

(e) The County may issue such number of nonexclusive franchises pursuant to this Ordinance, and may limit such number of nonexclusive franchises it issues pursuant to this Ordinance, as it determines from time to time for reasons and purposes reasonably related to the public health, safety, and general welfare, including but not limited to the availability of residential solid waste collection service to residents, the adequate provision of such service, the quality of customer service provided, the reasonableness of price therefor, and the effect of residential solid waste service vehicles on county roads and the public.

(f) The County may deny future applications for or renewals of a franchise based on the number of franchises already then issued and existing considering the availability of residential solid waste collection service to residents, the adequate provision of such service, the quality of customer service provided, the reasonableness of price therefor, and the effect of residential solid waste service vehicles on county roads and the public.

(g) Any franchise issued pursuant to this Ordinance shall be subject to all terms and conditions imposed by this Ordinance, other applicable ordinances and resolutions of the County and all other applicable federal, state, or local laws, statutes, rules, and regulations. In case of conflict between the terms of a franchise and any of the following, the order of precedence shall be (a) applicable federal statutes, rules, and regulations, (b) applicable state statutes, rules and regulations, (c) this Ordinance, (d) other ordinances of Lowndes County, (e) the franchise.

(h) Prior to issuance of a franchise, the applicant for a franchise shall provide to the County (i) evidence required by OCGA § 36-60-6 that the applicant is authorized to use the Federal Work Authorization Program (or evidence that it is not required by OCGA § 36-60-6 to provide such evidence) and (ii) evidence pursuant to OCGA § 50-36-1 that the applicant is lawfully present in the United States. The franchisee shall utilize the Federal Work Authorization Program required by OCGA § 36-60-6.

(i) The term of each franchise issued pursuant to this Ordinance shall be determined by the County and set forth in such franchise.

**Section 2.4. Franchise Fee.** During the term of a franchise, a franchisee shall pay a franchise fee to the County for the regulation in Lowndes County of residential solid waste, residential solid waste collection services, the administration and enforcement of this Ordinance, and the administration and enforcement of the franchise. Such franchise fee shall be paid at the rate of \$3.00 per ton of residential garbage collected by the franchisee in the unincorporated area pursuant to its franchise. Such franchise fee shall be paid on a monthly basis, with the franchisee paying to the County by the last day of each calendar month the franchise fee due for residential garbage collected by the franchisee in the unincorporated area during the immediately preceding calendar month. Each payment by the franchisee of the franchise fee shall be accompanied by a written statement, certified by an officer of the franchisee or executive level manager responsible for the area or region of the franchisee's operations that includes Lowndes County, showing in such form and detail as the County Manager of Lowndes County may prescribe, the total tonnage of residential garbage collected by the franchisee in the unincorporated area or otherwise from residents during the calendar month for which such franchise fee is being paid, the calculation of such franchise fee then being paid by the franchisee, and also accompanied by copies of landfill weight tickets evidencing such total tonnage and such other information as the County Manager may from time to time require.