

# ORGANICS REPORT

4th Quarter 2019

(Formerly Known as Yard Waste Report)

Seattle Public Utilities, Rates & Financial Planning

Report Date: January 31, 2020

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## Tonnage Breakdown

<b>Self Haul<sup>1</sup></b>		
Q4 Self Haul Cars & Trucks:	1,583 Tons	8.0% increase vs. same period in 2018
2019 Cumulative Self Haul:	6,957 Tons	13.5% increase vs. same period in 2018
<b>Residential</b>		
Q4 Single Family:	22,677 Tons	2.9% decrease vs. same period in 2018
2019 Cumulative Single Family:	84,842 Tons	0.2% decrease vs. same period in 2018
Q4 Multi Family:	1,160 Tons	8.7% increase vs. same period in 2018
2019 Cumulative Multi Family:	4,263 Tons	7.5% increase vs. same period in 2018
Q4 Total Residential:	23,838 Tons	2.4% decrease vs. same period in 2018
2019 Cumulative Total Residential:	89,105 Tons	0.2% increase vs. same period in 2018
<b>Commercial (contract and non-contract tons)</b>		
Q4 Commercial:	22,663 Tons	2.0% increase vs. same period in 2018
2019 Cumulative Commercial:	86,282 Tons	0.1% increase vs. same period in 2018

## Organics Subscription Information by Premises<sup>2</sup> (Building) Type – December 2019

Residential customers can request Exempt service if they do backyard food waste composting. “Curb” service is the same as can premise service; the customer moves the can out to the curb for collection. “On Site” service does not require the customer to move their container(s) out to the curb, similar to dumpster service. “Liner” service means a new biodegradable liner is provided after each collection.

<b>Single Family</b>	<b>13 gal</b>	<b>32 gal</b>	<b>90 gal</b>	<b>Total Signed Up</b>	<b>Exempt</b>
<b>Premises</b>	35,049	25,619	90,254	150,180	3,590
	<b>23.3%</b>	<b>17.1%</b>	<b>60.1%</b>	<b>98.0%</b>	<b>2.3%</b>
<b>Multi Family</b>	<b>Curb No Liner</b>	<b>Curb Liner</b>	<b>Onsite Liner</b>	<b>Total Signed Up</b>	<b>Exempt</b>
<b>Premises</b>	1,437	3,659	1,420	6,392	84
	<b>22.5%</b>	<b>57.2%</b>	<b>22.2%</b>	<b>95.1%</b>	<b>1.2%</b>

<sup>1</sup> North Recycle & Disposal Station closed on Jan 20, 2014 and re-opened on 11/28/2016 for a rebuild.

<sup>2</sup> A premise is roughly equal to a building in our billing system. An apartment building is typically equal to one premise.

## **Basics of Self Haul Program**

- SERVICE: Two city owned recycle and disposal stations accept organics during regular operating hours. Yard waste must be separated and cannot be disposed of as garbage.
- FEES: **Cars:** \$20.00 per trip (compared to \$30.00 per trip for garbage).  
**Trucks:** \$110.00 per ton (compared to \$145.00 per ton for garbage).

## **Basics of Residential Organics Program**

- Service: Beginning April 2009, collection frequency increased from bi-weekly to weekly pickup. All single family customers are required to sign up for organics service or request an exemption if they have backyard food waste composting. As of September 2011 multifamily and multiplex customers are also required to sign up for organics service. Multifamily customers can sign up for residential can/cart curb service or onsite can/cart service. (Curb service requires the customer to bring their container to the curb; onsite service does not require the customer to move their container.) Liner service, which includes a biodegradable plastic liner placed in the can or cart after each collection, is also available to multifamily customers.
- MATERIALS: Leaves, grass clippings, prunings 4 inches or less in diameter. Starting in April 2009, all food waste and food soiled paper are allowed in the cart. **As of January 1, 2015, Organics, including food waste, compostable paper, and yard waste are not allowed in the curbside garbage container.**
- Fees: Monthly Variable Can/Cart Prices: 13 gal = \$6.15, 32 gal = \$9.25, 96 gal = \$11.85, Extra Bundle = \$5.90

## **Basics of Commercial Program**

- SERVICE: Seattle has contracts with Waste Management and Recology/Cleanscapes for garbage and organics service. Customers can sign up with their contract garbage hauler for organics service. In addition, Seattle commercial customers can choose organics service through a hauler outside of the city contracts. This is referred to as "non-contract" organics service.
- MATERIALS: All food scraps (including meat, fish, dairy and produce), food soiled paper, waxed cardboard, and yard debris. **Beginning January 1, 2015 all organics materials are not allowed in the garbage.**
- FEES: Approximately 32% below garbage prices. (Non-contract prices vary.)

