

**TEN STEP PLANNER
BOARD OF COMMISSIONER WORK SESSIONS**

This form needs to be reviewed and approved by the board **before** a work session is scheduled.

REQUESTED BY: Public Health – Solid Waste

1. **TOPIC:** Solid Waste rates increase request from Waste Connections related to recycling market shift and subsequent system impacts.

2. **WORK SESSION:**
NAMES OF STAFF MEMBERS TO PRESENT AND ATTEND THE WORK SESSION:
Travis Dutton – Solid Waste Program Manager
Mike Davis – Sr. Environmental Operations Specialist
Kim Harless – Environmental Operations Specialist
Janis Koch – Environmental Health Director
Amanda Migchelbrink – Clark County Prosecuting Attorney
Jason Hudson/Derek Ranta – Waste Connections/Columbia Resource Company

3. **TIME FRAME:**
LENGTH OF TIME NEEDED: 1.5 hours
DESIRED DATE: November 28th, 2018
SCHEDULED DATE OF WORK SESSION: _____

4. **TIMING CONSIDERATIONS:** *Why now?*
Waste Connections submitted a formal request on July 17th, 2018 to the county to increase the cost of recycling to Clark County residents and businesses. The formal request states Waste Connections is experiencing an estimated \$290,000 monthly loss from the processing and sale of recyclables. Recycling markets are likely still settling into a new norm, we would like to discuss strategies to address current and future challenges.

5. **DESIRED RESULTS:** *What is being asked of the Board?*
Solid Waste staff would like to present to the Council financial details regarding the decline in revenue from recyclables, feedback from the cities and towns within the county, as well as a summary of recommended solution to address the request. This summary would include cost increase details, how they effectively address the request, what impacts they would have on the system, and how they might be adaptable for future market changes.

6. **IMPACTS (COMMUNITY/FINANCIAL/STAFF/OTHER):** *Why should the Board hear about this?*
 1. Potential increase of rates or addition of fees to address revenue loss – these would apply to all customers to which the fee applies.
 2. Clark County Solid Waste and Environmental Outreach is increasing efforts and prioritizing strategies to help reduce contamination in curbside recycling.
 3. Clark County Solid Waste and Environmental Outreach will work with Waste Connections and regional groups to identify short, mid, and long term solutions to mitigate future impacts of market changes.

7. **POLICY IMPLICATIONS:** *Are there implications for County or Department Policy; if so, what?*

There are no anticipated changes to County or Department Policy related to the rate increase. Depending on the solution identified, there may be amendments made to current contracts or to existing solid waste ordinances.

8. **ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED:** *What should the Board be aware of? Is there some disagreement or controversy? What are the options?*

The markets to which curbside recyclable materials have traditionally been sold have dramatically shifted in both quality requirements and value. In response to this, Waste Connections has made modifications to their sorting facility to meet these quality demands (slowing line, adding people) which has added additional costs. Additionally, the price paid by new and domestic markets for sorted recyclables has gone down. County staff is working with the public on cleaning what goes into our bins and working to identify long-term solutions in order to ensure that the values of recycling are sustained, including more efficient natural resource use and maximizing landfill space.

9. **RECOMMENDED ACTION:** *What will be asked of the Board at the conclusion of the work session?*

We would like the Council to review provided information and recommended solutions and answer the following questions:

- a. What additional information is needed, if any?
- b. What is the Council's preferred solution?

APPROVED FOR SCHEDULING:

Signature of requestor:

DATE: _____