

# City of Philadelphia Solid Waste & Recycling Advisory Committee

## Identification of Strategic Opportunities and Planning Objectives

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# Today's Agenda

- Review purpose and structure of meeting
- Provide relevant background on planning process
- Identify key opportunities for discussion
- Conduct facilitated discussion
- Meeting wrap-up

# Purpose of Meeting

- Obtain input from SWRAC for planning process – individual objectives and visions for Plan
- Through a facilitated discussion, seek common ground on objectives and visions
- Identify realistic opportunities (near-term, long-term) to meet common interests
- Use discussions to help frame the focus and content of the Plan

# Structure of Meeting

- Brainstorming session – open discussion by SWRAC members
- Facilitated – monitor and guide discussions to stay on topic and cover all items of interest
- NOT looking for a consensus or prescriptive direction for Plan – visioning guidance

# Planning Process and SWRAC Role

- General purpose of Plan – promote waste reduction and recycling, and manage disposal using integrated system that benefits the City and its residents and businesses
- Act 101 requires use of a fair, open and competitive process for selecting alternatives during the planning process
- Substantial revision process requires public participation, including formation of advisory committee (SWRAC)
- SWRAC is intended to include representation from different stakeholders, including citizen organizations and industry
- SWRAC Role – review Plan during preparation, make suggestions, propose changes; working relationship with City during planning process

# Background - Timelines

## Planning Timeline

- June 2005 – Previous Plan Revision
- July 2013 – City advised PADEP of substantial plan revision
- November 2013 – SWRAC meets to initiate planning process
- July 2014 – Targeted effective date for revised Plan
- June 2024 – Targeted end date for revised Plan

## Contractual Timeline

- July 2010 – City entered into recyclables processing contract
- July 2012 – City entered into disposal contracts
- June 2014 – End date of recyclables processing contract (including all renewal options)
- June 2019 – End date of disposal contracts (including all renewal options)

# Facilitated Discussion

# Key Opportunities for Discussion

## Waste Reduction and Recycling

- Strengthen existing programs
- Modify existing programs
- Develop new programs
- Develop new facilities
- Other?

## Waste Disposal

- Continue current disposal methods
- Consider new disposal methods
- Other?

# Issues to Consider for Discussion

- Objective is to identify realistic options
  - What options are feasible and beneficial, and should be included in the Plan?
  - What options are of interest, but over a longer-term basis or subject to additional study and analysis?
  - What options are not of interest or not feasible, and should be excluded?
- Feasibility considerations
  - Compatibility
  - Complexity
  - Cost
  - Impact
  - Risks and benefits

# Waste Reduction and Recycling: Strengthen Existing Programs

- Increase education and outreach
- Create new incentives
- **Add new materials**
- Provide additional drop-off sites
- Revise policies and ordinances
- Increase enforcement
- Other?

# Waste Reduction and Recycling: Modify Existing Programs

- Add new materials
- Change collection practices
  - Collection of source-separated organics
  - Wet/dry collection
  - **Improve drop-off center network**
- Change processing practices
  - **Organics processing & anaerobic digestion**
  - Mixed waste processing
  - City-owned processing facility
- Other?

# Waste Reduction and Recycling: New Opportunities

- Develop new programs
- Develop new facilities
- Other?

# Waste Disposal: Continue Current Disposal Methods

- Landfilling
- Waste-to-energy
- SpecFuel
- Composting

# Waste Disposal:

## Consider New Disposal Methods

- Non-combustion thermal processing (e.g., pyrolysis, gasification, plasma gasification)
- Mixed waste processing with anaerobic digestion of organic fraction
- Specialized technology and/or targeted feedstock
  - Anaerobic digestion of food waste
  - Plastic-to-oil
- City-owned facility or public-private partnership

# Other Opportunities for Discussion

- Waste reduction and recycling
- Waste disposal
- Other planning topics

# Meeting Wrap-Up

- Brief summary of discussions
- In-meeting exit survey
- Next steps