

## SECTION 6

# Land Limitation Element

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### Goal of This Planning Element:

*To ensure that the proposed solid waste handling facilities are sited in areas suitable for such developments, are compatible with surrounding uses and are not considered for location in areas which have been identified by the local government or multi-jurisdictional area as having environmental or other land limitations.*

Solid waste disposal facilities and other solid waste handling facilities should be located where they have minimum adverse effects on the community and the environment. These facilities can include, but are not limited to, recycling, recovery, composting, transfer station, or solid waste disposal/handling facilities. This section does not attempt to identify any site as acceptable, nor does it identify any site as unsuitable based on the criteria discussed herein. Rather, this section outlines the limitations that the City will consider during the siting of a new solid waste management facility or the expansion of an existing solid waste management facility. The limitations identified below do not exclude the development of a facility in an area where the limitations occur; rather, the limitation or concern must be considered, and if possible, mitigated when siting a facility. Locations for facilities must be chosen on a site-specific basis. Maps of all significant environmental and cultural resources are presented in the *City of Atlanta Comprehensive Development Plan 2004-2019* and are available for review at the SWS offices.

The following subsections discuss items that the City will consider during the siting of solid waste management facilities in accordance with City, State, and Federal guidelines. The subsections include:

- Natural Environmental Limitations
- Land Use Limitations
- Disproportionate Environmental Impacts
- Other Regulatory Requirements for Solid Waste Facility Siting
- Procedures to Establish Consistency with Comprehensive SWMP
- Needs and Goals

## 6.1 Natural Environmental Limitations

The following subsections describe regulations that govern the location of solid waste facilities in environmentally sensitive natural areas. These areas include floodplains, wetlands, groundwater recharge areas, water supply watersheds, river corridors, protected mountains, fault zones, seismic zones, and unstable areas (karst areas). When siting a solid waste handling facility, it is the City's goal to adhere to the Federal, State, and local regulations outlined below. In areas where these natural areas cannot be avoided, the City will follow the mitigation plans and procedures outlined and approved by the appropriate regulatory and permitting agencies.

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### 6.1.1 Floodplains

Floodplains are defined as lowland and relatively flat areas adjoining inland and coastal waters, including flood-prone areas of offshore islands that are inundated by the 100-year flood. A 100-year flood is one that has a 1 percent or greater chance of recurring in any given year, or a flood of a magnitude equaled to or exceeded once in 100 years on the average over a significantly long period. Floodplains in Atlanta are primarily associated with the many creeks and tributaries of the Chattahoochee River and the South River (Figure 6-1). Some of the major streams are Nancy Creek, Peachtree Creek, Proctor Creek, Utoy Creek, and Camp Creek.

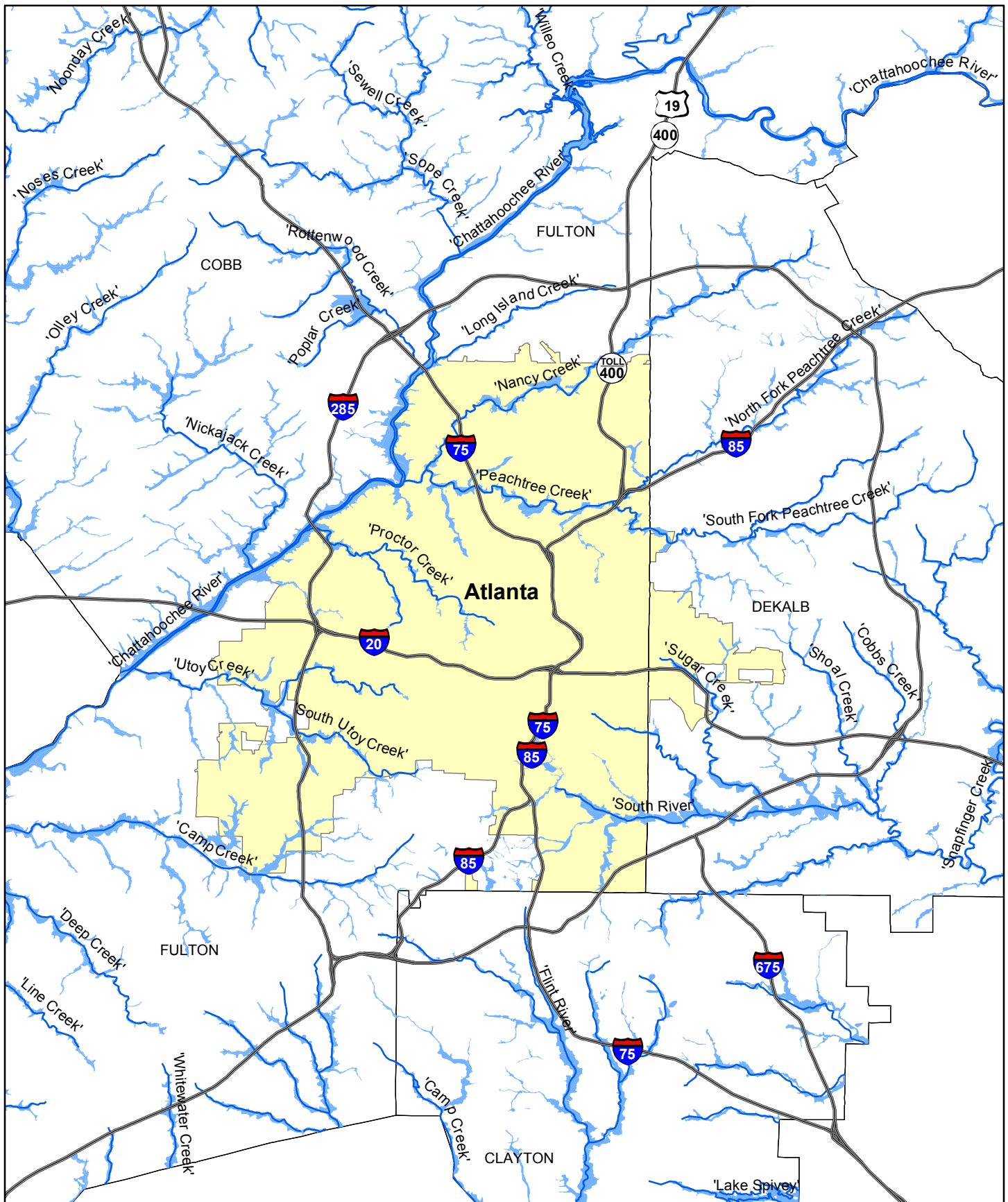
Floodplains provide three key functions: (1) natural water storage and conveyance, (2) water quality maintenance, and (3) groundwater recharge. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has developed official floodplain maps which show areas that are prone to flooding. These flood hazard district maps have been incorporated into and made a part of the City's official zoning map, as described in Section 16.02.004 of the City's Zoning Ordinance. Floodplain development is carefully reviewed in order to protect the functional integrity of floodplains as well as the health, safety, and property of the City's residents.

The State solid waste regulations (Georgia Department of Natural Resources [DNR] Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(d) and the Federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Subtitle D restrict solid waste handling facilities from being located in areas that may restrict the flow of the 100-year flood, reduce temporary water storage capacity of the floodplain, or result in the washout of solid waste facilities so as to pose a hazard to human health and the environment.

### 6.1.2 Wetlands

Freshwater wetlands are defined by Federal law as those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface- or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances, do support a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas. According to the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) maintained by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), wetlands within Atlanta occur generally in the areas along the Chattahoochee River and the City's major streams and creeks. Non-stream corridor wetlands, however, do exist in the City. Currently, the NWI Maps are the best source of information available on the location of wetlands in the City.

The DNR's Rules for Environmental Planning Criteria (DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(e) limit solid waste handling facilities from being sited in and near wetlands. These State regulations and Federal RCRA Subtitle D prohibit the location of landfills in wetlands unless very stringent conditions are met and demonstrations of site suitability are made. A development plan must be approved by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) prior to a wetland area being used for solid waste handling facilities.



0 1 2 3 4 Miles

- Interstates
- Streams and Rivers
- Atlanta City Limits
- 100 Year Floodplain



**Figure 6-1**  
100 Year FEMA Floodplain  
City of Atlanta

*Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan*

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### 6.1.3 Groundwater Recharge Areas

Groundwater recharge areas are defined as areas through which surface water travels to become a groundwater resource. These areas are shown on Hydrogeologic Atlas 18 of the Georgia Geological Survey (Figure 6-2). Groundwater recharge occurs when precipitation infiltrates soil and rock, adding to the volume of water stored in pores and other openings within the rocks. Most of north Georgia is underlain by crystalline rocks with complex geologic character and with little or no porosity within the rocks themselves. Significant recharge in the crystalline rock terrain of north Georgia occurs in areas that have thick soils or saprolite and relatively low (less than 8 percent) slopes.

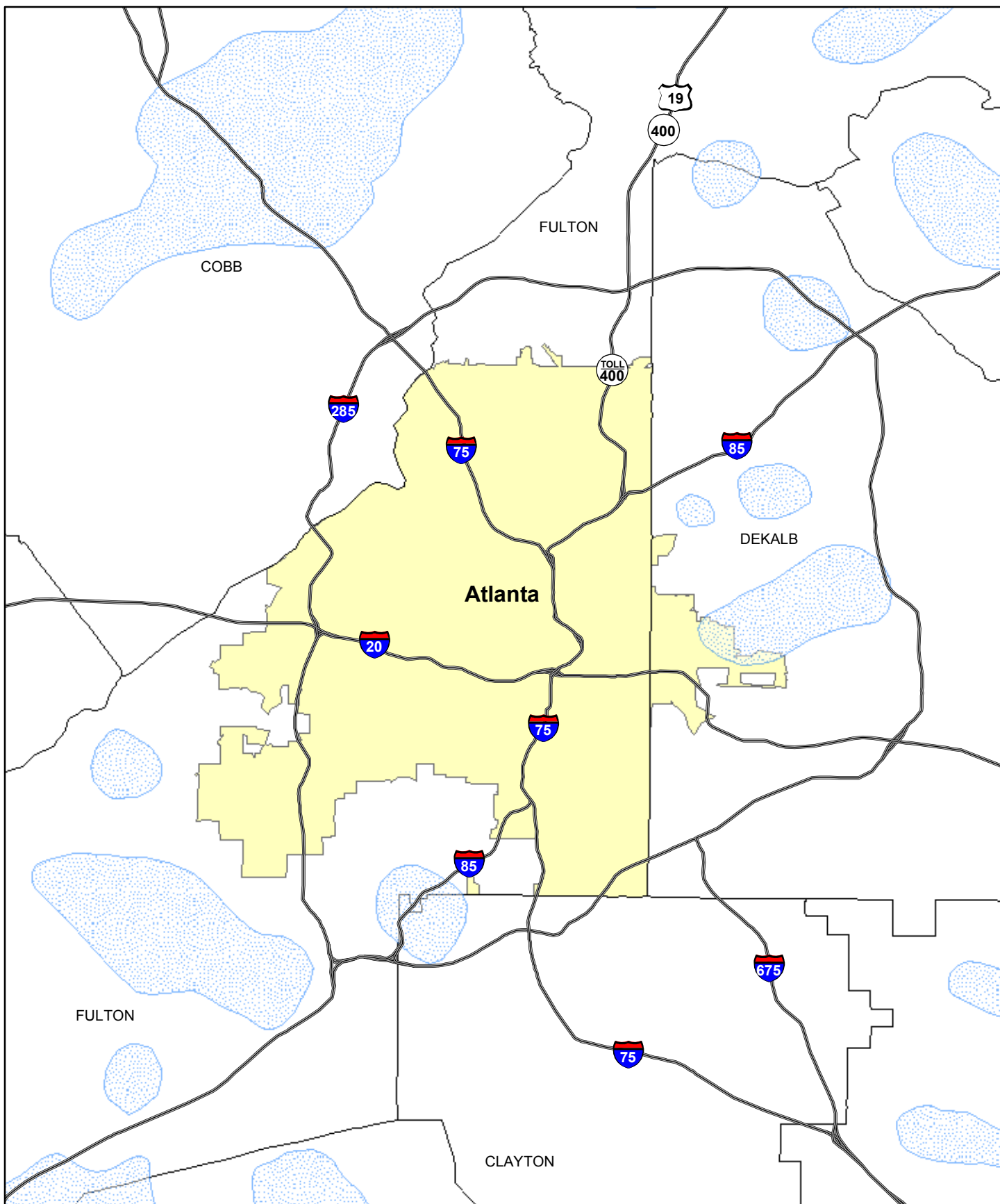
The DNR Rules for Environmental Planning Criteria (DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(l)(j)) limit solid waste handling facilities from being sited in groundwater recharge areas. Groundwater recharge areas should be protected from potential contamination from solid waste handling facilities. State law requires that new solid waste landfills or expansions of existing facilities within 2 miles of a significant groundwater recharge area have liners and leachate collection systems, with the exception of facilities accepting waste generated from outside the county in which the facility is located. In that case, the facility must be completely outside of any area designated as a significant groundwater recharge area. If possible, groundwater recharge areas and the 2-mile buffer around them should be avoided, unless geological conditions indicate a groundwater flow that flows away from the groundwater recharge area.

