

**DRAFT MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF  
HAMILTON COUNTY RECYCLING AND SOLID WASTE DISTRICT  
POLICY COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** March 16, 2017

**TIME:** 1:30 p.m.

**PLACE:** Hamilton County Department of Environmental Services  
250 William Howard Taft Road - First Floor  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45219

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

Elizabeth Bruggeman, General Interest Member  
Tim Ingram, Hamilton County Public Health Representative  
Jeff Luehrmann, Generator Representative  
Sue Magness, Largest Municipality Representative  
Todd Portune, County Commissioner, Chair  
Larry Riddle, Ex-Officio Member  
Jeff Ritter, Township Representative  
Tom Turchiano, Public Member  
Lilly Witte, Student Representative

**Staff**

Michelle Balz, Assistant Solid Waste Manager  
Holly Christmann, Director  
Ali Khodadad, Operations Manager  
Jenny Lohmann, Program Specialist  
Brad Miller, Assistant Director  
Cher Mohring, Program Specialist  
Susan Schumacher, Assistant Solid Waste Specialist, Clerk

**Others in Attendance**

Chuck DeJonckheere, Hamilton County Public Health  
Katie Evans, Best Way Disposal  
Dean Ferrier, Rumpke  
Greg Kesterman, Hamilton County Public Health  
Ann Witte, Resident

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Portune called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

**2. CLERK'S REPORT**

**A. Approval of Minutes – January 19, 2017 Policy Committee Meeting**

Mr. Portune stated that the January 19 minutes have been circulated previously to members of the Committee and asked if there were any changes or edits. Mr. Portune entertained a motion to approve the January 19, 2017 minutes as drafted. Mr. Ritter moved approval; Mr. Turchiano seconded. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

**B. Additions to the Agenda**

There were no additions to the agenda.

**3. DISTRICT REVENUE UPDATES/ANALYSIS**

Ms. Christmann stated that included in Attachment B was revenue from 2017 comparing 2016 for one month. Revenue is slightly up over this time last year by about \$27,000. Also included in the Attachment was revenue from the entire year of 2016 comparing the entire year of 2015. Revenue was projected at \$2.6 million and this is what revenue came in at for 2016. For 2015, revenue was \$2.1 million.

Mr. Portune asked Mr. Riddle if he was seeing any trends that were not reflected in the report. Mr. Riddle stated that it should stay pretty consistent.

Mr. Ritter stated that since the settlement of the lawsuit, the tonnages are starting to jump again. Mr. Ritter asked Mr. Riddle if projected over a whole year in 2017 versus 2016, what he thought the increase would be. Mr. Riddle stated that it would be the same as it has been in the past few months. Mr. Riddle also briefly spoke of the seasonal tonnage fluctuations.

Mr. Ritter stated that he was seeing rises at the end of 2015 and into 2016. Mr. Riddle stated that the difference is that Rumpke diverted waste out of Rumpke Sanitary Landfill to their Brown County Landfill; this waste was moved back to Rumpke Sanitary Landfill.

Mr. Portune stated that revenue was \$2.1 million in 2015 and \$2.6 million in 2016 and asked if 2016 revenues were representative of what will be seen in 2017. Mr. Riddle stated yes.

Mr. Portune entertained a motion to approve the revenue report. Mr. Ritter moved approval; Ms. Magness seconded. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

**4. HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE**

Ms. Christmann stated that an update has not been given regarding the Rumpke Sanitary Landfill lately so an update will be given today by Chuck DeJonckheere and Brad Miller. This update was actually spurred by an email that was sent to her by Mr. Portune.

Ms. Christmann stated that Mr. DeJonckheere and Mr. Miller are both intimately involved in regulatory oversight of Rumpke Sanitary Landfill. Ms. Christmann stated that this presentation was very similar to the one that was given at the Colerain Township Trustee Meeting on March 14, 2017.

Mr. Ritter stated that at the Tuesday night meeting, one resident requested that the Trustees pass a zero tolerance resolution and asked if he could discuss this after the presentation to see if there is any merit, in the Committees opinion, to move forward with something like this.

Mr. Portune provided background on the County's policy relating to MSD and gave other examples.

The Committee provided feedback to Mr. Ritter but no action was taken.

Mr. Miller and Mr. DeJonckheere gave a presentation on the Rumpke Sanitary Landfill (reaction, Ohio EPA findings and orders, Ohio EPA's violations against Rumpke, Rumpke's actions to address Ohio EPA's orders, etc.) which can be viewed here: <http://bit.ly/2odFtZq>

A question and answer session ensued.

