


More Value - Less Trash

Ramsey & Washington County Resource Recovery Project



*Open Houses
April 2015*

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Logistics

- Please sign in
- Facility – restrooms, topic tables
- Order of events
 - Brief presentation
 - Opportunity for conversations
- Ways to provide input
 - Tell us tonight
 - Write it on comment card
 - Go to www.morevaluelesstrash.com

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An opportunity to learn and provide input about ideas under consideration to get more value from trash.

As we go through the evening, please consider:

- This is about what happens to stuff after it is on the truck – not about trash or recyclables collection
- What do you think about the direction under consideration?

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About Us

- Counties are responsible for meeting state goals for recycling and trash management.
- There are many players involved – cities, haulers, recyclers...and everyone that produces waste
- Counties address all aspects – reduce, reuse, recycle, compost, waste-to-energy
- Tonight: focus on handling trash after it is collected

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About Us


- Resource Recovery Project Board formed in 1982.
 - 5 Ramsey County Commissioners.
 - 4 Washington County Commissioners.
 - Staffed by members of respective County Public Health Departments.



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Together the two Counties:

- Administer joint county solid waste activities
 - Meeting state recycling goals.
 - BizRecycling.
 - Fulfilling state preference for waste to energy over landfills.
- Jointly plan for future trash management



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THE LIFE OF TRASH

Suburb and Washington County, 2014

You put stuff into your recycling bin and trash can...

Here's what happens now.

86%

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Already a successful system...

- 86% of trash diverted from landfills
- 51% of trash is recycled
- 35% becomes electricity
- Opportunities to reduce, reuse, recycle
- Hazardous wastes properly handled

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...with more opportunity to capture resources

Trash Composition - 2014

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Counties have new ideas for trash

- Why now?
 - New technologies are emerging;
 - Higher recycling goals;
 - The existing agreement between the two counties and the current Newport facility owner expires at the end of 2015
 - Option to purchase
 - Time to make improvements

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Seeking to Improve a Robust System

Critical shift in thinking, policy and new technologies to

- Protect the environment;
- Keep value of resources local;
- Support East Metro economic prosperity goals;
- Ensure flexibility;
- Ensure success of higher recycling goals.

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Guiding Principles

- Plan for a 20-30 year horizon;
- Build on the current system and allow changes to emerge over time;
- Assure flexibility;
- Manage risks; and
- Pivot the view from "waste" to "resources"

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THE FUTURE LIFE OF TRASH

Providing one alternative to the current system is to recycle 95% of the waste and the remaining 5% to be sent to the landfill. This is a vision of the future of waste management.

A vision for trash in the future:

- More recycling – at homes, businesses and from trash
- More fuels – electricity, natural gas, biofuels
- Better use of resources – materials, energy

95%
If materials are put to use, only 5% of the waste ends up in a landfill.

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Economics of Trash

- Collection costs (picking it up) are 2/3 of your trash bill – 1/3 is the cost of handling the trash
- Recovering materials and energy from trash is more expensive than putting it into a landfill
 - Historically, subsidies are needed to provide an incentive for haulers to bring trash to the Newport Facility
- Recycling at home and at businesses is the best value – but not everything can or will be recycled

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Why Consider Public Ownership?

- The counties have an option to purchase the facility in 2015.
- In Minnesota, most waste facilities – landfills and waste-to-energy - and many recycling facilities, are publicly owned.
- Public facilities can require haulers to deliver waste, and then subsidy is not needed.

<Insert image of garbage truck from Exponent>

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How to handle trash in the future: Ownership Issues

- Achieving the vision can be implemented through public or private ownership
- It is less expensive to achieve the vision through public ownership
- There are risks in both public and private ownership; somewhat greater risk with private
- The counties have more control over the future system with public ownership

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Operating the Newport Facility as-is costs less under public ownership compared to contracting with a private owner. This remains true when improvements are made.

The Counties have more control over where waste goes, and doesn't have to compete with landfills.

Current System, Private v. Public Ownership

Year	Current System (Current Prices)	Operating with Public Ownership
2017	\$100.00	\$80.00
2018	\$105.00	\$82.00
2019	\$110.00	\$84.00
2020	\$115.00	\$86.00
2021	\$120.00	\$88.00
2022	\$125.00	\$90.00
2023	\$130.00	\$92.00
2024	\$135.00	\$94.00
2025	\$140.00	\$96.00
2026	\$145.00	\$98.00
2027	\$150.00	\$100.00
2028	\$155.00	\$102.00
2029	\$160.00	\$104.00
2030	\$165.00	\$106.00

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Impact?

- All haulers would deposit waste at the Newport Facility and pay the same rate.
- Haulers would be charged less at Newport Facility to deposit waste.
- The need for county subsidy would go away.
- Costs are more predictable into the future.

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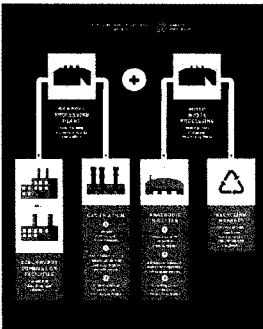
Economic Impact

- **Now:**
 - Over 500 jobs associated with collection of trash and recyclables
 - Newport Facility employees 58 people
 - Xcel's two electric power plants have 60 jobs
 - 4,000+ jobs associated with businesses that use recycled materials to make new products
- **As the vision is implemented:**
 - More jobs associated with recycling to make new products
 - Equipment at Newport to separate recyclables and food waste: 110 construction and 64 operating jobs
 - A privately owned anaerobic digester: 250 construction jobs and 19 operating jobs
 - A privately owned gasification facility: 610 construction jobs and 30 operating jobs

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THE 28/30 VISION



What do you think?

- About the future direction?
- About public ownership?

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A partnership between Ramsey County and Washington County

LEARN MORE AND STAY INVOLVED

www.MoreValueLessTrash.com

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deSole

Goal 75% ^{recycling} organics

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what happens after it's in the truck

- reduce impacts on health & environment
- contract expires at end of this year

• what % is leftover & burning

justification - not ready to make that decision