For siting a solid waste handling facility, a hydrological site investigation must be conducted with the following issues evaluated per DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(k):

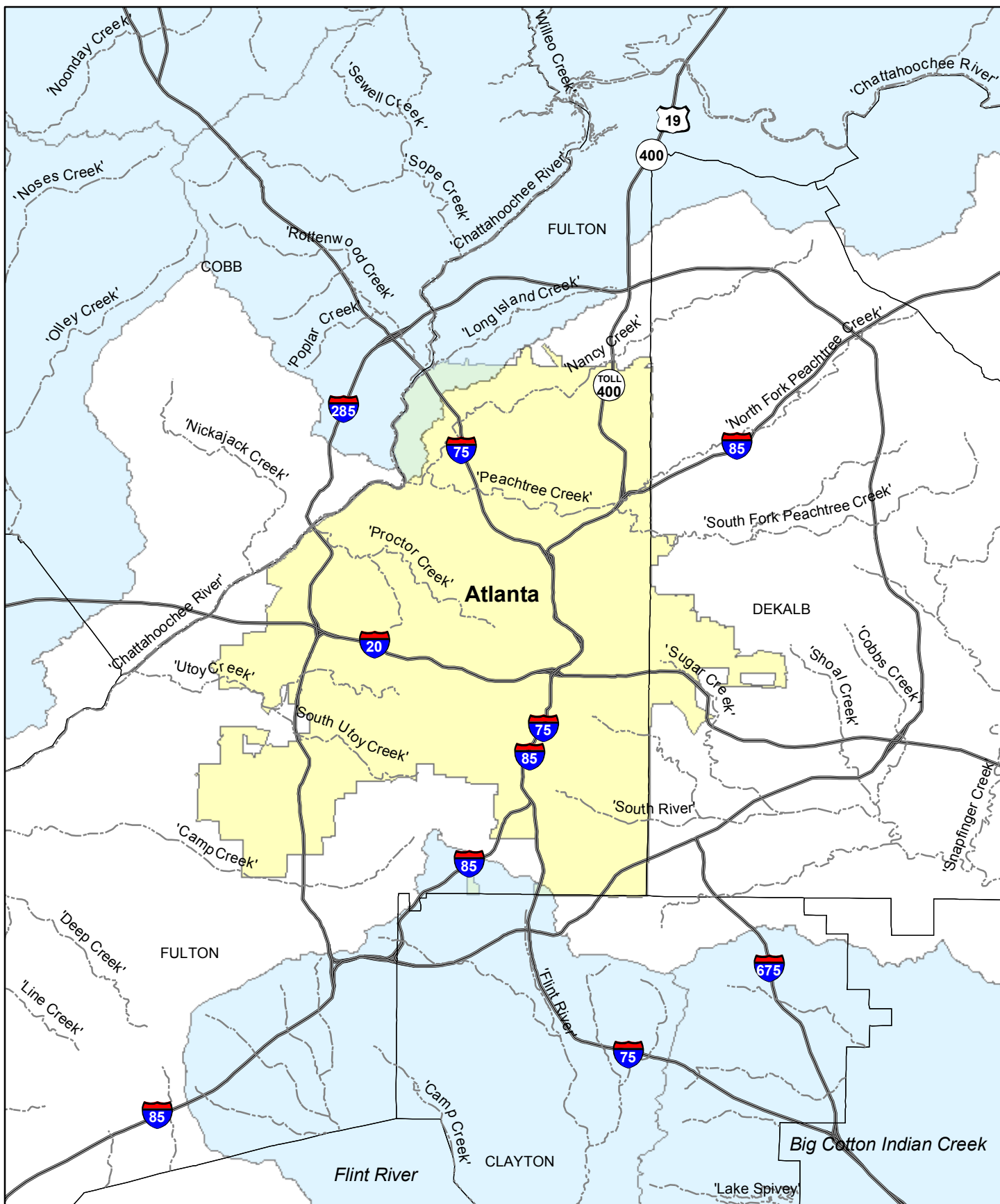
- Distance to the nearest point of a public or private drinking water supply: all public water supply wells or surface water intakes within 2 miles and private (domestic) water supply wells within one-half mile of a landfill must be identified.
- Depth to the uppermost aquifer: for landfills, the thickness and nature of the unsaturated zone and its ability for natural contamination control must be evaluated.
- Uppermost aquifer gradient: for landfills, the direction and rate of flow of groundwater shall be determined in order to properly evaluate the potential for contamination at a specific site. Measurements of water levels in site exploratory borings and the preparation of water table maps are required. Borings to water are required to estimate the configuration and gradient of the uppermost aquifer.

### 6.1.4 Water Supply Watersheds

Water supply watersheds for the metro Atlanta area are shown in Figure 6-3. Water supply watersheds are subject to the DNR Rules for Environmental Planning Criteria (DNR Rule 391-3-16.01). Under these criteria, water supply watersheds are defined as areas of the land that drain to a public drinking water supply intake. The City's public water supply intake is located on the Chattahoochee River just north of Peachtree Creek. Several other municipalities also have water supply intakes along the Chattahoochee River. Therefore, it is important to consider the following water supply watershed requirements when potentially siting a solid waste handling facility near the Chattahoochee River or its tributaries.



**Figure 6-2**  
 Groundwater Recharge Areas  
 City of Atlanta



0 1 2 3 4 Miles

- Interstates
- - - Streams and Rivers
- Yellow Atlanta City Limits
- Light Blue Water Supply Watersheds\*



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engineers • architects • planners

\*Watershed data provided by Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District, District-wide Watershed Management Plan, 2003.

**Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan**

**Figure 6-3**  
Water Supply Watersheds  
City of Atlanta



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According to the DNR Rules for Environmental Planning Criteria Part V 391-3-16-01:

- No solid waste handling facility should be located in the 100-foot buffer on each side of the perennial streams 7 miles upstream from a water supply intake or reservoir (and a 50-foot buffer in small watersheds beyond the 7 miles).
- No solid waste handling facility impervious surface should be located in the 150-foot setback on each side of the perennial streams 7 miles upstream from a water supply intake or reservoir (and a 75-foot setback in small watersheds beyond 7 miles).
- For small watersheds (less than 100 square miles) new municipal solid waste landfills must have synthetic liners and leachate collection systems.
- No solid waste handling facility should be located in the 150-foot buffer surrounding water supply reservoirs.

Also, State regulations (DNR Rule 391-3-16.01) prohibit municipal solid waste landfills from being located within 2 miles upgradient of any surface water intake for a public drinking water source unless engineering modifications such as liners and leachate collection systems and groundwater monitoring systems are provided. Modern landfills are constructed with these engineered systems, so this restriction would not be applied.

### 6.1.5 River Corridors

Portions of the Chattahoochee River and its tributaries, such as Peachtree Creek, have been impacted as a result of urban growth and development. The natural ecology of the Chattahoochee River south of Peachtree Creek has been altered by invasive pest plants and incompatible land uses. The City of Atlanta, the ARC, the State of Georgia, and the National Park Service have several plans and initiatives focused on further protecting and preserving the Chattahoochee River Corridor.

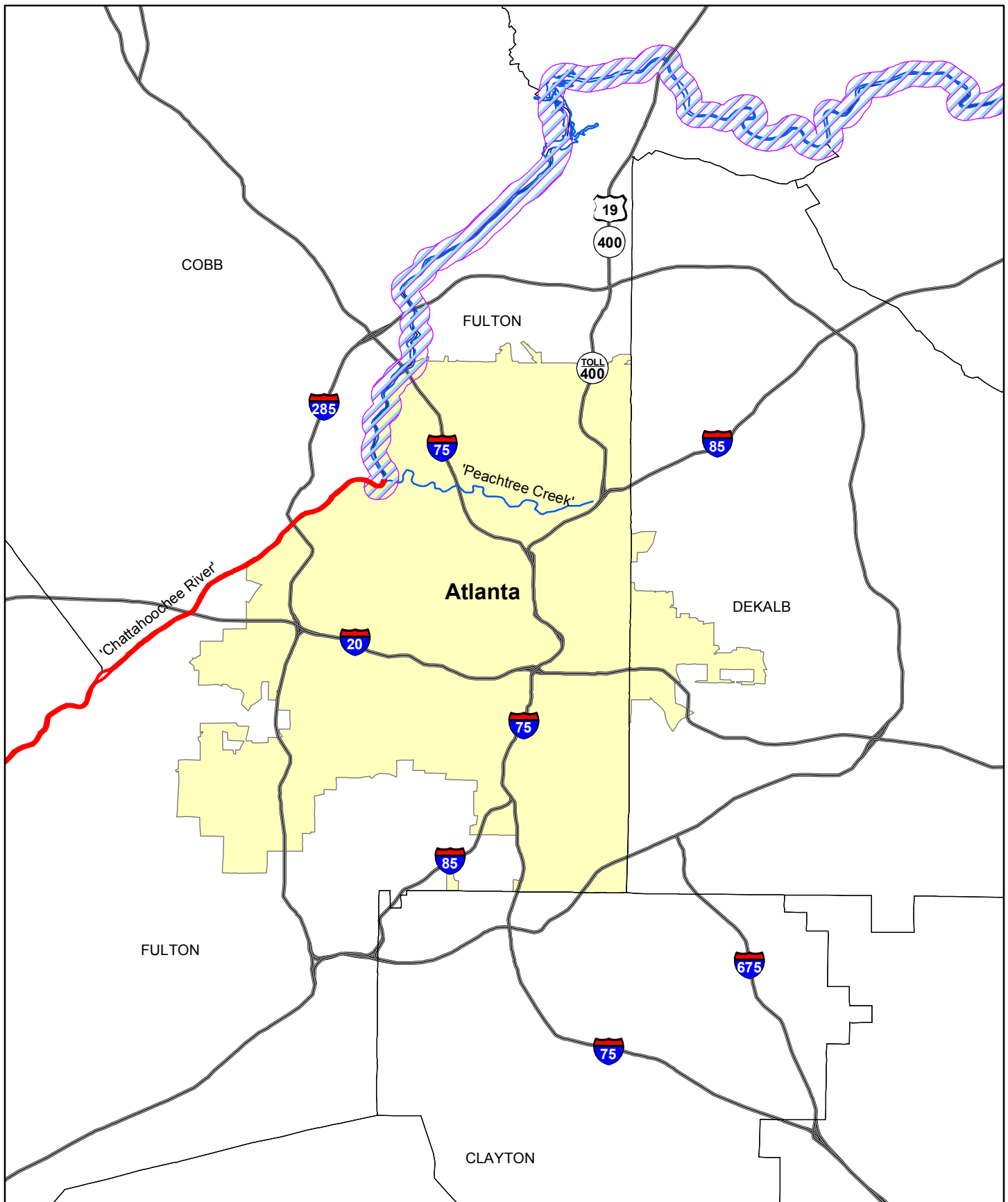
The DNR Rules for Environmental Planning Criteria also protect certain designated river corridors (DNR Rule 391-3-16-.04(4)(h)). The Metropolitan River Protection Act (MRPA) was enacted in 1973 and established a 2,000-foot river corridor on both banks of the Chattahoochee River and its impoundments. The protected area includes the streambed and any islands, for the 48 miles of river between Buford Dam and Peachtree Creek (Figure 6-4). In 1998, the protected corridor was extended another 36 miles downstream to include Fulton and Douglas Counties. The MRPA required the ARC to adopt the Chattahoochee River Corridor Plan, which is implemented by local governments. The plan requires review of development and any other land-disturbing activity within the Chattahoochee River Corridor (Section 6.2.9).

### 6.1.6 Protected Mountains

DNR Rule 391-3-16.05(4)(1) prohibits the development of new solid waste landfills in areas designated as protected mountains. There are no protected mountains in the City of Atlanta.

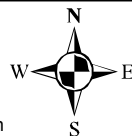
### 6.1.7 Fault Zones, Seismic Impact Zones, and Unstable Areas (Karst Areas)

A hydrogeological assessment must be conducted at the location of any proposed solid waste disposal facility. Such an assessment must be performed under the direction of a



0 1 2 3 4 Miles

- Interstates
- Atlanta City Limits
- 100 Foot Protection Buffer, from Peachtree Creek South
- 2000 Foot Protection Buffer, from Peachtree Creek North to Buford Dam



**Figure 6-4**  
Chattahoochee River Protection Buffers  
City of Atlanta  
*Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan*



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registered geologist or professional engineer. Technical issues which involve seismic activity, fault lines, unstable areas, such as karst areas must be evaluated in the preliminary site selection phase. Any condition that would likely result in a release of pollution from a site may not receive EPD approval during the solid waste handling permitting process, unless mitigating or supplemental protection is provided.

A hydrogeological assessment is required to assess the potential risk of contamination of groundwater supplies by the proposed facility. Georgia EPD and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) require soil borings and a literature search to identify the potential geological issues in the area prior to permitting a disposal site.

DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(f) focuses on fault areas and requires that new landfill units and lateral expansions of existing landfills not be located within 200 feet of a fault that has had a displacement in Holocene time, unless an alternative setback distance of less than 200 feet will prevent damage to the structural integrity of the landfill and will protect human health and the environment.

DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(g) prohibits the development of new landfills and lateral expansions of existing landfills in seismic impact zones, unless all landfill containment structures, including existing landfill liners, leachate collection systems, and surface water control systems, are designed to resist the maximum horizontal acceleration in lithified earth material for the site.

According to DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(h), existing landfills and lateral expansions of existing landfills located in an unstable area must demonstrate that engineering measures have been incorporated into the landfill's design to ensure that the integrity of the structural components of the landfill will not be compromised.

## 6.2 Land Use Limitations

The following subsections describe land use limitations and regulations that will be considered when siting a solid waste management handling facility. These issues include land use and zoning restrictions, historic sites, and archaeological sites, location of surface water intakes, airport safety restrictions, parks and nature preserves, scenic views, rare, threatened, and endangered species, Chattahoochee River protection criteria, and environmental justice issues.

### 6.2.1 Land Use and Zoning Restrictions

The City of Atlanta Code of Ordinances provides land use and zoning regulations that govern the siting of solid waste management facilities. The Code is updated periodically and the most recent edition is available in the Municipal Clerk's office. The Bureau of Buildings, Zoning Enforcement Division, provides zoning classifications for individual properties.

According to the City of Atlanta Code of Ordinances (Part 16, Zoning; <http://www.municode.com/resources/gateway.asp?pid=10376&sid=10>), solid waste facilities can only be sited in the Light (I-1) or Heavy Industrial (I-2) zoning districts as defined in Section 16-16.005 (Light Industrial District Special Permits) and Section 16-17.005

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(Heavy Industrial Districts Special Permits). Under each zoning category, the following uses are allowed under a Special Use Permit: sanitary landfill, compost facility, materials recovery facility, municipal solid waste disposal facility, processing operation facility, and solid waste handling facility. Special Use Permits are granted for uses that have substantial significance or unusual operational characteristics; therefore, siting restrictions are placed on the development of these facilities. Special Use Permits require approval by the City's Zoning Review Board and City Council through a formal public notice and public hearing process.

DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(a) requires that a site for a proposed solid waste handling facility conform to all local zoning/land use ordinances, and that written verification be submitted to Georgia EPD. A permit is required to operate a solid waste disposal facility in the City of Atlanta. Any person wishing to operate a solid waste disposal facility must obtain an annual solid waste disposal facility operating permit from the Commissioner of Public Works, with the approval of the City Council.