**Policy Committee Meeting**

**March 16, 2017**

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Ms. Christmann thanked Mr. Miller and Mr. DeJonckheere and the teams at both organizations for taking this issue very seriously and have been doing so since 2009. They have been working tirelessly on this issue and they do not get enough credit.

**5. POLICY ITEMS**

**A. Solid Waste Management Plan - Update**

Mr. Portune stated that the Board of County Commissioners have acted on this item. Ms. Christmann stated that Colerain Township also approved the Plan. Ms. Christmann thanked both Mr. Portune and Mr. Ritter for their support.

Ms. Christmann stated that the Plan is out to vote right now and as of today, approval from jurisdictions representing 37% of the population has been received and 60% is required. The District is also required to have the Board of County Commissioners and the City of Cincinnati. Ms. Magness stated that it was in the process.

Ms. Christmann stated that once the District receives approval from the City of Cincinnati, approval will be well above 60% with the District's goal being 100% approval.

Mr. Portune stated to let the Committee know if they could be helpful.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the City of Cincinnati approving the Plan.

**B. National Initiatives Focused on Reducing Wasted Food**

Ms. Christmann stated that at the last meeting, there was great discussion about reducing wasted food so in the interest of keeping members updated, stated that, on a national level, the Food Donation Act of 2017 was introduced by U.S. Representative Fudge, who is from Ohio.

Ms. Christmann stated that this is doing some things to expand the Good Samaritan Act as there are still a lot of businesses that don't understand the donation protections under the Emerson Good Samaritan Act. The Food Donation Act of 2017 will make it easier to donate food.

Ms. Christmann stated that right now, it is referred to the House Education Workforce Committee. There was a similar house resolution in the last session but it did not go anywhere.

Mr. Portune asked if any of Hamilton County's representatives sat on that committee. Ms. Christmann stated she would check.

Mr. Portune stated that this act will save public spending in a variety of different ways. These are the kind of things the Committee might want to get behind in advance. In respect to State and Federal budget, if there are other areas where Ms. Christmann believes efforts of the District might be compromised because of what's proposed; all departments are going to be reached out to by County Administration to contribute to that discussion.

Ms. Christmann stated that on the private sector side, the Grocery Manufacturers Association and the Food Marketing Institute have come together to encourage their members to do better date labeling on their packages. These organizations are encouraging their members to do standardized labeling with two labels only; "best if used or frozen by" and "use by". It is their hope that everyone will be on board by 2018. These organizations claim that this will reduce wasted food by roughly eight percent.

Ms. Christmann stated that if you see any Cincinnati garbage trucks, you will see the District's Save the Food ads on the side of the trucks as billboards. Ms. Christmann thanked Cincinnati Public Services for working with the District on this.

**6. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**A. 2016 Residential Recycling Tonnages**

Ms. Christmann stated that Colerain and Springfield townships had huge increases thanks to their new curbside recycling programs. In 2015, Colerain Township residents recycled 982 tons and in 2016 they recycled 2,400 tons. They also received \$53,000 in recycling incentive funds in 2016 versus \$16,000 in 2015.

Ms. Christmann stated that Colerain Township had great success and congratulated Mr. Ritter.

**B. Program Trends**

Ms. Christmann stated that updated sheets have been provided to the Committee as the original had a typo. Ms. Christmann stated that this showed trends over the past six years which is pretty impressive. Ms. Christmann thanked all of the solid waste team for their efforts.

Mr. Portune stated that these are a very helpful series of visuals that, in a glance, demonstrate what is going on and also stated that he is grateful to Ms. Christmann and the team for putting this together.

**C. 2016 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter and YTD Performance Measures**

The Committee accepted this as presented.

**D. Yard Trimmings Drop Off Sites**

The Committee accepted this as presented.

**7. TENTATIVE FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no future agenda items at this time.

**8. POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS' COMMENTS**

There were no Policy Committee Members' comments at this time.

**9. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments at this time.

**10. UPCOMING DISTRICT MEETINGS**

The next Hamilton County Recycling and Solid Waste Policy Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, May 18, 2017. The meeting will begin at 1:30 p.m. at Hamilton County Department of Environmental Services located at 250 William Howard Taft Road - First Floor, Cincinnati, Ohio 45219.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 2:50 p.m.

