

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

DATE: March 13, 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, March 18, 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.hamiltoncountyrecycles.org.

2. Chair and Vice Chair of the Policy Committee

With the change in our representative from the Hamilton County Commissioners and the retirement of Health Commissioner Tim Ingram, Policy Committee members must nominate and vote on a new Chair and Vice Chair of the committee.

3. Clerk's Report/Additions to the Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes – Minutes from the January 16, 2020 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.

4. District Revenue Updates/Analysis

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

5. Policy Items

A. Carryover Balance

At the January 2020 meeting, the Policy Committee instructed staff to develop ideas for funding additional initiatives and programs from the carryover balance. As a reminder, the current carryover balance is about \$4.1 million and we are required to keep 8 months operating expenses, which is close to \$2.2 million. [Attachment C](#) is an overview of staff recommendations.

Staff Recommendation: *District Staff recommends that Policy Committee approve funding for additional expenses of the carryover balance.*

B. Cincinnati Contamination Project- Round 2

In 2019, the District partnered with the City of Cincinnati, Ohio EPA, and the Recycling Partnership to conduct outreach to 27,628 households in the City of Cincinnati. A second round of this project would involve evaluating if the behavior change from the first round is still present six to eight months after the

end of the project and measuring the effectiveness of auditing fewer weeks. This project would require no matching funds from the District. The total grant request is \$52,932.

Staff Recommendation: *District Staff recommends that the District continues the partnership and applies for a grant to conduct a second round of contamination outreach in the City of Cincinnati in 2020.*

6. Informational Items

A. Effect of COVID-19 on Programming

The District has rescheduled all in person programming to large groups for the next month including the Get the Dirt on Backyard Composting seminars and the Compost Bin Sale.

B. 2019 Residential Recycling Campaigns

In 2019, the District conducted two different campaigns to reduce contamination in residential curbside recycling. The first was a project with Ohio EPA, the Recycling Partnership, and Cincinnati to audit and tag recycling carts with contamination. The second was a campaign targeting 19 communities outside the City of Cincinnati with a direct mailer and digital advertising also focused on reducing contamination. Staff will give a presentation on both campaigns and compare the results.

C. Beyond 34 Initiative

Beyond 34 hosted a virtual meeting on March 9 to discuss ten proposed strategies for increasing local landfill diversion. Bob Gedert will give an update on the initiative.

D. Program Trends

[Attachment D](#) outlines a five-year trend (2015-2019) for a selection of the District's programs and a waste reduction rate comparison of large urban counties in Ohio.

E. Fourth Quarter Performance Measures

[Attachment E](#) provides the results of the District's programs through the fourth quarter of 2019.

F. Environmental Enforcement Program Update

The District funds an Environmental Enforcement Deputy position to enforce illegal dumping and tire transport laws in Hamilton County. [Attachment F](#) shows activity of the deputy through February 2020.

7. Tentative Future Agenda Items

8. Policy Committee Members' Comments

9. Public Comments

10. Upcoming District Meetings

The next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, May 20, 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.

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