Prior to the City issuing a solid waste facility operating permit, the Department of Planning and Community Development must review and approve the project. Sections 130-63 and 64 of the Solid Waste Ordinance outline specific development standards that are required for solid waste facilities, which are defined as solid waste disposal facilities, solid waste transfer stations, and processing and handling facilities. For solid waste disposal facilities, a proposed land use and mitigation plan must be submitted to the Planning Commissioner which specifies the anticipated future use of the property upon termination of solid waste disposal activities. This anticipated use must be consistent with the Comprehensive Development Plan and this Comprehensive SWMP, both of which are adopted by the City Council. The proposed land use and mitigation plan must also include provisions for the property owner to create a reserve fund, estimates of capital expenses, and site compatibility report.

The site compatibility report includes a site survey showing ownership, zoning, and a detailed engineering plan. This engineering plan includes an operation plan, availability of water supply, equipment type, fire, nuisance, water pollution, odor and vermin control plans, earthwork and fill operations plan, and a hydrologic survey. Other solid waste disposal requirements include a processing fee and proof of financial ability to perform under the terms of the permit. Solid waste disposal facility permit applicants must also demonstrate compliance with buffer requirements for building setbacks, road requirements, monitoring well requirements, vegetative buffers, and vehicular access.

Requirements for solid waste transfer stations and solid waste processing and handling facilities are very similar to the solid waste disposal facility permit requirements. Permitting for these facilities requires an annual permit fee, quarterly inspections, zoning requirements of Industrial-1 and Industrial-2 categories, special land use permit approval from the Commissioner of the Department of Planning and Community Development and preparation of a site compatibility report. Similarly, the solid waste transfer station operating permits require that buildings be enclosed and that an operator be onsite when the facility is in operation. Additionally, solid waste transfer stations are subject to buffer zone, building setback, and access road requirements.

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## 6.2.2 Historic Sites

The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 (16 United States [Code] USC 470 et seq., as amended) provides policy for the protection of historic resources from adverse impacts associated with federal actions. The Protection of Historic Properties (36 Code of Federal Regulation [CFR] 800) provides specific procedures that federal agencies or local governments implementing federally funded projects must follow, such as consultation with the Georgia Division of Historic Preservation, to ensure compliance with the NHPA.

The National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) is the country's official list of historic places worthy of preservation. In Georgia, this list is maintained by the Georgia Division of Historic Preservation. Historic sites listed on the NRHP must meet specific criteria set forth by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. These criteria generally include the following: properties must be at least 50 years old, have physical integrity, and be significant for at least one of four broad criteria.

No solid waste handling facility should be located in, adjoin, or negatively impact a district or site on or potentially eligible for the NRHP. O.C.G.A § 12-8-25.1 states that in order to preserve historic sites and their natural and built environments, no permit shall be issued for a solid waste disposal facility within 5,708 yards of the geographic center of any of the three sites currently designated in Georgia as a National Historic Site. Specific information on these historic sites can be obtained from the Georgia Division of Historic Preservation.

Projects which could impact a historic site within the City of Atlanta must also be reviewed by the Atlanta Urban Design Commission. Prior to approving the siting of a solid waste management facility, the City will consult with the Atlanta Urban Design Commission and review the City's list of historic properties, Atlanta's Lasting Landmarks, and the NHRP. Consultation with the Georgia Division of Historic Preservation may also be required if the project is federally funded or if the project has the potential to impact a site on or potentially eligible for inclusion on the NRHP.

Since the City's current Historic Preservation Ordinance was enacted in 1989, 53 individual buildings and 12 districts have been brought under its protection. These sites include 44 landmark buildings or sites, 1 honorary landmark (the Georgia Capitol), 8 historic buildings, 7 landmark districts, 4 historic districts, and 1 conservation district. A complete list and maps showing the geographic locations of historic sites in Atlanta can be obtained from the Atlanta Urban Design Commission.

## 6.2.3 Archaeological Sites

The Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 requires federal agencies or local governments utilizing federal funds to conduct archaeological investigations on lands under their jurisdiction to determine the nature and extent of the protected cultural resources present. Therefore, no solid waste handling facility should be located so as to negatively impact an area of concentrated or known archaeological sites on file with the Georgia Archaeological Site File (GASF). Located at the University of Georgia, the GASF is the official repository for information about known archaeological sites in the state of Georgia. Because specific information concerning the location and contents of archaeological sites is protected by Georgia Code (O.C.G.A. § 50-18-72 [a] [10]), direct access to the complete information held by the GASF is restricted to qualified archaeologists and archaeology

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students. If a facility siting has the potential to impact an area of concentrated or known archaeological sites, then consultation with the State Archaeologist and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) would be required.

#### 6.2.4 Surface Water Intakes

The Chattahoochee River serves as the primary water source for numerous municipalities in the Atlanta metropolitan area. Several surface water intakes are located along the Chattahoochee River, including the City of Atlanta's water intake. According to the Georgia DNR Rule 391-3-16-.01, solid waste landfills must have engineered modifications such as liners, leachate collection systems, and groundwater monitoring systems if they are to be located within 2 miles of a surface water intake for a public water source. Unless such a location is the only feasible location, other locations should be considered.

#### 6.2.5 Airport Safety

Georgia (DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1) (c) ) and Federal RCRA Subtitle D require that municipal solid waste landfills not be located within:

- 10,000 feet of any runway used or planned to be used by turbojet and piston-type aircraft, and
- 5,000 feet of any runway used or planned to be used by piston-type aircraft only.

Also, as required by RCRA Subtitle D, owners or operators proposing to site new solid waste landfills and lateral expansions for landfills within a 5-mile radius of any airport runway used by turbojet or piston-type aircraft must notify the affected airport and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) (Figure 6-5).

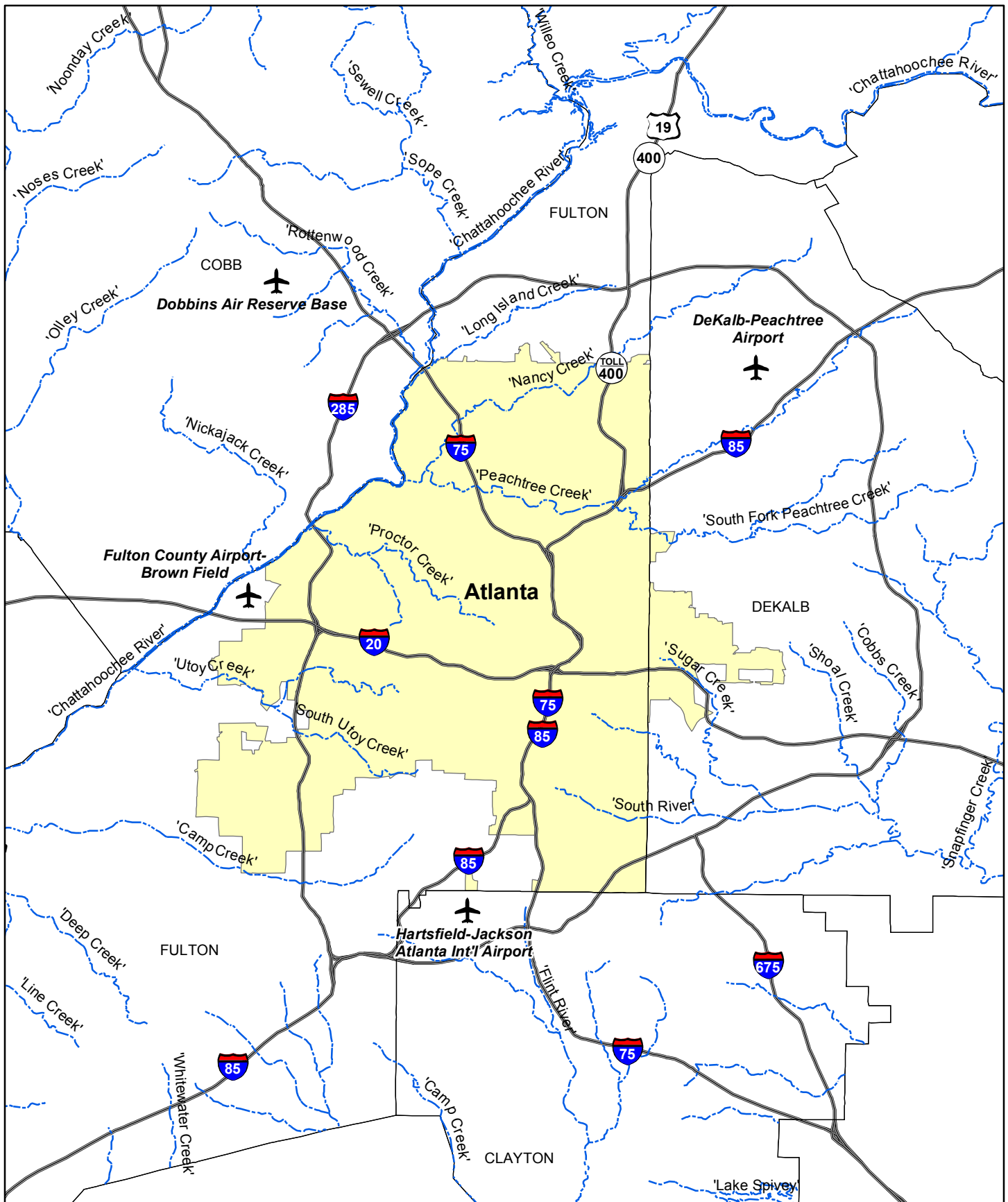
Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport is the primary airport in Atlanta. It is located approximately 10 miles south of downtown Atlanta and is one of the world's busiest airports. Other airports in the Atlanta vicinity include Fulton County Airport-Brown Field, which is located immediately west of the Atlanta city limits near the intersection of I-20 and I-285, and Peachtree DeKalb Airport, which is located on Clairmont Road in DeKalb County, northeast of the City of Atlanta. Additionally, Dobbins Air Reserve Base is located north of the city limits near the intersection of I-75 and I-285.

#### 6.2.6 Scenic View or Vista

No solid waste handling facility should be located in such a way as to negatively affect a scenic view or vista. Potential impacts to scenic views or vistas will be evaluated by the city on a site-specific basis for any site proposed as a solid waste handling facility. The City Comprehensive Development Plan has not identified any scenic views or sites requiring special management.





#### 6.2.7 Parkland and Nature Preserves

The City has approximately 3,200 acres of parkland that represents 3.78 percent of the City's total geographic area (CDP, 2004). Park land in the City serves not only as recreational greenspace, but also as important natural resource areas that serve critical environmental functions. Eighty-five percent of the City's parks are located along streams in floodplain and



0 1 2 3 4 Miles

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-  Airports
-  Interstates
-  Streams and Rivers
-  Atlanta City Limits



**Figure 6-5**  
Airports in the Atlanta Region  
City of Atlanta  
*Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan*

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wetland areas, in areas with steep and rocky topography, or in other environmentally sensitive areas (Figure 6-6). The City of Atlanta's park inventory also includes four nature preserves: North Camp Creek, Cascade Springs, Daniel Johnson Park, and the Outdoor Activity Center. Additionally, the National Park Service operates the Chattahoochee National Recreation Area, which extends from Buford Dam in Gwinnett County south to Peachtree Creek in the City. The City has also established a Greenway Corridor Plan to acquire greenspace within the City (Figure 6-7). In addition, the City is undertaking a \$25 million Greenway Acquisition project in the 14-county metro region as a result of the 1998 Combined Sewer Overflow Consent Decree. No solid waste handling facility should be located in, adjoin, or negatively impact a nature preserve or City park land.

### **6.2.8 Habitat of Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Plants, Animals, and Biological Communities**

No solid waste handling facility should be located in such a way as to result in the destruction of the habitat of rare, threatened, and endangered plants, animals, and biological communities as identified by the Georgia DNR's Natural Heritage Program. If a facility siting has the potential to impact the habitat of rare, threatened, and endangered plants, animals, and biological communities, then the City will consult with Federal wildlife agencies to determine a course of action.

### **6.2.9 Chattahoochee River Corridor**

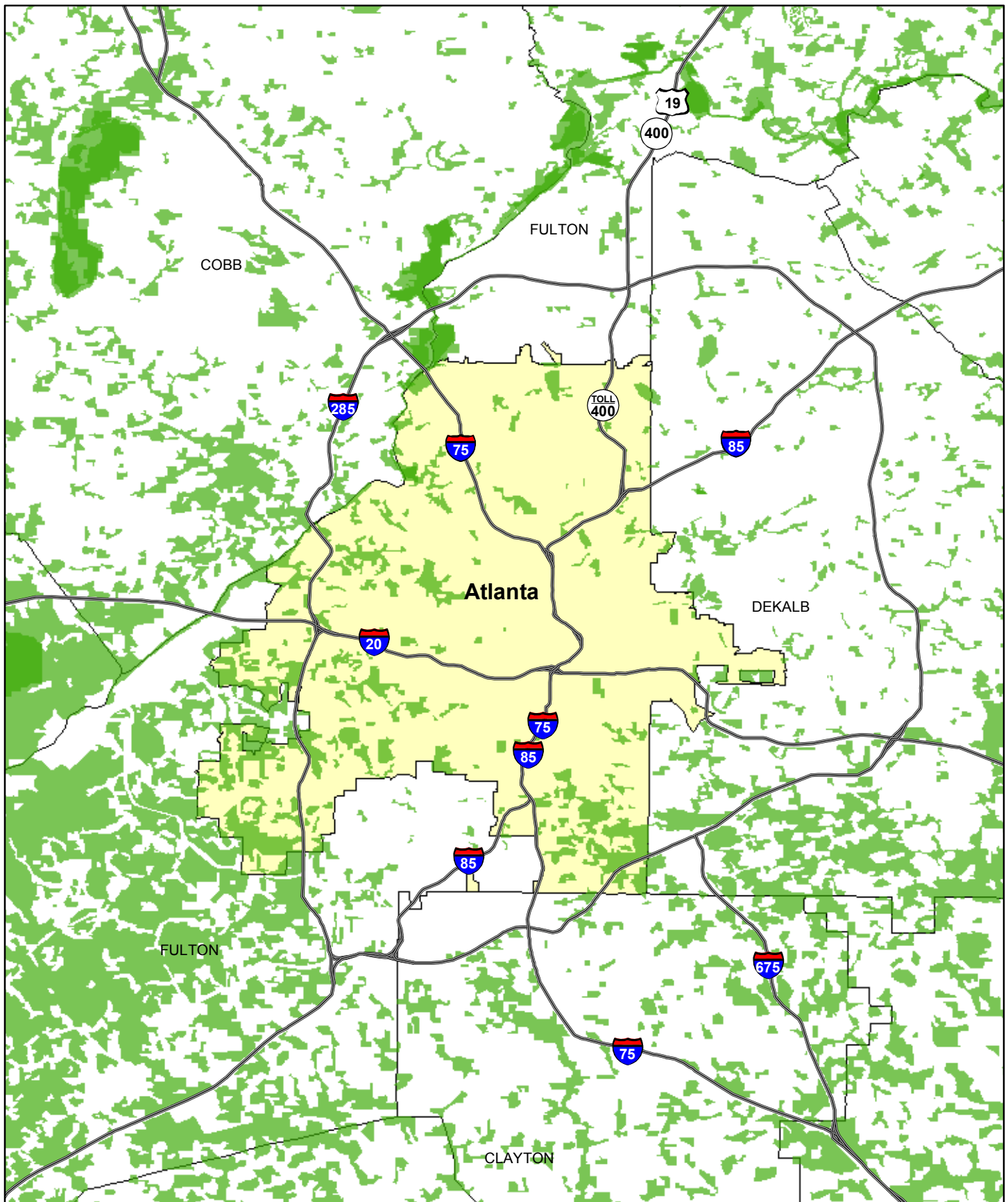
In order to protect the water quality of the Chattahoochee River and its scenic vistas, portions of the Chattahoochee River corridor are protected under the Chattahoochee River Corridor Plan. Required by the MRPA (Georgia Code 12-5-440), the plan restricts the development of new or expansion of existing solid waste handling facilities within 2,000 feet of the river and its impoundments. No new or existing solid waste disposal facilities are allowed within the 640 feet beyond the 2,000-foot corridor, where the river is a boundary between two counties, without the approval of the adjoining county.

