

**HAMILTON COUNTY SOLID WASTE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Wednesday, July 19, 2023**

**1:30 p.m.**

**AGENDA**

**1. Introduction**

**2. Minutes**

- a. Approval of Minutes – May 1, 2023 – Attachment A

**3. Public Comment (3 minutes)**

**4. R3Source Revenue Updates/Analysis – Attachment B**

**5. Policy Items for Discussion**

- a. 2024 Budget Overview – Attachment C
- b. Biochar Project

**6. Informational Items**

- a. Hamilton County Solid Waste Plan Update Ratification Status
- b. Environmental Enforcement Update – Attachment D
- c. State Bill 119 informational overview

**7. Upcoming R3Source Meeting**

The next scheduled Policy Committee meeting will be a meeting on **Wednesday, September 20, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. at Hamilton County Environmental Services, 250 William Howard Taft, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Cincinnati, Ohio 45219**. Zoom will also be available for persons, other than the Policy Committee, who would like to attend virtually.

**8. Adjournment (Target Time - 3:00 p.m.)**

**HAMILTON COUNTY SOLID WASTE POLICY COMMITTEE  
MANAGER'S MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** July 14, 2023  
**TO:** Hamilton County Solid Waste Policy Committee Members  
**FROM:** Michelle Balz, Solid Waste Manager

**1. Introduction**

**NOTICE:** This memo is for the meeting to be held Wednesday, July 19, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. This meeting will be held in person and available to the public virtually using Zoom.

*Policy Committee information (Agendas, Manager's Memos, Minutes, etc.) is available on R3Source's website at <https://hamiltoncountyr3source.org/AgendaCenter/>.*

**2. Minutes**

**A. Approval of Minutes** – Minutes from the May 1, 2023 Policy Committee meeting are included as Attachment A.

**3. Public Comment**

**4. R3Source Revenue Updates/Analysis**

Updates will be provided on current revenue receipts and comparisons with the prior year, as included as Attachment B.

**5. Policy Items for Discussion**

**A. 2024 Budget Overview**

ReSource staff will provide an overview of the 2024 budget which is based on the new 2024 – 2038 Hamilton County Solid Waste Plan Update. Staff will highlight differences and special programs. Attachment C highlights new or priority items.

**Staff Recommendation:** *Pass a motion supporting allocating \$500,000 for a large 2024 Impact Grant program.*

**B. Cincinnati Parks and Great Parks Biochar Pilot Project**

As one solution for reducing organic waste, Cincinnati and Hamilton County Parks are piloting using wood waste to create biochar. More information can be found on Cincinnati's [website](#).

Sam Dunlap will present a more thorough breakdown of the biochar project.

**6. Informational Items**

**A. Hamilton County Solid Waste Plan Update**

As of July 14, 43 communities representing 94% of the population have ratified the Plan. ReSource is working with the remaining 5 communities. Communities have until August 1, 2023 to vote.

**B. Environmental Enforcement Update**

Corporal Bryan Peak will provide an update on the Environmental Enforcement program for the first half of 2023. Attachment D provides an update on the statistics of the program.

**C. Senate Bill 119 Informational Overview**

Staff will provide a brief overview of Senate Bill 119 that may allow solid waste districts to collect fees on C&DD waste and pass the funds through to health departments.

**7. Upcoming R3Source Meeting**

The next scheduled Policy Committee meeting will be a meeting on **Wednesday, September 20, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. at Hamilton County Environmental Services, 250 William Howard Taft, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Cincinnati, Ohio 45219.**

**8. Adjournment (Target Time: 3:00 p.m.)**

# **Attachment A**

**DRAFT MINUTES OF A HAMILTON COUNTY SOLID WASTE POLICY  
COMMITTEE MEETING  
In person & Zoom**

**DATE:** May 1, 2023

**TIME:** 3:00 pm

**PLACE:** Hamilton County Environmental Services  
250 William Howard Taft Road, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45219

Virtual meeting recording can be viewed here.

**PRESENT:** **Policy Committee Members**

Tony DiPuccio, Generator Representative  
Denise Driehaus, County Commissioner, Chair  
Greg Kesterman, Hamilton County Public Health  
Sue Magness, Largest Municipality Representative  
Colleen McSwiggen, Public Member  
Domonique Peebles, General Interest Member  
Matt Wahlert, Township Representative

**STAFF:**

Christin Badinghaus, Business Specialist, R3Source  
Michelle Balz, Solid Waste Manager, R3Source  
Gage Bradford, Community Specialist R3Source  
Ashley Dove, Financial Analyst, Department of Environmental Services  
Mike Kramer, Assistant Director, Department of Environmental Services  
Brad Johnson, Director, Department of Environmental Services  
Elise Roalef, Outreach Specialist, R3Source