**CITY OF SEATTLE ORGANICS PROGRAM**

		TONNAGE DATA									ACCOUNT SIGN-UP DATA						
		SELF HAUL			RESIDENTIAL				COMMERCIAL <sup>3</sup>			RESIDENTIAL		COMMERCIAL			
Year	Month	North	South	Total	Waste Management	Recology/Cleanscapes	Single Family	Multi Family	Total Residential	Contract	Non Contract	Total	Accounts <sup>6</sup>	Lbs/Acct	Contract	Non Contract	Total
2018	1	99	230	329	3,218	2,631	5,533	316	5,849	389	6,579	6,968	153,489	76	2,019	2,472	4,491
2018	2	88	208	297	2,622	2,052	4,403	271	4,674	352	6,576	6,928	153,606	61	2,017	2,474	4,491
2018	3	155	364	518	3,960	2,845	6,485	321	6,805	403	6,593	6,997	153,767	89	2,016	2,472	4,488
2018	4	157	366	523	4,562	3,243	7,483	322	7,805	389	6,906	7,295	153,813	101	2,028	2,475	4,503
2018	5	193	501	694	6,611	4,433	10,622	422	11,045	401	6,875	7,276	154,216	143	2,046	2,473	4,519
2018	6	202	409	611	4,872	3,458	7,981	349	8,330	398	6,906	7,304	154,570	108	2,075	2,472	4,547
2018	7	184	399	584	4,203	2,953	6,848	308	7,156	346	6,751	7,097	154,759	92	2,059	2,472	4,531
2018	8	158	377	536	3,921	2,845	6,446	320	6,766	323	6,757	7,080	154,860	87	2,081	2,474	4,555
2018	9	175	394	570	3,545	2,557	5,833	269	6,102	358	6,711	7,069	154,970	79	2,095	2,467	4,562
2018	10	170	377	547	4,447	3,388	7,504	330	7,834	405	6,999	7,405	155,036	101	2,088	2,431	4,519
2018	11	198	334	532	5,736	4,716	10,036	416	10,452	423	6,971	7,394	155,067	135	2,093	2,428	4,521
2018	12	134	254	387	3,316	2,813	5,808	322	6,129	414	7,008	7,422	155,171	79	2,089	2,428	4,517
2019	1	132	248	380	3,548	2,823	6,041	329	6,371	385	6,287	6,672	155,231	82	2,102	2,417	4,519
2019	2	109	170	279	2,068	1,728	3,553	243	3,796	294	6,263	6,556	155,341	49	2,080	2,423	4,503
2019	3	207	452	659	3,528	2,721	5,922	327	6,249	411	6,299	6,710	155,442	80	2,089	2,420	4,509
2019	4	195	448	643	5,163	3,568	8,382	349	8,731	397	6,754	7,151	155,517	112	2,044	2,436	4,480
2019	5	242	491	732	6,130	4,136	9,857	409	10,266	448	6,767	7,215	155,753	132	2,056	2,034	4,090
2019	6	235	547	783	4,797	3,346	7,782	361	8,143	533	6,632	7,165	155,891	104	2,065	2,035	4,100
2019	7	219	452	671	4,719	3,350	7,697	373	8,069	620	6,801	7,421	155,920	104	2,066	2,048	4,114
2019	8	215	440	655	4,068	2,894	6,589	373	6,962	582	6,782	7,363	156,113	89	2,064	2,048	4,112
2019	9	179	392	572	3,872	2,808	6,341	339	6,680	572	6,793	7,365	156,217	86	2,050	2,045	4,095
2019	10	211	374	585	4,659	3,510	7,766	404	8,169	624	6,969	7,593	156,346	105	2,060	2,033	4,093
2019	11	264	377	641	5,512	4,384	9,486	410	9,896	580	6,955	7,535	156,440	127	2,045	2,031	4,076
2019	12	132	225	357	3,229	2,543	5,425	347	5,772	566	6,970	7,536	156,572	74	2,055	2,033	4,088
<b>Total 2019</b>		<b>2,341</b>	<b>4,616</b>	<b>6,957</b>	<b>51,293</b>	<b>37,812</b>	<b>84,842</b>	<b>4,263</b>	<b>89,105</b>	<b>6,012</b>	<b>80,271</b>	<b>86,282</b>	<b>2019 Avg</b>	<b>95</b>		<b>2019 Avg</b>	<b>4,232</b>
