

# ***Public Works***

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## **Solid Waste Task Force Report and Short-Term Recommendations**

**Feb 12, 2013**



**Walter Wait**  
Solid Waste Task Force Chair

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# ***Agenda***

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- **Introduction and Background**
- **Goals Established by the SWTF**
- **Description of Solid Waste Operation**
- **Options/Scenarios**
- **Recommendations**



# Intro

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- SWTF created by Resolution 2012-52 (approved April 10, 2012)
  - Met 6 times between July 2012 and January 2013
  - Toured all transfer stations
  - Numerous guest speakers and members of the public

## From the resolution:

“The Task Force shall study the Ordinance, including its **current fee structure, current services, recycling efforts, and such other areas** identified by the Task Force as appropriate for the purpose of presenting to the BCC various alternatives regarding the following issues, and such others as the Task Force finds appropriate:

1. Is the permit and **fee structure** for the program **adequate** to meet its funding needs?
2. What opportunities exist for the program to be **self-sufficient** and less susceptible to unexpected cost increases?
3. Review and evaluate the existing solid waste program and make recommendations on how to **improve services**.”



# Background

## COMPREHENSIVE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN



*prepared for*

**City of Santa Fe, Santa Fe County, and  
Santa Fe Solid Waste Management Agency**

**December 10, 2010**

*submitted by*



*and the Recycled Revival*

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
SANTA FE COUNTY

ORDINANCE NO. 2010-5

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REPLACING ORDINANCE NOS. 2009-13 AND  
2005-5 AND INCREASING  
SOLID WASTE PERMIT FEES

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANTA FE,  
NEW MEXICO:

**Section 1. Short Title**

This Ordinance may be cited as the "Solid Waste Management Ordinance."

**Section 2. Purpose**

The purpose of this Ordinance is to:

- establish a system of storage, collection, and disposal of all refuse generated in the County;
- establish a schedule of fees for the use of the storage, collection, and disposal system as well as penalties for the violation of this Ordinance; and
- to provide for the safety, preserve the health, promote the prosperity and improve the morals, order, comfort and convenience of the County and its inhabitants.

**Section 3. Authority**

This Ordinance is enacted pursuant to the authority granted to counties in (i): NMSA 1978, Section 4-37-1 to, among other things, provide for the safety, preserve the health, promote the prosperity and improve the morals, order, comfort and convenience of the County or its inhabitants; and (ii) NMSA 1978, Sections 4-56-1 through 4-56-3 to establish, maintain, manage, and supervise a system of storage, collection and disposal of refuse.

**Section 4. Definitions**

The following words shall have the following meanings in this Ordinance, unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

The words "shall" or "must" are mandatory and not discretionary; the words "may" or "should" are permissive.

"Administrator" means the Santa Fe County Manager or such other office or employee of Santa Fe County who he designates to be responsible for the management of Santa Fe County's solid waste system and programs.

SFC CLERK RECORDED 6/18/2010



# ***Goals Established by the SWTF***

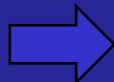
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## **Primary**

- **Increase recycling**
- **Address solid waste program affordability**
- **Develop alternative funding options to make the solid waste operation more financially self-supporting**
- **Consider managing solid waste County-wide, including those areas served by private haulers**

