

**HAMILTON COUNTY SOLID WASTE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Wednesday, August 17, 2022**

**3:00 p.m.**

**AGENDA**

**1. Introduction/Opening Comments**

**2. Clerk's Report**

- a. Approval of Minutes – July 20, 2022 – Attachment A

**3. General Public Comment (3 minutes)**

**4. Revenue Updates/Analysis – Attachment B**

**5. Policy Items for Discussion**

- a. Hamilton County Solid Waste Plan Update
- b. Carryover Balance Opportunities – Attachment C

**6. Informational Items**

- a. Environmental Enforcement Program – Attachment D

**7. Tentative Future Agenda Items**

**8. Policy Committee Members' Comments**

**9. Upcoming R3Source Meetings**

The next scheduled Policy Committee meeting will be a special meeting on **Wednesday, September 21, 2022, at 3 p.m. at Hamilton County Environmental Services, 250 William Howard Taft, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Cincinnati, Ohio 45219.** Zoom will also be available for persons, other than the Policy Committee, who would like to attend virtually.

**10. Adjournment (Target Time - 4:30 p.m.)**

**HAMILTON COUNTY SOLID WASTE POLICY COMMITTEE  
MANAGER'S MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** August 12, 2022  
**TO:** Hamilton County Solid Waste Policy Committee Members  
**FROM:** Michelle Balz, Solid Waste Manager

**1. Introduction/Opening Comments**

**NOTICE:** This memo is for the meeting to be held Wednesday, August 17, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. This meeting will be held in person and available to the public in person or virtually using Zoom.

*Policy Committee information (Agendas, Manager's Memos, Minutes, etc.) is available on R3Source's website at <https://hamiltoncountyr3source.org/357/Policy-Committee>.*

**2. Clerk's Report**

**A. Approval of Minutes** – Minutes from the July 20, 2022 meeting are included as Attachment A.

**3. General Public Comment** – 3 Minutes

**4. Revenue Updates/Analysis**

Updates will be provided on current revenue receipts and comparisons with the prior year, as included as Attachment B.

**5. Policy Items for Discussion**

**A. Hamilton County Solid Waste Plan Update**

The Draft Solid Waste Plan Update was submitted to Ohio EPA for review. Universal waste, recycling, and composting, siting criteria and designation, and fee increase will be on the September meeting agenda.

- Household Hazardous Waste program
- Fee Increase

**B. Carryover Balance Opportunities**

Attachment C provides list of ideas for spending some of the carryover balance in addition to the Impact Grant currently underway.

**6. Informational Items**

**A. Environmental Enforcement Program**

Attachment D shows activity of the deputy through July 2022.

**7. Upcoming R3Source Meetings**

The next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, September 21, 2022 at 3 p.m.** This meeting will be held in person at 250 William Howard Taft Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45219, first floor. Zoom will also be available for persons, other than the Policy Committee, who would like to attend virtually.

**8. Adjournment (Target Time: 4:30 p.m.)**

# **Attachment A**

**DRAFT MINUTES OF A  
HAMILTON COUNTY SOLID WASTE  
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING  
In person & Zoom**

**DATE:** July 20, 2022

**TIME:** 1:30 p.m.

**PLACE:** Hamilton County Environmental Services  
250 William Howard Taft Road, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45219

The July 20 Zoom meeting can be [viewed here](#).

**PRESENT:** **Policy Committee Members**  
Pierce Bruner, Student Representative  
Tony DiPuccio, Generator Representative  
Bob Gedert, Public Member, Vice-Chair  
Karen Hurley, General Interest Member  
Sue Magness, Largest Municipality Representative  
Matt Wahlert, Township Representative

**Staff**

Michelle Balz, Solid Waste Manager  
Gage Bradford, Community Specialist  
Mary Copenbaker, Assistant Manager  
Ashley Dove, Fiscal Analyst  
Elise Erhart, Outreach Specialist  
Brad Johnson, Director  
Ali Khodadad, Operations Coordinator  
Joy Landry, Communications Specialist  
Cher Mohring, Outreach Specialist  
Susan Schumacher, Assistant Solid Waste Specialist, Clerk  
Tony Staubach, Food Waste Diversion Coordinator