Total 2018		1,913	4,214	6,127	51,013	37,934	84,982	3,965	88,947	4,600	81,634	86,234	2018 Avg	96		2018 Avg	4,520
Total 2017		1,842	4,285	6,127	52,025	38,764	86,839	3,950	90,789	5,821	74,576	80,397	2017 Avg	99		2017 Avg	4,432
Total 2016		61	4,333	4,394	52,604	39,269			91,874	4,151	61,732	65,883	2016 Avg	102		2016 Avg	4,382
Total 2015 <sup>5</sup>			4,167	4,167	51,013	38,200			89,213	3,240	55,207	58,447	2015 Avg	100		2015 Avg	4,124
Total 2014 <sup>4</sup>		100	4,099	4,199	47,276	35,312			82,588	1,875	48,237	50,111	2014 Avg	93		2014 Avg	2,625
Total 2013		3,219	3,071	6,290	46,960	35,430			82,390	2,101	43,980	46,081	2013 Avg	94		2013 Avg	2,457
Total 2012		3,245	3,348	6,593	47,599	36,067			83,666	1,977	40,637	42,614	2012 Avg	97		2012 Avg	2,242
Total 2011		3,449	3,345	6,794	45,777	34,036			79,813	2,686	38,101	40,787	2011 Avg	94		2011 Avg	2,047
Total 2010		3,715	3,966	7,682	46,564	33,388			79,952	2,113	35,139	37,252	2010 Avg	95		2010 Avg	1,648
Total 2009 <sup>2</sup>		4,775	5,374	10,149	42,648	31,582			74,230	1,763	29,961	31,724	2009 Avg	90		2009 Avg	1,243
Total 2008		5,530	6,363	12,667	28,348	28,016			56,364	2,260	24,902	27,162	2008 Avg	87		2008 Avg	930
Total 2007		6,731	7,516	14,247	27,447	27,126			54,573	5,023	9,748	14,771	2007 Avg	87			
Total 2006:		6,953	7,323	14,276	26,125	25,414			51,539	7,123	280	7,403	2006 Avg	85			
Total 2005:		6,598	7,328	13,925	22,009	20,595			42,603				2005 Avg	74			
Total 2004:		7,729	7,177	14,905	19,670	18,815			38,485				2004 Avg	69			
Total 2003:		7,559	6,597	14,156	17,094	16,830			33,923				2003 Avg	62			
Total 2002:		7,844	6,522	14,366	17,086	17,417			34,503				2002 Avg	70			
Total 2001:		8,279	6,755	15,034	18,412	18,578			36,990				2001 Avg	NA			
Total 2000:		8,280	5,752	14,031	18,240	15,797			34,037				2000 Avg	66			
Total 1999:		8,186	5,506	13,692	28,080	11,657			39,737				1999 Avg	78			
Total 1998:		8,122	4,912	13,034	28,286	12,260			40,546				1998 Avg	79			
Total 1997:		8,574	5,563	14,137	30,017	13,113			43,130				1997 Avg	84			
Total 1996:		7,341	4,186	11,527	27,491	11,842			39,333				1996 Avg	76			
Total 1995:		7,567	4,596	12,163	29,122	11,622			40,745				1995 Avg	75			
Total 1994:		7,045	4,952	11,997	26,099	10,974			37,073				1994 Avg	72			
Total 1993 <sup>1</sup> :		8,019	5,423	13,442	30,113	12,582			42,695				1993 Avg	78			
Total 1992:		6,430	5,124	11,553	24,547	10,243			34,790				1992 Avg	61			
Total 1991:		8,814	5,908	14,722	28,103	11,100			39,203								
Total 1990:		7,339	5,625	12,964	25,936	10,845			36,780								
Total 1989:		6,495	4,753	11,249	22,812	8,845			31,657								

1. Note that the fairly large increase in tonnage from 1992 to 1993 is due to two factors:

- a) 1992 tonnage was the lowest since 1989 due to the drought and lawn watering ban which extended from June 1 - November 2, 1992.
- b) 1993 tonnage was high due to abundant precipitation in the spring and summer months.

