensure the regulations are complied with long term since they will be responsible for any compliance concerns.

Does Republic Services operate other Landfills?

Yes, Republic Services operates about 198 active, modern landfills across the country.

Does Republic Services operate other Transfer Stations?

Yes, Republic Services operates about 239 transfer stations across the country.

Does Republic Service operate other Material Recovery Facilities/ Recycle Centers?

Yes, Republic Services operates about 71 recycle centers across the country.