**Others in Attendance**

Nee Fong Chin, Prosecutor's Office  
D. Crawford  
Carrie Davis, Child Advocacy for Jobs & Equity  
Dean Ferrier, Rumpke  
Kurt Grossman  
Matt Hittle, Ohio EPA  
Marie Kocoshis, League of Women Voters  
Karen Luken EESI  
Tim Mara, Oxbow  
Gordon Perry, Blue Ash  
Deputy Roy  
Bradley Taft  
Kevin Tighe, Hamilton County  
Molly Yeager, Rumpke  
Lisa Wynn  
Administration

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**ABSENT: Policy Committee Members**

Denise Driehaus, County Commissioner, Chair  
Greg Kesterman, Hamilton County Public Health Representative

**1. INTRODUCTION/OPENING COMMENTS**

Mr. Gedert called the meeting to order at 1:33 pm and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

**2. CLERK'S REPORT**

Mr. Gedert entertained a motion to approve the June 15, 2022 minutes. Mr. Wahlert moved to approve the minutes; Ms. Hurley seconded. Mr. Davidson abstained. Everyone else in favor and the minutes were approved.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Five public comments were given.

**4. REVENUE UPDATES/ANALYSIS**

Ms. Balz stated that there has been a six percent increase over 2021 in revenue. Out-of-state tonnage has increased by 7,000 tons which is about an 18 percent increase. Out-of-District has increased about nine percent with 41,000 tons, and the in-district has decreased by about one percent or 4,800 tons.

Mr. Gedert stated that he would like to discuss out-of-district and in-district waste increases into the Plan review conversation.

**5. POLICY COMMITTEE ITEMS**

**a. Hamilton County Solid Waste Plan Update**

Ms. Balz stated the draft plan is due to Ohio EPA on August 7, 2022. OEPA will take 45 days to review and they will give us comments back. Staff will have a good period of time to implement their comments and other additional items from the Policy Committee. Once it is decided that the Plan is ready, the Policy Committee will vote on the Plan again and it will go out for official ratification. Staff has ninety days from that point to get the Plan ratified.

Ms. Balz stated that this means the Plan has to be approved by the Board of County Commissioners, Hamilton County communities representing sixty-percent of the population of Hamilton County. The Plan must also be approved by the City of Cincinnati being the largest municipality within the district. The last Plan Update received 100 percent of the communities.

The Policy Committee discussed changes they want made to the Plan after Ohio EPA review as follows:

- Restoring HHW to \$400 thousand per year in year two through five with a pilot program
- Finding a County composting site
- Moving subscription communities to contract
- Recycling infrastructure for multi-family communities

A discussion ensued regarding the budget after these changes are included.

Ms. Hurley moved to approve the Plan Update and include the following language before submittal to Ohio EPA: "R3Source will work toward reinstating a more accessible HHW drop off program." Ms. Balz noted that the HHW reduction language will be replaced with the above. Mr. Davidson seconded. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

Each Committee member present then signed the resolution certification statement approving the draft plan.

**b. 2023 Budget**

Ms. Balz stated Attachment C provides an overview and would answer any questions. Mr. Wahlert moved to adopt the 2023 budget as seen in Attachment C. Mr. Davidson seconded. All in favor and the motion was approved.

**c. General Interest Member Position**

Ms. Balz stated that Mr. Wahlert and Mr. Kesterman were on the interview committee for the General Interest member. Mr. Wahlert stated four people were interviewed and all were fantastic. Mr. Wahlert stated that the interview committee's recommendation is Mr. Domonique Peebles and briefly discussed his background. Mr. Davidson read Mr. Kesterman's recommendation which was also Mr. Peebles and his reasons why.

Mr. Wahlert moved approval of Mr. Domonique Peebles as the General Interest member to a term of two years. Mr. Davidson seconded. As only the statutory members could vote, Ms. Magness approved as well.

