

REGIONAL REVIEW NOTIFICATION

Atlanta Regional Commission • 40 Courtland Street NE, Atlanta, Georgia 30303 • ph: 404.463.3100 • fax:404.463.3105 • www.atlantaregional.com

DATE: 7/5/2005 **ARC REVIEW CODE:** Z507051

TO: Mayor Ralph Moore

ATTN TO: Buddy Landrum, Public Works Director

FROM: Charles Krautler, Director

NOTE: This is digital signature. Original on file.

The Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) has received the following proposal and is initiating a regional review to seek comments from potentially impacted jurisdictions and agencies. The ARC requests your comments regarding related to the proposal not addressed by the Commission's regional plans and policies.

Name of Proposal: City of Union City Solid Waste Management Plan 2005

Review Type: Solid Waste Management Plan

Description: Draft Solid Waste Management Plan 2005 for City of Union City.

Submitting Local Government: City of Union City

Action Under Consideration: Approval

Date Opened: 7/5/2005

Deadline for Comments: 7/19/2005

Earliest the Regional Review can be Completed: 9/2/2005

THE FOLLOWING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND AGENCIES ARE RECEIVING NOTICE OF THIS REVIEW:

ARC LAND USE PLANNING
GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
CITY OF PALMETTO
CITY OF COLLEGE PARK
TOWN OF TYRONE

ARC ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING CITY OF FAIRBURN CITY OF ATLANTA CITY OF EAST POINT CITY OF PEACHTREE CITY GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS FULTON COUNTY FAYETTE COUNTY CITY OF HAPEVILLE COWETA COUNTY

Attached is information concerning this review.

If you have any questions regarding this review, Please call Mike Alexander, Review Coordinator, at (404) 463-3302. If the ARC staff does not receive comments from you by 7/19/2005, we will assume that your agency has no additional comments and we will close the review. Comments by email are strongly encouraged.

The ARC review website is located at: http://www.atlantaregional.com/qualitygrowth/reviews.html.



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NOTICE OF LOCAL PLAN SUBMITTAL AND HEARING/COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

Submitting Local Government:	City of Union City	Date Received:	7/5/2005
Local Contact:	Buddy Landrum, Public Works Director City of Union City	Public Hearing Date and Time:	7/19/2005 9:00am
Phone:	770-964-2288	E-Mail:	
Fax:	770-306-6861	Website:	
Street	5047 Union Street	City State, Zip:	Union City, Georgia 30291
	Department of Comm	unity Affairs	Review Required
Review Title: Description:	City of Union City Solid Wa Draft Solid Waste Managen	J	
The submitte	Document can be viewed on http://www.atlantaregiona Click on the Regional Reviewed documents are available	l.com/qualitygr w Notice for the	owth/compplanreviews.html e City of Union City.
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RESOLUTION NO. 2005-07

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSMITTAL OF THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE CITY OF UNION CITY TO THE ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION

WHEREAS, the city of Union City has prepared a Solid Waste Management Plan for the years 2005-2014.

WHEREAS, the Solid Waste Management Plan was prepared in accordance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management Plans established by the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act.

WHEREAS, Public Hearings on the Plan were held on April 19, 2005, at 7:00 PM and on June 21, 2005, at 7:00 PM at the Union City, City Hall.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and City Council of Union City does hereby submit the Solid Waste Management Plan to the Atlanta Regional Commission for review, as per the requirements from the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 21st day of June 2005.

Mavor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

(SEAL)

Draft Solid Waste Management Plan 2005

CITY OF UNION CITY



Submitted To
The Georgia Department of Community Affairs
June 2005

Prepared By:



TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>PAGE</u>
FORWARD	
Planning Process and Purpose	1
SECTION 1	
Introduction	2
SECTION 2	
Waste Stream Analysis	4
SECTION 3	
Waste Reduction Element	8
SECTION 4	
Collection Element	11
SECTION 5	
Disposal Element	16
SECTION 6	
Land Limitation Element	19
SECTION 7	
Education and Public Involvement Element	21
SECTION 8	
Implementation Strategy	24

TABLE OF CONTENTS (continued)

	<u>P</u>	AGE
	TABLES	
Table No.		
1.1 1.2 2.1 2.2 2.3 2.4 2.5 2.6 2.7 4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4 5.1 5.2	Employment by Sector Population History and Projections Quantity of MSW/Recyclables Collected Composition of Solid Waste Population Projections for Planning Period Annual Projections (Without Reductions) MSW by Composition Annual Projections (Without Reductions) Waste Reduction Calculations Graduated Changes in Disposal and Recycle Rates Base Collection/Recycling Rates Residential Garbage/Recycling Rates Industrial/Commercial Collection Fees Solid Waste Customers by Type Remaining Landfill Capacity - ARC Counties Landfills Receiving Union City MSW	2 3 4 5 6 7 7 11 12 13 16 17
	LIST OF MAPS	
Map No.		
1 6.1 6.2 6.3 6.4	General Location Map Union City Base Map Areas Environmentally Unsuitable for MSW Handling Facilities Union City Official Zoning Map Developed Areas/Boundaries Unsuitable for MSW Handling Facilities Limitations Composite Map	

TABLE OF CONTENTS (continued)

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A	Authorizing Resolution (For Submittal ARC)
APPENDIX B	Disposal Capacity Assurance Letters
APPENDIX C	Public Hearing Notices, Agendas, Minutes
APPENDIX D	Curbside Waste Collection and Recycling Contract
APPENDIX E	Solid Waste Ordinance and Structure Resolution
APPENDIX F	Education and public Involvement
APPENDIX G	Union City Zoning Ordinance (Landfills Not Permitted) M-1 and M-2 Districts (Transfer Station Permitted)
APPENDIX H	Sanitation Fund Financial Information
APPENDIX I	GA EPD 2004 Report of Landfill Capacity

PLANNING PROCESS AND PURPOSE

This Solid Waste Management Plan has been completed pursuant to the Official Code of Georgia, Annotated, Section 12-8-20 et seq., also know as the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act. The Plan has been prepared according to the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures promulgated by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, which are intended to provide a framework to facilitate and encourage integrated, comprehensive solid waste management planning at the local, multi-jurisdictional, and regional levels.

The Plan is organized according to five core-planning elements: waste reduction, collection, disposal, land limitation, and education and public involvement. These core elements are preceded by an introductory waste stream analysis and followed by an implementation schedule. Each element of the Plan provides an inventory and assessment of the current status of solid waste management practices in the planning area, derives needs and goals from that assessment, and determines how an effective and comprehensive solid waste management program will be implemented within the jurisdiction.