## **Secondary**

- **Minimize illegal dumping**
- **Improve handling of cash**

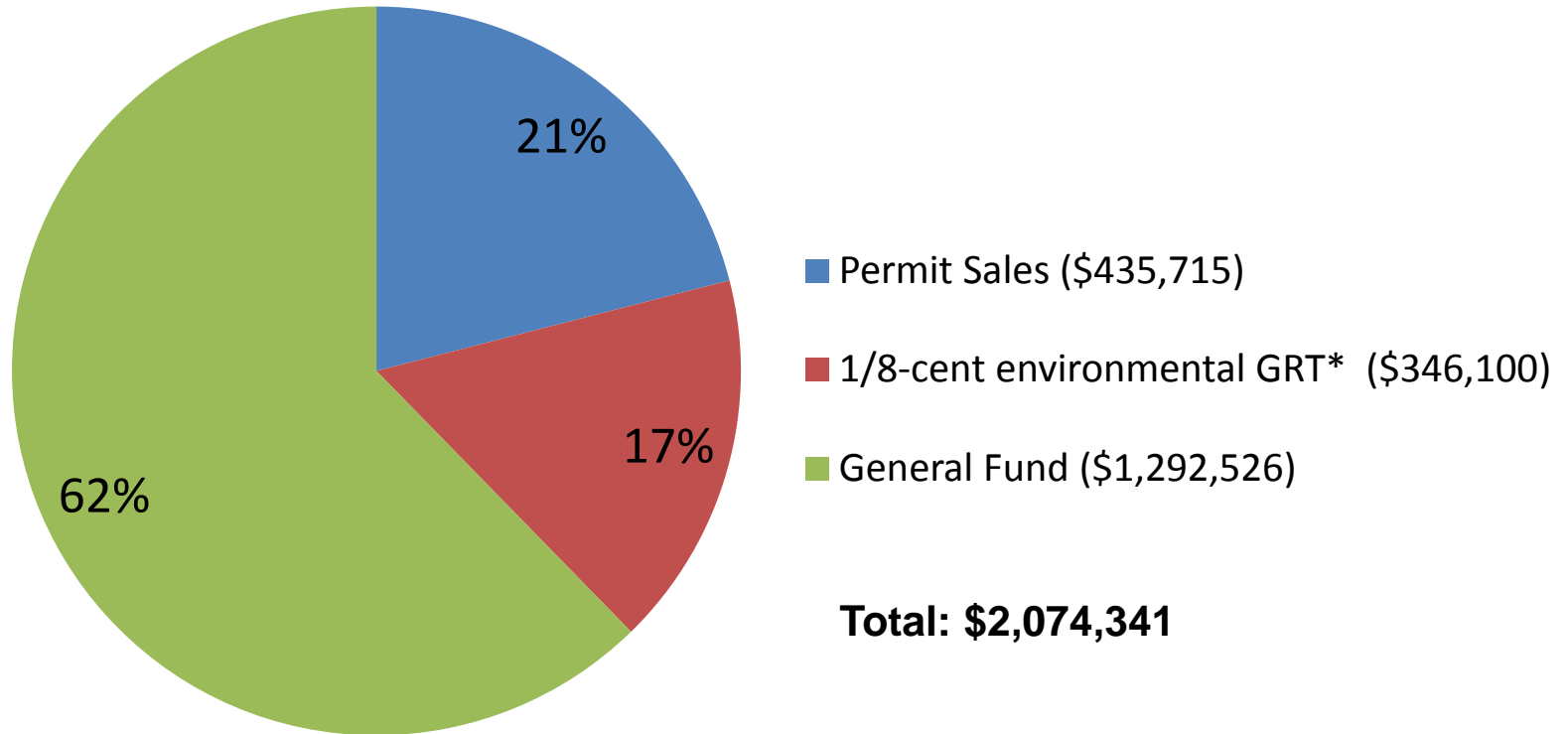


***Address revenues and expenditures***



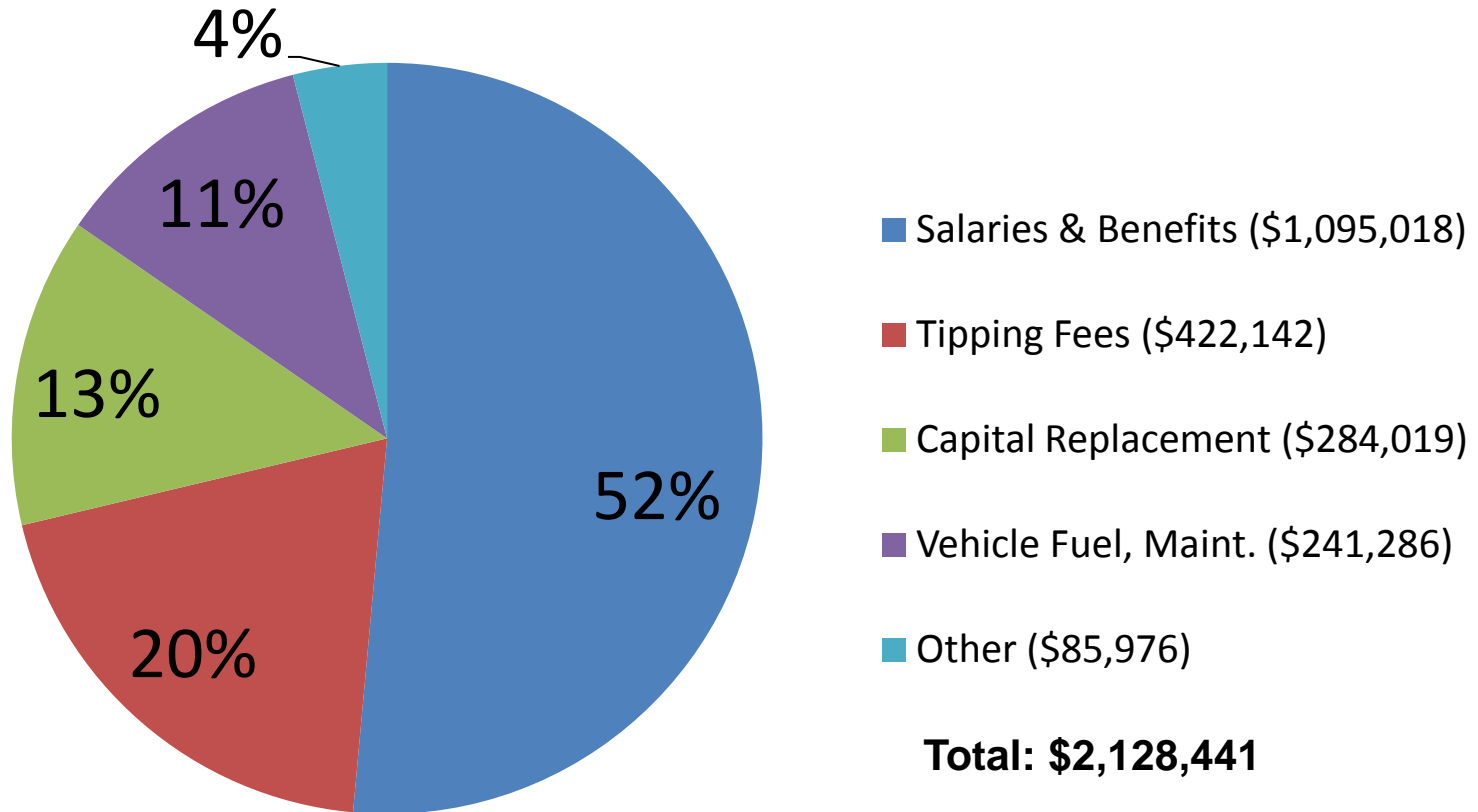
# ***Revenue Sources- FY 12***

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# *Expenditures*





# Transfer Stations

| Station                       | Operating days | Annual waste (tons) | # of customer visits/year | # of pulls/year | Annual operating cost (\$) | Annual operating cost/ton (\$) | Annual recycled (tons) | Annual green waste (tons) |
|-------------------------------|----------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jacona                        | TWTFSS         | 3507                | 16548                     | 523             | 392,109                    | 111.81                         | 520                    | 1076                      |
| Eldorado                      | TWTFSS         | 3506                | 28332                     | 127             | 312,042                    | 89.00                          | 900                    | 692                       |
| La Cienega                    | TWTFSS         | 2373                | 9676                      | 328             | 285,352                    | 120.25                         | 133                    | NA                        |
| San Marcos                    | WFSS           | 888                 | 7672                      | 150             | 188,839                    | 212.66                         | 152                    | NA                        |
| Nambe                         | WFSS           | 671                 | 3744                      | 94              | 78,054                     | 116.32                         | 46                     | NA                        |
| Stanley                       | TWTFSS         | 636                 | 4228                      | 101             | 146,116                    | 229.74                         | 81                     | NA                        |
