



# Environmental Advisory Council Recommendations

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Related to IMMS



# Shift Paradigm from Problem to Opportunity

## Recommendation 1

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- Place emphasis on recycling rather than burying or burning.
- BCC give DPW resources to enhance recycling
- Reuse/recycle as much of the waste stream as possible by recreating as commodities for market

DPW Position - in favor of stronger recycling;  
opposed to excessive source reduction



# Take Charge of the Waste Stream

## Recommendation 2

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- Improves efficiency and reduces emissions
- Options include contracting, franchises or county collection.

DPW Position – BCC needs to make a decision on flow control first; collection method second

# Elevate Recycling as Driving Element of Strategy

## Recommendation 3

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- Increase funding for programs and education
- Enhance reporting systems
- Ban certain items from the waste stream (paper, glass, yard waste)

DPW Position – not opposed to first two; BCC needs to decide about bans, mandatory recycling and enforcement power



# View Public Education/Behavior Modification as Essential to Transition to New Paradigm Recommendation 4

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- This is education beginning with the BCC about the importance of the 3 R's (reduce, reuse, recycle) and the 3 E's (environment, economics, equity)

DPW Position - agree

# BCC not Support WTE

## Recommendation 5

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- Wait at least 5 years and see if anything else worked

DPW position - opposed



# Implement Pay as you Throw

## Recommendation 5

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- Conduct study

DPW position – BCC must first make decisions regarding collection, routes and disposal policies

- Currently a decision for “pay as you throw” can be made by the haulers, not the County

# Create a Countywide Composting Facility

## Recommendation 7

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- Study the possibility of creating such a facility to attain a 50% recycling rate.
- DPW Position – a good option for disposing of the non-residue part of the waste stream
  - We already compost or mulch yard waste at Northern Landfill. We need to study the need for an additional facility.

# Acquire Property for a New Landfill

## Recommendation 8

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- Even with aggressive recycling and composting there is residue.
- The recommendation is:
  - to develop a landfill for the residue
  - and a site for a sorting and composting facility that will be recommended in the Resource Assessment report
- DPW Position – Many policy decisions are due before we look for a new landfill site.
  - Landfilling is generally looked upon as a poor choice and environmental risk
  - Depending on the disposal strategy chosen by the Commissioners, the land need varies between 250 and 600 acres.

# Negotiate Reduced Quantities to Haul Out of State

## Recommendation 9

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- Suggest 10% incremental decrease for 4 years to 60% of current amounts
- DPW Position – if we can get a better rate for less of a guarantee, we should do that as soon as possible



ALSO

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# Hire a firm to conduct a Resource Assessment

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- BCC Approved
- Additional Actions
  - R. Anthony hired to do assessment
  - Final report due January 31,2008

DPW Position – we will review the report and make recommendations regarding an implementation strategy and budget

# Adopt the Cool Counties Climate Stabilization Agreement



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- BCC adopted
- Additional Actions
  - Appoint a committee of EAC and private community to inventory risks and suggest strategies

DPW Position – we agree with the spirit of the document. We note that it is supportive of WTE, as is the US Conference of Mayors resolution (signed by then Mayor O'Malley)