

AGENDA ITEM #3B
March 24, 2009

Action

M E M O R A N D U M

March 20, 2009

TO: County Council

FROM: *KL* Keith Levchenko, Senior Legislative Analyst

SUBJECT: **Action:** Solid Waste Management Plan Comprehensive Update

For more information regarding the T&E Committee and Council review, please see the Council Staff packet for the March 17 meeting and the Executive's Recommended 10 Year Plan Update.¹

At a worksession on March 17, the Council discussed the Executive's Recommended 10 Year Solid Waste Management Plan Update and the Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy and Environment (T&E) Committee's recommendations from its meeting on March 9.

Based on the results of the March 17 worksession, Council Staff has prepared a resolution for approval (see ©1-2). The resolution includes a number of specific follow-up reporting requirements as presented in the table on the following page.

¹ Both documents are available for download at the Council website at the links below:

- March 17 Council Staff packet:
http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/council/pdf/agenda/col/2009/090317/20090317_6.pdf
- The Executive's Recommended Comprehensive Update:
http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cs/templ.asp?url=/content/council/news/Reports_home.asp

Item	Deadline for Submission to Council
Update on the status of the County's television recycling program	Quarterly Updates beginning no later than July 31, 2009
Update on the County's efforts to increase Land Clearing and Construction and Demolition Debris (C&D) recycling rates both by the County and in the private sector	February 1, 2010
Update on the findings of the 2009 Waste Composition Study and DEP's short and long-term strategies to maximize the County's recycling rate	February 1, 2010
Recommendations regarding the potential imposition of a plastic shopping bag ban or tax	February 1, 2010
Update on DEP's efforts to seek additional composting capacity and the potential expansion of the composting program to include food waste	February 1, 2011

The Council also supported a number of text changes which are to be incorporated into a final version of the 10 Year Solid Waste Plan to be sent to the Maryland Department of the Environment for final approval. These changes are summarized below and documented on pages 3 and 4 of this memorandum.

- Incorporate corrections and clarifications as submitted by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) (see ©3-5).
- Add text to note DEP's work with the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) on a remediation plan to address water quality and methane migration issues at the closed Gude landfill and that construction of a yard trim facility at the Gude Drive landfill will not commence until the potential environmental impacts of the yard trim facility are fully investigated and concerns addressed.
- Add text regarding DEP's efforts to increase its recycling of land clearing and construction and demolition debris (C&D).

Note: The Council Staff packet for the March 17 Council worksession noted that text regarding DEP's review of the merits of a plastic bag tax or ban would be added to the 10 Year Solid Waste Plan. Upon further discussions with DEP staff, Council Staff suggests that since the County does not have a plastic bag ban or tax in place now, it would be premature to include language in the Plan at this time.

10 Year Plan Text Changes based on the March 17 Council Discussion

Text Changes Proposed by WSSC

- Please see ©3-5.

Text Changes Related to the Gude Landfill

- Page viii: Change text to read as follows: “Discussion of Transfer Station modifications to address peak flows under a current CIP project (future County Council appropriation required to perform construction) and the potential relocation of yard trim receiving, processing and shipping operations to a portion of the Gude Landfill site is updated, addressing requirements for MDE approval both for this project and its integration into a remediation and reuse plan for the Gude Landfill site.”
- Page 4-57: After the sentence, “The County is currently performing design work towards relocating its yard trim/wood waste operations away from the Transfer Station site to the closed Gude Landfill.” insert “This work is contingent upon future County Council appropriation, appropriate environmental and engineering assessments and MDE approval of this facility and its integration into the remediation plan and proposed future land uses for the site.” Also, on that page, change the last sentence to read “The final decisions on site improvements being designed for relocation of yard trim operations from the Transfer Station to an area of the Gude Landfill will be made during subsequent regulatory agency and CIP review of that design.”
- Page 5-12 (top box): Delete first sentence in that box and replace with “Assessment of the relocation of yard waste transfer and grinding operations to Gude Landfill subject to future County Council appropriation.”
- Page 5-15: Change bottom of the page to read, “The same capital improvement project, ongoing at this time, includes design of the site improvements needed to relocate yard waste handling operations from the Transfer Station to the closed Gude Landfill. This project, and the planned remediation of and future land use plan for the entire Gude Landfill site, is subject to future County Council appropriation, approval by MDE after applicable environmental and engineering assessments have been performed.”
- Page 5-25: Change third paragraph to read, “DEP will also explore the feasibility of limited yard waste processing in connection with yard waste operations being considered for relocation from the Transfer Station to the site of the old Gude Landfill. This project would be subject to future County Council appropriation, MDE approval and integration into the remediation and future land use plan for the entire Gude Landfill site.”

Construction and Demolition Debris (C&D)

- Page 4-26, insert new paragraph at the bottom of page, “Recently, the County modified its out-of-County hauling and disposal contract to enable select recyclable C&D received by the County at its transfer station to be transported for recycling at the Honeygo Run facility

located northeast of Baltimore (facility identification number 13 in Figure 4.3 and Table 4.6). This modification provides for the recycling of mixed dirt, rocks, brick, concrete and rebar and is a promising avenue for recycling mixed loads this type of material received by the County. As an example, if this amendment were in place during FY 08 DEP estimates that it would have recycled 44 % of the C&D it received.”

