

#3.2

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Commissioners
From: CSWD Staff
Date: September 22, 2022
Re: Program Updates

- Solid Waste Management Fee (Jon) – As of the end of August from a budget perspective, the first two months of FY23 is 1.3 percent above projected revenues. FY23 revenue is 0.6 percent higher than the same period in FY22. Please refer to accompanying charts.
- Organics Diversion Facility (Dan) –
 - Monthly billable food scraps for August totaled 332.7 tons. This is 6% above the previous month and 4% above the FY22 average. This brings the fiscal year to date total to 646 tons, 8% or 53.7 tons below budgeted amounts. Food scrap numbers will see a large boost for the month of September due to a one-month agreement with Casella Waste Systems in Williston. During a scheduled slow-down period on their depackaging equipment they have requested that CSWD ODF process the majority of their source-separated organics stream to allow them to modify and fine-tune their process. After verifying that this material stream, most of which was previously composted at ODF, met requirements for quality, an agreement was reached. Three weeks into the agreement, operations are handling the extra volume without any significant challenges. Reduced volumes are likely to resume for the month of October, but fiscal-year projections are likely to realign with actual volumes processed.
 - Due to supply-chain issues, delivery of the purchased Doppstadt trommel screening equipment has been pushed back multiple times. The latest delivery estimate has the machine arriving at ODF before the end of October. Staff will not be able to do as much fair-weather screening with the machine as originally hoped due to the delay. As such, some of the fall projects will have to wait until the following season.
- Materials Recovery Facility (Josh)
 - YTD average monthly inbound single stream material: 3,787 tons
 - YTD average monthly marketed material: 3,068 tons
 - 12-month, average commodity revenue (ACR): \$150.62/ton
 - All data includes PGA tons and costs

- Marketing & Communications (Alise/Michele) –
 - The “We Can Take It” print campaign will be moving into its next phase in September/October. We will continue to promote the A-Z list featuring seasonally targeted items.
 - MRF Bond –
 - Paid digital ad/video impressions (9/1 through 9/21): Google 372,372; Facebook 185,974.
 - Promotional resources:
 - Oversized postcard should be in mailboxes of all 2020 Chittenden County voters by end of September; window poster is up at all Drop-Off Centers and Operators have new Fact Sheet handout; FAQ sheet created for media and presentations (see pdfs in packet). Fact Sheet and FAQ will be posted on the MRF Bond landing page.
 - Presentations:
 - Sarah presented to the Essex Town Select Board and is scheduled for the Burlington Transportation, Energy, and Utilities Committee (TEUC) and Shelburne Select Board on 9/27.
 - Community forum held in Charlotte on 9/6 with two attendees. No members of the public attended a 9/19 Burlington community forum that was also live-streamed on CCTV. We will provide a link to the live-stream when it is available. Michele is scheduled to present to the Winooski City Council (10/3) and Sarah and Josh Tyler to the Williston Select Board on 10/4. Beth presented to the Williston/Richmond and Essex Rotary Clubs, Burlington Rotary scheduled for 10/14. Requests for presentations received from two Burlington NPAs and a Homeowners Association.
 - Earned media: Letters to the Editor in process from a Colchester Select Board member and businesses and institutions in Burlington, Essex, Shelburne, and Williston. Other media mentions are listed below. We will be providing copy about the need for a new MRF and how to vote to all Clerks requesting that they post in their local newsletters, papers, and Front Porch Forums.
 - Ballot distribution as of 9/20: Eleven member towns/cities reported having received and/or fulfilled requests for nearly 2,000 CSWD ballots. One seasoned clerk noted that the General Election ballot has not yet gone to voters and expects that “interest will be piqued” once that occurs.

Media Mentions – August/Sept.

8/31/2022 VT Digger Commentary, [Paul Ruess: Vote 'yes' on the Chittenden County solid waste bond](#)

9/15/22 Mountain Gazette – Alise Certa-[Helpful voting information on the CSWD New MRF Ballot](#)

9/16/22 WVMT Morning Drive with Kurt and Anthony – Alise Certa—Recycling basics and MRF Bond

- Outreach (Beth) – The MRF bond continues to dominate our outreach activities. Our team has been active in the local rotaries to educate our communities about the importance of the MRF bond. It’s been great to see so many folks engaged and supportive. As a result of the MRF bond presentations, we are also making new connections for upcoming workshops and tours. The Outreach Team is hiring for a new Community Outreach Coordinator. We hope to have someone on board in the next month, just in time for winter webinars and educational offerings! Stay tuned!
- Compliance (Josh/Jeannine) – Staff completed the application for the Burlington Drop-Off Center Recertification through ANR’s Solid Waste Program. Staff also completed an Act 250 amendment application for a minor revision to the planned access/scale/scale house project at the Organics Diversion Facility.

Staff attended (virtually) a Recycled Materials Working Group session on September 1. The Group is comprised of representatives from the VT Agency of Natural Resources – Solid Waste Management Program and from VTrans Design, Construction, Geotechnical, Maintenance, and Research units. The framework is in place to use RAS in bound applications (road/shoulder subbase, hot-mix asphalt). VTANR and CSWD to form more local stakeholder group to understand and address obstacles to its use.

Fall maintenance activities are underway on the landfill. In addition, a couple of longer-term activities that have been deferred for some time will be completed this fall – surface emissions monitoring and a topographic survey.

Outreach and Communications Department - FY22 summaries – see attached.

- What We're Reading:

<https://www.wastetodaymagazine.com/article/casella-waste-recycling-revenue-2q-2022-profits/>

[August 2022 Waste Advantage Newsletter](#)

[As an EPA advisory drastically lowers acceptable levels of PFAS in drinking water, Vermont officials grapple with next steps](#)

[\\$80M recycled pulp plant breaks ground on East Coast](#)

[EPR bill in Colorado signed while New York bill fails](#)

[California passes strongest EPR and recycling legislation in the US](#)

[Casella and TerraCycle Partner to Announce Subscription Home Recycling Service for Hard-To-Recycle Items](#)

[ISRI rejects 'advanced recycling' label, says plastic-to-fuel projects should not count as recycling](#)