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Nee Fong Chin, Hamilton County Prosecutor  
Becca Costello, WVXU  
Sally Dannemiller, Sierra Club, Miami Group  
Dean Ferrier, Rumpke  
Tim Mara, Oxbow  
Kevin Tighe, Hamilton County  
Marie Kokoshis

**VIRTUAL:**

Sam Dunlap  
Matt Tietsort  
Molly Yeager

Craig Davidson  
Oliver Kroner  
Carrie Davis  
Matt Hittle  
Tom Declan  
John Seymour  
Holly Christmann  
M. Ackenhausen

**1. INTRODUCTION**

Ms. Driehaus called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

**2. MINUTES**

Approval of the minutes from March 15, 2023. Ms. Driehaus entertained a motion to approve the March 15, 2023 minutes. On motion of Ms. Magness, seconded by Ms. McSwiggen the minutes were approved unanimously.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Four public comments were given.

**4. R3SOURCE REVENUE UPDATES/ANALYSIS**

Ms. Balz provided an overview of Attachment B.

**5. POLICY ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

**a. USDA Composting and Food Waste Reduction Cooperative Agreement**

Ms. Balz provided the update. They are working with Cheryl Floyd, Hamilton County Grants Coordinator, to assist in writing the grant. The grant is available for up to \$400,000.00 with a 25% match. Ms. Balz would like to partner with Adams/Clermont Solid Waste District because they applied for this grant last year and were unsuccessful. They are working with three sites- Miami Twp, Lincoln Heights, and Milford. Next step is to go to those communities' elected bodies to get their support before applying. Today, Ms. Balz is requesting support from the Committee to apply for up to the maximum. All Committee Members' questions were answered.

Ms. Driehaus entertained a motion to approve R3Source staff applying for up to a \$400,000 request with a \$100,000 match. On motion of Mr. Wahlert, seconded by Mr. DiPuccio, the agreement was approved unanimously.

**b. Cincinnati Parks and Great Parks Biochar Pilot Project**

Ms. Balz provided update. The parks project received a grant from the Bloomberg Foundation to create biochar. Mr. Sam Dunlap provided some background on the biochar project. The project will take woody waste from the parks department and turn it into biochar and then utilize it for various city projects – tree planting in particular per the 2020 Urban Tree Canopy Assessment.

They just closed on the RFP for the technology portion of the project. The selection for the vendor is tomorrow. Ms. Driehaus would like to have additional discussion at the next meeting regarding the funding/match of the project and if the committee has a role in this. Mr. DiPuccio asked for breakdown of costs to also be included in the next meeting discussion.

**c. Hamilton County Solid Waste Plan Update**

**i. Plan Update Timeline**

There will be a 90-day period for communities to ratify the plan. R3Source will need the Board of County Commissioners' and the City of Cincinnati's approval. They will then send it to EPA for their approval and January 2024 the new plan will start. All of the committee members' questions were answered.

**ii. Changes to the Plan Update**

Att. C– Ms. Balz reviewed the plan changes. Full details are in the meeting packet. All committee members' questions were answered.

**iii. Trustee Wahlert Proposal**

Att. D- Trustee Wahlert proposed an amendment to the Draft Solid Waste Plan that 1) proposed to increase the out-of-district fees by \$0.75 from \$2.00 to \$2.75 and 2) proposes distributing those funds to Hamilton County communities based on population to spend on waste reduction activities. After discussion, Ms. Driehaus would like to revisit the language at a later date. Ms. Driehaus entertained a motion to approve the proposal. On motion of Mr. Wahlert, seconded by Mr. Peebles, the proposal failed due to majority opposition. Ms. Magness abstained. FOR: 2, AGAINST: 4, ABSTAIN: 1

**iv. Plan Update Ratification**

The current timeline includes the Policy Committee initiating ratification on May 1, 2023 to stay on schedule. Ms. Driehaus entertained a motion to approve the Plan Update Ratification. On motion of Mr. Wahlert, seconded by Mr. Kesterman, the Plan Update Ratification was approved unanimously.

**6. Informational Items**

**a. 2020 Innovation Grant Final Report Wrap Up - Att. E**

Overview of the projects funded in 2020 with results from their final wrap up report. Fourteen projects were funded and despite challenges from the pandemic in 2020, most were successful.

**b. Waste Reduction Innovation Grant Selection Summary – Att. F**

City of Reading Outdoor/ Public Space Recycling – Grant and matching funds will be used to purchase outdoor recycling bins and garbage cans for public spaces. Matching funds will also be used for recycling hauling.

**7. UPCOMING MEETING**

The next scheduled Policy Committee Meeting will be on Wednesday, July 19, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. at Hamilton County Environmental Services, 250 William Howard Taft, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Cincinnati, Ohio 45219.

