

**RESOLUTION 23 – 22, 2023
COLUMBIA TOWNSHIP, HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**APPROVING THE UPDATE OF THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN OF THE
HAMILTON COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT,
AND DISPENSING WITH THE SECOND READING**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 373, Ohio Revised Code (the “Act”), the Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District Policy Committee (the “Policy Committee”) has adopted an update of the solid waste management plan (the “Plan Update”) for the Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District (“the District”); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Act, the Board of County Commissioners in the District, and the legislative authority of each municipal corporation or township under the jurisdiction of the District, must approve or disapprove the Plan Update by ordinance or resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Columbia Township Board of Trustees has reviewed the Plan Update and has determined that the Plan Update is in the best interests of Columbia Township and Hamilton County; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees, upon majority vote, hereby dispenses with the requirement that this Resolution be read on two separate days, and hereby authorizes the adoption of this Resolution upon its first reading.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Columbia Township, Hamilton County, Ohio:

SECTION 1: Approval of the Plan Update. The Columbia Township Board of Trustees hereby approves the Hamilton County Plan Update.

SECTION 2: Compliance with Open Meetings Law. It is hereby certified that all formal actions of the Board of Trustees relating to the adoption of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of the Board and that all deliberations of the Board were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22, Ohio Revised Code.

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SECTION 3: Forwarding of Resolution. The Fiscal Officer is hereby directed to promptly deliver, or cause to be delivered, a copy of this Resolution to the Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District.

Motion to accept Resolution made by: MR. KUBICKI

Seconded by: MR. LAMAR

VOTE:

TRUSTEE	Voting	Signature	Date
David Kubicki, President	<u>yes</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	07-11-2023
Brian Lamar, Vice-President	<u>yes</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	07-11-2023
Susan Hughes, Trustee	<u>yes</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>	07-11-2023

ATTEST: Caroline B. Heekin 07-11-2023
Caroline Heekin, Fiscal Officer

May 4, 2023

Caroline Heekin
Fiscal Officer
Columbia Township
5686 Kenwood Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45227-1306

Dear Ms. Heekin:

Over the past two years, the Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District (R3Source) has undergone the process of updating its Solid Waste Management Plan (Plan). This update process included numerous public meetings and extensive feedback from a wide range of stakeholders. The Plan is available for review on our website at HamiltonCountyR3Source.org under "About Us."

A public hearing was held on March 14, 2023, and the Policy Committee voted to formally adopt the Plan at its May 1, 2023 meeting. R3Source now asks for your approval of the Plan by taking the following actions:

1. Each political subdivision in Hamilton County is asked to pass a resolution/ordinance (sample enclosed) approving or disapproving of the Plan within 90 days of receipt of this letter. **Failure to act on this matter within the 90-day time frame will be interpreted as DISAPPROVAL under State law.**
2. Please use the enclosed yellow self-addressed envelope to return a copy of the resolution/ordinance to our office. Again, the envelope must be post-marked within 90 days of receipt of this letter.

In order for the Plan to be considered ratified, it must be approved by the Board of County Commissioners, the City of Cincinnati (being the largest municipality), and by municipalities and townships representing at least 60% of the population of our solid waste district.

Under the Plan, disposal fees will remain stable, at \$1/\$2/\$1 (\$1/ton for in-district waste, \$2/ton for out-of-district waste, \$1/ton for out-of-State waste). The Plan outlines a budget contingency should annual revenues fall below or above projections and a feasibility study of having a large regional organics (yard and food waste) processing facility. Should that study result in a need to increase fees, that increase would require ratification by Hamilton County communities separate from this vote.

Any questions you or your respective board of officials may have can be directed to Michelle Balz at 513-946-7789. By your request, R3Source staff will be available to attend any council or board meetings to provide more information on the Plan.

Thank you for your cooperation and timely attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Michelle Balz
Solid Waste Manager
Hamilton County R3Source



HAMILTON COUNTY
R3SOURCE
REDUCE. REUSE. RECYCLE.

SOLID WASTE PLAN UPDATE HIGHLIGHTS

'24-'38

The full Hamilton County Solid Waste Management Plan Update 2024-2038 draft can be found at HamiltonCountyR3Source.org under "About Us".

Introduction

Hamilton County R3Source is currently updating its 15-year Solid Waste Plan, as required by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. A solid waste plan is a guidance document that a local solid waste district uses to implement programs and initiatives to continually improve recycling and waste reduction within its jurisdiction and reduce the amount of waste going to landfills.