Portions of the Chattahoochee River Corridor south of Peachtree Creek that are located within 100 feet of the river are restricted from new or expanded solid waste handling facilities. In areas where the river functions as a county boundary, no new or existing solid waste disposal facilities are allowed to expand into the 2,540-foot area located beyond the 100-foot corridor without the approval of the adjoining county. The City will ensure compliance with the MRPA in siting a new solid waste handling facility.

## **6.3 Disproportionate Environmental Impacts**




On February 11, 1994, President Clinton issued Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority and Low Income Populations." Through this Executive Order, the President directed the Environmental Protection Agency to ensure that agencies analyze the environmental effects on minority and low-income communities, including human, health, social, and economic effects. As a recipient of Federal funds, the City of Atlanta must ensure that Environmental Justice concerns are addressed.





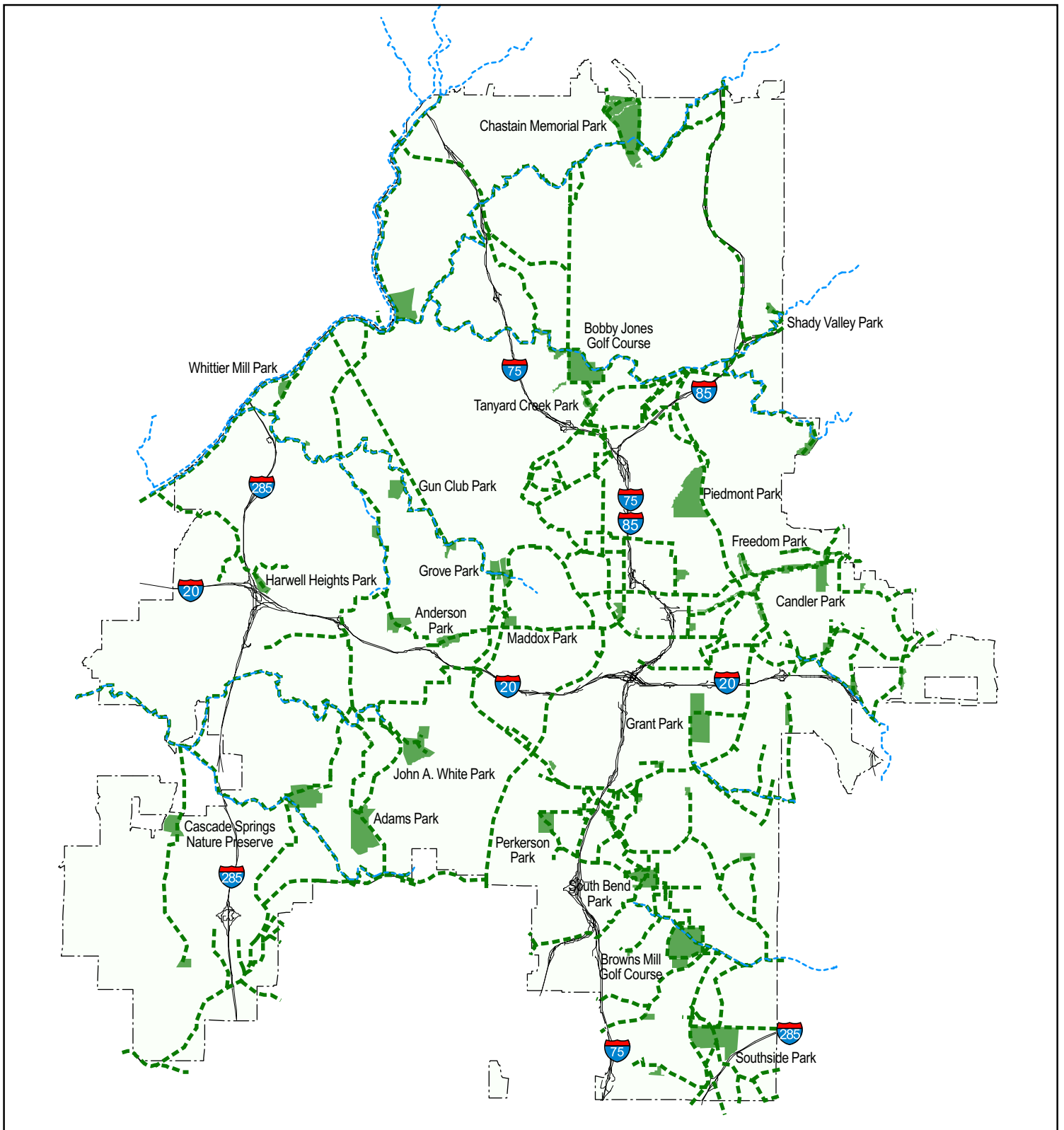
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engineers • architects • planners

0 1 2 3 4 Miles






-  Interstates
-  Atlanta City Limits
-  Conservation Areas and Greenspace

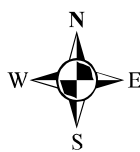


**Figure 6-6**  
Conservation Areas and Greenspace  
City of Atlanta  
*Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan*



#### Legend

-  Interstate
-  Major Park
-  Proposed Greenway Corridor
-  Major Stream
-  City Boundary



Source: City of Atlanta Comprehensive Development Plan 2005-2019



**Figure 6-7**

City of Atlanta Greenway Corridor Plan  
City of Atlanta  
Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan

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The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defines Environmental Justice as: *The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. **Fair treatment** means that no group of people, including a racial, ethnic, or a socioeconomic group, should bear a disproportionate share of the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, municipal, and commercial operations or the execution of federal, state, local, and tribal programs and policies. **Meaningful involvement** means that: (1) potentially affected community residents have an appropriate opportunity to participate in decisions about a proposed activity that will affect their environment and/or health; (2) the public's contribution can influence the regulatory agency's decision; (3) the concerns of all participants involved will be considered in the decision making process; and (4) the decision makers seek out and facilitate the involvement of those potentially affected.*

In preparing this Plan, the City took into account Environmental Justice issues through the implementation of the Public Involvement Plan. The Public Involvement Plan was established to ensure broad participation from community groups and interested citizens. Public involvement meetings were held city-wide in an effort to obtain input from all interested parties and to ensure that all issues and concerns were registered, considered, and factored into the planning process. The City will work to incorporate Environmental Justice concerns in future solid waste management solutions and implementation of this plan. EPA has established the following four domains which focus on environmental justice policy and strategies. These parameters should be considered in future solid waste management solutions.

#### **Knowing The Community**

- Be aware of demographics of the community.
- Build relationships with community members in order to know their “story.”
- Be aware of the environmental stressors within the community in order to determine the appropriateness of further sitings.

#### **Decreasing Disproportionate Impacts**

- Research and consider all environmental stressors.
- Assess cumulative impacts in the community (assessment of how all the stressors overlap and interact with community identity and demographics) and community vulnerability. For example, minority populations have the least resistance to negative health effects caused by air, water, and land toxics. In addition, minority populations have the least resources for dealing with health issues, and finally, minority populations are least likely to overcome health issues.

#### **Meaningful Community Involvement**

- Allow the community to participate in decision making early and often.
- Ensure that the community participates in all matters concerning them (large and small scale).
- Ensure that community input is evident in final decision making.

#### **Increasing Benefits And Decreasing Burdens**

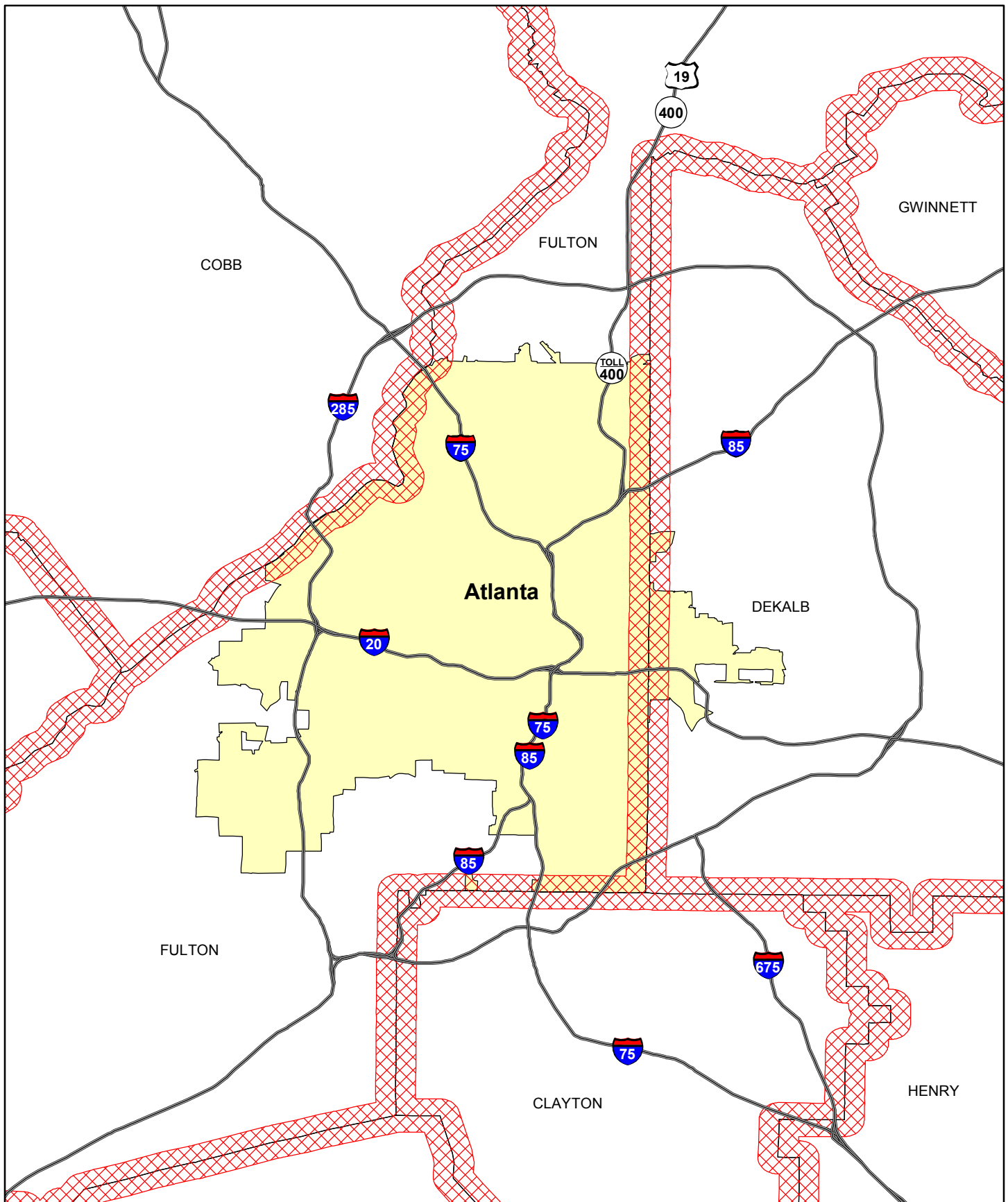
- Always ask the question: Who benefits and who is burdened?
- Try to increase the benefits and decrease the burdens within EJ communities.

