



Hernando County

Solid Waste Utility BoCC

Workshop Q&A Follow-Up

July 9, 2024





Agenda

1. Background
2. Waste-to-Energy
3. Convenience Center
4. Alternative Revenue Opportunities
5. Results and Recommendations

1. Background

- Presented to the BoCC Workshop on 3/5/24
- BoCC requested additional information concerning
 - › Waste to Energy (WTE) Feasibility
 - › Convenience Center Closure
 - › Alternative Revenue Options



2. Waste-to-Energy (WTE) Feasibility

- Benefits of WTE
 - › Saves MSW landfill air space by ~90% per ton
 - Beneficial for Counties with landfill capacity constraints
 - › Revenue offsets to operating expenses from
 - Energy Sales 20%-40%
 - Metal recoveries 2%-3%
- Challenges of WTE
 - › Diverting tons from landfill reduces economies of scale / County must still operate landfill which results in higher unit cost
 - › WTE is more expensive (~\$150/ton) than landfilling
 - Net operating costs ~\$40/ton
 - Annual debt payment per ton to cover construction ~\$110/ton
 - › Economies of scale / financial viability >300,000 tons annually
 - › County would require viable partners in the vicinity



Note: WTE statistical estimates are based on 1,500 tpd reference facilities.

3. Convenience Center Closure

- What are the financial and customer impacts associated with closure of the convenience centers:
 - › Represents approximately \$11 a year or \$0.87 a month to the residential assessment
 - Total Annual Operating Costs at \$1m / year
 - Doesn't consider depreciation on capital investment
 - › May result in an increase of illegal dumping



4. Alternative Revenue Opportunities

- County has historically worked to enhance revenues and mitigate costs:
 - › County contracted for Landfill Gas Recovery
 - Contract ends April 2027
 - RFP for improved options is scheduled to be released in 2025; it is projected to generate higher revenue compared to the current contract
- Convenience Center Fee
 - › County has explored charging a fee at the convenience center to offset costs
 - Charging \$5 a person would result in less than \$200K a year for both centers



5. Results and Recommendations

- Recommend Adjusting FY25 Residential Assessment and Tipping Fees
- Reassess Need for Future Rate Increases in 12 months

Description	2024	2025
Collection Assessment	\$194.88	\$202.56
Annual Change		\$7.68
Monthly Change		\$0.64
Disposal Assessment	\$94.91	\$104.40
Annual Change		\$9.49
Monthly Change		\$0.79

Q&A