2. Some commercial curbside can/cart organics are included in residential curbside tons. New 10-yr contracts began 3/30/2009. RCS (Recology/Cleanscapes) and WM (Waste Management) are the contracted haulers.

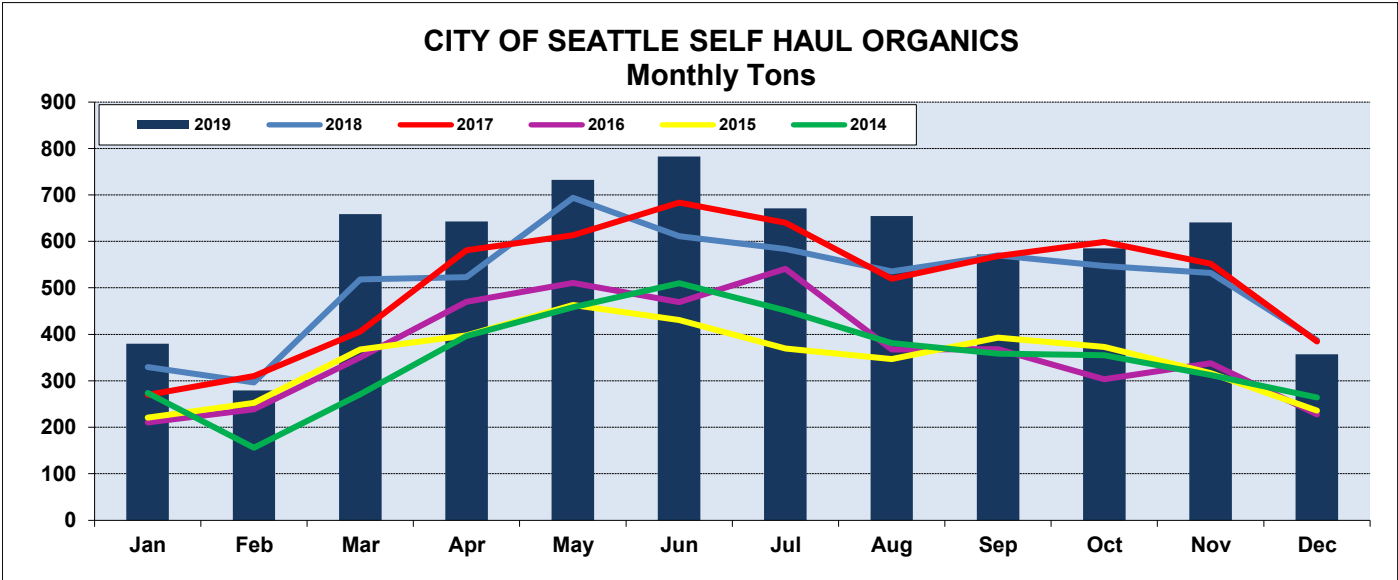
3. This table does not include some commercial non-compost food waste collection such as fats, oils and grease. This additional food waste is captured in our annual recycle survey and in our calculation of Seattle's overall recycling rate.

4. Beginning Feb 2014 cars are weighed. Prior to this, car weights were calculated at 258lbs/car based on composition study results.