### 2017 Tipping Fee Receipts

<b>*Rumpke '17</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			
May					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 '17</b>	In District	Out of District	Out of State		Total Tonnage	Total Dollars		Quarterly Tons	Quarterly \$\$
Jan	65,427.01	69,891.01	7,679.38		142,997.40	\$212,888.41			
Feb	58,561.80	66,241.67	6,521.70		131,325.17	\$197,566.84			
Mar	69,389.43	73,867.67	8,192.84		151,449.94	\$225,317.61		425,772.51	\$635,772.86
Apr					0.00	\$0.00			
May					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>193,378.24</b>	<b>210,000.35</b>	<b>22,393.92</b>		<b>425,772.51</b>	<b>\$635,772.86</b>		<b>425,772.51</b>	<b>\$635,772.86</b>
<b>Grand Ttl</b>	<b>193,378.24</b>	<b>210,000.35</b>	<b>22,393.92</b>		<b>425,772.51</b>	<b>\$635,772.86</b>		<b>425,772.51</b>	<b>\$635,772.86</b>
<b>% of Total</b>									
<i>tonnage</i>	<i>Tier 1</i>	<i>Tier 2</i>	<i>Tier 3</i>						
	45.42%	49.32%	5.26%						
<i>dollars</i>	30.42%	66.06%	3.52%						

### 2016 Tipping Fee Receipts

<b>*Rumpke '16</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			
May					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 '16</b>	In District	Out of District	Out of State		Total Tonnage	Total Dollars		Quarterly Tons	Quarterly \$\$
Jan	55,823.21	61,393.38	7,492.64		124,709.23	\$186,102.61			
Feb	56,501.41	68,252.28	7,677.20		132,430.89	\$200,683.17			
Mar	68,829.99	76,298.40	8,650.71		153,779.10	\$230,077.50		410,919.22	\$616,863.28
Apr					0.00	\$0.00			
May					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>181,154.61</b>	<b>205,944.06</b>	<b>23,820.55</b>		<b>410,919.22</b>	<b>\$616,863.28</b>		<b>410,919.22</b>	<b>\$616,863.28</b>
<b>Grand Ttl</b>	<b>181,154.61</b>	<b>205,944.06</b>	<b>23,820.55</b>		<b>410,919.22</b>	<b>\$616,863.28</b>		<b>410,919.22</b>	<b>\$616,863.28</b>
<b>% of Total</b>									
<i>tonnage</i>	<i>Tier 1</i>	<i>Tier 2</i>	<i>Tier 3</i>						
	44.09%	50.12%	5.80%						
<i>dollars</i>	29.37%	66.77%	3.86%						

## Staff Report – Budget Update

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### Overview

The Hamilton County Recycling and Solid Waste District (District) is funded through a tiered disposal fee. For every ton of waste disposed at a municipal solid waste landfill located in Hamilton County, the District receives \$1/ton for in-District waste, \$2/ton for out-of-District waste, and \$1/ton for out-of-State waste.

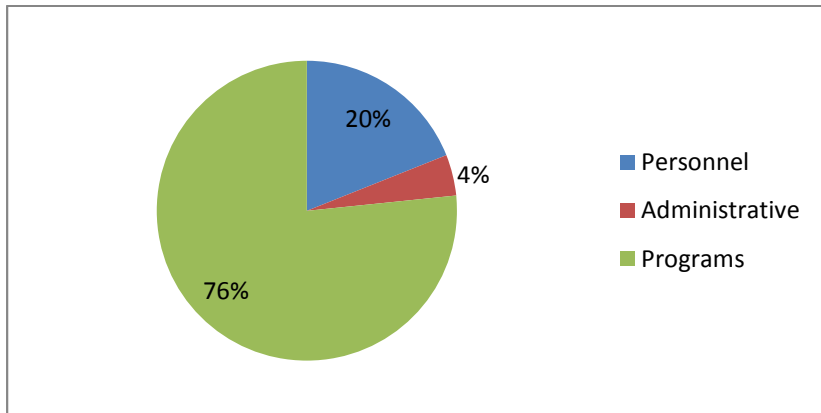
This report provides an update on revenue and expenditure trends and summarizes the new programs and priorities that are included in the Solid Waste Management Plan and will be a part of the 2018 budget.