The Solid Waste Management Act requires that this plan:

- Provide for the assurance of adequate solid waste collection capability and disposal capacity within the planning area for at least ten years from the date of plan completion.
- Promote a program to reduce by 25 percent the per capita rate of municipal solid waste disposed of statewide in solid waste facilities. (FY 1992 is to be considered the base year.)
- Identify solid waste handling facilities within the plan's area as to size and type.
- Identify land areas in the planning area unsuitable for solid waste handling facilities based on environmental and land use factors.

This plan is submitted to the Department of Community Affairs to fulfill these requirements as well as to provide the citizens of the planning area a guide for future solid waste management.

SECTION 1 INTRODUCTION

The City of Union City is located in south Fulton County approximately 14 miles southwest of downtown Atlanta. Union City was incorporated on August 17, 1908, and derived its name from the National Farmers Union because its national headquarters were located in the City. When chartered, the corporate limit was a two mile square with the northwest and southwest corners clipped. The charter limit contained 2,358 acres. The present corporate limits encompass approximately 5,600 acres.

Interstate 85, State Route 138 and U.S. Highway 29 serve the City and provide access for both personal and commercial traffic. Railway systems in the area include the Atlanta and West Point Railroad and Seaboard Coastline Railroad both part of CSX Transportation, Inc. Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport is located approximately 6 miles northeast of Union City. A private airfield, South Fulton Sky Port, is located to the south in Palmetto, Georgia and provides facilities for private aircraft. Union City is served by the MARTA public transportation system.

Climatic conditions prevailing in Union City are best characterized as variable. A humid subtropical climate results with average temperatures ranging from 45°F in January to 80°F in July. The average rainfall is 48 inches.

Union City is located in the Greenville Slope District of the Southern Piedmont Province of Georgia with elevations ranging from 830 to 1040 feet above mean sea level. The landscape is gently rolling well drained terrain.

Union City's economy is influenced by that of the greater Atlanta area. The economy of the region has no physical boundaries, therefore, the citizens of the community work and trade in several different governmental jurisdictions. Today's economy of Union City includes major employment areas in educational/health/social services, retail trade, manufacturing and transportation. *Table 1.1* reflects Union City's employment by sector.

TABLE 1.1 Employment by Sector 2000 City of Union City

Sector	Number	Percent	
Agriculture, Forestry and Mining	10	0.2	
Construction	287	5.6	
Manufacturing	446	8.7	
Wholesale Trade	190	3.7	
Retail Trade	523	10.2	
Transportation, Warehousing, Utilities	600	11.8	

Sector	Number	Percent
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	445	8.7
Information	239	4.7
Professional, Management, Scientific, Administrative	409	8.0
Educational, Health and Social Services	878	17.2
Arts, Recreation, Accommodation and Food Services	429	8.4
Other Services	245	4.8
Public Administration	403	7.9

Source: U. S. Bureau of the Census 2000

The Union City government is governed by a Mayor and City Council form of government with a full-time City Administrator. Daily management of City affairs is accomplished by a City Administrator and staff. The City Administrator, City Engineer and City Attorney are appointed yearly by the Mayor and Council. Other major appointments by the Mayor and City Council are the Public Safety Director, Police Chief, Fire Chief and Public Services Director. City operated utilities include water and sewer.

Solid waste collection, recycling and disposal are provided by the City under contract with BFI, natural gas service is provided by Atlanta Gas Light Company, electrical service is provided by Georgia Power and local telephone is provided by BellSouth, Inc.

There are approximately 22 acres of neighborhood parks located within the city limits of Union City that offer baseball/softball facilities, tennis courts and football fields. Approximately 10 miles west of the City is a county park, Cochran Mill Park. This facility offers camping and picnics. In addition, there are an abundance of walking and riding trails available for public use in the area. Churches, two elementary schools, a community center, a Georgia Military College satellite campus, historic sites, a library and civic organizations round out community facilities and activities.

Union City's 2000 population according to the U.S. Bureau of the Census was 11,621. *Table 1.2* reflects population history and projections from 1980 to 2025.

TABLE 1.2
Population History and Projections
City of Union City
1980 - 2025

Year	Population	Percent Change
4000	4.700	
1980	4,780	
1990	10,210	+113.6
2000	11,621	+13.8
2005	14,058	+20.9
2010	16,306	+15.9
2015	18,745	+14.9
2020	21,403	+14.1
2025	23,365	+9.2

Source: Fulton County Comprehensive Plan 2005.

SECTION 2 WASTE STREAM ANALYSIS

Inventory of Waste Stream Generators

The primary contributors to the overall waste stream in the City of Union City are residential, commercial/industrial sources and yard trimmings. FY2004 quantity collection data by source and collecting agency is reflected in *Table 2.1*.

TABLE 2.1

Quantity of Municipal Solid Waste and Recyclables Collected
For Fiscal Year 2004

City of Union City

Collection Agency	Waste Handled	Quantity of Solid Waste Collected Tons/Year
*BFI	Residential Recyclables Commercial/ Industrials	5640 802 6804
**City of Union City Public Services Dept.	Yard Trimmings (reused as mulch)	284
BFI Collected @ Union City Clean-up Weekends		73

TOTAL 13603 Tons

There is no local level data as to the composition of the City's waste stream so data from the Georgia Environmental Division's (GA EPD) Seasonal Support Report completed in 2004 and complied/published by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (GA DCA) is utilized for purposes of this document. That information is depicted in *Table 2.2*. As noted, the composition of the waste stream includes paper, plastic, glass, metal organic, C&D and inorganic materials.

^{*} Indicates the collection agency with City contract.

^{**} Indicates 100% of collection chipped for reuse as mulch.

TABLE 2.2 Composition of Solid Waste City of Union City 2004

Waste Type	Percent of Total MSW
Paper	37.7%
Plastic	16.2%
Glass	4.1%
Metal	5.5%
Organic	27.9%
C & D	5.9%
Inorganic	2.8%

Source: Seasonal Waste Sorts, GA DCA 2004

Summary population data from the Fulton County Comprehensive Plan is presented in the introduction to this document in five (5) year intervals from 1980 through 2025. For purposes of the Waste Stream Analysis that data has been recalculated on an annualized basis for the period 2005 through 2014.

