

#### **City of Milwaukee**

#### Meeting Minutes RECYCLING TASK FORCE

PRESTON COLE, CHAIR

Ald. Joe Dudzik, Michael J. Daun, Lisa Schaal, and Erick Shambarger

Staff Assistant, Terry MacDonald

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Monday, July 27, 2009	1:30 PM	Room 301-A, City Hall

Meeting convened: 1:32 P.M.

1. Roll call

Present 5 - Cole, Daun, Dudzik, Shambarger and Schaal

Also present: James Carroll, Legislative Reference Bureau, Jim Michalski, Comptroller's Auditing Division, Wanda Booker, Dept. of Public Works and Rick Meyers, Dept. of Public Works

#### 2. Approval of the minutes of the June 8, 2009 meeting

Ald. Dudzik moved approval of the minutes, Mr. Daun seconded. There were no objections.

#### 3. Presentation give by Mr. Perry Lindquist, Waukesha, County, Dept. of Parks and Land Use relating to a Waukesha County Recycling System Study

*Mr.* Cole introduced *Mr.* Perry Lindquist, Land Resources Manager with Waukesha County.

*Mr.* Lindquist gave a PowerPoint presentation titled: Waukesha County Recycling, Looking Ahead (Exhibit 1). The presentation consisted of Background on Waukesha County's recycling program; Waukesha County's MRF - Options for the future (2007 study findings/recommendations) and on the similarities between Waukesha County and the City of Milwaukee's recycling programs.

*Mr.* Daun asked what *Mr.* Lindquist thinks the timeframe would be to design a recycling facility?

*Mr.* Lindquist replied that realistically it could take until the year 2012 to get something up and running.

*Mr.* Shambarger asked how did *Mr.* Lindquist decide on the Wauwatosa site as a potential site for the consolidation?

*Mr.* Lindquist replied that the Wauwatosa site that is available seems like a good site because it was conveniently located, but once the study takes place the researchers may find another site that may work better.

Mr. Daun asked if Mr. Lindquist has an idea what the cost of the study would be?

Mr. Lindquist replied in the negative.

*Mr.* Shambarger asked *Mr.* Lindquist if he knows what the distances are from the Waukesha's current site to the site located in Wauwatosa and to the Germantown facility?

Mr. Lindquist replied in the negative.

*Mr.* Cole asked *Mr.* Lindquist what are the problems that Waukesha has with hauling to a privately run recycling facility?

*Mr.* Lindquist replied that the cost for Waukesha to a haul to a private facility would be high. He said if a partnership doesn't happen between Waukesha, Milwaukee, etc. Waukesha would probably have to go with hauling to a private recycling facility.

*Mr.* Meyers appeared and asked *Mr.* Lindquist if the existing Waukesha recycling facility would become a transport facility?

*Mr.* Cole thanked *Mr.* Lindquist for coming and said that it isn't in the purview of this task force to approve entering into a partnership contract. He said it may be a recommendation by this task force to the City of Milwaukee Common Council.

#### Roll call taken at 2:45 P.M.

Present 4 - Cole, Daun, Shambarger and Schaal

Excused 1 - Dudzik

#### 4. Discussion relating to the Milwaukee and Waste Management Regional Recycling facilities

*Mr.* Cole asked the task force members if there are any questions or comments regarding the recycling facilities tours.

There were none.

#### 5. Discussion relating to the scope of work for the consultant study on a single stream recycling operation vs. dual system recycling operation

*Mr.* Cole called *Mr.* Donald *F.* Pirrung, P.E., Senior Engineer and Consultant for Earth Tech/AECOM to come to the table to give an overview of the scope work for a recycling study.

*Mr. Pirrung handed out an overview of the scope of work that he prepared for a City of Milwaukee Recycling Facility Study (Exhibit 2).* 

*Mr.* Pirrung explained each of the following recycling alternatives: A. Evaluate Dual Stream Recycling at City's Milwaukee Recycling Facility (MRF); B. Evaluate Single Stream Recycling at the City's MRF; C. Evaluate Two City Transfer Stations with direct hauling to Germantown and No City-owned processing facility and D. Evaluation regional MRF in Wauwatosa to Serve Waukesha County, City of Wauwatosa and City of Milwaukee.