### Revenue and Expenditure Trend: Expenditure vs. Revenue

Year	Actual Expenditures	Revenue
2010	\$2,616,896	\$2,887,322
2011	\$2,788,700	\$2,728,479
2012	\$2,709,777	\$2,552,518
2013	\$2,485,618	\$2,201,673
2014	\$2,442,823	\$2,110,167
2015	\$2,519,546	\$2,203,890
2016	\$2,327,108	\$2,647,266
2017	\$2,500,000 (projected)	\$2,615,000 (projected)

### Expenditure Breakdown - 2016

In 2016, the majority of District expenditures (76%) were related to programs serving Hamilton County communities, residents, businesses, and schools. Personnel costs accounted for 20% of the budget and administrative expenditures accounted for 4%. The breakdown of personnel and program costs remains fairly constant from year to year.



**Carryover Balance**

The policy on the District’s carryover balance is to maintain funds for at least eight months of operation at all times. Based on a \$2.5 million budget, eight months is equal to \$1.67 million. As of January 2017, the carryover is \$2.48 million. Based on current 2017 revenue and expenditure projections, the carryover balance is projected to be \$2.6 million by January 2018.

**2018 Programs**

The 2018 budget will include changes to several programs as described in the solid waste management plan. The table below outlines these changes and compares the anticipated 2018 budget recommendation to the 2017 budget. All other programs will not see major changes with the exception of three program eliminations: litter collection, priority grant, and household hazardous waste collection. (If 2018 revenue is projected to be \$2.7 million, the District will conduct a one-day household hazardous waste collection event.)

<b>Program</b>	<b>2017 Budget</b>	<b>2018 Anticipated Budget (per Plan)</b>	<b>Explanations</b>
Residential Recycling Incentive Program	\$1,050,000	\$800,000	If revenue is anticipated to be \$2.6 million, the budget will be increased to \$900,000
Target Communities	\$1,000	\$30,000	Technical assistance and outreach provided to lower performing community recycling programs
Business/Institutional Assistance	\$8,000	\$48,000	Increased funding will allow for the marketing of program and resources to reduce barriers to waste reduction and recycling
Residential Recycling Awareness	\$14,000	\$100,000	Advertising to increase residential waste diversion
Wasted Food	\$0	\$85,000	Specific program will be developed over the next few months
Illegal dumping enforcement	\$0	\$100,000	Contract with Hamilton County Sheriff for a deputy to investigate illegal dumping, with a primary focus on tires



**2017 Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District – 1st Quarter Results  
(January 1 - March 31)**

Program	Performance Measure	1st Quarter Results	Year to Date Results
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**Direct Service Programs**

Yard Trimmings Drop-off	Drop-off visits	24,000	Drop-off visits	246	Drop-off visits	246
	Tons diverted from landfill	2,600	Tons diverted from landfill	10	Tons diverted from landfill	10
Tire Clean-ups (KCB and OEPA grants)	Tires collected	7,000	Tires collected	57	Tires collected	57
	Participating communities	15	Participating communities	1	Participating communities	1
Public Recycling	Events using District containers	110	Events using District containers	10	Events using District containers	10
	Residents reached	100,000	Residents reached	2,800	Residents reached	2,800
Litter Collection	Tons of litter collected	100	Tons of litter collected	33	Tons of litter collected	33

**Grant Programs**

Residential Recycling Incentive	Provide funding to communities based on tons recycled.		756 ton increase between 1st and 2nd period 2016	n/a	n/a	
District Priority Grant	Tons diverted for 2017 grants		Tons diverted for 2017 grants	n/a	Tons diverted for 2017 grants	n/a
	Number of residents reached	250,000	Number of residents reached	n/a	Number of residents reached	n/a
Market Development Grants	Tons of manufacturing capacity added		Tons of manufacturing capacity added		Tons of manufacturing capacity added	0
	Grants submitted	2	Grants submitted	1	Grants submitted	1
Community Development Grant	Grants submitted and completed	2	Grants submitted and completed	2	Grants submitted and completed	2

**Technical Assistance**

Pollution Prevention Internships	Participating firms/students	2	Participating firms/students	1	Participating firms/students	1
	Tons of waste diverted		Tons of waste diverted	n/a	Tons of waste diverted	n/a
	Projected cost savings		Projected cost savings	n/a	Projected cost savings	n/a
The Interchange	Inquiries and new listings	30	Inquiries and new listings	4	Inquiries and new listings	4
	Visits to catalog pages	500	Visits to catalog pages	151	Visits to catalog pages	151
	Tons diverted		Tons diverted	0	Tons diverted	0
General Technical Assistance	Website inquiries	175	Website inquiries	44	Website inquiries	44
	Hotline calls received	4,500	Hotline calls received	1,124	Hotline calls received	1,124