| Tesuque                       | WFSS           | 484                 | 5480                      | 179             | 147,677                    | 305.12                         | 111                    | NA                        |
| Rancho Viejo (recycling only) | FS             | NA                  | NA                        | 89              | NA                         | NA                             | 104                    | NA                        |

CY12

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# ***FY12 Permit Sales***

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| <b>Permit Type</b>       | <b>Cost (\$)</b> | <b># Sold</b> | <b>Total Revenue (\$)</b> |
|--------------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| 24 Trip                  | 75               | 4403          | 330,225                   |
| 1 Trip                   | 15               | 1173          | 17,595                    |
| Senior                   | 70               | 984           | 68,880                    |
| Low Income               | 65               | 119           | 7,735                     |
| Bag Tags                 | 5                | 1984          | 9,920                     |
| Small Commercial-5 trip  | 80               | 8             | 640                       |
| Small Commercial-10 trip | 120              | 6             | 720                       |



# ***County-wide Solid Waste Study***

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- **Solid Waste Generation Breakdown Estimate for the Unincorporated County:**
  - **20% delivered to County transfer stations**
  - **80% handled by private hauler**
- **Lack data to adequately evaluate alternative management options**
- **Partner with SFSWMA and City on comprehensive solid waste study**
- **Primary County tasks:**
  - **Detailed assessment of solid waste NOT managed by County**
  - **Examine options for managing solid waste County-wide**
  - **Options to increase recycling**
  - **Increase cost-effectiveness of transfer station operations**
  - **Evaluate rate structures/revenue generation options**