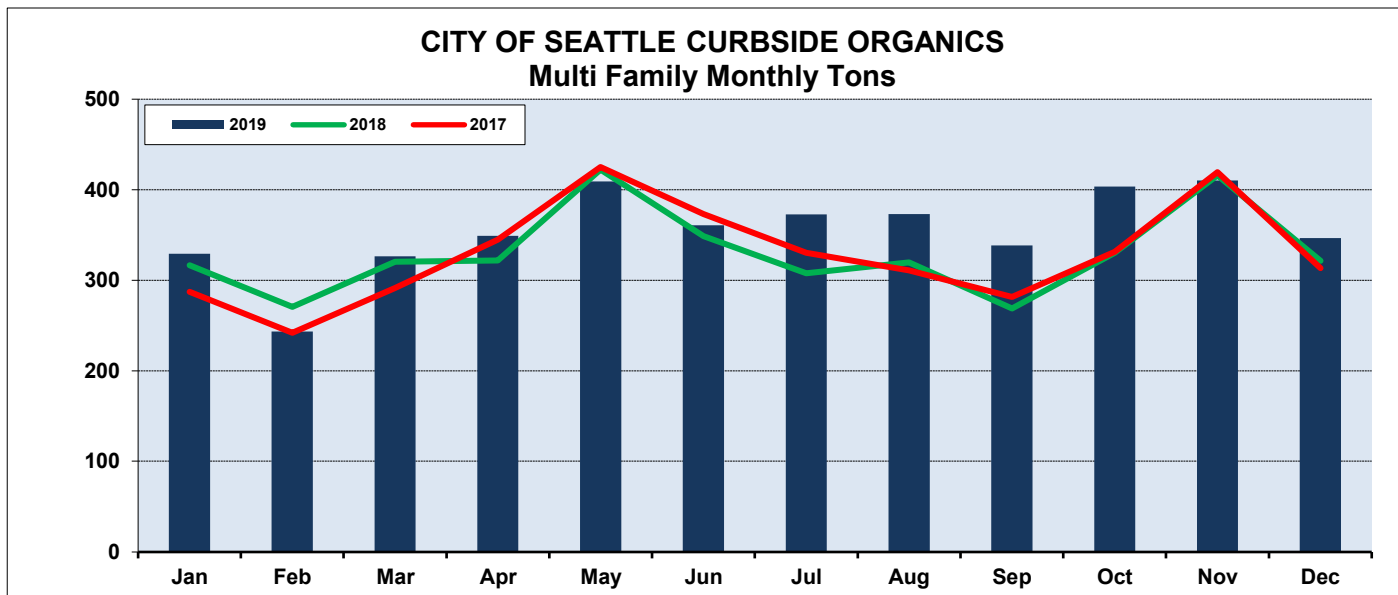
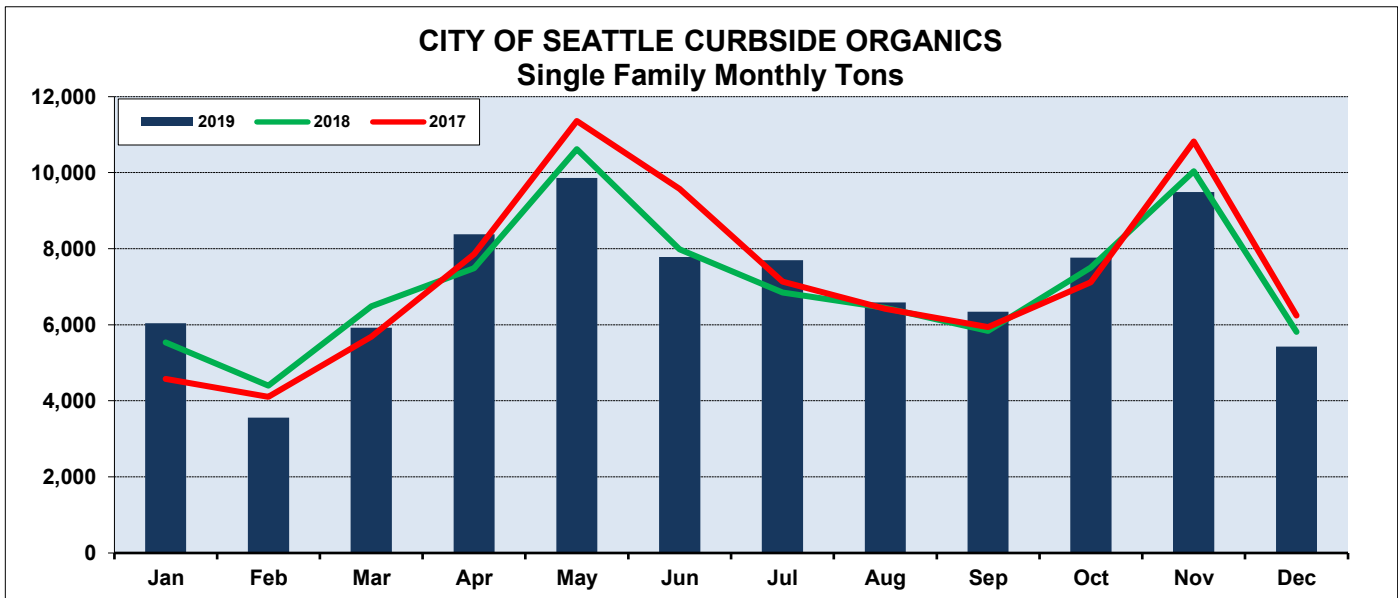
North Recycle & Disposal Station closed on Jan 20, 2014 and re-opened Nov 28, 2016 after a rebuild.