Mr. Gedert thanked Ms. Hurley for her service. The Committee thanked Ms. Hurley for her service.

**d. \$100,000 Impact Grant Program**

Ms. Balz thanked Ms. Mohring for putting this together. A lot of research was done as well as reaching out to Robert Bell and integrating the Committee's input. There are some questions at the end of the attachment that staff is requesting Committee input.

- Do we want to allow grant funds to be used as matching funds for another grant? The Committee was in favor of this.
  - If so: do we provide the funds up-front or only after we know if they receive the other grant? The Committee was in favor of this as long as organization received the other grant.
  - Do we still require a 25% match from the organization? The Committee was in favor of this.
- Do we want to allow both public and private organizations to apply for the grant? The Committee was in favor of this.
- Do we want to consider funding both capital and operational projects? Yes, but no more than fifty percent can be used for new incremental operational expenses.

Ms. Magness asked if her examples would be eligible. Ms. Balz stated yes. Ms. Magness stated that she would like to see plastic recycling from Plastic Pak (which is over 200 governmental and non-governmental organizations manufacturers, etc.) ineligible due to the phasing out of them. Ms. Balz clarified that Ms.

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Magness was referring to the recycling and not waste reduction of these plastics. Ms. Magness agreed and gave an example. Ms. Balz stated that this item could be included in the evaluation.

Mr. DiPuccio stated he would like to see a higher percentage of projects showing plans for sustainable funding in the future. The Committee concurred.

Ms. Magness motioned to approve the \$100,000 Impact Grant Program with the changes noted; Ms. Hurley seconded. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

**6. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

The Committee accepted these items as written.

**7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Ms. Magness stated that she would like a lawsuit update.

Ms. Hurley stated that she would like to see subcommittees for the other items mentioned during the Plan Update discussion (fee increase, siting strategy, designation, rules, etc.).

**8. POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

There were no comments at this time.

**9. UPCOMING DISTRICT MEETINGS**

The next Policy Committee meeting will be Wednesday, August 17, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. at Hamilton County Environmental Services, 250 William Howard Taft Road, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Cincinnati, Ohio 45219.

**10. ADJOURNMENT (Target Time – 3:00 p.m.)**

Ms. Magness moved adjournment. Mr. Wahlert seconded. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 3:53 p.m.



# **Attachment B**

### 2022 Tipping Fee Receipts

*Rumpke '22	In District	Out of District	Out of State		Total Tonnage	Total Dollars		Quarterly Tons	Quarterly \$\$
Jan	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	\$0.00			
Feb	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	\$0.00			
Mar	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	\$0.00		0.00	\$0.00
Apr	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	\$0.00			
May	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	\$0.00			
Jun	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	\$0.00		0.00	\$0.00
Jul					0.00	\$0.00			
Aug					0.00	\$0.00			
Sep					0.00	\$0.00		0.00	\$0.00
Oct					0.00	\$0.00			
Nov					0.00	\$0.00			
Dec					0.00	\$0.00		0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
*Bond Road Landfill									
Rumpke '22	In District	Out of District	Out of State		Total Tonnage	Total Dollars		Quarterly Tons	Quarterly \$\$
Jan	75,516.50	90,940.91	9,616.28		176,073.69	\$267,014.60			
Feb	70,758.58	84,147.41	10,016.66		164,922.65	\$249,070.06			
Mar	86,351.37	113,479.97	10,995.56		210,826.90	\$324,306.87		551,823.24	\$840,391.53
Apr	79,344.07	111,723.47	9,442.60		200,510.14	\$312,233.61			
May	90,639.79	120,045.36	10,409.13		221,094.28	\$341,139.64			
Jun	94,501.93	127,369.22	9,833.79		231,704.94	\$359,074.16		653,309.36	\$1,012,447.41
Jul					0.00	\$0.00			
Aug					0.00	\$0.00			
Sep					0.00	\$0.00		0.00	\$0.00
Oct					0.00	\$0.00			
Nov					0.00	\$0.00			
Dec					0.00	\$0.00		0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>497,112.24</b>	<b>647,706.34</b>	<b>60,314.02</b>		<b>1,205,132.60</b>	<b>\$1,852,838.94</b>		<b>1,205,132.60</b>	<b>\$1,852,838.94</b>
<b>Grand Ttl</b>	<b>497,112.24</b>	<b>647,706.34</b>	<b>60,314.02</b>		<b>1,205,132.60</b>	<b>\$1,852,838.94</b>		<b>1,205,132.60</b>	<b>\$1,852,838.94</b>
<i>% of Total</i>	<i>Tier 1</i>	<i>Tier 2</i>	<i>Tier 3</i>						
<i>tonnage</i>	41.25%	53.75%	5.00%						
<i>dollars</i>	26.83%	69.92%	3.26%						

