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TO: Suzanne Shaw, Chair
Board of Commissioners

THROUGH: Robert E. Guenzel
County Administrator

FROM: Dan Myers, P.E.
Public Works Director

DATE: July 18, 2001

SUBJECT: Approval of County Solid Waste Management Plan 1999 Update
Revisions

Board Action Requested:

It is requested that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners approve the attached Resolution approving the Washtenaw County Solid Waste Management Plan 1999 Update revisions.

Background:

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and has requested Washtenaw County to make minor revisions in the County's 1999 Solid Waste Plan Update. The Solid Waste Planning Committee and the Board of Public Works approved the Plan on April 19, 2000. The Board of Commissioners approved the plan May 2, 2000. Over 2/3 of the 28 communities, have approved the plan. Forwarding these revisions as requested by the State upon approval by the county will allow MDEQ to approve the County's plan. Implementing the strategies identified within the Plan will proceed upon the approval.

Discussion:

Receiving final approval from the MDEQ will begin the implementation of the Plan. The Solid Waste Management Plan provides the opportunity to review the progress of our programs and initiatives, and establish goals and objectives for the future.

The Solid Waste Planning Committee completed a strategic planning process that identified strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats that are part of the current and future solid waste management system in the County. The analysis was used to create goals and objectives that formulated an aggressive program to increase overall diversion rates from current levels to 38% in 2005 and 45% in 2010.

Studies determined that approximately 37% of the County's waste stream originates from the residential sector (households) and 63% from the commercial/industrial sector (businesses). Therefore, the Plan calls for increased emphasis on improving opportunities for commercial recycling and source reduction.

In order for the County's aggressive recovery rates to be achieved, additional programs and infrastructure will be developed. Two specialized task forces, the Intergovernmental Program Task Force, and the Commercial/Industrial Program Task Force will be developed shortly after final approval of the Plan has been received. The Task Forces will be charged with developing Implementation Action Plans to address the challenges faced by communities and businesses in meeting the Plan's goals. The recommendations within these plans will be forwarded to the Board of Public Works.

The Plan Update also includes a siting process for solid waste disposal areas, such as transfer stations and processing facilities. Municipal solid waste incinerators and sanitary landfills may not be sited by the Plan.

Impact on Human Resources:

There will be no impact on human resources.

Impact on Budget:

All costs associated with implementation, including staff time, will be covered through revenues received through the County's agreement with Onyx North America Corp.

Impact on Indirect Costs:

There will be no impact on indirect costs.

Impact on Other County Departments or Outside Agencies:

Updating the County's Solid Waste Management Plan creates a positive impact on communities within Washtenaw County by providing the opportunity to review and update goals and objectives established within our Solid Waste Management Plan.

Conformity to County Policies:

This resolution conforms to County policies and furthers the County Guiding Principles.

Preparer: Jeff Krcmarik, Solid Waste Coordinator
Division of Public Works
Department of Environment and Infrastructure Services

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE WASHTENAW COUNTY SOLID WASTE
MANAGEMENT PLAN 1999 UPDATE REVISIONS

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

July 18, 2001

WHEREAS, Washtenaw County is required by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) to update its Solid Waste Management Plan, under Part 115 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners approved the Solid Waste Update Plan May 3, 2000; and

WHEREAS, Two-thirds of the communities within Washtenaw County have approved the Solid Waste Plan Update and the plan has been submitted to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ); and

WHEREAS, the MDEQ has reviewed the Plan and has requested minor revisions to the plan as described in Attachment A; and

WHEREAS, with the Update to the Solid Waste Plan there is a need to make changes to the committees involved with the implementation of the Solid Waste Plan objectives and

WHEREAS, previously the Board of Commissioners created the Solid Waste Facility Siting Committee, the Hazardous Substances Facility Siting Committee and the Solid Waste Planning Committee and there is no longer a need for these committees; and

WHEREAS, the Plan Update calls for the creation of a Commercial/Industrial Program Task Force (CITF) to decrease commercial/industrial waste generation rates and increase commercial/industrial recovery rates, as well as the Intergovernmental Program Task Force (IPTF) to decrease overall waste generation rates and increase overall recovery rates, both with terms not to exceed eighteen (18) months from the date of first meeting; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Board Of Commissioners approves the modification to the Washtenaw County Solid Waste Management Plan as attached hereto and made a part hereof,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Of Commissioners directs the County Clerk to forward this resolution to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality for their consideration.

ATTACHMENT A

Modifications to the 1999 Washtenaw County Solid Waste Plan Update as requested by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality:

Page III-12 Change the classification of the Ypsilanti Community Utility Compost facility from an *unregulated* facility to a *regulated* bio-solids compost facility.

Page III-29 the last sentence states, "Facilities regulated under Part 115 do not include commercial operations that only dispose of waste that is generated on site are disposal areas and are subject to the siting process. As recommended the sentence will be replaced by the following language, "Facilities regulated under Part 115 include commercial operations that only dispose of waste that is generated on site. Such proposed commercial operations are consistent with the Plan and are not subject to the siting process".

Page III-39 delete, as recommended by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality criterion, "A" which states "The site and respective parcel must be owned by the applicant or under long term lease (20years or more) from a public agency"

Page III-49 revise the second sentence in the paragraph defining the management responsibilities for the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners (BOC) to " The BOC has the authority to adopt countywide ordinances for the licensing and regulation of solid waste activities that are not in conflict with state and federal law however, the BOC can not regulate disposal areas beyond the scope of what the MDEQ would allow under section 11538(8) of Part 115

As requested by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality clarification regarding ownership of the Arbor Hills West expanded Sanitary Landfill, to acknowledge that Onyx is a subsidiary of Superior Services Inc.