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

## 6.4 Other Regulatory Requirements for Solid Waste Facility Siting

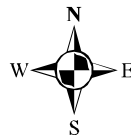
When siting and permitting a solid waste handling facility, the City will consider the extensive array of regulatory, land use, environmental, and construction requirements cited in previous sections. The City will also consider the following additional regulations:

- **Site Selection, Public Notice, and Public Hearing Requirements:** whenever any applicant begins a process to select a site for a solid waste disposal facility, DNR Rule 391-3-4-.05(1)(b) requires that the applicant comply with the public notice and public hearing requirements outlined in O.C.G.A. § 12-8-26. This section of the Georgia Code states that any municipality beginning the process to select a site for a municipal solid waste disposal facility must first call at least one public meeting to discuss waste management needs of the local government and to describe the process of siting facilities to the public. Public notice for the meeting should be published within the local newspaper at least once a week for 2 weeks prior to the date of the meeting. A similar public notice and public hearing are required to announce a siting decision for a municipal solid waste disposal facility. The public notice shall state the time, place, and purpose of the meeting. A siting decision shall include, but is not limited to, such activities as the final selection of property for landfilling and the execution of contracts or agreements pertaining to the location of municipal solid waste disposal facilities within the jurisdiction, but shall not include zoning decisions.
- **Excessive Concentrations of Landfills:** Under the Georgia Code (O.C.G.A § 12-8-25.4) The purpose of this section of the code is to provide a limited degree of protection against any given community becoming an involuntary host to an excessive concentration of landfills. No permit shall be issued for any solid waste handling facility other than a material recovery facility or compost facility or for any solid waste disposal facility other than a private industry solid waste disposal facility if any part of the premises would lie within a 2-mile radius of an area that already includes three or more landfills within the State of Georgia. Section 12-8-25.4 (c) (2) further describes landfill types that are excluded from this process, such as inert waste facilities and private industry solid waste disposal facilities. This section also defines the specific permit types, such as major modifications to existing landfills and horizontal expansions that trigger this review.
- **Facilities Issues Negotiation Process:** Under the Georgia Code (O.C.G.A. § 12-8-32), if conflicts arise in the solid waste facility permitting process, the applicant or affected parties can undertake the Facilities Issues Negotiation Process. This process allows for a negotiation process to be initiated if at least 25 affected persons sign a petition. A facilitator will be named by the host local government and paid for by the applicant. An advisory committee would be formed to discuss mediation of issues such as hours of operation, recycling measures, protection of property values, traffic routing, and maintenance. Additional detail is provided in Section 12-8-32 (a-s).
- **Adjacent Jurisdictions:** Under the Georgia Code (O.C.G.A § 12-8-25), local municipalities are encouraged to coordinate with adjacent jurisdictions when siting facilities within one-half mile of a shared municipal boundary; these boundaries are shown on Figure 6-8. Section 12-8-25 provides additional detail on exceptions and permit types which are exempt.



0 1 2 3 4 Miles

-  Interstates
-  Atlanta City Limits
-  Adjacent County Line Half Mile Buffer



**Figure 6-8**  
 Adjacent Counties Half Mile Buffer  
 City of Atlanta  
 Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan

- 
- **Private Recreational Camp:** Under the Georgia Code (O.C.G.A § 12-8-25), no permit shall be issued for any new municipal solid waste disposal facility if any part of the premises proposed for permitting is within one mile of any private recreational camp that has been operated primarily for use by persons under 18 years of age and has been operated at its location for 25 years or more.

## **6.5 Procedures to Establish Consistency with Comprehensive SWMP (New Program)**

In order for EPD to issue or renew a permit for a solid waste handling facility or facility expansion in the City of Atlanta, the facility must be consistent with this Comprehensive SWMP. In addition to the procedures outlined in the City of Atlanta solid waste permitting and zoning regulations, the City will also follow the siting process described below and shown in Figure 6-9.

### **1) City and Public Decide on Type of Disposal Technology**

Based on input from the public and analysis of a variety of existing and alternative technologies, a decision on the type of solid waste technology will be made.

### **2) Site Analysis Using Land Limitation Criteria and Overlay maps**

Once the City or a private entity has identified a solid waste technology, a siting analysis will be required to determine what sites would be sufficient to meet the needs of the technology as well as the land use limitation criteria described above in Sections 6.1, 6.2. and 6.4. Typical land limitation criteria include land use criteria such as zoning and environmental constraints that are regulated by state and federal laws such as wetlands, floodplains, groundwater recharge areas, water supply watersheds, and historic areas. Each of these land limitations will be mapped and then compiled into a composite overlay map of all the land limitation criteria present in the City.

### **3) Identify Candidate Sites**

Areas that are not constrained by land limitations shown on the composite overlay map will be considered as possible siting alternatives. Once a series of candidate sites have been identified, a public involvement process will be conducted that allows for input on each proposed site. Additional issues will be evaluated at this time such as traffic impacts, vehicle access, topography, and social and economic issues such as environmental justice (see Section 6.3, Disproportionate Environmental Impacts) and economic viability.

### **4) Meet with Regulatory Agencies**

After a series of candidate sites have been identified, the City will meet with the state regulatory agencies to ensure that the proposed sites comply with state requirements.

### **5) Public Information and Participation**

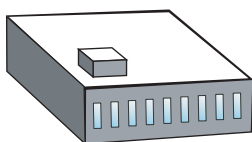
Provide any final information to the public and provide additional opportunities for public meetings and involvement.



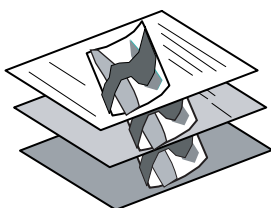
# Siting Process



City and Public decides on type of disposal technology

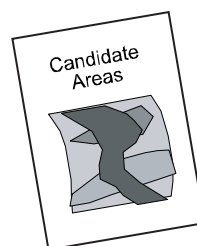


Site analysis using land limitation criteria and overlay maps



Identify candidate sites

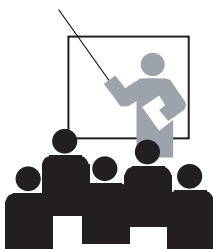
← Public Involvement



Meet with regulatory agencies



Public information and participation



City and Public work together on decision making



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## 6) City and Public Work Together on Decision Making

The land use limitation criteria along with input from the public will be used to compare proposed sites and make a decision regarding a proposed site.

The six-step procedure described above will address the following state minimum planning criteria:

- 1) How the public will be involved and notified- In addition to the state minimum public hearing requirements and the City of Atlanta permitting and zoning requirements, the City will require an expanded community involvement process in which:
  - Citizens will have input in the facility selection process and the process of identifying community concerns
  - Community concerns will be identified and responded to in a timely manner
  - Community information and education activities will maximize public awareness
- 2) The anticipated impact the proposed facility will have upon current solid waste management facilities;
- 3) The anticipated impact the proposed facility will have upon adequate collection and disposal capability within the planning area; and
- 4) The effect the facility will have upon waste generated within the state achieving the States 25% per capita waste disposal reduction goal.

## 6.6 Needs and Goals

The City and State regulations regarding environmental limitations, land limitations, and environmental justice concerns will help to ensure that any proposed solid waste handling facility or expansions of existing facilities are sited in an area which is suitable for such development and compatible with the surrounding area. Through the adoption and implementation of the Solid Waste Ordinance (Ch. 130) and the Special Use Permit requirements for solid waste handling facilities in industrial zoning classifications, the City has addressed existing and future solid waste facility siting issues. No additional ordinances are required at this time. The Solid Waste Ordinance carries enforcement authority, and fines can be levied for violations.

Over time, the availability of sites suitable for solid waste handling facilities in the City of Atlanta will decline. Therefore, the City will need to manage the existing facilities wisely and protect large-scale industrial areas from encroachment by residential or community facilities, which are typically not compatible with solid waste handling facilities. As Atlanta continues to grow in population, and therefore, experience an increase in the amount of solid waste generated, the City will need to efficiently utilize the existing solid waste handling facilities, implement new technologies that will enhance environmental controls and capacities, and continue to implement recycling programs which help to achieve waste reduction goals. Solid waste disposal capacity and the potential need for newly sited solid waste handling facilities will be addressed in Section 5, Disposal Element.

## SECTION 7

# Education and Public Involvement Element

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### **Goal of This Planning Element:**

*To identify available resources and to propose sustainable initiatives to provide residents of the City of Atlanta with information, education, and opportunities for involvement to promote their understanding of the social, economic, environmental, and operational issues and opportunities associated with solid waste management.*

This section provides information on the current education and public involvement initiatives being conducted by the City of Atlanta and other organizations. This section also includes needs and goals for continuing education and public involvement initiatives over the 10-year planning period.

## **7.1 Existing Educational Programs and Public Involvement Opportunities**

The City of Atlanta believes that education and public involvement play an important role in the management of the City's solid waste. By strategically informing and educating the public about key solid waste issues, the City can dramatically reduce the waste stream, achieve the Administration's goal of creating a cleaner and safer city, and in turn, improve waste management services and reduce costs. Education and public involvement are integral to an informed citizenry and sustained participation in making Atlanta a cleaner, healthier, and a safer city in which to live.

A variety of solid waste management educational and enforcement programs are in place in the City of Atlanta. For example, the City created the S.W.E.E.T. and HIVE initiatives to target illegal dumping and littering and to educate the public about solid waste regulations defined in the City's Solid Waste Ordinance. Additionally, the City supports many recycling education programs.

### **7.1.1 Solid Waste Education and Enforcement Team (S.W.E.E.T.) (Existing Program)**

S.W.E.E.T. was created by the SWS in 2004 to work with the City of Atlanta Police Department Quality of Life Unit, the Weed and Seed Program, and the Department of Planning and Community Development to enforce the Solid Waste Ordinance (Section 130 of the City of Atlanta Code of Ordinances). The mission of the S.W.E.E.T. program is to "educate the general public, customers, and citizens on all City ordinances governing solid waste disposal, and to build and sustain healthy neighborhoods by ensuring safe and clean communities and public spaces." S.W.E.E.T. educational outreach methods include canvassing neighborhoods to provide door-knob hangers, stickers, flyers, and brochures. S.W.E.E.T. members also attend neighborhood meetings and community events to speak about litter and illegal dumping prevention and to distribute literature. S.W.E.E.T. members

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work with citizens through the NPU and the City's community associations to proactively identify and address specific needs with regard to illegal dumping and the Solid Waste Ordinance.

S.W.E.E.T. enforcement activities include patrolling the City and issuing courtesy notices to homeowners, citizens, contractors, and illegal dumpers who have violated sections of the Solid Waste Ordinance relating to public ROWs and city-owned property. Illegal dumpsites and vacant overgrown lots that are private property are reported to the Code Enforcement Division. Six staff members of S.W.E.E.T. patrol the quadrants of the City and enforce the Solid Waste Ordinance. Personnel go door-to-door to educate citizens about the Solid Waste Ordinance and to look for violations such as overgrown vacant lots, illegal dumping, and debris in the ROWs.

"Illegal dumping" is defined as depositing any kind of trash, solid waste, or refuse onto vacant lots, someone else's property, or in public spaces. These items include, but are not limited to, large furniture items, auto parts, junk, trash, and building materials. Enforcement of the Solid Waste Ordinance involves a seven-step process, which is initiated by the issuance of a courtesy ticket/citation. Each courtesy notice specifically outlines which part of the Solid Waste Ordinance is being violated. A follow-up to this initial ticket is conducted and if the violation continues, a second courtesy ticket/citation is given. A second follow-up is conducted and a third courtesy ticket/court citation is provided if the violation is not corrected. Once a court citation is given, a court date and time are set, and a penalty of up to \$500.00 and/or 60 days in jail can be levied. The judge presiding over the case determines the actual amount of each fine. The 2005 City Budget includes funding for additional personnel who will be responsible for coordinating with the City of Atlanta Police Department Quality of Life Unit, and the Department of Planning Housing Code and Compliance section.

#### 7.1.1.1 HIVE Operation

A High Intensity Visibility Enforcement (HIVE) operation is a S.W.E.E.T. initiative that provides a targeted and sustained month-long operation, including cleanup and educational initiatives for identified neighborhoods. S.W.E.E.T. collaborates with the various community and neighborhood associations to form a HIVE operation for an area in that neighborhood that includes both education and enforcement on illegal dumping. This partnership proactively identifies and addresses specific needs with regard to illegal dumping and general solid waste management concerns in that area. The HIVE program operates for 30 days in each area, with the first 2 weeks devoted to introductory meetings in the neighborhood. At these meeting, educational materials are provided and key program elements, including courtesy tickets and proper disposal methods, are explained. The third week of the program consists of illegal dumping cleanup and pickup of scheduled bulk rubbish and yard trimmings. During the fourth week, citations are distributed, as necessary, and the effort culminates in a major community cleanup over a weekend.

#### 7.1.2 Trash Troopers (Existing Program)

The City's Trash Troopers program includes a field crew of approximately 30 people who respond daily to areas where assistance is needed to remove illegal signs, to mow and clear the ROWs, and to clean illegal dumping sites. The City has compiled a master list of illegal

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dumpsites which the Trash Troopers are working to clear. Additionally, requests are received through the City's Customer Service (404-521-DUMP [3867]) hotline and via emails from concerned citizens. In 2004, Atlanta's Trash Troopers cleaned 164 illegal dumpsites, 125 vacant lots and disposed of more than 7,300 tons of solid waste.

### 7.1.3 Customer Service Center (Existing Program)

Customer service is a major priority for the Mayor and the DPW. The Department's Customer Service Unit operates a call center for residents of the City of Atlanta to obtain information about public works services. This call center takes approximately 200 calls a day regarding illegal dumping at (404) 521-DUMP, garbage collection/schedules at (404) 330-6333, and traffic light and street issues at (404) 330-6501. DPW has reorganized the Customer Service Unit, increased staffing, and implemented a new management structure. New managerial changes include oversight and monitoring of calls to ensure courtesy and efficiency. Analyses of call patterns and staffing levels at peak times have yielded significant improvements. The average caller-wait time has been reduced to 2 minutes, and customer surveys indicate that the customer service satisfaction rate has significantly increased.

### 7.1.4 SWS Service Schedule Information Campaign (Existing Program)

SWS has launched a citywide information campaign in which solid waste operators go door to door on non-service days to hand out information cards explaining the types and schedules of solid waste collections. Information cards are distributed for each neighborhood describing the service days and routes for that particular area. These cards help to inform citizens about the appropriate timing for setting out garbage while also providing reminders to separate waste for more efficient collection.

### 7.1.5 Recycling and Education Program (Existing Program)

The City of Atlanta has contracted with Dreamsan, Inc., the City's curbside recycling collector, to provide the City's recycling education services. Dreamsan is responsible for providing information materials to residential curbside customers, including items such as a new recycling instructional brochure, recycling information stickers to be applied to each container distributed, adhesive stickers with the new program logo, notices of improper set-out, and a twice-yearly newsletter. Dreamsan collection vehicles are identified with signage and a telephone hotline number in case residents have questions on recycling in the City of Atlanta. Dreamsan's educational program includes providing informative literature such as the User's Guide, which provides a detailed description of the "Do's and Don'ts" of the recycling program. Other point-of-service type of literature is provided to residents to help them comply with the program guidelines. Service notices and/or stickers are provided to residents to inform them of the correct recycling items to place in their recycling bins.