Hamilton County R3Source used a data-driven process to develop landfill-diversion strategies and increase diversion over the planning period. Hamilton County R3Source chose this approach to progress achievable and realistic goals through implementable strategies.

2038 DIVERSION GOALS BY SECTOR		
Sector	2020 Diversion %	Aspirational 2038 Diversion %
Residential	18%	27%
Commercial	43%	50%

Strategies

for Reducing Wasted Food

At the start of the Plan Update process, an analysis of all R3Source programs was compared to the waste characterization study of the Hamilton County landfill to identify material-specific waste reduction strategies. The material with the greatest diversion potential was food.

FOOD WASTE DIVERSION GOAL	
Sector	Landfill Diversion Goal
Food Waste	50%



**Consumer
Education**



**Strengthen
Food Rescue**



**Compost
Anything Remaining**

Consumer Education

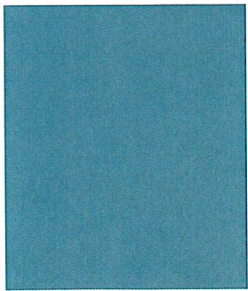
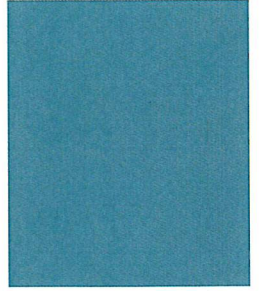
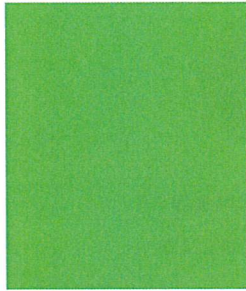
- Continue the “Wasted Food Stops with Us” campaign and participation in national efforts with the NRDC Food Matters Cohort, EPA, and ReFed

Strengthen Food Rescue

- Support Food Rescue infrastructure with grants, technical support, and collaborative working groups
- Partner with Health Departments to promote safe donation from restaurants, caterers, and cafeterias
- Partner with local food recovery partners to address barriers to increasing food donations from retailers

Compost Anything Remaining

- Facilitate a Public/Private/Partnership (PPP) to bring centralized food scrap composting to the region
- Provide technical assistance and grants to large food waste generators to divert clean organic waste streams toward anaerobic digestion or composting
- Provide training and technical assistance to increase the number of small-scale community composting sites





Additional Action Items

In addition to material-specific strategies, the Plan Update includes the following action items to decrease dependency on landfills, reduce illegal waste management, and foster diversion, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in Hamilton County R3Source programs.

01

**Business
Assistance**

02

**Environmental
Enforcement**

03

Grants

04

DEI

01 Business Assistance

- Increase business assistance budget from \$145K to \$220K
 - Conduct targeted outreach to provide custom technical assistance and resources to large commercial waste generators
 - Provide technical assistance and supplies to Hamilton County businesses to cost-effectively recycle cardboard
 - Evaluate the feasibility of awarding a Franchise Agreement for recycling services for businesses
 - Work with local government to update zoning language to include space for recycling at multi-family properties
-

02 Environmental Enforcement

- Continue to fund a full-time sheriff deputy to investigate illegal dumping
- Work with townships to mandate trash collection
- Collaborate with Keep Ohio Beautiful to provide illegal dumping training for communities, health departments, and police departments
- Continue to provide \$295,000 to Hamilton County Public Health and \$72,000 to Cincinnati Health Department to regulate solid waste facilities



03 GRANTS

- Maintain Residential Recycling Initiative (RRI) funding for communities at \$800,000, if revenue is \$100,000 over projections then funding is increased \$900,000
 - Allow communities to receive funds for commercial tonnage through the RRI and establish a minimum threshold of funding of \$5,000 per community
 - Fund innovative waste reduction, reuse, food rescue, composting, and recycling programs
-

04 DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION

- Hamilton County is the first county in the state of Ohio to incorporate a DEI analysis into their solid waste plan.
- Reviewed current and future programming to identify areas of improvement.
- Incorporated full text of report into the Solid Waste Plan Update and adopted five central DEI goals:

1	2	3	4	5
Ensure that R3Source delivers accessible, inclusive, and equitable services and programs.	Invest in community partnerships that inform decision-making and foster full and equitable civic participation.	Engage with residents and communities in inclusive and culturally responsive ways to move the R3Source's DEI work forward.	Use data and research as a tool for decision-making and policy and program development.	Evaluate and report on DEI efforts to ensure accountability and transparency.