# ***Options: Revenue Generation***

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- **Maintain Current Permit Structure**
- **Pay-As-You-Throw**
- **Pay by Individual Visits**
- **County-wide Property-based Assessment**



# ***Maintain Current Permit Structure***

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## **Description**

- **24-punch Permits, Stay at \$75**
- **24-Punch Permits, Planned Escalation**
- **12-Punch (or Fewer) Permits, \$75 or Escalating**
- **12-Punch Permit, Use Up and Replace**
- **Unlimited Visits \$75 or Escalating**



# ***Pay-As-You-Throw***

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## **Description**

- **Weigh at Transfer Station**
- **Individual Bag Tags**
- **Renewable Debit Card**



# ***Individual Visits***

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## **Description**

- **No Permit, Pay per Visit**



# ***County-wide Property-based Assessment***

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## **Description**

- **All households/properties in the County pay an annual fee**
- **Reduced assessment for property owners receiving curbside refuse service.**

| <b>County</b> | <b>Assessment</b> |
|---------------|-------------------|
| Colfax        | \$115/year        |
| Lincoln       | \$62.84/quarter   |
| Mora          | \$48/six months   |
| San Miguel    | \$141.07/year     |
| Socorro       | \$80/year         |
| Taos          | \$100/year        |
| Torrance      | \$42/quarter      |



# ***Options: Reduce Expenditures***

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- **Operational Changes to Reduce Expenditures**
- **Mandatory Curbside Refuse Service in Areas with Sufficient Housing Density**
- **Increase Recycling**
- **Outsource**





# ***Change Operations***

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## **Description:**

- **Reduce staffing**
  - **Reduce, stagger hours/staff**
  - **Reduce staffing to 1 at each station**
  - **Close transfer stations**
- **Reduce hauling**
  - **Compaction**
  - **Larger loads (i.e. Eldorado)**
- **Reduce volumes**
  - **Divert to other waste streams**



# ***Mandatory Curbside***

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## **Description**

- **Areas of High Density required to have curbside pickup**
  - **Private hauler**
    - **County-wide exclusive franchise**
  - **Service areas**
  - **In-house**
  - **Franchise fee**
- **Draft SLDC says SDA-1 will have mandatory curbside pickup**



# ***Increase Recycling***

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## **Description**

- **Operational changes at transfer stations to influence behavior**
- **Amend ordinance to require recycling of all recyclable materials, not just paper and cardboard.**
- **More enforcement**



# ***Outsource***

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## **Description**

- **Third-party manages transfer station operations**
  - **Private sector**
  - **SFSWMA**
  - **City of Santa Fe**



## *Options: Other*

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- **Solid Waste Compliance Officer**
- **Accepting out-of-county waste at SFSWMA**
- **Rebudgeting Environmental GRT**



# ***Compliance Officer***

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## **Description**

- **Create 2<sup>nd</sup> Solid Waste Compliance Officer position**
  - **Additional code compliance and reduce illegal dumping**



# ***Out-of-County Waste***

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## **Description**

- **SFSWMA accepts out-of-county waste**
  - **Potential to appreciably reduce tipping fee.**



# ***Environmental GRT***

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## **Description**

- **Budget full proceeds of EGRT to solid waste program → would reduce use of General Fund by \$350-400K/year**





# ***Short-term Recommendations***

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- **Proceed with and fund the County-wide solid waste study.**
- **Commit to adopting a true County-wide approach to solid waste management.**
- **Suspend the SWTF until the results of the study are received (estimated July/August)**
- **Continue with the current permit structure at the current price until the study results are received.**
- **Update the current solid waste ordinance (Ordinance 2010-5) to include all recyclable material in the list of required recycling.**
- **Adopt a “lead-by-example” resolution to decrease waste production and increase recycling in County operations. (Resolution 2013-07)**



# ***Short-term Recommendations***

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- **Signage and other inexpensive improvements at the transfer stations to encourage recycling, following Eldorado 285 Recycles' recommendations.**
- **Create, as appropriate and funds allow, a second solid waste compliance officer.**
- **Advocate for SFSWMA to accept out-of-County waste.**
- **Budget the full EGRT to solid waste when appropriate.**
- **Increase education and outreach efforts.**
- **Begin process to build new transfer station to replace current transfer station at Jacona.**
- **Consider an annual "Amnesty Day" or "Spring Cleaning Day."**



# *Questions*

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