Zoom will be available for people other than the Policy Committee, who would like to attend virtually.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Driehaus entertained a motion to adjourn. On motion of Mr. Kesterman, seconded by Ms. Magness the meeting was adjourned at 4:26 p.m.



# **Attachment B**

## 2022 Tipping Fee Receipts

<b>*Rumpke '22</b>	In District	Out of District	Out of State		Total Tonnage	Total Dollars		Quarterly Tons	Quarterly \$\$
Jan	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	\$0.00			
Feb	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	\$0.00			
Mar	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	\$0.00		0.00	\$0.00
Apr	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	\$0.00			
May	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	\$0.00			
Jun					0.00	\$0.00		0.00	\$0.00
Jul					0.00	\$0.00			
Aug					0.00	\$0.00			
Sep					0.00	\$0.00		0.00	\$0.00
Oct					0.00	\$0.00			
Nov					0.00	\$0.00			
Dec					0.00	\$0.00		0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>*Bond Road Landfill</b>									
<b>Rumpke '22</b>	In District	Out of District	Out of State		Total Tonnage	Total Dollars		Quarterly Tons	Quarterly \$\$
Jan	75,516.50	90,940.91	9,616.28		176,073.69	\$267,014.60			
Feb	70,758.58	84,147.41	10,016.66		164,922.65	\$249,070.06			
Mar	86,351.37	113,479.97	10,995.56		210,826.90	\$324,306.87		551,823.24	\$840,391.53
Apr	79,344.07	111,723.47	9,442.60		200,510.14	\$312,233.61			
May	90,639.79	120,045.36	10,409.13		221,094.28	\$341,139.64			
Jun					0.00	\$0.00		421,604.42	\$653,373.25
Jul					0.00	\$0.00			
Aug					0.00	\$0.00			
Sep					0.00	\$0.00		0.00	\$0.00
Oct					0.00	\$0.00			
Nov					0.00	\$0.00			
Dec					0.00	\$0.00		0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>402,610.31</b>	<b>520,337.12</b>	<b>50,480.23</b>		<b>973,427.66</b>	<b>\$1,493,764.78</b>		<b>973,427.66</b>	<b>\$1,493,764.78</b>
<b>Grand Ttl</b>	<b>402,610.31</b>	<b>520,337.12</b>	<b>50,480.23</b>		<b>973,427.66</b>	<b>\$1,493,764.78</b>		<b>973,427.66</b>	<b>\$1,493,764.78</b>
<i>% of Total</i>	<i>Tier 1</i>	<i>Tier 2</i>	<i>Tier 3</i>						
<i>tonnage</i>	41.36%	53.45%	5.19%						
<i>dollars</i>	26.95%	69.67%	3.38%						

### 2023 Tipping Fee Receipts

<b>*Rumpke '23</b>	In District	Out of District	Out of State		Total Tonnage	Total Dollars		Quarterly Tons	Quarterly \$\$
Jan	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	\$0.00			
Feb	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	\$0.00			
Mar	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	\$0.00		0.00	\$0.00
Apr	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	\$0.00			
May	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	\$0.00			
Jun					0.00	\$0.00		0.00	\$0.00
Jul					0.00	\$0.00			
Aug					0.00	\$0.00			
Sep					0.00	\$0.00		0.00	\$0.00
Oct					0.00	\$0.00			
Nov					0.00	\$0.00			
Dec					0.00	\$0.00		0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>*Bond Road Landfill</b>									
<b>Rumpke '23</b>	In District	Out of District	Out of State		Total Tonnage	Total Dollars		Quarterly Tons	Quarterly \$\$
Jan	78,568.07	99,451.85	9,274.72		187,294.64	\$286,746.49			
Feb	74,984.46	94,574.65	7,971.38		177,530.49	\$272,105.14			
Mar	84,043.56	117,691.85	10,160.64		211,896.05	\$329,587.90		576,721.18	\$888,439.53
Apr	76,040.73	100,311.75	8,629.09		184,981.57	\$285,293.32			
May	86,314.24	117,531.35	10,629.02		214,474.61	\$332,005.96			
Jun					0.00	\$0.00		399,456.18	\$617,299.28
Jul					0.00	\$0.00			
Aug					0.00	\$0.00			
Sep					0.00	\$0.00		0.00	\$0.00
Oct					0.00	\$0.00			
Nov					0.00	\$0.00			
Dec					0.00	\$0.00		0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>399,951.06</b>	<b>529,561.45</b>	<b>46,664.85</b>		<b>976,177.36</b>	<b>\$1,505,738.81</b>		<b>976,177.36</b>	<b>\$1,505,738.81</b>
<b>Grand Ttl</b>	<b>399,951.06</b>	<b>529,561.45</b>	<b>46,664.85</b>		<b>976,177.36</b>	<b>\$1,505,738.81</b>		<b>976,177.36</b>	<b>\$1,505,738.81</b>
<b>% of Total</b>									
<i>tonnage</i>	<i>Tier 1</i>	<i>Tier 2</i>	<i>Tier 3</i>						
	40.97%	54.25%	4.78%						
<i>dollars</i>									
	26.56%	70.34%	3.10%						

