

Vision Statement

Solid Waste Plan 2040 acknowledges and will reflect the core promise embedded in LPlan 2040; that being a commitment to “maintain and enhance the health, safety and welfare of our community during times of change, to promote our ideals and values as changes occur, and to meet the needs of today without sacrificing the ability of future generations to meet their needs.” The Solid Waste Plan 2040 will also reflect the “importance and interconnectedness of economic, environmental, and socio-cultural domains, and the ways in which technology and public policy are applied and affect outcomes in these domains” as is likewise stated in the LPlan 2040 Vision.

Guiding Principles and Plan Goals

The Lincoln-Lancaster County 2040 Comprehensive Plan (LPlan 2040) has two main Guiding Principles relative to solid waste management. The two principles provide a broad framework for the Solid Waste Management Plan.

LPlan 2040 Guiding Principle:

“The City policy of privately owned and operated collection of refuse and recyclables coupled with public ownership, operation and financing of disposal and selected integrated solid waste management services will continue during the planning period.”

LPlan 2040 Guiding Principle:

“No out-of-county waste is accepted for landfill disposal. This policy reserves landfill capacity for city and county residents and allow administration of programs under existing authorities.”

In addition, five Guiding Principles have been identified specific to the Solid Waste Management Plan. Within each of these principles, Plan Goals have been created. The Plan Goals establish a structure from which measurable objectives will be developed.

The Plan Goals are associated with the five Guiding Principles established for the Solid Waste Management Plan:

- engage the **COMMUNITY**
- encourage **PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS**
- ensure sufficient **SYSTEM CAPACITY**
- emphasize the **WASTE MANAGEMENT HIERARCHY**
- embrace **SUSTAINABLE PRINCIPLES**

Overarching Goals

- Promote waste prevention, toxicity reduction, diversion, reuse, and recycling as waste management strategies with higher and better use of natural resources than land disposal.
- Establish quantifiable objectives and measureable performance indicators to assess progress in meeting plan goals.

Guiding Principle: engage the COMMUNITY

- Ensure residents, businesses and institutions are informed about options for effectively managing solid wastes generated within the community.
- Provide opportunities for stakeholders to participate in the design and implementation of the plan recommendations

Guiding Principle: encourage PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

- Continue to promote and encourage public-private partnerships for management of solid wastes

Guiding Principle: ensure sufficient SYSTEM CAPACITY

- Ensure adequate disposal capacity through 2040
- Ensure efficient systems, facilities and programs to collect, transport, sort, and process all solid wastes, and market recycled and diverted materials

Guiding Principle: emphasize the WASTE MANAGEMENT HIERARCHY

Encourage effective and innovative approaches that:

- Prevent waste generation and ensure sustainable consumption of materials (reduce).
- Reuse waste in its current form and repeatedly use materials (reuse)
- Process waste to recover commercially viable materials for making new products (recycle)
- Recover energy from waste (recovery)
- Manage residuals in an environmentally sound manner (residuals (disposal))

Guiding Principle: embrace SUSTAINABLE PRINCIPLES:

- Ensure the solid waste management systems, facilities and programs consider economic, environmental, social, technological and political factors