

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

DATE: January 16, 2020
TO: District Policy Committee Members
FROM: Michelle Balz, Solid Waste Manager

1. Introduction/Opening Comments

NOTICE: This memo is for the meeting to be held Thursday, January 16, 2020 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.

2. Clerk's Report/Additions to the Agenda

- A. Approval of Minutes** – Minutes from the November 21, 2019 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.

3. District Revenue Updates/Analysis

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

4. Policy Items

A. Ohio EPA Market Development Grant Applications

Each year, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency solicits applications for the Market Development and Community Development grants. The Market Development program offers grant funds to Ohio businesses that propose to create the infrastructure necessary for successful markets of recyclable materials and related products. Interested businesses must apply through a municipality, township, village, solid waste district, or university. The District recently solicited market development grant proposals from industry within Hamilton County to submit to the Ohio EPA. Two business submitted applications to the District – Boston Beer (Sam Adams) and Synthica Energy. No District funds are used for these projects.

Sam Adams Cincinnati Brewery is asking for assistance in purchasing an aluminum can crusher and a baler. They plan to incorporate canning as part of their production line. This new production will bring 20 full time jobs to the county at start up. The total project will cost \$201,578 and they are requesting a \$100,789 grant and providing just over a 100% match. They estimate to divert 1,080 tons of aluminum cans per year.

Synthica Energy LLC hopes to receive grant money to purchase a machine that will de-package food products in order to make the organics ready to be processed via anaerobic digestion. The depackaging machine will also make it feasible for Synthica to recycle packaging such as paperboard and plastic. The

total project cost is \$400,000; Synthica is requesting a \$200,000 grant and providing a 100% match. Synthica is in the process of obtaining permits to start construction of an anaerobic digestion facility in St. Bernard in 2021. This depackaging unit would be housed at that facility.

Staff Recommendation: *District Staff recommends that the Policy Committee approve the forwarding of these grant applications to Ohio EPA for consideration.*

5. Informational Items

A. 2018 Diversion Rate

Hamilton County achieved a 51.29% overall diversion rate in 2018, up from 48.77% in 2017. That comprises a 34.27% residential commercial rate and a 71.38% industrial rate, exceeding the state goals of 25% and 66% respectively. Rates of the other large Ohio counties are: Cuyahoga 49.05%, Franklin 49.72%, and Montgomery 45.88%.

B. 2020 Workplan

[Attachment C](#) outlines the draft District Workplan for 2020.

C. Household Hazardous Waste Program Update

The District will soon put out a Request for Proposals for a one-day household hazardous waste event in 2020.

D. Anaerobic Digestion Working Group Update

The next Anaerobic Digestion (AD) Working Group is scheduled for January 21, 2020.

E. Environmental Enforcement Program Update

The District funds an Environmental Enforcement Deputy position to enforce illegal dumping and tire transport laws in Hamilton County. [Attachment D](#) shows activity of the deputy through December 31, 2019. Staff will provide an update on progress with the program.

6. Tentative Future Agenda Items

7. Policy Committee Members' Comments

8. Public Comments

9. Upcoming District Meetings

The next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, March 19, 2020**. 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.

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