- Page 4-30, fourth paragraph, change “Specifically, the County will continue to explore...” to read “Specifically, the County will, to the maximum extent practicable, utilize its newly amended out-of-County haul contract to recycle the C&D that it receives at its transfer station, and also will continue to explore...”

attachments

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Resolution No.: _____
Introduced: _____
Adopted: _____

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

By: County Council

SUBJECT: Comprehensive Amendment to the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan

Background

1. State law (Sections 9-503 and 9-515, Environment Article, of the Maryland Code) requires the governing body of each County to adopt and submit to the Maryland Department of the Environment a ten-year plan dealing with solid waste disposal systems, solid waste acceptance facilities, and the systematic collection and disposal of solid waste.
2. The Environment Article further requires each County to review its solid waste management plan at least every three years.
3. The County Council adopted the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan for the years 2004 through 2015 for Montgomery County, Maryland by Resolution 15-1218 on November 15, 2005.
4. On January 16, 2009, the County Executive transmitted to the County Council a revised and updated comprehensive amendment to the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan which sets forth the goals, policies, and plans for the management of solid waste in the County from 2007 through 2016.
5. A public hearing on the revised proposed comprehensive plan amendment was held on February 24, 2009.
6. The Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy and Environment Committee discussed the proposed comprehensive plan amendment on March 9, 2009.
7. The County Council discussed the proposed comprehensive plan amendment on March 17, 2009.

Action

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following resolution:

1. The Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan for the Years 2007 through 2016 is approved as attached.
2. The Director of the Department of Environmental Protection must report to the Council on the following solid waste issues by the reporting deadlines listed below.

Item	Deadline for Submission to Council
Update on the status of the County's television recycling program	Quarterly Updates beginning no later than July 31, 2009
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This is a correct copy of Council action.

Linda M. Lauer
Clerk of the Council

ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY



Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission

14501 Sweitzer Lane • Laurel, Maryland 20707-5902

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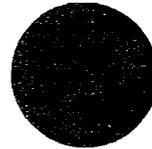
INTERIM
GENERAL MANAGER
Teresa D. Daniell

INTERIM DEPUTY
GENERAL MANAGER
Rudolph S. Chow

040542

February 12, 2009

The Honorable Phil Andrews, President
Montgomery County Council
Stella B. Werner Office Building
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850



Dear Council President Andrews:

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to comment on the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management 10 Year Plan for 2007-2016 for Montgomery County. Attached are our comments for your review. If you should have any further questions, please do not hesitate to call my office at 301-206-8777.

Sincerely,

Teresa D. Daniell
Teresa D. Daniell
Interim General Manager

Attachment

2009 FEB 16 PM 9:25
Teresa D. Daniell
Interim General Manager



WSSC Comments on the Montgomery County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management 10 Year Plan (2007 – 2016)

- Page 1-9 & 10; “In addition, WSSC is responsible for the management of biosolids from wastewater treatment plants in Montgomery County and from the Blue Plains Wastewater Treatment Facility in the District of Columbia”.

WSSC is responsible for biosolids of three of the four wastewater treatment plants in Montgomery County, but not the Poolesville treatment plant. WSSC is responsible for approximately 45% of the Blue Plains Wastewater Treatment Facility biosolids. This is based on WSSC’s allocation of capacity at the Blue Plains Wastewater Treatment Facility. The remainder of biosolids is the responsibility of DC Water and Sewer Authority (WASA).

- Page 1-18, Table 1.2; Summary of Federal Regulations Affecting Solid Waste Management

Part 503: Standards For The Use Or Disposal Of Sewage Sludge should also be added.

- Page 2-2; While not related to WSSC, we believe that the statement “Between 1990 and 2000, minorities accounted for 125 percent of the County’s population growth...” is not clear.

Perhaps the intent of this statement was to indicate that the growth rate of minorities increased 125 percent as compared to the overall growth rate of the county during the 1990-2000 time period.

- Page 3-17, Table 3.7; The preceding paragraph lists the four WWTP facilities located in Montgomery County, however the table indicates that all biosolids are treated at WSSC facilities. WSSC is not responsible for operation of the Poolesville WWTP.
- Editorial, pages 5-44 and 5-45; Section 5.2.2 is repeated on both pages.
- Page 5-45; “Plan of Action: Seneca Wastewater Treatment Plants”. This title should read Plan of Action: Seneca Wastewater Treatment Plant.

2002 was the last full year that the old 5 mgd plant operated.

Seneca plant expansion from 20 mgd to 26 mgd is currently under design.

The sentence “However, the increased efficiency of the sludge dewatering facilities will improve future land application by reducing the number of wet tons of biosolids that will be transported and applied to agricultural land” is somewhat misleading.

Here is a comparison of 2002 and 2008 with the new plant and dewatering facility in operation:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Final Effluent Flow (avg mgd)</u>	<u>Wet Tons Hauled</u>	<u>Percent Solids</u>	<u>Dry Tons Hauled</u>
2002	6.3	11,124	11.9%	1,324
2008	15.2	23,945	26.4 %	6,206

Even though the dewatering efficiency did increase significantly, the large flow increase (plus lime addition) resulted in an overall increase in wet tons hauled.

- Potomac WFP solids are not mentioned in the report. For 2005 – 2007, about 14,000 wet tons per year were hauled from the plant, at ~28% total solids. The solids were hauled by a contractor and used in blended topsoil and mulch products.