

# PUBLIC UTILITIES

## Solid Waste and Street Lighting

### Description

In addition to the water and sewer services reflected in the Enterprise Fund, the Department of Public Utilities provides solid waste disposal, limited refuse collection, and street lighting services to residents of Henrico County.

Revenue from user charges supports the activities necessary to provide all Solid Waste services except curbside recycling, bulky waste services, bagged leaf collection and neighborhood cleanup activities. These programs are supported by a transfer from the General Fund. Street Lighting services are supported by a Sanitary District tax levy on real and personal property in those Sanitary Districts where street lights are installed.

The Solid Waste services provided consist of operating a transfer station, public use areas, limited curbside refuse collection and recyclables collection, neighborhood and community maintenance cleanups, Keep Henrico Beautiful program, bulky waste and bagged leaf collection, and maintaining two closed landfills. The street lighting services provided consist of accounting for the operation and maintenance of several designated street lighting districts.

### Objectives

- To provide for disposal of solid waste in a manner consistent with State and Federal laws and regulations and policies of the County Board of Supervisors.
- To administer the street lighting program in sanitary Districts 2, 3, 3.1, 12 and 23 in a manner consistent with policies of the County Board of Supervisors.

### Budget Highlights

Projected Solid Waste revenues in FY2018-19 are \$13,632,122, inclusive of a General Fund subsidy of \$3,018,511, which remains flat compared to the prior year approved budget based upon anticipated expenditures in the four General Fund supported programs administered by Solid Waste. Outside of the General Fund transfer, locally generated revenues are projected to increase \$577,025 or 5.6 percent when compared to the prior fiscal year. Revenues are sufficient to cover all operating expenditures for Solid Waste in FY2018-19. The Division's total expenditures of \$13,715,222 remain relatively flat to the FY2017-18 approved budget with a decrease of \$7,849 or 0.1 percent.

### Annual Fiscal Plan

Description	FY17 Actual	FY18 Original	FY19 Approved	Change 18 to 19
Personnel	\$ 3,775,171	\$ 3,962,231	\$ 4,093,048	3.3%
Operation	7,741,455	7,667,195	8,107,943	5.7%
Capital	278,303	2,010,545	1,431,131	(28.8%)
Total Solid Waste	<u>\$ 11,794,929</u>	<u>\$ 13,639,971</u>	<u>\$ 13,632,122</u>	<u>(0.1%)</u>
Street Lights	62,662	83,100	83,100	0.0%
Total Solid Waste/Street Lights	<u><u>\$ 11,857,591</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 13,723,071</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 13,715,222</u></u>	<u><u>(0.1%)</u></u>
 Personnel Complement	 69	 69	 67 *	 (2)

\* A Laborer and an Equipment Operator II were moved from the Solid Waste personnel complement to the Water & Sewer personnel complement to work on the Cobbs Creek Reservoir Project.

*Solid Waste (cont'd)*

<b>Performance Measures</b>				
	<u>FY17</u>	<u>FY18</u>	<u>FY19</u>	<u>Change 18 to 19</u>
<b>Workload Measures</b>				
Tons Collected by Refuse Collection	49,599	48,000	49,000	1,000
Tons Collected by Bulky Waste	658	600	600	0
Tons Collected by Neighborhood Cleanups	2,517	3,000	3,000	0
Tons Deposited in Public Use Areas	27,836	25,000	26,000	1,000
Number of Refuse Customers	47,955	49,000	50,000	1,000

The personnel component is budgeted at \$4,093,048 in FY2018-19, and reflects an increase of \$130,817 or 3.3 percent when compared to the FY2017-18 approved budget. The increase in the personnel component is due to a salary increase in FY2018-19 as well as an increase in health care expenditures. It is important to note that two vacant positions, a Laborer and Equipment Operator II, have been moved to the Water & Sewer personnel complement to work on the Cobbs Creek Reservoir project.