TABLE 2.3
City of Union City
Solid Waste Management Plan
Population Projections For Ten-Year Planning Period 2005-2014

YEAR	POPULATION
2005	14,058
2006	14,562
2007	14,994
2008	15,462
2009	15,930
2010	16,348
2011	16,866
2012	17,334
2013	17,802
2014	18,270

Source: Fulton County Comprehensive Plan.

Using the information gathered in the inventory phase, anticipated waste amounts without reductions for the planning period have been extrapolated for the period 2005 through 2014 which encompasses the entire planning period. *Table 2.4* reflects the projected annual waste stream tonnage generated, disposed of, recycled and per capita pounds per day per person (PPD). The population data is from the previously cited population projections (*Table 2.3*). The annual tonnage amounts are calculated on an incremental increase in volume basis consistent with the rate of annual population growth.

TABLE 2.4
Annual Projections Without Reductions
Municipal Solid Waste 2004 - 2014
City of Palmetto

Year	Population	Tons Disposed	Tons Recycled	Total Generated	Lbs./Person/Day Generated
2004	13650	12329	1274	13603	5.46
2005	14058	12698	1312	14010	5.46
2006	14562	13155	1359	14514	5.46
2007	14994	13549	1395	14944	5.46
2008	15462	13973	1436	15409	5.46
2009	15930	14396	1475	15871	5.45
2010	16348	14771	1513	16284	5.45
2011	16866	15229	1560	16789	5.45
2012	17334	15651	1603	17254	5.45
2013	17802	16074	1646	17720	5.45
2014	18270	17492	1689	18181	5.45

To calculate the pounds per person per day the annual total tons generated was divided by 365 to determine the total tons per day. Next, the total tons per day were multiplied by 2000 (2000 lbs. equals one ton to determine the pounds per day). That total was then divided by the projected population to determine the pounds per person per day of waste generated. This calculation was performed for each year 2004 – 2014 in *Table 2.4*.

Annual projections through the planning period for waste generated by composition without reductions are reflected in *Table 2.5*. This data was calculated by applying the pro rata percentage of each composition type from *Table 2.1* to the projected waste stream generated (exclusive of recyclables) contained in *Table 2.4* on an annual basis.

TABLE 2.5
Annual Projections Without Reductions
Municipal Waste Composition By Type 2004 - 2014
City of Union City

Year	Paper	Plastic	Glass	Metal	Organic	C&D	Inorganic
2004	4648	1997	505	670	3439	730	340
2005	4780	2055	521	698	3540	749	355
2006	4955	2131	535	720	3670	776	368
2007	5102	2190	556	745	3780	797	379
2008	5265	2260	570	768	3895	824	391
2009	5425	2330	590	790	4010	848	403
2010	5565	2390	604	810	4120	870	412
2011	5735	2465	624	835	4248	897	425
2012	5895	2535	640	860	4360	923	438
2013	6050	2603	659	880	4484	948	450
2014	6590	2833	712	962	4880	1032	483

TABLE 2.6 Waste Reduction Calculations City of Union City 2005

2005 Base Year

Population 14058

Waste Landfilled 12517 TPY

Material Recycled 1086 TPY

Per Capita Disposal Rate 5.46 PPD

Per Capita Recycling Rate 0.42 PPD

2005 Per Capital Waste Reduction Goal For Union City:

- A. 5.46 PPD x 0.25 = 1.36 PPD (25% of Base Year Disposal Rate)
- B. 1.36 PPD 0.42 PPD = 0.94 PPD (25% Red. Recycling Rate)
- C. 5.46 PPD 0.94 PPD = 4.52 PPD (Adj. Disposal Rate for 2010)

PPD = Pounds Per Person Per Day

TPY = Tons Per Year

TABLE 2.7 Illustrative Graduated Changes In Disposal And Recycling Rates To Meet The 25 Percent Reduction Goal With 2005 As The Base Year And 2010 As The Target Year City of Union City

	2005	<u>2006</u>	2007	2008	2009	<u>2010</u>
Disposal Rate PPD	5.46	5.26	5.08	4.90	4.70	4.52
Recycling Rate PPD	0.42	0.52	0.63	0.73	0.84	0.94

SECTION 3 WASTE REDUCTION ELEMENT

Inventory Assessment

The City of Union City has in place a mandatory residential recycling program. It is currently operated under contract by the City's private collection provider. The provider services approximately 3289 residential accounts with once weekly curbside pick-up utilizing 18 gallon recycling bins. Approved recyclables include specified paper, glass, plastic and aluminum/tin products. The cost of the service is included in each resident's monthly sanitation fee (\$11.25). In 2004 802 tons of recyclables were collected at curbside under this program.

In addition to the mandatory residential recycling program operated by the contract provider the City operates with its own equipment (dump truck with sides and pull behind chipping machine) a yard trimming collection and mulching program. The City's Public Services Department collects trimmings by appointment for \$25.00 per 8CY load. One hundred percent (100%) of all collected yard trimmings are ground for reuse as mulch and/or woodchips by City residents. Residents may arrange with the Public Services Department to access available mulch/woodchip supplies. In 2004 284 tons of yard trimmings were ground for reuse instead of landfilled.

In 1992 when the City's initial Solid Waste Management Plan was prepared recycling was a newly implemented initiative for the City and the yard trimmings reuse program yet to be implemented. During 2004 the documented recyclable (820 tons) and reuse (284 tons) materials diverted from the waste stream totaled 1086 tons. This represents approximately 8% of the City's total waste stream. Residential recycling represents 14.2% of residential MSW collections. Additionally, in 1992 the per capita pounds per day per person (PPD) was 6.07. In 2004 it was 5.46 a reduction of .61 lbs. or 11% of PPD. The City's PPD is considerably below the statewide PPD average.

In contrast to the findings of the DCA Solid Waste and Recycling Collection 2004 Update where it was reported that the number of local governments whose residents have access to recycling services has slowly dwindled and that there has been a steady decline in the number of local governments making residential recycling services available in their jurisdictions the City of Union City has maintained and enhanced recycling opportunities over the previous ten (10) years.

While documentation is limited or lacking there is potential that significant recycling efforts may also be taking place among commercial, institutional and industrial operations within the City who contract directly with a private recycling

provider for service. Documentation of such activities is an important need in the City's overall solid waste management planning.

Source Reduction. The City of Union City has a formal waste reduction program in the form of the yard trimming mulching reuse program previously described in this and other sections. It is likely that local commercial/industrial operations also have source reduction programs in place. However, documentation is not readily available to confirm the scope and presence of same.

