

**HAMILTON COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES - RECYCLING AND SOLID WASTE DISTRICT
MANAGER'S MEMORANDUM**

DATE: July 13, 2018
TO: District Policy Committee Members
FROM: Holly Christmann, Director

I. Introduction/Opening Comments

NOTICE: This memo is for the meeting to be held **Thursday, July 19, 2018** at Hamilton County Environmental Services, 250 William Howard Taft Road, 1st Floor, Cincinnati, Ohio 45219 at 1:30 p.m.

Policy Committee Information (Agendas, Manager's Memos, Minutes, etc.) is available on the District's website at www.hamiltoncountyclecycling.org.

II. Clerk's Report/Additions to the Agenda

- A. Approval of Minutes** – Minutes from the May 17 Policy Committee meeting are included as [Attachment A](#).
- B. Additions to the Agenda**
Please contact Susan Schumacher at 513-946-7734 or susan.schumacher@hamilton-co.org if you have items to add to the agenda.

III. District Revenue Updates/Analysis

Updates will be provided on current revenue receipts and comparisons with the prior year, as included in [Attachment B](#).

IV. Policy Items

A. 2019 Budget Recommendation

In early July, staff provided the Policy Committee with information on the District's proposed 2019 budget. A copy of the budget information is included as [Attachment C](#). The total budget request for 2019 is \$2,991,855. The District projects \$3 million in revenue.

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the 2019 budget as presented.

B. Food Waste Prevention Initiative

In the Solid Waste Management Plan, the District identified organics as its priority waste stream. As such, the District has \$85,000 in the 2018 budget for programs aimed at reducing food waste and yard trimmings. To date in 2018, funds have been spent on the residential sector and have included a wasted food reduction awareness campaign and a residential food waste challenge. The 2018 budget, and the recommended 2019 budget, includes funding for a new program aimed at the commercial sector.

Smart Kitchen Initiative

The District will collaborate with Green Umbrella on preventing food waste in large food service operations such as hospitals and colleges/universities. Through this program, the District will fund up to 50 percent of the cost of Lean Path for one year. Lean Path is an automated food waste prevention system

that helps track and measure pre-consumer food waste so kitchens can identify opportunities to minimize and prevent wasted food. This program will be available throughout the Green Umbrella region; however, the District will only fund projects in Hamilton County with Green Umbrella funding projects outside of Hamilton County. This program is modeled after Alameda County and will be one of only a few programs of its kind outside of California. One food service operation in Alameda County reduced food waste by 19 percent.

Applications for this program will be available in early August. The District anticipates funding a maximum of three programs in 2018 and 2019 that equates to no more than \$15,000 per year.

Staff Recommendation: *Staff recommends approval of the Smart Kitchen Initiative.*

C. General Interest Representative Recommendation

The Policy Committee solicited applications for the General Interest Representative. The District is prepared to recommend that Karen Hurley be appointed to serve in this role. Only the four statutory members are eligible to vote (County Commissioner, Health Commissioner, Township Trustee, and Cincinnati).

Staff Recommendation: *Staff recommends approving Karen Hurley to serve as the General Interest Representative and forward the recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners.*

D. Student Representative

The student representative is a one-year, non-voting position. This position was developed as a means of gaining new perspectives and ideas on recycling and waste diversion. Benefits to the student include: opportunities to create change at the local level; hands-on experience in developing policy and programs; direct experience in understanding how local government operates; opportunities to hone leadership and public speaking skills.

The District recommends that Sydney Sauer be appointed to serve in this role.

Staff Recommendation: *Staff recommends approving Sydney Sauer to serve as the Student Representative and forward the recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners.*

V. Informational Items

A. Annual District Report

Each year, Ohio solid waste management districts are required to submit an annual report to Ohio EPA detailing the amount of material diverted from landfills. This report also provides an update on the implementation of the solid waste management plan. The Ohio EPA is currently reviewing the annual report and typically provides comments by the fall. Staff will provide a summary of the report. [Attachment D](#) contains a summary of the programs offered in 2017.

B. Community Recycling Meeting

The District is conducting a community recycling meeting at Rumpke's material recovery facility on July 18. The goal of the meeting is to update communities on China's policies regarding recyclables and how communities can help. As a refresher:

- On July 18, 2017, China notified the World Trade Association of its intent to ban 24 materials from being imported, including post-consumer plastic and mixed paper effective January 1, 2018.
- On November 15, 2017, China announced a new quality standard for material limiting contamination to 0.5 percent. This requirement applies to all paper and paperboard materials, even those that are not banned (such as newspaper and cardboard) effective March 1, 2018.

The result of this action by China has been a plummeting of commodity prices and a strong effort by recycling processors to reduce contamination (more education, slowing processing lines, adding employees to pull out contaminants, etc.).

C. Village of Silverton Curbside Recycling

The District worked with Village of Silverton started a contracted curbside recycling program on July 2. This means that every household that receives waste collection will now have every-other-week recycling.

D. Ohio EPA Grants Approval

In January, the District applied for Ohio EPA Market Development Grants on behalf of two companies – Mad Tree Brewing and Tri State E-Scrap in the amounts of \$6,172 and \$189,513, respectively. Both grants were approved by Ohio EPA. MadTree Brewing will purchase a cardboard baler to more efficiently capture and recycle their corrugated cardboard. Tri State E-Scrap will purchase equipment to process and recycle #2 copper wire.

VI. Tentative Future Agenda Items

VII. Policy Committee Members' Comments

VIII. Public Comments

IX. Upcoming District Meetings

The next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, September 20, 2018**. This meeting will be held at Hamilton County Environmental Services, 250 William Howard Taft Road, 1st Floor, Cincinnati, Ohio 45219 at 1:30 p.m.

X. Adjournment (Target Time: 3:00 p.m.)