### 2021 Tipping Fee Receipts

*Rumpke '21	In District	Out of District	Out of State		Total Tonnage	Total Dollars		Quarterly Tons	Quarterly \$\$
Jan	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	\$0.00			
Feb	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	\$0.00			
Mar	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	\$0.00		0.00	\$0.00
Apr	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	\$0.00			
May	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	\$0.00			
Jun	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	\$0.00		0.00	\$0.00
Jul					0.00	\$0.00			
Aug					0.00	\$0.00			
Sep					0.00	\$0.00		0.00	\$0.00
Oct					0.00	\$0.00			
Nov					0.00	\$0.00			
Dec					0.00	\$0.00		0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
*Bond Road Landfill									
Rumpke '21	In District	Out of District	Out of State		Total Tonnage	Total Dollars		Quarterly Tons	Quarterly \$\$
Jan	74,490.31	86,428.03	7,800.43		168,718.77	\$255,146.80			
Feb	68,291.28	75,685.93	7,434.45		151,411.66	\$227,097.59			
Mar	90,175.42	105,941.59	9,611.73		205,728.74	\$311,670.33		525,859.17	\$793,914.72
Apr	88,042.34	106,485.42	8,755.30		203,283.06	\$309,768.48			
May	86,457.08	103,994.57	9,158.14		199,609.79	\$303,604.36			
Jun	88,079.79	110,611.01	9,493.67		208,184.47	\$318,795.48		611,077.32	\$932,168.32
Jul					0.00	\$0.00			
Aug					0.00	\$0.00			
Sep					0.00	\$0.00		0.00	\$0.00
Oct					0.00	\$0.00			
Nov					0.00	\$0.00			
Dec					0.00	\$0.00		0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>495,536.22</b>	<b>589,146.55</b>	<b>52,253.72</b>		<b>1,136,936.49</b>	<b>\$1,726,083.04</b>		<b>1,136,936.49</b>	<b>\$1,726,083.04</b>
<b>Grand Ttl</b>	<b>495,536.22</b>	<b>589,146.55</b>	<b>52,253.72</b>		<b>1,136,936.49</b>	<b>\$1,726,083.04</b>		<b>1,136,936.49</b>	<b>\$1,726,083.04</b>
<i>% of Total</i>	<i>Tier 1</i>	<i>Tier 2</i>	<i>Tier 3</i>						
<i>tonnage</i>	43.59%	51.82%	4.60%						
<i>dollars</i>	28.71%	68.26%	3.03%						

# **Attachment C**

## **R3Source Carryover Balance**

R3Source currently has a carryover balance of \$5,205,041. We are required to keep 8 months operating which is currently \$2,305,186. At the July 2022 meeting, the Policy Committee voted to set \$500,000 for an Impact Grant program that is currently in progress. Following are R3Source staff suggestions on possible ways to spend some of these funds and have a large impact on programming or infrastructure.

### **1. Conduct a Residential and Commercial Waste Characterization in 2023, \$150,000**

Hamilton County conducted our last residential waste characterization in 2018 and the last commercial waste audit in 2003. Waste characterization studies typically involve hiring a consultant to conduct a random sort of waste at the landfill to determine what is being landfilled. Alternative waste characterizations could include more specialized sorting of waste at commercial facilities or a focused study on food waste generation.