*Mr. Pirrung said the study would also review the impacts that implementing the measures to reduce landfill tonnage will have on a residential recycling program.* 

And, lastly, Mr. Pirung explained the time schedule of a study.

*Mr.* Cole said that if there is no substantive changes or objections, he and the Comptroller's Office will pursue entering into a service order agreement with Earth Tech/AECOM to begin doing a City of Milwaukee Recycling Facility Study. There were no changes offered. There were no objections by task force members.

Meeting adjourned: 2:51 P.M.

Terry J. MacDonald Staff Assistant

### Waukesha County Recycling



Perry Lindquist, Land Resources Manager Waukesha County Dept. of Parks & Land Use



July 27, 2009 Milwaukee Recycling Task Force



### **Presentation Outline**

- Background on county recycling program
- County MRF Options for the future – 2007 study <u>findings/recommendations</u>
- Similarities to City of Milwaukee
  - How can we work together/next steps

# **Background on County Program**

- Waukesha County is "Responsible Unit" for 25 communities (since 1990)
  - Pool state grants (\$1 million/yr)
  - Coordinate education program
  - Pay for blue recycle bins
  - MRF investment/risk, oversight, maintenance
- County-owned/privately operated MRF
  - Dual-stream system (paper & containers separate)
  - Average 23,000 tons/year of recyclables
  - Last expansion in 1995

### Participating Municipalities



# Background on County Program (continued)

- 25 Participating Communities must:
  - Collect dual stream recyclables
    - 88,000 households (pop. 270,000)
    - \$12 million/yr. in private contracts (\$3.5 mil. recycle)
  - Deliver recyclables to county MRF
  - Report program costs to county/annual grants

#### Total Revenue Per Ton Shipped Waukesha Co. MRF 1991-2008



Year

# County MRF: "Enterprise Fund"

- Self-sustaining no tax levy or processing fees to communities (up front County loan paid off)
- Revenues: material sales (50%), state grants & operator processing fees (up to \$6.50/ton)
- <u>Current fund balance = \$11 million</u>:
  - Good markets and competitive operating contracts
  - Distributions to communities of \$6.2 million in the last 9 years + \$1 million for 2010 (proposed)
  - 2012 Projected Fund Balance: \$11-13 million
    - Assume continued state grants of \$1 million/yr., material sales of \$700K./yr. and community dividends of \$1 million/yr.
  - Use to pay for future MRF investments



# 2007 Study

### Waukesha County Recycling System

Prepared by:

**RRT Design & Construction** 





GERSHMAN, BRICKNER & BRATTON, INC.

September, 2007

# Study: Existing Dual Stream MRF Capacity

- Can handle future dual stream program for the <u>short term</u>
- However, some major issues need to be addressed:
  - Sort line
  - Tipping floor
  - Bale storage



### Plastic Containers Overwhelming Sort System



# **Tipping Floor Space is Limited**



### **Bale Storage is Inadequate**



# Study: Existing Dual Stream MRF Capacity (cont.)

- Must expand MRF or build new in future
- <u>Cannot</u> expand MRF on current 2-acre site, because...





### **Possible MRF Expansion**

- If 1 acre site to the north purchased, limited expansion is possible
  - Tipping/storage areas/new equipment
  - Could also convert to single stream
- Industry trends & community pressures to switch to Single Stream will influence future decisions

#### **Concept Drawing – North Expansion**

(single or dual stream)



### Possible MRF Expansion (cont.)

- Estimated costs:
  - Dual stream: \$6.5 million + property/business
  - Single stream: \$7.0 million + property/business
- However, the expanded site could <u>not</u> handle a very large increase in tonnage

## Recyclables Collection Dual Stream vs. Single Stream



#### Existing program (blue bin)

(manual/paper & containers separated)

#### Industry trend (cart)

(automated/all recyclables mixed)