The operating component of the budget reflects an increase of \$440,748 or 5.7 percent which is in part due to the movement of funds from the capital outlay component to accurately reflect projected expenditures. The capital outlay component of the budget reflects a decrease of \$579,414, or 28.8 percent. The FY2018-19 capital component totals \$1,431,131 and includes funding for a rubber tracked mini-excavator, a used road tractor, 2 120-cubic yard refuse trailers, a backhoe, a wheeled front-end loader, 3 automated refuse collection trucks, 8 roll-off boxes, 4 CB radios, 4 desktop/laptop workstations as well as the replacement of refuse and public use area (PUA) equipment that has reached the end of its useful life. Overall, the operating and capital components of the budget reflect a net decrease of \$138,666, or 1.4 percent from the FY2017-18 approved budget.

The Solid Waste budget is captured in four distinct areas – Administration, Collection Operations, Processing and Disposal and Litter Control (Keep Henrico Beautiful). What follows is a description of each major area in the Solid Waste Budget:

**Administration:**

The budget for Administration is \$2,250,324 and represents a decrease of \$442,971, or 16.4 percent. The bulk of the decrease is due to the removal of

funding from the capital component that was used to replace two automated refuse collection trucks, and three rear loaders refuse packers in FY2017-18.

**Collection Operations:**

The budget for Collection Operations totals \$5,860,971 and represents an increase of \$1,042,394 or 21.6 percent when compared to the prior fiscal year approved budget. This increase is primarily due to an increase in interdepartmental billings which was adjusted to accurately reflect the cost of transfer station services provided to other functions.

**Refuse Collection**

The budget for the Refuse Collection area is \$4,818,771, which represents an increase of \$1,010,173, or 26.5 percent. This increase is due to an adjustment to interdepartmental billings to cover the cost of transfer station services. Weekly refuse collection services are provided to approximately 48,000 households in the County by eleven refuse collection crews, operating County owned equipment.

**Bulky Waste Collection**

Bulky Waste Collection operates during normal business hours and will collect large items, such as furniture, appliances and yard waste, and deposit them in a solid waste disposal facility. The cost for this service is a \$43 per trip fee. The program also receives a subsidy of \$174,024 from the General Fund. The FY2018-19 budget continues to include the estimated cost to provide free bulky waste pick up for all County residents that currently participate in the Real Estate Tax Advantage Program (REAP).

**Bagged Leaf Services**

The budget for Bagged Leaf Services is \$157,904, which increased from the prior fiscal year approved budget by \$29,286 or 22.8 percent. This increase is due

*Solid Waste (cont'd)*

to an adjustment to interdepartmental billings. Bagged Leaf Services provides two collections in each neighborhood from November through February per a published Leaf Collection Schedule. A transfer from the General Fund fully supports the costs associated with Bagged Leaf Services.

Community and Neighborhood Cleanup

Cleanup expenditures total \$555,917 in FY2018-19, which represents a \$2,182 or 0.4 percent decrease from the prior year approved budget. There are no personnel costs budgeted for Cleanup activities, however \$268,127 is budgeted for employees from other areas of Solid Waste to perform this service. A General Fund subsidy fully supports cleanup costs.

Processing and Disposal:

The FY2018-19 budget of \$5,401,344 for Processing and Disposal represents a decrease of \$621,760 or 10.3 percent from the prior year approved budget. The Processing and Disposal budget components cover recycling, transfer station and public use area operation, and landfill post closure.

Recycling

Recycling expenditures total \$2,870,902 in FY2018-19, representing a decrease of \$7,192 or 0.2 percent. The County contracts recycling services through the Central Virginia Waste Management Authority (CVWMA). The curbside recycling program currently serves approximately 85,000 homes in the County at \$2.05 per home per month. The County also contracts with CVWMA for the collection of recyclables at 12 drop-off locations (9 fire stations, 2 public use areas, and the Shane Road Recycling Center). A General Fund subsidy of \$2,130,666 supports recycling costs.