Dreamsan's community outreach includes producing a newsletter that is mailed to each household twice a year. These newsletters provide information about the Atlanta recycling program as well as other recycling options and programs. Dreamsan also provides recycling presentations during "Public Works Week" at City Hall and participates in the City of Atlanta's March of Dimes campaign. Dreamsan representatives also provide recycling presentations to City schools and parent-teacher organizations upon request.

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SWS is also exploring partnerships with local elementary schools designed to encourage participation in recycling projects. Potential opportunities include: student field trips to DPW worksites, presentations from DPW subject experts, school exhibits, and science fairs.

### **7.1.6 Keep Atlanta Beautiful (Existing Program)**

Keep Atlanta Beautiful (KAB) was created in 1976 under Mayor Maynard Jackson's administration and was originally called the Atlanta Clean City Commission. The original mission of the organization was to tackle the issues of litter prevention and environmental awareness on a citywide basis. This mission has been expanded to include recycling and general solid waste management issues and education. KAB is an affiliate of the nationwide nonprofit Keep America Beautiful, Inc. and the state affiliate, Keep Georgia Beautiful (KGB). KAB serves the citizens of Atlanta by developing and implementing effective public education and community involvement programs. These programs enhance the quality of life and economic development of the community by instilling pride, a positive attitude, and behavioral changes regarding natural resource conservation, littering, recycling, and beautification. The KAB programs include cleanup projects, recycling drives, teacher training workshops, community presentations, and other efforts which seek the active involvement of interested persons.

KAB has provided annual events, on-going programs, resource information, awareness campaigns, and community support and recognition programs to promote its mission. Annual events have included the Great American Clean Up, Scrap Tire Amnesty Day, Rivers Alive Cleanup, and Bring One for the Chipper. On-going programs include school and community presentations, KAB Mascot Appearances, Health Fairs/Exhibits, Scrap Tire Education, and workshops on Waste in the Workplace. Resource information has included key telephone numbers, recycling options, disposal options, supplies and materials, referrals to support agencies, funding opportunities, and community service workers. Awareness campaigns, including public service campaigns, public service announcements, print and radio advertisement and newsletters, have also been developed. Other programs have included community cleanups, yard and trash bag giveaways, neighborhood assessment, and volunteer recruitment and business recruitment.

### **7.1.7 Speaker's Bureau/Attendance at Neighborhood Planning Unit and APAB Meetings (Existing Program)**

Representatives from the SWS periodically attend NPU, Atlanta Public Advisory Board (APAB), and the City Council's Town Hall meetings to make presentations about solid waste management services in the City of Atlanta. The meetings provide a forum to educate the community about solid waste programs and recycling initiatives. The DPW Commissioner has embarked on a public speaking initiative that includes addressing a number of civic groups each month. All key management staff will be members of the speakers bureau and each will deliver periodic presentations each quarter.

### **7.1.8 Newsletters (Existing Program)**

The DPW currently publishes a quarterly newsletter which is distributed to the public and available via the City website. This newsletter provides information to the residents of



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Atlanta regarding solid waste services. It also provides informative articles about recent initiatives as well as contact information for the Customer call center.

### 7.1.9 Solid Waste Management Planning Advisory Group (Existing Program)

As part of the planning process for this Comprehensive SWMP, Mayor Shirley Franklin's Administration initiated the SWMPAG. The Advisory Group is a diverse group of community and business leaders who have volunteered to provide technical advice to the City on current and future programs for solid waste management in the City of Atlanta. This group will meet regularly to discuss issues and opportunities; review findings and recommended options; examine technical information; and receive and share feedback regarding solid waste management for the City. Planning group members are encouraged to support the planning process and engage as "ambassadors" to the community and business sector on solid waste management. These leaders will help to facilitate communication of information, deliver key messages to the community, and encourage participation in the planning process.

### 7.1.10 Public Involvement Related to the Development of Comprehensive SWMP (Existing Program)

As part of the planning process for the SWMP, the City prepared a Public Involvement Plan to ensure that public input was incorporated into the Comprehensive SWMP. This Public Involvement Plan identified key stakeholders and target audiences, participation strategies, and participation vehicles.

An initial public hearing was held in May 2004 to announce the update of the SWMP. This meeting was followed by a June 22, 2004, Public Hearing on Planning the Plan, and a third public hearing on September 9, 2004, which outlined the public involvement process. Following the public hearings, five quadrant-based community meetings were held and a wrap-up meeting was conducted at City Hall to obtain input from participants. Additionally, 12 public meetings were held in early 2005. These meetings were held in the City Council districts and were followed by a city-wide input review meeting at City Hall. Table 7-1 lists the meetings that were held as part of the development of this Comprehensive SWMP.

TABLE 7-1  
Public Meetings

| Meeting                                             | Date               | Place                                            |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Announcing the Initiation of the Comprehensive SWMP | May 18, 2004       | City Hall, Council Chambers, 55 Trinity Ave., SW |
| Planning the Comprehensive SWMP                     | June 22, 2004      | City Hall, Council Chambers, 55 Trinity Ave., SW |
| The Public Involvement Process                      | September 9, 2004  | City Hall, Committee Room                        |
| City Utilities Committee Meeting                    | October 26, 2004   | City Hall, Committee Room                        |
| City Utilities Committee Meeting                    | November 9, 2004   | City Hall, Committee Room                        |
| The Short-Term Work Program                         | September 23, 2004 | City Hall, Council Chambers, 55 Trinity Ave., SW |

TABLE 7-1  
Public Meetings

| Meeting                                   | Date              | Place                                                                 |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Quadrant Meetings</b>                  |                   |                                                                       |
| Quadrant Meeting (SW)(3)                  | November 30, 2004 | Adamsville Recreation Center,<br>3201 MLK Jr. Dr., SW                 |
| Quadrant Meeting (SE) (4)                 | December 8, 2003  | Grant Park Recreation Center,<br>537 Park Avenue, SE                  |
| Quadrant Meeting (E)(4)                   | December 13, 2004 | Brownwood Recreation Center,<br>607 Brownwood Avenue, SE              |
| Quadrant Meeting (S)(3)                   | December 15, 2004 | Pittman Recreation Center,<br>950 Garibaldi Street, SW,               |
| Quadrant Meeting (N)(1)                   | December 16, 2004 | East Rivers Elementary School,<br>8 Peachtree Battle, NW              |
| Citizen Input/Wrap-Up                     | December 21, 2004 | City Hall, Council Chambers,<br>55 Trinity Ave., SW                   |
| <b>Council District Meetings</b>          |                   |                                                                       |
| Council District 1- Hon. Carla Smith      | January 12, 2005  | Georgia Hill Center,<br>250 Georgia Ave., SE                          |
| Council District 3- Hon. Ivory Young      | January 13, 2005  | City Hall, Council Chambers,<br>55 Trinity Ave., SW                   |
| Council District 10 Hon. C.T. Martin      | January 18, 2005  | Adamsville Recreation Center, 3201<br>Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr., SW |
| Council District 12-Hon. Joyce Sheperd    | January 18, 2005  | John Burdine Center,<br>215 Lakewood Way, SW                          |
| Council District 4-Hon. Clela Winslow     | January 19, 2005  | West End Library,<br>525 Peeples St., SW                              |
| Council District 5-Hon. Natalyn Archibong | January 19, 2005  | Atlanta/DeKalb Senior Center,<br>25 Warren Street                     |
| Council District 2 Hon. Debi Starnes      | January 20, 2005  | Martin Luther King, Jr. Center,<br>90 Boulevard Ave.                  |
| Council District 7 Hon. Howard Shook      | January 24, 2005  | Buckhead Public Library,<br>269 Buckhead Ave., NW                     |
| Council District 6 Hon. Anne Fauver       | January 25, 2005  | Inman Middle School,<br>774 Virginia Avenue, N.E.                     |
| Council District 8 Hon. Clair Muller      | January 26, 2005  | Northside Public Library,<br>3295 Northside Parkway                   |
| Council District 9 Hon. Felicia Moore     | January 27, 2005  | Zone One Precinct,<br>2315 Donald Lee Hollowell Parkway               |
| Council District 11 Hon. Jim Maddox       | January 31, 2005  | Southwest YMCA,<br>2220 Campbellton Rd., SW                           |
| Community Input Review Meeting            | February 3, 2005  | City Hall, Council Chambers,<br>55 Trinity Ave., SW                   |

Note: City Council President Lisa Borders and At-large Council Members Mary Norwood, Ceasar Mitchell, and Lamar Willis were invited to participate in these Council District Meetings.

The format for the public meetings included a brief overview of the City of Atlanta's solid waste services and a description of the planning elements of the SWMP. At each public meeting, a court reported recorded citizen input solicited during the presentation, and

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afterward, through comment opportunities at individual booths set up at the meeting location. In total, over 500 residents participated in a total of 22 community meetings across Atlanta. Citizens provided over 100 comments for consideration as part of the planning process. A summary list of these issues is provided below:

- Provide public education on current ordinances and their enforcement.
- Increase participation in recycling through education.
- Improve frequency and notification of collection schedules.
- Improve customer service.
- Enforce City accountability for standards.
- City-wide culture does not embrace recycling or city beautification.
- General cleanliness of City (public receptacles not emptied, ROWs).
- Police illegal tire disposal.
- Stop illegal dumping.
- Provide for household hazardous waste disposal.
- Restructure sanitation fees.
- Consider weight-based rates.
- Consider volume-based rates.
- Develop incentives for recycling.
- Impose penalties and fines for failure to recycle.
- Use a visitors' tax to defray costs of services.
- Coordinate efforts of City departments, community-based organizations, and agencies.
- Consider parity and equity when siting solid waste handling facilities.

#### 7.1.11 Assessment of Programs

As described in Section 7.1, Existing Educational Programs and Public Involvement Opportunities, the City provides a number of educational and public involvement programs, through which it distributes a variety of educational materials to citizens. These educational materials include brochures, handouts, newsletters, and door hangars which address issues such as illegal dumping, littering, source reduction, recycling, reuse, disposal of hazardous waste, composting, and solid waste disposal. Recent efforts by SWS operations staff going door-to-door through neighborhoods to provide solid waste service and schedule cards have been successful in providing information directly to Atlanta residents.

SWS representatives also distribute educational materials at NPUs and APAB meetings. These meetings are also a forum to educate the community about solid waste programs and recycling initiatives. The SWS also posts educational information on the City website and staffs and operates the Customer Service call center for illegal dumping and waste collections/schedules. Recent efforts to improve customer service have been successful, and the customer satisfaction rate has significantly improved. The caller wait-time has also been reduced to 2 minutes, and the satisfaction rate based on surveys conducted has increased from 11 percent to 65 percent.

The City currently operates several hands-on programs (such as Trash Troopers, S.W.E.E.T. and HIVE) that target vacant lot cleanup and illegal dumping. These programs focus on both residential and commercial facilities and provide owners with educational materials

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about disposal of bulky waste, yard waste disposal, and composting alternatives. In 2004, Atlanta's Trash Troopers cleaned 164 illegal dumpsites, 125 vacant lots and disposed of more than 7,300 tons of solid waste.

Other programs conducted by KAB and Dreamsan help to raise awareness in the community of the need to recycle and ways to properly dispose of solid waste items. These recycling education programs have been successful because the City has increased its recycling participation rate and the yard trimming disposal rate. In 2003, approximately 6,985 tons of residential solid waste from single- and multi-family residences serviced by the City were collected for recycling. Since 2001, the amount of residential solid waste disposed has decreased steadily, which indicates an increase in source reduction and/or recycling. In 2003, the residential recycling rate in the City of Atlanta was approximately 0.09 pound per capita per day.

In 1996, the City began collecting yard trimmings separately from residential refuse. The City does not dispose of yard trimmings, but instead processes the material and sells it for reuse as boiler fuel to various mills. In 2003, the City of Atlanta collected approximately 20,837 tons of yard trimmings. From 1997 to 2003, the amount of yard trimmings collected by the City of Atlanta increased by approximately 252 tons per year.

During the series of public information meetings held during the preparation of this plan, many citizens requested additional solid waste educational initiatives. Areas where people specifically requested additional education included schedule and frequency of solid waste pickup, information regarding set-out limits, composting techniques, and recycling and reuse options for bulky waste in order to prevent illegal dumping of discarded items such as tires. Other long-term educational needs were also recommended, including focusing on waste-to-energy options and landfill usage. Other suggestions regarding education included the need to train SWS employees to serve as ambassadors who represent the City, to partner with existing organizations and media outlets to educate people about the advantages of recycling, and to efficiently provide better information to new Atlanta residents about solid waste services, costs, and ways to participate in the recycling program.

## 7.2 Needs and Goals

The City is involved in a variety of public education efforts aimed at providing the public with information, education, and opportunities for involvement to promote their understanding of the social, environmental, and economic concerns, needs, and opportunities associated with solid waste management. The City plans to continue providing an open line of communication to the residents of Atlanta in order to provide information, education, and opportunities for public involvement. Additionally, the City is committed to receiving information from residents about the needs, interests, and recommendations for improving waste and source reduction.

These existing programs are effective at informing and educating the public about solid waste issues and helping the City reach the State goal of 25 percent reduction in solid waste since 1992. In the future, the City will continue to build on these programs while also consolidating its efforts into key information, education, and public involvement programs and initiatives discussed below.

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### 7.2.1 Partnerships with Other Organizations

To augment the limited resources available to most municipal governments, the City will form partnerships with other solid waste education organizations. By establishing partnerships, the City can leverage expertise and labor of other community organizations that have similar missions to reduce solid waste. By partnering with and participating in these other organizations, the City can concentrate its efforts on efficient and successful solid waste programs. Some suggested organizations include:

#### 7.2.1.1 Other City of Atlanta Office and Governmental Organizations (Enhanced Program)

The SWS will continue to partner with City of Atlanta departments, such as the City of Atlanta Police Department Quality of Life Unit, the Weed and Seed Program, the Department of Planning, and the Department of Watershed Management, to enforce the Solid Waste Ordinance (Section 130 of the City of Atlanta Code of Ordinances). The City of Atlanta also will work with other governmental organizations such as Atlanta Public Schools and the Atlanta Housing Authority to educate people about recycling, solid waste services and reducing illegal dumping in vacant areas. In addition, the City will work with State governmental agencies and leverage resources provided by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Pollution Prevention Assistance Division, and existing environmental programs through the Army Environmental Policy Institute, Fort McPherson, and Fort Gillem.