Recycling. The City of Union City sponsors a mandatory residential curbside recycling program operated by its contract collection provider.

Yard Trimming Mulching/Composting. The City of Union City operates a yard trimming collection program under the auspices of the Public Services Department. Yard trimmings meeting all local and state limitations are picked up by appointment only. The cost is \$25.00 per 8CY dump truck load. In addition to this regular program twice a year the City sponsors a Community Clean Up Weekend where all qualifying yard trimmings are accepted at no charge. All yard trimmings are ground for mulch and/or woodchips for distribution to City residents.

This program requires that yard trimmings not be placed in or mixed with municipal waste and that yard trimmings be sorted and stored for collection in such a manner as to facilitate collection.

As noted, the City has a formal mulching program. The City encourages private participation in this practice as well as composting. There are numerous individual household composting activities by private citizens within the City but these are not reported and/or registered/permitted by the City so no documentation as to volumes are available. Local utility companies, tree surgeons and landscapers grind limbs, stumps and trees but this volume is not reported to the City for documentation.

As previously noted the yard trimmings collected by the City operated yard trimmings collection program are ground for mulch and/or woodchips for distribution to City residents.

Special Management Items. The City does not provide a year round formal program for special management items. However, at the twice annual Spring and Fall Clean-up Weekends the City will accept certain specified items (non-hazardous). The City does maintain a resource list of qualified firms which handle special management items and will refer citizens upon inquiry regarding the same.

Assessment of Waste Reduction Programs and Facilities. The City of Union City's contract collection provider and the City of Union City operate valuable

waste reduction programs for recycling and reuse. Their value, efficiency and effectiveness in approaching the state's 25% reduction goal are documented. The entities keep excellent records which enable waste quantities to be accurately tracked. However, gathering and tracking data from companies and programs carried out by private entities have proven problematic to identify and document.

The absence or unreliability of certain information notwithstanding, based on substantiated data there has been considerable progress achieved by the current programs even though they have not met the 25% per capita PPD reduction goal. However, it is important to note that they have reduced the per capita PPD amount by 11%, resulted in recycling 8% of the City's overall waste stream and a residential recycling rate of 14.2% of collections. In addition, the City's per capita PPD of 5.46 remains considerably below the state average.

Needs and Goals

The assessment demonstrates there is a need to continue and enhance the ongoing City sponsored recycling program and make modifications as necessary to support private contract and business recycling and reuse efforts. These enhancements should play a key role for ensuring progress toward the 25% state goal for per capita PPD reduction in landfilled waste. To meet this need the City's goal must be to continue its existing recycling efforts and expand its contacts with other private collection providers and local commercial businesses and industry to target large waste quantities for recycling, source reduction and reuse.

The assessment demonstrates there is a need to encourage and support community-based recycling and reuse programs. To meet this need the City's goal must be prepared to actively support schools, churches, civic groups and businesses as both catalyst and participants in recycling and reduction efforts.

As a primary goal the City should continue and enhance where appropriate and economically feasible the very successful yard trimming reuse program. These enhancements should be a key catalyst for achieving the 25% state goal for per capita PPD reduction in landfilled waste.

SECTION 4 COLLECTION ELEMENT

Inventory and Assessment

Union City currently contracts with a private firm (BFI) to provide residential MSW collection and recycling and industrial/commercial MSW collection. The contract was most recently renewed in October 2004 and continues until October 1, 2006. New base rates (*Table 4.1*) to the City were established at the time of the extension and are subject to an annual rate adjustment by a percentage equal to the Consumer Price Index for the prior year.

TABLE 4.1
Residential and Garbage Recycling
Base Rates with Private Collection/Disposal Provider
City of Union City
2004 Agreement Amendment

Type Service	Fee
Per Residential Unit for household garbage (curbside – once weekly)	\$7.35 per month
Per Residential Unit for household recycling (curbside – once weekly)	\$ 3.16 per month
Commercial/Industrial using greenbox containers (various collection times)	\$2.61 per cubic yard

Source: City of Union City.

Residential collection is provided one (1) time per week (Tuesdays or Fridays), and recyclables collection one (1) time per week (on the same day as the residence's household refuse is collected). Residential MSW is collected in 90 gallon roll out containers placed at curbside on the designated collection day.

In the most recently completed fiscal year the private contract provider collected 5640 tons of residential MSW in the City.

Recyclable collection is provided by means of 18 gallon recycling bins placed at curbside on the designated collection days. Acceptable recyclable products include specified paper, glass, aluminum and plastics. The recyclable collection fee is included in the household garbage fee. In the most recently completed

fiscal year the private provider collected 802 tons of residential recyclable materials in the City.

Commercial/Industrial collection is also provided by BFI. The collection method consists of servicing 2, 4, 6 or 8 yard front loading "greenbox" containers from 1 to 6 times per week depending upon the volume of waste. In the most recently completed fiscal year 6804 tons of commercial/industrial waste was collected.

Table 4.2 delineates current residential collection and recycling fees charged by the City.

TABLE 4.2
Residential Garbage and Recycling Collection Fees
City of Union City
2005

Type Service	Fee
Per Residential Unit for household garbage (curbside)	\$11.25 per container per month
Per Residential Unit for household recycling (curbside)	Included in above Fee

Source: City of Union City

Table 4.3 delineates commercial/industrial collection fees charged by the City.

TABLE 4.3
Commercial/Industrial Collection Fees
City of Union City
2005

		Collection Frequency/Fee										
Container Size	1 x Week	2 x Week	3 x Week	4 x Week	5 x Week	6 x Week						
2 yd.	24.10	48.20	72.30	96.40	120.50	144.60						
4yd.	48.20	96.40	144.60	192.80	241.00	289.20						
6yd.	72.30	144.60	216.90	289.20	361.50	435.80						
8yd.	96.40	192.80	289.20	385.60	482.00	578.74						

Source: City of Union City.

In addition to the privately provided collection services for which the City contracts described in the preceding paragraphs there is one other collection and

reuse operation in the City. The City with its personnel and equipment provides a yard trimmings collection and mulching reuse program. Operated under the direction of the City's Public Services Department yard trimmings meeting local and state standards/limitations are picked up at curbside by appointment only. The cost is \$25.00 per 8CY load. All yard trimmings collected (100%) are ground using a pull behind chipper and made available as a reuse product to City residents in the form of mulch and/or woodchips. In the most recent fiscal year 284 tons of yard trimmings were ground to mulch/woodchips for reuse by City residents.