### SS Pros (Collection) vs. Cons (MRF Impacts)

Single Stream Collection Cost Savings

Single Stream MRF Impacts

### **Collection Trends/Pressures**

- Private haulers are pushing for Single Stream collection to save money
  - Trend is playing out nationwide
    - >100 SS MRFs (25% in 2008)
  - Locally, only 1 of 3 private haulers (Veolia) still offers dual stream collection
    - Waste Mgt. and Johns already switched to SS
    - 3 participating communities without hauling contracts already switched to SS (problem)
- More communities want to switch to SS

### **Scenarios for Future Projections:**

### • Tonnage

- Participating county municipalities (25)
- Adding non-participating communities (12)
- Adding Milwaukee & Wauwatosa
- Single vs. Dual Stream



### Annual Tons Recycled (52,000 Tons)\*



\*Rounded from 2008 data (no other communities included with City of Milwaukee data)

### Key Study Findings & Recommendations

- 1. Switching to Single Stream is <u>strongly</u> recommended
  - Pros far outweigh the cons
  - Could save partic. communities >\$700,000/year in collection & disposal costs
    - 10% or \$12.36/HH/Year savings (minus cart \$)
  - Needs all new MRF equipment/more space
- Recycling tons increase considerably with a Single Stream system – assumed + 25%
  - In-county data shows 45% increase/capita

# Key Study Findings & Recommendations (continued)

- 3. Doubling tonnage greatly improves the economics of a Single Stream MRF
  - 2 shifts = much faster return on investment
  - New site needed to double tonnage
- 4. National MRF data shows:
  - SS paper/fiber is equally marketable
  - Increased residue from SS depends on public education (projected increase from 3% to 10%)

### Single Stream Options (2007 Costs & 2010 Projected Tonnage)

#### 1. Expand/Convert Current MRF:

- Participating Municipalities only (30,565 tons)
- Acquire/relocate Lithoprint
- Estimated bldg. costs = **\$7** million + Lithoprint costs
- Projected annual net revenues = <u>\$0.12 million</u>
- 2. Build New Regional MRF (publiclyowned/privately operated):
  - Add tonnage for <u>2 shifts</u> (76,066 tons NP/Tosa/Milw)
  - Estimated building costs = **\$8.25** million + land
  - Projected annual net revenues = <u>\$1.7 million</u>
- 3. Send recyclables to privately-owned MRF
  - Costs unknown (RFP process)

### **County Response to Private MRF Option**

- Existing County MRF is already privatized
  - Public ownership of the facility (40% nationally)
  - Private operation & marketing/good competition
- Public/private partnership has been very successful
- Privately-owned MRF does not ensure longterm competition/price stability for communities
- Having a publicly-owned/privately operated MRF in SE helps keep costs down for <u>all</u> communities

### **Possible Regional MRF Location**



### Single Stream Economic Summary

(Revenues & expenses to be prorated to participating communities)

- Projected 2010 NET revenues from a Regional Single Stream MRF are <u>14.5 times larger</u> than converting county MRF to single stream
  - \$1.7 million (regional/76,066 T) vs. \$0.12 million (county/30,565 T)
  - 6 times larger for Waukesha Co./Milwaukee (44%)
- Payoff of capital costs (\$8.25 million) for a new Regional Single Stream MRF = <u>5 years</u>
- Payoff of capital costs (\$7 million) for converting county MRF to single stream = <u>58+ years</u>

### Summary Look at the SS System

 <u>Collection</u>: Savings in collection costs and landfill disposal costs (reduced trash)
 \$700,000 per year for partic. municipalities

- <u>MRF</u>: It's all about the tons!
  - 2.5 times tonnage = 10 times faster return on investment

### <u>Similarities</u>: Waukesha Co. & City of Milwaukee

- Publicly-owned dual stream MRFs
- Tonnage processed (23,000/yr.)
- Aging facilities facing costly updates
- Pressures to improve program efficiencies
- Pressures to switch to Single Stream:
  - Reduce collection & landfill disposal costs
  - + Increase recycling rate
- Concerns about future price stability
- 14-year history of coordinating education efforts

Why Work Together? (Regional Single Stream MRF)

- 1. Lower costs/ton capital and O & M
- 2. Better return on investments/reduced risk
- 3. Long-term price stability
- 4. Good example of regional cooperation
- Both MRFs already publicly-owned and privately operated
  - no threat to private sector



