

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, 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.

FISCAL YEAR 2020 SUMMARY

Annual Fiscal Plan

Description	FY18	FY19	FY20	Change
	Actual	Original	Approved	19 to 20
Personnel	\$ 3,949,918	\$ 4,093,048	\$ 4,198,872	2.6%
Operation	7,642,017	8,107,943	9,011,530	11.1%
Capital	2,735,108	1,431,131	1,544,131	7.9%
Total Solid Waste	\$ 14,327,043	\$ 13,632,122	\$ 14,754,533	8.2%
Street Lights	64,770	83,100	83,100	0.0%
Total Solid Waste/Street Lights	\$ 14,391,813	\$ 13,715,222	\$ 14,837,633	8.2%
Personnel Complement	67	67 *	69 *	2

* Three positions were transferred from Solid Waste to Water & Sewer -- two of these positions are reflected in the FY2018 and FY2019 numbers. One position is not reflected in the FY2019 number as the reallocation occurred during FY2019. The revised personnel complement for FY2019 is 66 positions. The three positions are being restored to the Solid Waste complement in FY2020 however due to the one position that is not reflected in FY2019 the increase appears to be two positions instead of three.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	<u>FY18</u>	<u>FY19</u>	<u>FY20</u>	<u>Change 19 to 20</u>
Workload Measures				
Tons Collected by Refuse Collection	47,065	48,000	49,000	1,000
Tons Collected by Bulky Waste	726	700	700	0
Tons Collected by Neighborhood Cleanups	2,549	3,000	3,000	0
Tons Deposited in Public Use Areas	25,504	26,000	27,000	1,000
Number of Refuse Customers	49,088	50,000	51,000	1,000

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Projected Solid Waste revenues in FY2019-20 are \$14,754,533, inclusive of a General Fund subsidy of \$3,371,409, which increased by \$352,898 or 11.7 percent when compared to last fiscal year. The General Fund subsidy supports four programs which are administered by Solid Waste. The increase to the General Fund subsidy is driven by an increase in recycling costs, which is due to a \$30/ton handling fee being added to the CVWMA curbside contract. Outside of the General Fund transfer, locally generated revenues are projected to remain relatively flat with an increase of \$5,550 or 0.1 percent when compared to the prior fiscal year. Revenues are sufficient to cover all operating expenditures for Solid Waste in FY2019-20. The Division's total expenditures of \$14,837,633 increased by \$1,122,411 or 8.2 percent when compared to the FY2018-19 approved budget.

The personnel component is budgeted at \$4,198,872 in FY2019-20, and reflects an increase of \$105,824 or 2.6 percent when compared to the FY2018-19 approved budget. The increase is in part due to the addition of three Equipment Operator III positions added in FY2019-20 to replace three vacant positions moved to Water & Sewer for the staffing of the Cobbs Creek reservoir construction project. The personnel component is also increasing due to the budgeting of a raise as well as rising health care costs.

The operating component of the budget reflects an increase of \$903,587 or 11.1 percent which is primarily due to an increase in the accounts for the Purchase of Services from Other Governments as well as Vehicle Repair. The increase to the Purchase of Services from Other Governments account is primarily a result of a \$30/ton handling fee being added to the CVWMA curbside recycling contract. This handling fee is to cover the increase in recycling cost across the industry due to changes internationally. The costs of vehicle repairs for refuse are increasing due to the shorter useful life of the automated trucks, especially the arms that pick-up the trash cans.

The capital outlay component of the budget reflects an increase of \$113,000, or 7.9 percent. The FY2019-20 capital component totals \$1,544,131 and includes funding for two sets of replacement wheels for transfer station loaders, four refuse roll-off trucks, three automated refuse collection trucks, four CB radios, six desktop workstations, two 120-cubic yard refuse trailers 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 an increase of 10.7 percent or \$1,016,587 compared to the FY2018-19 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 \$2,363,213 and represents an increase of \$112,889, or 5.0 percent.

COLLECTION OPERATIONS

The budget for Collection Operations totals \$6,095,238 and represents an increase of \$234,267 or 4.0 percent when compared to the prior fiscal year approved budget.

Refuse Collection

The budget for the Refuse Collection area is \$4,999,794, which represents an increase of \$181,023, or 3.8 percent. Weekly refuse collection services are provided to approximately 49,000 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 collects large items such as furniture, appliances, and yard waste to 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 \$121,459 from the General Fund. The FY2019-20 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 \$155,957, which decreased from the prior fiscal year approved budget by \$1,947 or 1.2 percent. 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 \$610,429 in FY2019-20, which represents a \$54,512 or 9.8 percent increase from the prior year approved budget. There are no personnel costs budgeted for Cleanup activities, however \$287,759 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 FY2019-20 budget of \$6,173,444 for Processing and Disposal represents an increase of \$772,100 or 14.3 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 \$3,537,120 in FY2019-20, representing an increase of \$666,218 or 23.2 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

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stations, 2 public use areas, and the Shane Road Recycling Center). A General Fund subsidy of \$2,483,564 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 FY2019-20 budget for the Public Use Areas is \$2,197,242, an increase of \$124,550, or 6.0 percent. This increase is primarily due to an increase in interdepartmental billings. Solid Waste operates two Public Use Areas in the County, in the western end at Ford's Country Lane, and in 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 360 days per year and receive approximately 28,000 tons of refuse annually.

Landfill Post Closure

Landfill Post Closure expenditures of \$457,750 in FY2019-20 remain flat compared to the prior year budget. Funding in this area exists for post closure care of both closed landfills which are located at Nine Mile Rd. 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 FY2019-20 budget for Litter Control is \$122,638, which reflects an increase of \$3,155, or 2.6 percent compared to the FY2018-19 approved budget. Solid Waste receives an annual grant from the State Litter Control Board for this program, which is budgeted at \$40,000 in FY2019-20.

GENERAL FUND SUBSIDIES

The General Fund subsidy of \$3,371,409 represents a \$352,898 or 11.7 percent increase compared to the prior fiscal year. Included in the subsidy is \$2,483,564 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 FY2019-20 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 in the following chart.

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	FY2018-19	FY2019-20	Percent Change
Recycling	2,130,666	2,483,564	16.6%
Bulky Waste	174,024	121,459	-30.2%
Cleanups	555,917	610,429	9.8%
Bagged Leaf	157,904	155,957	-1.2%
Total	3,018,511	3,371,409	11.7%

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 FY2019-20 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 FY2019-20 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 FY2019-20 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.