**2017 Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District – 1st Quarter Results  
(January 1 - March 31)**

Program	Performance Measure	1st Quarter Results	Year to Date Results
Multi-family Assistance	New recycling programs 4	New recycling programs 2	New recycling programs 2
	Residents reached	Residents reached 235	Residents reached 235
	Tons of estimated diversion	Tons of estimated diversion 17	Tons of estimated diversion 17
Recycling Assistance Program (Schools)	Schools implementing new or expanded programs 20	Schools implementing new or expanded programs 2	Schools implementing new or expanded programs 2
	Students and staff reached through new and expanded programs	Students and staff reached through new and expanded programs 705	Students and staff reached through new and expanded programs 705
	Ongoing assistance to established programs 30	Ongoing assistance to established programs 4	Ongoing assistance to established programs 4
Recycling At Work	Facilities initiating recycling 60	Facilities initiating recycling 8	Facilities initiating recycling 8
	Employees	Employees 2,222	Employees 2,222
Bar/Restaurant Recycling	Businesses starting and expanding recycling 10	Businesses starting and expanding recycling 3	Businesses starting and expanding recycling 3

**Outreach/Awareness**

General Public Outreach and Marketing	Residential tons recycled increase	Residential tons recycled increase 756	Residential tons recycled increase 756
	Unique visitors to website 125,000	Unique visitors to website 22,680	Unique visitors to website 22,680
	Facebook followers 1,680	Facebook followers 1,497	Facebook followers 1,497
	Twitter followers 2,074	Twitter followers 1,865	Twitter followers 1,865
	Instagram followers N/A	Instagram followers 88	Instagram followers 88
	LinkedIn followers 100	LinkedIn followers 95	LinkedIn followers 95
	Compost blog page views 95,000	Compost blog page views 18,803	Compost blog page views 18,803
	Media clips 100	Media clips 55	Media clips 55
Household Hazardous Waste	Residents opening email 7,000	Residents opening email n/a	Residents opening email n/a
	Webpage unique pageviews 15,000	Webpage unique pageviews 686	Webpage unique pageviews 686
Electronics	Residents opening email 3,000	Residents opening email n/a	Residents opening email n/a
	Webpage unique pageviews 1,500	Webpage unique pageviews 3,252	Webpage unique pageviews 3,252

**2017 Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District – 1st Quarter Results  
(January 1 - March 31)**

<b>Program</b>	<b>Performance Measure</b>	<b>1st Quarter Results</b>	<b>Year to Date Results</b>
Public Events	Residents reached 500	Residents reached 320	Residents reached 320
	Events attended 6	Events attended 2	Events attended 2
General Presentations	Number of presentations 12	Number of presentations 8	Number of presentations 8
Target Communities	Target communities assisted 2	0	0
School Based Programs	Assemblies and classroom programs 100	Assemblies and classroom programs 39	Assemblies and classroom programs 39
	Field trips 20	Field trips 2	Field trips 2
	Special events 3	Special Events 0	Special Events 0
	Students and adults reached 8,000	Students and adults reached 1,182	Students and adults reached 1,182
Composting Workshops	Residents reached 240	Residents reached 13	Residents reached 13
	Workshops 4	Workshops 1	Workshops 1
Annual Awards Program	Participants 75	Participants n/a	Participants n/a
Information Emails	Residents opening email 9,000	Residents opening email 7,919	Residents opening email 7,919

**Data Management/Reporting**

OEPA Annual District Report	Submit complete report to OEPA on-time	n/a	n/a
	Response rate for commercial and industrial recycling survey	Response rate for commercial and industrial recycling survey n/a	Response rate for commercial and industrial recycling survey n/a

**Planning**

Solid Waste Plan Update	Complete tasks according to timeline.	Draft approved by Policy Committee, 90 day voting by communities began on February 4	Draft approved by Policy Committee, 90 day voting by communities began on February 4
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**Publications**

WasteLine newsletter	Government officials reached 800	Government officials reached n/a	Government officials reached n/a
Education newsletter	Teachers reached 500	Teachers reached 719	Teachers reached 719
The Interchange newsletter	Subscribers reached 500	Subscribers reached 229	Subscribers reached 229

**2017 Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District – 1st Quarter Results  
(January 1 - March 31)**

Program	Performance Measure	1st Quarter Results	Year to Date Results
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**Leadership**

Regional solid waste meetings	Meetings organized and attended 2	Meetings organized and attended 0	Meetings organized and attended 0
Green Umbrella	Participate in appropriate GU action teams		In progress 0