In addition to this regular program of yard trimmings each year the City sponsors "Spring and Fall Clean-up" days where residents can dispose of approved solid waste items at no cost. This has been a very successful program which in the most recent fiscal year collected 73 tons of waste material. This program has contributed significantly to reducing incidents of illegal dumping and general blighted conditions resulting from accumulated waste materials at residences and businesses.

Table 4.4 shows the total number of residential and commercial/industrial customers served by the City's private contract collection provider in the most recent fiscal year.

TABLE 4.4
Solid Waste Customers by Type
Served by City's Private Contract Collection Provider
City of Union City
2004

Type	Number	Collection Method
Residential	3289	90 gallon roll out container
Commercial/Industrial	66	2 yd "greenbox" container
Commercial/Industrial	46	4 yd "greenbox" container
Commercial/Industrial	27	6 yd "greenbox" container
Commercial/Industrial	50	8 yd "greenbox" container

The collection programs and methodologies inventoried are adequate to serve the City of Union City. The residential MSW collection system made available under the City contract helps ensure the broad spectrum of residences and businesses will have safe, reliable and reasonably priced collection services.

Similarly, all residences have access to a City contracted curbside recycling program which provides perhaps the most convenient and effective recycling option available while commercial/industrial users with greater volumes and more specialized recyclable products can negotiate for recycling service on the open market.

Overall, appropriate and adequate service is consistently available to the entire population of the City. There are no topographic or similar conditions which adversely effect or limit normal service provisions.

Illegal dumping is an occasional problem in the City of Union City. The City's Codes Enforcement Officer as well as Police and Public Services personnel closely monitor such activities. On the occasions a significant incident is identified the City takes immediate steps to compel and/or accomplish clean up and compliance.

Current collection programs (including recycling and reuse options) adequately meet the needs of the City of Union City. The City has no plans to alter current collection methods. The City has found current collection practices to be fiscally responsible, efficient and effective.

All residential, commercial and industrial MSW collected in the City is transported to South Richland Creek Road Landfill, 5691 South Richland Creek Road, Buford, Georgia 30518.

The name and address of collection hauler(s) operating in the City follow:

Allied Waste/BFI 3045 Bankhead Highway, N.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30318

Needs and Goals

Fiscally sound, efficient, effective and responsive solid waste and recyclables collection are critical public services. It is the City's goal to continue current practices utilizing a private provider to collect residential MSW and recyclables at curbside and commercial/industrial MSW using "greenbox" containers.

It is the City's goal to maintain continuing oversight and closely monitor the performance of the private contract collection provider to ensure: competitive pricing, satisfactory service levels, compliance with local/state/federal regulations and strong education and public involvement support to the City.

It is the City's goal to continue its program of grinding all yard trimmings to mulch or woodchips reuse products for distribution to City residents.

It is the City's goal to carefully monitor collection programs, practices and methodologies to ensure they contribute appropriately to the sound fiscal condition of the Sanitation Enterprise Funds. It is the City's goal to continue "Spring and Fall Clean-up" days to reduce illegal dumping and community blight and to aggressively enforce illegal dumping ordinances through the Codes Officer, Police Officers and Public Services personnel.

Contingency Collection Strategy

Should the current primary method for collecting solid waste in the City of Union be interrupted or becomes unavailable the City has an alternative collection strategy.

There are a number of private solid waste collection providers in the metropolitan Atlanta area capable of assuming solid waste collection duties within the City of Union City. The City maintains an amicable business relationship with these providers and the alternative collection strategy would be to retain one of these firms to provide the service on an interim basis. The City would invoke emergency procurement authorization to facilitate the commencement of immediate negotiations with available firms to provide collection services on a temporary basis. It is anticipated that these services could be procured and authorized within a week with collection services beginning within that same time period subject to mobilization requirements. It is likely during this interim service period that curbside recycling would be temporarily suspended.

During this interim service period the City would expeditiously move to prepare and issue a Request For Proposals (RFP) to seek and evaluate submittals from qualified firms to provide solid waste collection service on a long-term contract basis. It is anticipated that this process could be completed within forty-five (45) to sixty (60) days.

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SECTION 5 DISPOSAL ELEMENT

Inventory and Assessment

According to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (GA DCA) 2004 Solid Waste Management Update the State of Georgia has over 25 years of MWS landfill disposal capacity and more than 13 years of permitted C&D landfill disposal capacity remaining as of FY 2003. According to that same report the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) Regional Development Center (RDC), in which the City of Union City is located, has a remaining MSW landfill capacity of 20 to 29 years.

According to the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GA EPD) List of 2004 Landfill Remaining Capacity, Appendix I, there are 20 permitted landfills (8 MSW and 12 C&D) in the ten (10) county ARC area. *Table 5.1* below lists those facilities with accompanying details. These landfill facilities have estimated years remaining life ranging from 0 to 56 years and remaining capacity in cubic yards (CY) of 109,612,144.

TABLE 5.1
Permitted Landfills – Remaining Capacity
ARC Counties

ARC County	Name	Facility Type	Owner Type	Remaining Capacity (CY)	Years Remaining	Estimated Fill Date
County	Cherokee Co-Pine	1960	Private	oupdoity (01)	rtemaning	1 III Date
Cherokee	Bluff Landfill, Inc.	MSW	Commercial	52787458	56	06/11/2060
CHOLOROG	Cherokee		Commorcial	02/0/100		00/11/2000
	Construction and		Private			
Cherokee	Demolition Landfill	C&D	Commercial	3198430	36	11/12/2040
	Cherokee Co-		Private			
Cherokee	Swims-SR92 PH4	C&D	Commercial	0		
	Cherokee Co-		Private			
Cherokee	Swims-SR92 PH 5	C&D	Commercial	125000	4	01/04/2007
	Clayton Co – SR 3					
Clayton	Lovejoy Site # 3	MSW	Public	3466480	21	01/08/2024
-	DeKalb Co –					
	Seminole Rd. PH 2					
DeKalb	(SL)	C&D	Public	402710	6	01/07/2010
	Rogers Lake Road		Private			
DeKalb	C&D Landfill	C&D	Commercial	2158143	5	09/25/2008
	APAC/GA-Donzi Ln		Private			
DeKalb	PH 5A (L)	C&D	Commercial	2591411	4	09/10/2008
	APAC/GA-Donzi Ln		Private			
DeKalb	PH 5B (L)	C&D	Commercial	0		
	WMI-Live Oak #2		Private			
DeKalb	(SL)	MSW	Commercial	4729320	3	10/16/2007
	WMI-Live Oak #1		Private			
DeKalb	(SL)	MSW	Commercial	0		
	BFI-Hickory Ridge		Private			
DeKalb	(MSWL)	MSW	Commercial	1621651	2	12/12/2005