#### 7.2.1.2 Keep Atlanta Beautiful (Enhanced Program)

In the past, KAB has provided educational support on a variety of topics such as litter reduction, neighborhood beautification, recycling, and general solid waste management issues and education. Past programs have also included cleanup projects, recycling drives, teacher training workshops, and community presentations. Efforts will be made to expand KAB's outreach efforts and community beautification programs and projects in the future.

#### 7.2.1.3 Other Community/Environmental Groups/Faith-Based Organizations (Enhanced Program)

The City has sought and will continue to seek counsel on specific solid waste projects from external environmental and educational groups such as the Audubon Society, Sierra Club, and other local environmental groups. The City will continue to work with the environmental groups to establish strong partnerships through which educational materials can be shared and public outreach can be enhanced. The City will also provide educational materials to faith-based organizations and other community groups that are willing to promote grass roots waste reduction and solid waste management education.

#### 7.2.1.4 Public-Private Initiatives (New Program)

The following Atlanta entities manage notable recycling programs that are integral to their daily business operations: Atlanta Financial Center, AT&T, Coca-Cola, Georgia Power, and Emory University. Efforts will be made to partner with these and other Atlanta area entities in the future. Commercial enterprises with existing recycling programs will be showcased in the SWS Speaker's Bureau as examples to encourage other entities to participate in solid waste reduction initiatives. The City will also consider implementing a recognition

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program for neighborhoods and commercial businesses that participate in recycling programs and neighborhood clean up initiatives.

#### 7.2.1.5 Membership in Industry and Trade Organizations (Enhanced Program)

City staff maintain membership and participate in professional solid waste management organizations such as the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA), the National Recycling Coalition (NRC), the U.S. Conference of Mayors, the Institute of Solid Waste of the American Public Works Association (APWA), and the Georgia Recycling Coalition (GRC). These organizations can provide input on cutting-edge technologies as well as best management practices and trends in the industry.

#### 7.2.1.6 Volunteer Programs (Enhanced Program)

The KAB has supported many neighborhood cleanup projects. Past programs have included the Downtown's Picking Up project, Spring and Fall Into Recycling, and the Glad Bag-A-Thon. Other projects that have been successful include telephone book recycling and Christmas tree recycling. The City has been named one of five recipients of a Gateway Grant, sponsored by Scotts, Inc. This grant will provide landscaping materials for a one-day neighborhood beautification/community garden project. In the future, the City will continue to partner with volunteer organizations such as Hands on Atlanta, corporate sponsors, and community groups willing to provide similar incentives and support volunteer cleanup events. The City will team with neighborhood groups to create more community involvement opportunities, such as quarterly City-sponsored community cleanup events. Private sponsorship will be established to support the Tire Amnesty Day and proposed Treasure Swap days. The City will consider supporting a City-wide treasure swap day, in that residents can place bulky waste on the street corner for swapping and sharing with other residents. Any bulky waste that is not claimed on the treasure swap day will be removed by the SWS. Together with the distribution of educational materials on litter control, neighborhood cleanups can help change habits and attitudes regarding individual responsibility for litter control.

#### 7.2.1.7 Southface and Earthshare (New Program)

Nonprofit organizations such as Southface provide information on sustainability and recycling initiatives. Earthshare 911 provides telephone numbers and websites with detailed recycling location drop-off sites. These organizations are a free resource to the community and will be advertised and promoted through City handouts and the City website.

#### 7.2.1.8 Environmental Justice Resource Center (EJRC) at Clark Atlanta University (New Program)

The Clark Atlanta University (CAU) Environmental Justice Resource Center (EJRC) provides information regarding environmental justice considerations and serves as a research, policy, and information clearinghouse on issues related to environmental justice. The City will seek assistance and support from this organization when considering siting of solid waste handling facilities in the future.



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#### **7.2.1.9 Georgia Institute of Technology (New Program)**

The Georgia Institute of Technology's Office of Solid Waste Management and Recycling operates a comprehensive recycling program. The City will consider establishing a partnership with Georgia Tech and encouraging the use of Georgia Tech's program model for large office complexes and other schools and universities that do not currently have a recycling program.

### **7.2.2 Public Outreach**

The City will continue to work to increase delivery the solid waste and recycling education message to residents. This goal can be achieved by increasing the public outreach and educational programs. Existing educational materials will be distributed by the SWS at public meetings as well as periodically to residents and business owners during scheduled pickups.

#### **7.2.2.1 Enhanced Enforcement and Follow-Up of Solid Waste Ordinance (Enhanced Program)**

Members of the S.W.E.E.T. Team, Trash Troopers, and HIVE program can serve as ambassadors to the City residents providing educational material to help prevent illegal dumping and to explain yard waste and bulky waste disposal requirements. Public education will also be improved by systematically providing citations and follow-up information regarding infractions of the Solid Waste Ordinance. Additionally, fines for violations of the Solid Waste Ordinance may be increased and strict fines for environmental crimes levied.

#### **7.2.2.2 Speaker's Bureau/Attendance at NPU and APAB Meetings (Enhanced Program)**

The City will continue to support a solid waste Speaker's Bureau and to provide technical assistance to local government, schools, businesses, civic groups, and individuals in the community. Efforts to speak at NPU and APAB meetings will be continued and expanded in the future. Additional efforts will be made to speak with business owners and multi-family residents to encourage recycling participation.

#### **7.2.2.3 Customer Service Call Center (Enhanced Program)**

Customer service is a major priority for the Mayor and the DPW. Continued support of the Customer Service call center and advertising of the illegal dumping hotline—(404) 521-DUMP—and garbage collections/schedules—(404) 330-6333—will continue to provide information to the public about solid waste services. Additional customer service training will be extended to solid waste operations employees, who serve as ambassadors to the City on a daily basis. Additional customer service training can help these operations employees readily provide residents with information and answers to solid waste service-related questions.

#### **7.2.2.4 Recycling Coordinator and Staffing Requirements (Enhanced Program)**

In addition to filling the position of the Recycling Coordinator, the City will also consider expanding this role to include a community involvement component. Equally, as the recommended projects and initiatives are implemented, current staffing levels will be evaluated to determine if additional positions will be required to support the proposed initiatives.

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#### 7.2.2.5 Information and Public Awareness Campaign (Enhanced Program)

Information campaigns can range from public service announcements to co-sponsorship of recycling projects, as has occurred with local television news channels. Additionally, the DPW has developed a series of information pieces on recycling and solid waste reduction for broadcast on the City's television channel, Channel 26. Other media campaign efforts have included media sponsorship of recycling initiatives such as the Christmas Tree Recycling Project. These initiatives help to promote recycling initiatives and attract free media coverage. The Atlanta Journal-Constitution also frequently covers environmental and solid waste issues. In the future, the information and public awareness campaign will be expanded to include more communication in diverse mediums and languages. Specific emphasis will be placed on announcing service schedules and changes in these schedules. Additional efforts will be made to broaden solid waste management media campaigns to include more radio and television support for recycling programs through public service announcement and other press releases. As part of these efforts, the DPW will sponsor a recycling awareness day for all city employees. In the future, the City will enhance the existing SWS website to provide more in-depth and accessible information about solid waste management programs. Specific items to be added to the City website include:

- Service schedules and changes to service schedules
- Notices about solid waste management public meetings
- Information on junk mail reduction
- Information on composting
- Information on reusable shopping bags
- City and privately owned drop-off center locations for fluorescent tubes, E waste (computer-related electronics), refrigerants, and cardboard
- "Don't Dispose--Donate" locations
- Waste-exchange organizations
- Newcomer information for new residents
- Herbie Curbies and recycling bin information
- Annual recycling newsletter
- Speakers Bureau contact information

#### 7.2.2.6 School Programs (Enhanced Program)

Currently Dreamsan provides recycling education programs to schools located throughout the metro Atlanta area. In the future, Dreamsan will partner with the Atlanta Public School system to formalize teacher training seminars and presentations to students and parent-teacher organizations. Additionally, the City will help to ensure that recycling education is included in Earth Day activities.

#### 7.2.2.7 Community or Neighborhood Educational Programs (Enhanced Program)

It is important to continue to fund the education budget of the current recycling vendor for recycling education (Dreamsan, Inc.); this funding will be specifically earmarked for media,

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printing, and production costs. Dreamsan will continue its outreach efforts to include the Atlanta Public School system children and parent-teacher organizations.

#### **7.2.2.8 Environmental Education Center and Greenspace Park (New Program)**

The Hartsfield Solid Waste Reduction Plant is currently used to recycle yard trimmings into mulch that is used for boiler fuel for various mills in the Southeast. In the future, this facility can be expanded into an Environmental Education Center and Greenspace Park. For more information on this program, refer to Section 3.5.3.8, Conversion of Hartsfield Solid Waste Reduction Plant to Environmental Education Center and Park.

#### **7.2.2.9 Advisory Groups**

When necessary, the City will form advisory groups to assist in the solid waste management initiatives identified in this Plan. Advisory groups will consist of key stakeholders (both community and business leaders) who will meet to discuss the various initiatives' issues and opportunities, review findings and recommended options, examine technical information, and receive and share feedback. The advisory groups will serve the City as ambassadors to the residential and business communities by informing and educating the community on the specific initiatives. The groups will also help to facilitate communication, deliver key messages, encourage participation in the planning process, and build consensus on recommended options for solid waste management.

### **7.2.3 Educational Materials**

The City will continue to expand the solid waste and recycling education message to as many citizens as possible. This goal can be achieved by increasing the distribution of educational materials to a wide array of city residents. Existing educational materials will be distributed by the SWS at public meetings as well as periodically to residents and business owners during scheduled pickups.

#### **7.2.3.1 Factsheets and Handouts (Enhanced Program)**

The City has created a variety of factsheets and handouts that describe the Solid Waste Ordinance, the HIVE program focusing on illegal dumping, the recycling program, set-out limits, composting tips, pickup schedules and frequency, and other options for recycling. The City will continue to canvass neighborhoods through the S.W.E.E.T. program and periodically distribute these materials to residents and users through NPU meetings and other community events. Additional educational material will be distributed which describes alternative technologies and encourages multi-family residents and business owners to participate in the recycling program.

#### **7.2.3.2 Programs to Notify and Involve the Public (Enhanced Program)**

The City staff provides technical assistance through periodic recycling neighborhood canvasses and via the Customer Service call center. The SWS also responds to calls and written requests for information and materials. Recycling brochures, educational materials, and public meeting notices will be posted on the City of Atlanta website to improve access by and distribution to the public. The database will also be periodically updated to ensure important messages reach more residents.

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## SECTION 8

# Implementation

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### **Goal of This Planning Element:**

*To develop a balanced, affordable solid waste management implementation strategy that supports the goals and meets the requirements of the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act.*

This section provides an implementation strategy for relevant current solid waste management programs and future planned programs that were identified in each element of this Plan. The solid waste management programs in this Plan cover both the 10-year planning period and future programs that can be considered long-term solid waste management strategies. The first 5 years of the implementation strategy serve as the Short-Term Work Program. The second half of the implementation strategy consists of long-term strategies. Because these strategies are long-term, they will be monitored, assessed, and updated periodically to reflect changing issues and conditions in the City over the extended planning period. The City will review and update the Short- and Long-Term Work Programs each year as part of the annual review of the Comprehensive SWMP. The annual review process will also include submittal of the Annual Solid Waste Survey to DCA, and submittal of the Short-Term Work Program progress report to the DCA every 5 years.

The programs defined in this section include specific actions that have been identified to help the City reach the statewide waste disposal reduction goal. This section also addresses the specific administrative responsibilities, contractual arrangements, and budget necessary to implement the Plan.

## 8.1 Implementation Strategy

Specific programs were defined in each Plan element that address the needs and goals identified in the waste reduction, collection, disposal, land limitation, and education and public involvement sections of this report. Table 8-1, at the end of this section, shows the implementation schedule and associated costs for each existing program that is already in place, and each new program suggested in this Comprehensive SWMP. It should be noted that the costs in Table 8-1 are estimated, and that it is difficult to accurately project future costs.

This implementation strategy includes some programs that will be implemented immediately, along with some programs that will be conducted over time to plan for the long-term waste disposal needs of the City. No major infrastructure projects are proposed at this time; however, several feasibility studies are recommended to ensure that proper planning can occur over the long term. Many of the new programs (such as the disposal technologies) are only evaluation and feasibility studies, and are not a commitment by the City to the actual implementation of the program (e.g., construction of a solid waste handling facility).

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Table 8-1 summarizes each of the activities and programs, listed by corresponding section of the Plan (i.e., Waste Reduction Element, Collection Element, Disposal Element, Land Limitation Element, and Education and Public Involvement Element). Each activity is followed by a series of columns – 2005 through 2014 – indicating the target year for implementation of that activity. The third column identifies the party or City department responsible for implementing the program or activity. The fourth column provides the estimated annual cost of maintenance and operations per year for each activity, and the final column lists recommended funding sources for each program. Each program is also categorized as existing or new. Several of the existing programs will be continued for the planning period (e.g., Christmas Tree Recycling), and several of the existing programs will be improved upon and enhanced (e.g., Drop-Off Centers). These enhanced existing programs are listed under the new programs section, because they will be expanded or improved upon for the planning period.

## 8.2 Financing Mechanisms

The City has a variety of funding mechanisms that can be used to support solid waste management programs. Most of the programs described in this plan will be funded primarily by service charges or General Obligation bonds. Currently, the landfill post-closure work is being funded through the use of General Obligation bonds. The financing mechanisms for each of the proposed programs will be updated during the City's annual update of the Comprehensive SWMP. Any new programs and funding sources established over the 10-year period will be added to the Plan and reported to the State in the Short-Term Work Plan.

The City's current solid waste management system is funded through a variety of sources, including:

- **General Fund** – Financing for the collection of solid waste is from the local government's general fund. The general fund revenues are collected in the general property tax.
- **Enterprise Fund** – The main operating fund for SWS is the collection of solid waste services bills.
- **User Fees** – User fees are charged to the solid waste customer or resident to reflect the total amount of revenue spent for providing solid waste services. User fees distribute the cost of providing solid waste management among customers and residents on a proportional basis.
- **Local Option Sales Tax** – This sales and use tax is a joint county and municipality venture, levied at the rate of one percent. All counties may participate, but municipalities must qualify in order to impose the tax.
- **Special Purpose Tax** – In 1985, Georgia law authorized a special purpose tax, which enables counties to raise funds to finance a single-purpose facility. Maximum duration for the tax is 5 years.