### Next Steps, Issues & Timelines

- Commit to joint study (ASAP):
  - Milwaukee, Waukesha Co. & Wauwatosa
- Establish scope of study/write RFP (fall 2009):
  - Refine & update economic analysis
  - I.D. financial options (sharing costs & revenues)
  - Technical investigation of Tosa site
  - Transportation issues
  - Concept plan/budget
  - Institutional options (ownership, contracting, etc.)
  - Collection or other issues?
- Release RFP & hire consultant early 2010
- Complete study by end of 2010

# **Questions**?

Perry Lindquist, Land Resources Manager Waukesha County - Dept. of Parks and Land Use Room 260 Administration Center 515 W. Moreland Blvd., Waukesha WI 53188 <u>plindquist@waukeshacounty.gov</u>

262-548-7867

### SS Pros (Collection) vs. Cons (MRF Impacts)

Single Stream Collection Cost Savings	Single Stream MRF Impacts
<ul> <li>Automation decreases personnel costs (workers comp claims, etc.)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Increases MRF labor and capital costs</li> </ul>
Large cart allows Every Other Week collection of recyclables	<ul> <li>Increases residue level at MRF (non-recyclables)</li> </ul>
• Flexibility: <u>Can use compaction vehicles</u> <u>to reduce capital &amp; trips to the MRF</u> , more households per route – faster collection	<ul> <li>Potential for decreased quality of processed recyclables (glass/paper)</li> </ul>
• Higher rates of recycling & <u>reduced landfill</u> <u>disposal costs</u> – easier for the general public to implement (no sorting)	<ul> <li>Higher recyclable volumes to process</li> <li>Increased net cost per ton processing</li> </ul>

All of these factors were built into the economic analysis

#### City of Milwaukee Recycling Facility Study Prepared by: Donald F. Pirrung, P.E. AECOM July 27, 2009

#### A. Recycling Alternatives

- Alternate A: Evaluate Dual Stream Recycling at City's MRF
  - Estimate Equipment and Installation Costs
  - Evaluate Collection of Recyclables
  - Estimate Equipment (Trucks, Carts), Facility Repair, Maintenance, Labor and Fuel Costs for Three Options
    - Monthly Collection as Currently Practices
    - Three-Week Collection
    - Two Week Collection
  - Address Costs, Pros/Cons
- Alternate B: Evaluate Single Stream Recycling at the City's MRF
  - Evaluate Using Same Approach as Alternative A
- Alternate C: Evaluate Two City Transfer Stations with Direct Haul to Germantown and No City-Owned Processing Facility
  - Consider use City's MRF as Transfer Station
  - Consider Using Existing Lincoln Avenue Transfer Station for Recyclables Receiving and Transfer
  - Develop Costs Including Capital, Operation and Maintenance for a New Transfer Station serving the North Side
  - Address Costs, Implementation Aspects, Pro/Cons
- Alternate D: Evaluation Regional MRF in Wauwatosa to Serve Waukesha County, City of Wauwatosa and City of Milwaukee
  - Use Waukesha County 2007 Report for Cost Information
  - Address Costs, Implementation Aspects, Pros/Cons

#### B. Other Considerations

- Discuss impacts that implementing measures to reduce landfill tonnage will have on residential recycling program:
  - "Pay as you throw" Program
    - Offsets Higher Solid Waste Fees
    - Encourages Recycling
    - Reduces Solid Waste Tonnage
- Summarize Results of Alternatives

#### C. Schedule

٠	City Notice to Proceed	July 27, 2009
٠	Submit Draft Report to City	August 14, 2009
٠	Meet with City	August 21, 2009
•	Submit Final Report to City	August 28, 2009

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#### Proposed Matrix of Consultant Scope of Work Related to the City's Residential Recycling Program

			P	rocessir	DQ
Collection	system	schedule	Current Site (City's MRF on Mt. Vernon Ave)	Transfer Stations (haul to 3rd party)	Publicly Owned Regional Facility (Wauwatosa)
	Dual Stream	monthly		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
		3 weeks			
		2 weeks			
	am	monthly			
	Single Ste	3 weeks			
		2 weeks			

\*Each box is to include analysis of that particular scenario's related capital, labor, and transportation costs.