This data can be used in several ways:

- Measure success of efforts to reduce certain waste streams, such as food waste and cardboard.
- Focus efforts on those waste streams that are the largest. Strategically focusing efforts will have a bigger impact on reducing the waste stream.
- Focus efforts on groups within the commercial sector that will make the largest impact. For example, if we identify that hospitals create the most paper waste that could be easily recycled, we can target that group.

### **2. Public-Private Partnership for Food Waste Processing, \$500,000**

The Draft Plan Update identified food waste as our district priority because of the lack of infrastructure for composting and/or processing and the large volume in the waste stream. The current Draft Plan sets aside \$150,000 for a public-private partnership to help address this deficiency in our material processing. Additional funds could be allocated from the carryover balance to start this process before 2024.

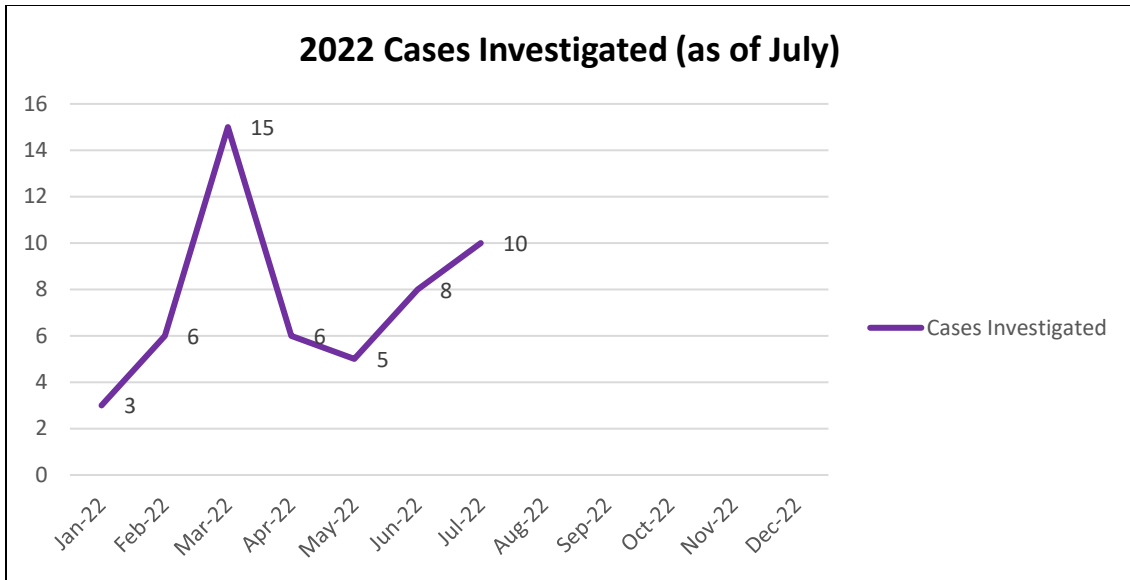
Funds could be used for a feasibility analysis for site locations, to help purchase property, or a grant to fund large equipment purchases. R3Source recommends working with organizations already interested and invested in this area to develop a specific request.

### **3. Public-Private Partnership for Difficult to Recycle Materials, \$500,000 +**

R3Source is struggling to find a permanent location for Household Hazardous Product (HHP) disposal and recycling while at the same time there are other products not collected through traditional HHP programs that cause issues, such as electronics and Li Ion batteries. R3Source could explore working with a private entity to create a public private partnership to bolster the collection of these materials for Hamilton County residents.

Funds could be used to purchase or find a property that could act as a permanent home for the collection of HHP and other difficult materials to recycle and dispose . Other similar facilities across the country are called CHaRM facilities (Center for Hard to Recycle Materials). This type of partnership could have ongoing expenses yet to be determined.

# **Attachment D**



**2022 Complaints Received of Illegal Dumping (click for interactive version)**