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- **General Obligation Bonds** – The issuing municipality guarantees General Obligation Bonds with its credit, based on its ability to levy taxable real property to pay the principal and interest on the bonds. The authorization to issue these bonds requires a referendum. The bonds can be paid for with user fees.
  - **Revenue Bonds** – Revenue Bonds guarantee the payment by pledging the net revenue from the project. Revenue Bonds require the technical and economic analysis of the project to be financed.
  - **Current Revenue Capital Financing** – This method is generated by surplus capital and is typically used to finance collection vehicles and landfill disposal systems.

Alternative funding sources might include:

- **Tax Incentives** – The City of Atlanta could use tax-based financial incentives to encourage increased recycling and source reduction in the commercial and industrial sectors. Tax incentives for waste reduction and recycling activities generally include investment tax credits, sales tax exemptions, and property tax exemptions.
- **Host Fees** – Host fees are charges levied for use of a solid waste handling facility, such as a landfill or transfer station. Solid waste handling facilities charge host fees to surrounding municipalities that use their facility.

## 8.3 Updating the Plan

The City's process for updating this Comprehensive SWMP will include annual reviews of this Plan, submittal of the Annual Solid Waste Survey to the State, and submittal of the Short-Term Work Program progress report to the State every 5 years. After 5 years, the entire Plan will be revisited and updated if necessary. Any substantive modifications to the Plan will be coordinated and incorporated into the CDP during the next CDP update.

Some of the proposed solid waste management programs in this Plan extend past the 10-year planning period of this Plan and, therefore, will be reevaluated periodically to ensure that they are accurate and reflect the current conditions within the City. The City also understands that solid waste management is an evolving process; therefore, the City reserves the right to make any necessary changes or amendments to the Plan.

Since the adoption of the City's Solid Waste Ordinance in 2004, a series of additional issues have been raised regarding solid waste management. As a result, the Solid Waste Ordinance will be re-evaluated to address the following issues:

- **Tires** – The City will consider updating the Solid Waste Ordinance to more directly address the issue of tire removal. The Ordinance would be updated to provide clear instruction on how and where to dispose or recycle tires.
- **Set-Out Limits** – The City will consider modifying the set-out limits currently required in the Solid Waste Ordinance. Along with education and enforcement, revised limits will be placed on the amount of solid waste, yard waste, and bulky waste that can be placed on the curb for collection.



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- **Multi-Family Recycling** – The City will consider re-evaluating the Solid Waste Ordinance on multi-family recycling requirements. The City will evaluate the logistics of recycling collection at each multi-family unit on a case-by-case basis. The City will work with owners to balance recycling collection education and enforcement to ensure that waste reduction efforts are met at multi-family units.
  - **C&D Debris** – The City will evaluate the current ordinances, zoning, and building codes to determine whether modifications to include waste reduction of C&D waste can be implemented.
  - **Reporting Requirements** – The City will consider requiring all collectors of waste operating within the City limits to report commercial, multi-family, and C&D tonnage collected within the City and provide a yearly assurance of disposal capacity. This reporting requirement will help meet the State's requirement under O.C.G.A 12-8-31.1, and will also assist the City in tracking its progress towards meeting the State's waste reduction goal.

TABLE 8-1  
City of Atlanta Comprehensive SWMP Implementation Plan  
Note: In Operations Costs, K= thousands; MM = millions

| Activity                                  |                                                                                                                            | Year To Be Implemented |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | Responsible Party | Estimated Operations Costs per Year | Funding Source                  |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
|                                           |                                                                                                                            | 2005                   | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 |                   |                                     |                                 |
| Section 2: Waste Disposal Stream Analysis |                                                                                                                            |                        |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |                   |                                     |                                 |
| 2.0                                       | Collect Better Data to Analyze and Manage Commercial and C&D Waste                                                         | X                      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 | \$50 K                              | Solid Waste Reserve Fund (SWRF) |
| Section 3: Waste Reduction Element        |                                                                                                                            |                        |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |                   |                                     |                                 |
| 3.3                                       | City of Atlanta Recycling Programs (includes recycling in City Buildings, recycled content procurement, and City auctions) | X                      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 | \$135 K                             | General Fund                    |
| 3.3.1 & 3.5.3.1 & 4.3.1                   | Curbside Recycling Collection Program                                                                                      | X                      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 | \$100 K                             | SWRF                            |
| 3.3.3 & 3.6.3.2                           | Drop-Off Centers                                                                                                           | X                      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 | \$209 K                             | SWRF                            |
| 3.3.8 & 3.5.3.3 & 4.3.2                   | City and Commercial Multi-Family Recycling                                                                                 | X                      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 | \$750 K                             | SWRF                            |
| 3.3.9 & 3.5.3.4 & 4.3.3                   | Commercial Business Recycling                                                                                              |                        | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 | \$100 K                             | SWRF                            |
| 3.3.11 & 3.5.3.7                          | Tire Recycling                                                                                                             | X                      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 | \$10 K                              | SWRF                            |

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|                    | Activity                                                                                                                       | Year To Be Implemented |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | Responsible Party | Estimated Operations Costs per Year | Funding Source |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
|                    |                                                                                                                                | 2005                   | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014              |                                     |                |
| 3.3.12.1 & 4.4.1   | Residential Yard Trimmings Curbside Collection Program (includes curbside residential, Christmas Tree and backyard composting) | X                      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 | \$4.8 MM                            | SWRF           |
| 3.3.13             | White Goods Recycling                                                                                                          | X                      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 | \$240 K                             | SWRF           |
| 3.5.1.1 & 3.5.3.10 | Pay-As-You-Throw – Garbage and Yard Trimmings<br><i>Evaluate Program</i>                                                       |                        | X    | X    | X    | X    |      |      |      |      |                   | \$100 K                             | SWRF           |
| 3.5.1.1 & 3.5.3.10 | Pay-As-You-Throw – Garbage and Yard Trimmings<br><i>Potentially Implement Pilot Program</i>                                    |                        |      |      |      |      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 | \$174 K                             | SWRF           |
| 3.5.1.3            | Financial Incentives                                                                                                           |                        | X    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |                   | \$70 K                              | SWRF           |
| 3.5.2.2            | Metro-Atlanta Waste Exchange<br><i>Evaluate Program</i>                                                                        | X                      | X    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |                   | \$100 K                             | SWRF           |
| 3.5.2.2            | Metro-Atlanta Waste Exchange<br><i>Potentially Sponsor and Implement</i>                                                       |                        |      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 | \$74 K                              | SWRF           |
| 3.5.3.6            | C&D Recycling                                                                                                                  |                        | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 | \$100 K                             | SWRF           |

TABLE 8-1  
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Note: In Operations Costs, K= thousands; MM = millions

|                                      | Activity                                                                                                                            | Year To Be Implemented |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | Responsible Party | Estimated Operations Costs per Year | Funding Source       |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
|                                      |                                                                                                                                     | 2005                   | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013              | 2014                                |                      |
| 3.5.3.8 & 7.2.2.8                    | Conversion of Hartsfield Solid Waste Reduction Plant to Environmental Education Center and Park<br><i>Conduct Feasibility Study</i> |                        | X    | X    |      |      |      |      |      |                   |                                     | General Fund/ Grants |
| 3.5.3.8 & 7.2.2.8                    | Conversion of Hartsfield Solid Waste Reduction Plant to Environmental Education Center and Park<br><i>Design and Implementation</i> |                        |      |      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 |                                     | General Fund/ Grants |
| 3.5.3.11                             | Amnesty Days and Household Hazardous Waste Events                                                                                   | X                      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 | X                                   | SWRF                 |
| <b>Section 4: Collection Element</b> |                                                                                                                                     |                        |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |                   |                                     |                      |
| 4.2.1.1                              | City of Atlanta Collection Operations                                                                                               | X                      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 | X                                   | SWRF                 |
| 4.5.1                                | City-Owned Buildings and Facilities Collection                                                                                      | X                      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 | X                                   | SWRF                 |
| 4.5.2                                | City Beautification and Common Good Services                                                                                        | X                      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 | X                                   | SWRF                 |
| 4.8.1.1 & 4.8.3.2 & 7.2.2.1          | Education and Compliance on Set-Out Limits for Solid Waste & Yard Trimmings                                                         | X                      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 | X                                   | SWRF                 |

TABLE 8-1  
City of Atlanta Comprehensive SWMP Implementation Plan  
Note: In Operations Costs, K= thousands; MM = millions

| Activity                           | Year To Be Implemented |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | Responsible Party | Estimated Operations Costs per Year | Funding Source |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
|                                    | 2005                   | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014              |                                     |                |
| 4.8.1.2                            | X                      | X    | X    |      |      |      |      |      |      |                   | \$500 K                             | SWRF           |
| 4.2.1.2 & 4.8.1.3                  | X                      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 | \$8.7 MM                            | SWRF           |
| 4.8.1.4                            | X                      | X    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |                   | \$275 K                             | SWRF           |
| 4.8.1.5                            |                        | X    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |                   | \$50 K                              | SWRF           |
| 4.8.3.1                            | X                      | X    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |                   | \$398 K                             | SWRF           |
| 4.6 & 4.8.5.1                      | X                      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 | \$1.3 MM                            | SWRF           |
| <b>Section 5: Disposal Element</b> |                        |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |                   |                                     |                |
| 5.1                                | X                      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 | \$1 MM                              | SWRF           |
| 5.1.1 & 5.1.2                      | X                      | X    | X    | X    | X    |      |      |      |      |                   | \$7 MM                              | SWRF           |
| 5.2                                | X                      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 | \$5 MM                              | SWRF           |
| 5.3                                |                        | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 | \$50 K                              | SWRF           |
| 5.3.1.1                            |                        | X    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |                   | \$100 K                             | SWRF           |

TABLE 8-1  
City of Atlanta Comprehensive SWMP Implementation Plan  
Note: In Operations Costs, K= thousands; MM = millions

| Activity                                                                                                                                        | Year To Be Implemented |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | Responsible Party | Estimated Operations Costs per Year | Funding Source                                                                          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                 | 2005                   | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013              | 2014                                |                                                                                         |
| 5.3.1.2 Refuse-Derived Fuel<br><i>Conduct Feasibility Study</i>                                                                                 |                        | X    |      |      |      |      |      |      |                   |                                     | \$100 K<br>SWRF                                                                         |
| 5.3.2 Regional Landfills<br><i>Conduct Feasibility Study</i>                                                                                    |                        | X    |      |      |      |      |      |      |                   |                                     | \$100 K<br>SWRF                                                                         |
| 5.3.3 Use of Transfer Stations to Support Regional Disposal Facilities<br><i>Conduct Feasibility Study</i>                                      |                        | X    |      |      |      |      |      |      |                   |                                     | \$100 K<br>SWRF                                                                         |
| 5.3.4 Eco-Industrial Park<br><i>Conduct Feasibility Study</i>                                                                                   |                        | X    |      |      |      |      |      |      |                   |                                     | \$100 K<br>SWRF                                                                         |
| <b>Section 6: Land Limitation Element</b>                                                                                                       |                        |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |                   |                                     |                                                                                         |
| 6.1 & 6.2 & 6.4 Enforcement of Natural Environmental and Land Use Limitations and Other Regulatory Requirements for Solid Waste Facility Siting | X                      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 | X                                   | Ongoing Admin. Costs<br>SWS/Dept. of Planning and Community Development<br>General Fund |
| 6.3 Account for Disproportionate Environmental Impacts                                                                                          | X                      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 | X                                   | Ongoing Admin. Costs<br>SWS/Dept. of Planning and Community Development<br>General Fund |
| 6.5 Establish Consistency With Comprehensive SWMP                                                                                               | X                      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 | X                                   | Ongoing Admin. Costs<br>SWS/Dept. of Planning and Community Development<br>General Fund |
| <b>Section 7: Education and Public Involvement Element</b>                                                                                      |                        |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |                   |                                     |                                                                                         |
| 7.1.1 SWEET                                                                                                                                     | X                      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 | X                                   | \$800 K<br>SWRF                                                                         |
| 7.1.2 Trash Troopers                                                                                                                            | X                      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 | X                                   | \$800 K<br>SWRF                                                                         |

**TABLE 8-1**  
**City of Atlanta Comprehensive SWMP Implementation Plan**  
**Note: In Operations Costs, K= thousands; MM = millions**

|       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Year To Be Implemented |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | Responsible Party | Estimated Operations Costs per Year | Funding Source |
|-------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
|       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 2005                   | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 |                   |                                     |                |
| 7.2.1 | Partnerships with Other Organizations (may include other City of Atlanta Departments, Keep Atlanta Beautiful, Community and Environmental Groups, Faith-Based Organizations, Public-Private Initiatives, Industry and Trade Organizations, Southface and Earthshare, EJRC at Clark Atlanta University, Georgia Institute of Technology            | X                      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 | \$85 K                              | SWRF           |
| 7.2.2 | Public Outreach Programs (may include Educational Source Reduction, Recycling and Education, Advisory Groups, Speaker's Bureau, Attendance at NPU and APAB Meetings, Customer Service Call Center, Recycling Coordinator and Staffing, Information and Public Awareness Campaign, School Programs, Community or Neighborhood Educational Programs | X                      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X                 | \$1.1 MM                            | SWRF           |

TABLE 8-1

City of Atlanta Comprehensive SWMP Implementation Plan

*Note: In Operations Costs, K= thousands; MM = millions*

| Activity                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Year To Be Implemented |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | Responsible Party | Estimated Operations Costs per Year | Funding Source |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
|                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 2005                   | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 |                   |                                     |                |
| 7.2.3                            | Educational Materials (may include Promote Reuse/Recovery, Waste Audits, and Waste Exchanges, Junk Mail Reduction, Don't Dispose – Donate, SWS Service Schedule Information Campaign, Newsletters, Factsheets and Handouts, Programs to Notify and Involve the Public | X                      | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | X    | SWS               | \$104 K                             | SWRF           |
| <b>Administrative Costs</b>      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                        |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |                   |                                     |                |
| Overall SWS Administrative Costs |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | \$2M                   | \$2M | \$2M | \$2M | \$2M | \$2M | \$2M | \$2M | \$2M | \$2M | SWS               | N/A                                 | SWRF           |



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