ARC County	Name	Facility Type	Owner Type	Remaining Capacity (CY)	Years Remaining	Estimated Fill Date
j	DeKalb Co -		7.	, , ,	J	
	Seminole Rd PH 2A,					
DeKalb	3&4 (SL)	MSW	Public	9263575	14	11/11/2018
	BFI-East DeKalb		Private			
DeKalb	Landfill	C&D	Commercial	727456	1	12/12/2004
	Phillips-Scales Rd		Private			
DeKalb	C&D(L)	C&D	Commercial	21074	0.5	04/15/2005
	Douglas Co-Cedar					
	Mt/Worthan Rd PH1					
Douglas	(SL)	C&D	Public	503335	9	01/30/2013
	Chadwick Rd		Private			
Fulton	Landfill, Inc.	C&D	Commercial	3978266	7	02/09/2001
	Chambers-Bolton Rd		Private			
Fulton	(SL)	MSW	Commercial	153900	1	03/28/2005
	Safeguard Landfill		Private			
Fulton	Management C&D	C&D	Commercial	2261814	4	03/15/2008
	BFI-Richland Creek		Private			•
Gwinnett	Rd (SL)	MSW	Commercial	21622121	19	02/12/2023

Source: Georgia Environmental Protection Agency List of 2004 Landfill Remaining Capacity

The City of Union City currently contracts with BFI to provide residential MSW collection/disposal, recycling and commercial/industrial collection/disposal. All MSW collections not recycled are transported for disposal in the South Richland Creek Road landfill located at 5691 South Richland Creek Road, Buford, Georgia.

On occasion City of Union City forces will transport construction debris and items of a similar nature to the Safeguard Landfill Management C&D Landfill in Fairburn, Georgia.

Table 5.2 reflects the type, remaining life, ownership, types of wastes accepted in each disposal facility and other pertinent information used by the City and its contract private solid waste collection/disposal provider.

TABLE 5.2 Landfills Receiving City of Union City Solid Waste

			Remaining Life	Remaining Life
Name/Location	Type	Ownership	(Years)	(CY)
Safeguard Landfill Management C&D Fairburn, GA	C&D	Private	4	2261814
BFI – Richland Creek Road Landfill	MSW	Private	19	216622121

The City of Union City does not have any thermal treatment technologies and none are anticipated during the planning period

The existing disposal facilities and services will be adequate for MSW disposal through the ten (10) year planning period. However, the City will have to explore additional capacity for C&D disposal during the ten (10) year planning period.

Needs and Goals

Adequate C&D Disposal Capacity. The goal for the City of Union City is to identify and secure an alternative permitted C&D disposal facility to meet the need which will occur when the currently utilized facility's estimated life ends in approximately four (4) years.

Accordingly, the City will initiate discussions with several of the existing permitted C&D landfills in reasonable proximity. Fortunately there are a number of facilities in the metropolitan area within a reasonable distance of the City with significant remaining capacity.

Appendix B includes a letter form the City of Union City's private solid waste collection provider, BFI, which contains a written commitment of capacity assurance, which identifies the landfills where the waste is disposed, from a commercial or contract solid waste hauler serving a local government.

Contingency Disposal Strategy

Should the current disposal practices be interrupted or become unavailable the City has an alternative disposal strategy.

There are a number of private solid waste haulers in the metropolitan Atlanta area capable of hauling the City's MSW and with access to one of several permitted MSW landfills in the same general area for disposal purposes. The City maintains an amicable business relationship with these firms and the alternative disposal strategy would be to retain one of these firms to provide the service on an interim basis.

During this interim service period the City would expeditiously move to prepare and issue a Request For Proposals (RFP) to seek and evaluate submittals from qualified firms to provide disposal services on a long-term contract basis. It is anticipated that this process could be completed within forty-five (45) to sixty (60) days.

SECTION 6 LAND LIMITATION ELEMENT

Inventory and Assessment

The purpose of this element is to provide an inventory and assessment of areas in the City of Union City which are unsuitable for solid waste recycling, recovery, composting, or disposal facilities because of natural environmental limitations or land use criteria. Environmental limitations include such items as water supply watersheds, groundwater recharge areas, wetlands, river corridors, and protected mountains, Land use criteria refers to heavily developed areas, zoning, historic resources, and airports.

While the City of Union City does not anticipate the locating of a solid waste disposal/handling facility within its jurisdiction in the foreseeable future it is the intent of the City to consider the delineated items of this element in determining the location of any solid waste management facility within the City of Union City if necessary.

Maps included in this section identify areas which have a land use or natural environmental limitation. Solid waste handling facilities should be located in areas which are not restricted by existing and planned land uses and are environmentally conducive to facilities. *Map 6.1* provides an overall base map of the city limits, county lines, major roads and other features.

Specific Natural Environmental Limitations applicable to the City of Union City include:

Flood Plains: Delineated on *Map 6.2*. DNR rule 391-3-4-.05 (1)(d) stipulates that any solid waste landfill located in the 100-year flood plain shall not restrict the flow of the 100-year flood, reduce the temporary water storage capacity of the flood plain, or result in a washout of solid waste so as to pose a threat to human health or the environment.

Wetlands: Delineated on *Map 6.2*. DNA Rule 391-3-16-.03(3)(e) establishes that solid waste landfills may constitute an unacceptable use of a wetland.

Groundwater Recharge Areas: Delineated on *Map 6.2*. The Georgia DNR has mapped all of the recharge areas in the state which are likely to have the greatest vulnerability to pollution. An area of thick soils which may include a significant groundwater recharge area is located southwest of Union City. The majority of the City appears to be within two (2) miles of this significant groundwater recharge area. DNR Rule 391-3-16-.01(7)(c)1 requires that in significant groundwater recharge areas, DNA shall not issue permits for new solid waste landfills not having synthetic liners and leachate collection systems.

Specific Land Use Criteria Limitations applicable to the City of Union City include:

Zoning: DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(a) requires that the site must conform to all local zoning/land use ordinances, and that written verification of such must be submitted to EPD.