Transfer Station

On July 1, 2014, the County began operating a transfer station at Ford's Country Lane due to the closure of the landfill. The cost of the transfer station is entirely covered by charges to other functions through interdepartmental billings for transfer station services. The transfer station will accept refuse from the County's Refuse Collection Service, Public Use Areas, Bulky Waste Collection, and Community/Neighborhood Cleanups.

Public Use Areas

The FY2018-19 budget for the Public Use Areas is \$2,072,692, an increase of \$521,697, or 33.6 percent. This increase is primarily due to an increase in interdepartmental billings. Solid Waste operates two Public Use Areas in the County, on the western end at

Ford's Country Lane, and on the eastern end at Charles City Road. The Public Use Areas are available to citizens to deposit refuse for a fee of \$3 per visit and deposit recyclables at no charge. Coupon books are available for ten visits at a cost of \$27 and for fifteen visits at a cost of \$40. The Public Use Areas are open three hundred and sixty days a year, closing on January 1<sup>st</sup>, July 4<sup>th</sup>, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The Public Use Areas receive approximately 28,000 tons of refuse annually.

Landfill Post Closure

Landfill Post Closure expenditures of \$457,750 in FY2018-19 remain flat compared to the prior year budget. Funding in this area exists for post closure care of both closed landfills located at Nine Mile Road and Springfield Rd. In addition, funding for the operation, maintenance, and environmental sampling of the landfill gas collection system at the Glen Allen Softball Complex comes from this component.

Litter Control (Keep Henrico Beautiful):

The FY2018-19 budget for Litter Control is \$119,483, which reflects an increase of \$14,488, or 13.8 percent compared to the FY2017-18 approved budget. Solid Waste receives an annual grant from the State Litter Control Board for this program, which is budgeted at \$40,000 in FY2018-19.

General Fund Subsidies:

The General Fund subsidy of \$3,018,511 represents no change from the prior fiscal year. Included in the subsidy is \$2,130,666 for the curbside recycling program and \$887,845 for the cost of Community and Neighborhood Cleanup activities, Bagged Leaf Collection, and Bulky Waste Collection. The subsidy for Bulky Waste Collection is net of the revenue from the \$43 per trip fee. The FY2018-19 subsidy for bulky waste factors in the cost of REAP participants receiving free bulky waste pick up service. The components of the General Fund subsidies for Recycling, Community and Neighborhood Cleanups, Bagged Leaf Collections, and Bulky Waste Collection are depicted below.

	<b>FY2017-18</b>	<b>FY2018-19</b>	<b>Percent Change</b>
Recycling	2,130,666	2,130,666	0.0%
Bulky Waste	201,128	174,024	-13.5%
Cleanups	558,099	555,917	-0.4%
Bagged Leaf	128,618	157,904	22.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,018,511</b>	<b>3,018,511</b>	<b>0.0%</b>

*Solid Waste (cont'd)*

**Street Lighting**

The County provides street lighting in certain areas which are funded with supplemental tax levies to residents and businesses in those areas. The budget for FY2018-19 will maintain service levels for the current 156 street lights in District #2, 163 street lights in District #3, the 27 streetlights in District #3.1, the 27 street lights in District #23, and the 87 street lights in District #12. Projected street lighting revenues and expenditures in FY2018-19 total \$83,100, representing no change from the prior year approved budget.

The street lighting personal property levy for each Sanitary District remains at \$0.001 for all districts and the real property levies remain unchanged for

FY2018-19 at the following rates:

Sanitary District	Approved Rate
District #2	\$0.003
District #3	\$0.010
District #3.1	\$0.031
District #23	\$0.010
District #12	\$0.010

It should be noted that the real property rates were decreased for street lighting in the FY2006-07 approved budget. Prior to that decrease, the real property tax levies had not been reduced since calendar year 1981 for all existing sanitary districts.