

**HAMILTON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
MANAGER'S MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** July 7, 2004  
**TO:** District Policy Committee Members  
**FROM:** Jeffrey W. Aluotto, Solid Waste Manager  
Cory R. Chadwick, Director

**I. Introduction/Opening Comments**

**NOTICE:** This memo is for the meeting to be held on July 15, 2004. This meeting will be held at 2:00 pm at the Hamilton County Department of Environmental Services, 250 William Howard Taft Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45219.

*Policy Committee Information (Agendas, Manager's Memos, Minutes, etc.) now available on the District's Website at [www.hcdoes.org](http://www.hcdoes.org).*

**II. Clerk's Report/Additions to the Agenda**

**A. Approval of Minutes – Minutes from the April 7 and May 13, 2004 Policy Committee meetings are included as Attachment A.**

**B. Additions to the Agenda**

Please contact Susan Schumacher at 513-946-7734 or [susan.schumacher@hamilton-co.org](mailto:susan.schumacher@hamilton-co.org) if you have items to add to the agenda.

**III. District Revenue Updates**

Updates will be provided on current revenue receipts and comparisons with prior years, as included in Attachment B. Also included is a chart detailing out-of-state waste imports into Hamilton County over the past seven years.

**IV. Policy Items**

**A. School Grants**

The District solicited proposals for its school waste reduction and recycling grant program. A list of grant proposals and Staff recommendations are included in Attachment C.

\$10,000 was appropriated for this year's school grant program.

***Staff Recommendation:*** District staff recommends that the Policy Committee approve the school grants as detailed in Attachment C.

**B. Market Development Pre-Proposals**

Market Development Grants are funds provided by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. The District provides no funds for the implementation of these grants. The District's role in the grant process is three-fold: First, the District assists ODNR by marketing and advertising the grant and soliciting eligible companies to apply. Second, the District serves as a conduit for the allocation of the funds to the individual company. Finally, the District is responsible for submitting progress reports to ODNR for each grant.

District Staff submitted three pre-proposals for Market Development Grants to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Pre-Proposals were submitted on behalf of Technology Resource Group, Ampac Plastics, and 3R Recycling. Descriptions of each of these pre-proposals are included in Attachment D.

***Staff Recommendation:** District Staff recommends that the Policy Committee approve the forwarding of Market Development Grant Applications to ODNR for each of the companies listed in Attachment D.*

**C. Project Signs**

Project Signs is an off-shoot of the region's wet weather initiative. The project entails using signs to mark watershed areas as a means of encouraging stewardship and reducing improper activities such as illegal dumping. Funding is currently being sought for implementation of Project Signs. There may be a link between the educational goals of this project and the District's efforts to educate the public on such topics as HHW and illegal dumping.

More information will be provided at the Policy Committee meeting.

**D. Integrated Alternative Waste Management Program (IAWMP) Proposal**

Recently, the District received correspondence from OEPA included as Attachment E. The letter describes an application currently on file with OEPA which entails a request to beneficially reuse lead-contaminated soil for a project at the Camargo Club in Indian Hill. The contaminated soil is to be treated prior to its use in this project.

Because use of this soil still constitutes "disposal" under Ohio EPA rules, the District is being asked to waive its disposal fees on the tonnage of soil used in this project. Past District policy has been to comply with this waiver so long as the Policy Committee receives a sufficient amount of assurance that: 1. This project will not pose a threat to health or the environment, and 2. This project will not negatively affect revenues to a significant degree.

The lost revenue, to the District, associated with this project is approximately \$8,100 based upon information disclosed in the IAWMP Application. District staff have only recently communicated this issue to the Hamilton County General Health District which is currently checking into the matter.

*Staff Recommendation: The revenue implications of this project are minimal. However, District Staff would recommend that a decision to waive District fees be made formal only after the appropriate Health Department has had the opportunity to review the project for public health and environmental considerations.*

#### **E. District Plan Issues**

Attached to this memorandum are several items relating to the District Plan Update.

- Included as Attachment F are the results of the community survey issued as part of the District's Plan Update process. Staff and RW Beck will be working to break this information down further for analysis.
- Included as Attachment G is a list of Issue Papers which RW Beck and District Staff will be constructing – based upon survey results and meetings with District stakeholders.
- Included as Attachment H is a proposed schedule for proceeding with the policy setting aspects of the Plan Update.

There is not a specific policy decision that is required from this item, however, the table will be open for general policy committee comments relating to the direction of the Plan Update.

#### **V. Informational Items**

##### **A. Nu-Blend**

The contract for Nu-Blend's assistance package was on the agenda for the Board of County Commissioner's July 7 meeting. Staff is currently working with Nu-Blend to identify eligible expenses for reimbursement. An update will be provided regarding the status of Nu-Blend at the District Policy Committee meeting.

Also related to Nu-Blend: Included as Attachment I is a letter from Captain James Whalen of the Cincinnati Police Department commending Nu-Blend for their influence in the community. This is provided simply for informational purposes. Nu-Blend will be including this correspondence in upcoming grant opportunities.

##### **B. HHW Pilot Program**

Information will be provided on the District's HHW Pilot Program. As of July 7, 2004, over 1,800 vouchers had been distributed for residents to use the program. During the Policy Committee meeting, further information will be provided on the program.

Toward the end of the program, District staff will be sending out a survey to every resident that has received a voucher through this program in order to judge the effectiveness and convenience of the program.

**C. Community Host Fees**

Township Representative, Bernie Fiedeldey, will be introducing a topic for discussion regarding community host fees. These are the fees which communities hosting solid waste facilities are permitted to charge in order to reimburse their community for the costs associated with having a solid waste facility within its borders.

**D. Annual District Report**

In late May, the District submitted its Annual District Report to Ohio EPA. This report summarizes the status of all of the programs contained in the District's Plan. It also provides the latest recycling and landfill disposal data for the Solid Waste District. A copy of the report is included as Attachment J. As seen from the ADR, a large portion of the District's Residential/Commercial recycling numbers are attributable to yardwaste and wood debris.

As a whole, Residential/Commercial recycling was reported as down slightly from last year's survey, but still relatively consistent with the past two years. Reported industrial recycling, however, was down approximately 70% due to the loss of Cincinnati Machine. Based upon the past two year's industrial disposal, the District should still hit the 50% industrial recycling target.

**VI. Tentative Future Agenda Items**

**VII. Policy Committee Members' Comments**

**VIII. Public Comments**

**IX. Upcoming District Meetings**

The next regularly scheduled Policy Committee meeting will be September 9, 2004 at 2 pm at the Hamilton County Department of Environmental Services.

**X. Adjournment (Target Time: 3:30 pm)**