Under the provisions of the City of Union City's Zoning Ordinance landfills are not permitted in any zoning district. Solid waste handling facilities are permitted only in the M-1 and M-2 zoning districts. *Map 6.3*, the Official Zoning Map of the City, delineates existing M-1 and M-2 districts in the City.

Developed and Built-Up Areas: *Map 6.4* delineates the developed areas within the City of Union City.

The City of Union City has several factors limiting the locations of solid waste handling/disposal facilities. Zoning restrictions reduce the effective useable area and restrictions based on wetlands, flood plains, groundwater recharge areas, developed areas, etc. reduce the area even further. A composite delineation of these limitations is reflected on *Map 6.5*. It is anticipated the City will continue to contract for disposal/handling outside the jurisdiction. Therefore, it is not likely that a solid waste disposal facility will be developed within the City. However, certain sites may lend themselves to handling facilities such as recycling, composting, or material separation/recovery facilities.

Needs and Goals

The City of Union City has a goal to ensure that proposed solid waste handling facilities are located in areas suitable for such developments, are compatible with surrounding uses, and are not considered for locations in areas which have been identified by the community or region as having environmental or other development or land use limitations.

Moving forward the City needs to create rules and procedures regarding solid waste disposal/handling facilities that will be reflective of it's Solid Waste Management Plan.

One item that should be included, as part of new rules and procedures is a formal application process that is specific to the Solid Waste Plan. In this application process the applicant seeking to use, own and/or operate a solid waste disposal/handling facility should be required to submit an application specific to a type of facility, such as municipal solid waste/Subtitle D, construction and demolition and/or inert. The City should also request necessary information related to the operation of the landfill. Such requested information could include the following: hours of operation, location and size of facility, capacity, materials accepted, disposal fees, private or public usage and number of employees.

SECTION 7 EDUCATION AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ELEMENT

Inventory and Assessment

The City of Union City provides as extensive and diverse a program of education and public involvement opportunities as may be available in any comparably sized community. This program not only includes solid waste but other areas of environmental good citizenship as well.

The City offers a wide range of education and public involvement pamphlets and publications on topics such as recycling; managing grass clippings, and stormwater pollution (from the Clean Water Campaign); stream protection (from Georgia-Adopt-A-Stream); and woodchip/mulch reuse. The Union City Clean and Beautiful Committee publishes an educational/information brochure (funded in part by GA DCA and GA DNR) on solid waste topics including recycling, litter and illegal dumping. The Committee meets the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The City of Union City "Silver Belles and Beaus" organization regularly publishes solid waste education/information and participation opportunities in its members newsletter. The City and Fulton County sponsor an Adopt-A-Stream program including education workshops and participation in community events such as "Enviro Fun Day". During the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) City Government Week the South Fulton Clean and Beautiful organization provides educational programs at area school and community events.

Annually in April and October the City sponsors a citywide clean-up weekend where City residents can drop off for free non-hazardous waste, up to two standard truckloads per household and four tires. These clean-up weekends are heavily promoted with press announcements, advertisements, flyers and a direct mail campaign. These clean-up weekends have proven extremely popular and successful. During 2004 73 tons of waste was collected. This program has been instrumental in addressing illegal dumping and visual blight from improperly stored waste materials.

Among the most frequent and best-received exchange of information in the City of Union City regarding solid waste education takes place at City Hall and the Public Services Department or at the initiation of City staff through the distribution of informational/educational flyers. These informational/educational flyers on recycling and solid waste collection are provided to all persons opening a utility account with residential garbage pick-up/recycling service. One on one contact between City personnel and residents by telephone, fax, email or in person serves as an invaluable and arguably the most effective local communication tool for information sharing on this topic. Additionally, the Codes Enforcement Officer is a major resource in the area of education and public involvement.

Residential recycling is mandatory in Union City by City Ordinance (see copy Appendix E). Contrary to the findings of the DCA Solid Waste and Recycling Collection 2004 Update where it was reported that the number of local governments whose residents have access to recycling services has slowly dwindled and that there has been a steady decline in the number of local governments making residential recycling services available in their jurisdictions recycling remains a an integral component in the City of Union City's solid waste practices.

The Union City Clean and Beautiful Committee is the primary citizen based facilitator of education and public involvement on solid waste issues in the community. The Codes Enforcement Officer works closely with this volunteer group.

Two (2) Public Hearings were conducted for the Palmetto Solid Waste Management Plan in accordance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management. Refer to Appendix C for a copy of the Public Hearing notices and minutes from each Public Hearing.

Needs and Goals

The City of Union City has an active and wide ranging program of activities to provide education and public involvement activities not only on solid waste issues but many other important environmental matters. These need to be continued, nourished, supported and enhanced where appropriate. Accordingly, the goals should be directed toward inducing more citizens to participate in the opportunities available.

To that end the City may want to consider:

- ❖ Developing a recognition and award program for the community to encourage waste reduction efforts perhaps co-sponsored by private contract providers, civic groups or other interested parties.
- ❖ Encouraging and supporting community based recycling and reuse programs. The City must actively support schools, churches, civic groups and businesses as partners and participants in recycling, reuse and reduction efforts.
- Expanding its contacts with local commercial businesses and industry to target large private waste quantities for recycling, source reduction and reuse.
- Utilizing its website and an email network to stay in contact with citizens to additionally educate and inform residents and businesses regarding

recycling, reuse, source reduction and other effective solid waste management practices.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY Goals and Strategies

Waste Reduction Element

Goal 1:

To more accurately determine and record the amount and type of recycling and/or reuse programs generated within the City by private sector entities in order to have a sound information base upon which to plan and implement solid waste management and more accurately evaluate reduction progress toward the 25% goal.

Strategies:

- 1. Continue existing program of waste collection/disposal/ recycling/reuse record keeping by the contract private provider and the City.
- 2. Develop and maintain working relationships with local businesses/industries and encourage they make any data regarding their private recycling/reuse activities available for incorporation into the waste stream analysis. This will support a more accurate record of the progress toward the 25% reduction goal.

Goal 2: Continue and enhance existing yard trimmings mulching and reuse program.

Strategies:

- 1. Utilize existing and planned education and public information activities to encourage additional resident participation in both providing trimmings and utilizing reuse products.
- 2. Explore the potential of expanding distribution beyond City residents if quantities permit and offering product for sale to certain markets (not City residents).
- 3. Maintain and periodically update and upgrade collection and chipper equipment for the mulching program.