5. Jan 2015: Organics, including food waste, compostable paper and yard waste are not allowed in the curbside garbage container.

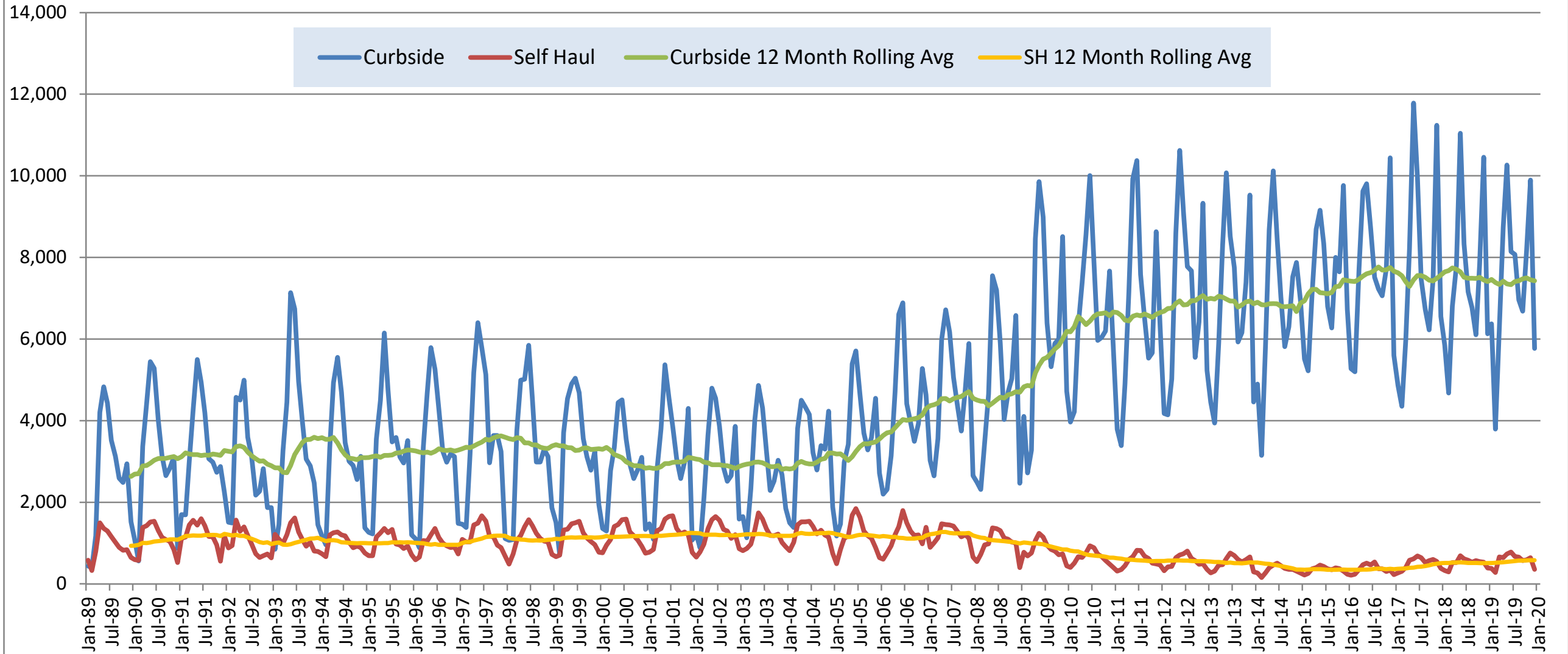
6. October 2016: New definition of Single Family premise changed to prems with 4 or fewer dwelling units. Multi Family defined as premises with 5 or more dwelling units.



The North Transfer Station closed on Jan 20, 2014 and re-opened on Nov 28, 2016 after rebuild.



# CITY OF SEATTLE RESIDENTIAL CURBSIDE AND SELF HAUL ORGANICS TONS



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# Weather Impacts on Organics Tonnage