# **Attachment C**

## 2024 Budget Highlights

Staff is still working on pulling together the 2024 budget request for the Board of County Commissioners. This request will include all of the new programs in the 2024-2038 Hamilton County Solid Waste Plan Update (Plan). Now is the time for the Policy Committee members to consider other additions, such as the Impact Grant, to include with this request. Here are a few highlights.

**Reducing Wasted Food Outreach and Awareness (\$110,000)**- funds our Wasted Food Stops with Us campaign as well as funding for event presence of reducing wasted food. Staff has found success in arranging for local chefs to present demonstrations of cooking with leftovers and other skills that reduce wasted food.

**Business Outreach and Technical Assistance (\$220,000)**- a new increased funding in line with our Plan. Funds expanded technical assistance and business outreach efforts, waste audits, the 513Green Business certification, a food manufacturing cohort, and the Pollution Prevention internship program. This line item also includes a bolstered public space recycling and multi-family recycling budget of \$20,000 each.

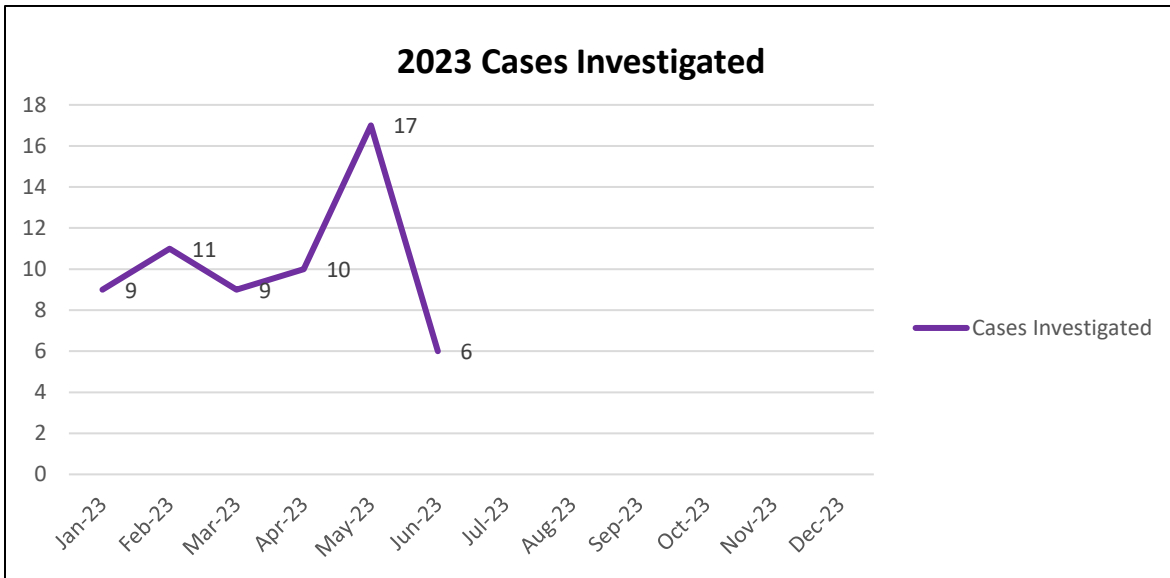
**Community Composting Initiative (\$15,000)**- for the last several years ReSource has budgeted funds to support trainings and resources to bolster small-scale community composting efforts. This initiative has been successful with at least a dozen small-scale composting sites opening up, some connected to small businesses and others to community gardens. In 2024, ReSource will make available scholarships for small-scale community composters to receive training at larger successful composting operations.

**Backyard Composting Awareness (\$20,000)**- ReSource is working on a partnership with Great Parks to host compost bin sales in 2024. This line item also funds the popular backyard composting seminars.

**Consultants to Create Template Language for Communities (\$25,000)**- In line with the Plan, ReSource would put out two RFP's for consultants. The first would be to develop template zoning language for communities that requires new construction be designed with adequate space for waste and recycling containers. The second would develop template language to incorporate community-wide multi-family recycling collection. This language would then be sent to communities who could choose whether or not to adopt the language.

**Impact Grant (\$500,000)**- ReSource would offer a competitive grant with awards between \$15,000 and \$100,000 for impactful projects to reduce waste. ReSource will use grassroots efforts to promote.

# **Attachment D**



**2023 Complaints Received of Illegal Dumping (click for interactive version)**