Goal 3:

To ensure at a minimum a 25% per capita PPD of waste being landfilled by promotion of source reduction, reuse, composting, recycling and other applicable waste reduction programs.

- **Strategies:** 1. Continue and enhance existing citywide mandatory curbside residential program through private contract provider.
 - 2. Continue and enhance existing yard trimming mulching and product reuse program.
 - 3. Develop and maintain a working relationship with local businesses/industries to encourage their participation in the citywide waste reduction and recycling efforts.
 - 4. Encourage and promote composting as a means of waste reduction. Encourage individual "backyard" household composting of organic waste such as leaves, yard trimmings and garden reuse. Various public agencies such as DCA, EPD and the UGA Extension Service and private consultants provide information on this practice.
 - 5. Identify and use incentives to encourage participation in recycling and waste reduction.
 - 6. Encourage and support community-based recycling and waste reduction programs in schools, churches, businesses and civic clubs.
 - 7. Participate in appropriate solid waste related workshops and seminars to educate public officials on developing technologies, methodologies and successful implementation regarding solid waste planning/management.

Collection Element

Goal 1:

To continue residential collection/disposal and recycling and commercial/industrial collections/disposal utilizing a City contracted private provider. This has proven a fiscally responsible, efficient, effective and responsive public service

Strategies:

1. Periodically review competitiveness of contract fee and service efficiency for these services with prevailing market conditions.

Goal 2: Develop and implement a data collection reporting system

for private entities of participation in certain solid waste management practices in the City particularly recycling, reuse, source reduction and allied reduction activities.

Strategies: 1. Retain the services of a qualified consultant to assist the

staff in developing and implementing data collection

reporting systems.

Disposal Element

Goal 1: Continue to utilize private contractors to transport and

Dispose of solid waste collected within the City in

Appropriately permitted landfill facilities.

Strategies: 1. Continue to assess the capacity of all landfills utilized by

City disposal providers. Periodically review competitiveness of contract for this service with prevailing market conditions.

2. Identify alternative C&D landfill facility with adequate

disposal capacity during the planning period.

Land Limitation Element

Goal 1: To create rules and procedures regarding solid waste

disposal/handling facilities that will be reflective of the

Updated Solid Waste Plan.

Strategies: 1. Develop a formal solid waste disposal/handling facility

application process that is specific to the Solid Waste

Management Plan.

Education and Public Involvement Element

Goal 1: To assist the citizens of Union City in developing an

awareness of the social and environmental issues, problems, concerns and opportunities associated with the broad scope of solid waste management including littering, waste reduction, recycling, composting, energy recovery,

etc.

- **Strategies:** 1. Continue and enhance current education and public information efforts on solid waste planning and management.
 - 2. Continue and enhance support for solid waste educational programs in the schools and the "recycle as a family" concept.
 - 3. Continue to hold annual special events/activities regarding solid waste planning/management.
 - 4. Continue to support the Union City Clean and Beautiful Committee. Encourage other local community groups or civic organizations to play a lead role in education/public involvement efforts.
 - 5. Continue to utilize local media, email, websites, to highlight the benefits of waste reduction locally.
 - 6. Continue to coordinate the distribution of informational material through various medias regarding local recycling and waste reduction programs.
 - 7. Continue to annually disclose the full costs of solid waste management services to the City.

CITY OF UNION CITY SOLID WASTE 10-YEAR WORK PLAN PROGRAM 2005-2014

WASTE REDUCTION ELEMENT

PLAN ELEMENT & ESTIMATED RESPONSIBE COSTS (S) FUNDING ACTIVITY YEAR TO BE IMPLEMENTED PARTY IF ANY SOURCES

Waste Reduction	''05	'06	'07	.08	.09	'10	'11	'12	"13	'14			
Continue existing recycling contract by private provider.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	City Contract Provider	\$124,718 to \$214,514	City Sanita- ttion Fees
Continue existing yard trimmings mulching and product reuse program.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	City	\$60,000 to \$100,000 Annually	City Sanita- tion Fees
Explore expanding market for mulching reuse product.		X	X								City Consultant	\$7,500	City Sanita- tion Fees
Develop and maintain working relationships with private entities engaged in recycling, reuse, etc.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	City		
Maintain and periodically update and replace collection and chipping equipment.				X	X						City	\$125,000	City

COLLECTION ELEMENT

PLAN ELEMENT &			ESTIMATEI)
IMPLEMENTATION		RESPONSIBLE	COSTS (\$)	FUNDING
ACTIVITY	YEAR TO BE IMPLEMENTED	PARTY	IF ANY	SOURCES

Collection Element	'05	. 06	'07	.08	.09	'10	'11	'12	'13	'14			
Continue utilization of private contract provider for residential collection.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	City Contract Provider	\$290,089 to \$498,953	City Sanita- tion Fees
Continue utilization of private contract provider for commercial/industrial collection.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	City Contract Provider	\$106,550 to \$183,266	City Sanita- tion Fees

DISPOSAL ELEMENT

Disposal Element	'05	'06	'07	'08	'09	'10	'11	'12	'13	'14			
Continue utilization of private contract provider for residential solid waste disposal.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	City Contract Provider	* included in collection costs	City Sanita- tion Fees
Continue utilization of private contract provider for commercial/industrial solid waste disposal.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	City Contract Provider	* included in collection costs	City Sanita- tion Fees
Assess capacity of landfill sites for future disposal.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	City	*******	City
Identify alternative C&D landfill facility.					X	X	X	X	X	X	City		City

LAND LIMITATION ELEMENT

PLAN ELEMENT &			ESTIMATEL)
IMPLEMENTATION		RESPONSIBLE	COSTS (\$)	FUNDING
ACTIVITY	YEAR TO BE IMPLEMENTED	PARTY	IF ANY	SOURCES

Land Implementation Element	'05	'06	'07	'08	.09	'10	'11	'12	'13	'14			
Develop a formal solid waste disposal/ handling facility application.	X	X	X								City Consultant	\$15,000	City GEFA
Implement application process				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	City		City

EDUCATION AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ELEMENT

Education and Public Involvement Element	'05	' 06	'07	'08	'09	'10	'11	'12	'13	'14			
Continue existing education and public information programs.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	City, EPD, DCA, GEFA	\$2,500 per year	City Sanita- tion Fees
Support enhanced education and public information programs.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	City/Civic Community Groups	\$5,000 per year	City Sanita- tion Fees