

## **Transfer Station and Processing Facilities**

### **Issue:**

Properly located transfer stations can result in cost savings to waste haulers, reduced traffic at the landfills and provide other benefits to a waste management system. Based on rule of thumb distances a transfer station may be economically advantageous to waste haulers operating in the southern part of the Planning Area.

### **Major Question:**

- 1) Develop a Municipal Solid Waste Transfer Station If a Feasibility Study Shows it can be Cost Effective.
  - a. Yes
  - b. No

### **Implementation issues/considerations:**

- 1) Develop a Municipal Solid Waste Transfer Station If a Feasibility Study Shows it can be Cost Effective.
  - a. Location and potential opposition to siting
  - b. Co-locate with other type of solid waste management facility
  - c. Cost allocation for Service
  - d. Funding mechanism to implement
  - e. Ensuring that it is fully used.

### **Other Considerations:**

- 1) Other benefits and purposes

## Transfer Station and Processing Facilities (Excerpts from Technical Paper)

- None of the state or local regulations requires transfer stations or processing facilities to report tonnages handled or information on type, source or destination of waste/materials received.
- Transfer stations and processing facilities can also be combined to provide for efficient transportation and handling of solid waste, recovered materials, processed recyclables, compostable materials, and compost products. They can also be combined operationally to share staff, equipment, building space and to allow materials delivered to a transfer station as waste to be diverted from disposal.
- While transfer stations are often discussed in the context of saving money through reduced transportation costs, transfer stations are commonly developed to satisfy several purposes, not all of which are cost savings, including the following:
  - Control expenses;
  - Mitigate traffic at another site;
  - Control the flow of waste;
  - Provide user convenience (public cost savings);
  - Screen waste;
  - Facilitate recycling;
  - Improve the control of illegal dumping;
  - Help reduce air emissions; and,
  - Strategically control future waste management.
- Beyond the City's current small vehicle transfer station at the North 48th Street site it is conceivable that an additional transfer station(s) could be constructed in the Planning Area for any of the purposes listed above, including economic benefits and cost savings.
- would suggest that a transfer station located in the southern third of the City could under favorable economic conditions attract somewhere between one-quarter and one-half of the waste generated in the Planning Area.
- Before multi-million commitments are made to construct and operate a transfer station, it may be appropriate to perform a detailed analysis to confirm such rules-of-thumbs and provide support to questions which will be raised in the siting process and the political, social and possibly regulatory approval processes.
- Conceptually, co-locating a processing facility(s) with a transfer station is an option that could further enhance the recycling opportunities, increase tonnage diversion, and provide customers a one-stop site for most of their solid waste management needs. Conceptually, it can provide shared benefits including storage and transfer of commingled recyclables, select processing of concentrated loads of commercial waste, and an optional location(s) for citizen recyclables drop-off area. From a facility size perspective a shared/co-located facility can help to mitigate some traffic and unloading

requirements thus reduce the overall processing facility and transfer station size requirements.

- Key issues that will need to be addressed with any of the options include the following:
  - Need for such a facility (economic or other justification)
  - Ownership and operation (including consideration of LPlan 2040 Guiding Principles)
  - Siting (opposition to siting)
  - Funding
  - User costs and inducements (including incentives and market implications for recovered materials)
  - Synergy with landfill and other waste collection and diversion programs
  - Other Implementation Issues
- The Solid Waste Plan 2040 may also consider the need to implement a transfer station(s) and processing facility(s) to capture and utilize the value of solid waste, to provide an integrated resource conservation and management system, and to ensure safe, sound, environmentally responsible waste management practices.