

## IV. GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

### INTRODUCTION

~~Goals, objectives and policies of the Solid Waste Element were identified through the analysis of existing solid waste conditions and future solid waste projections. The Element was prepared with citizen input from the Hillsborough County Citizen's Advisory Committee and the meetings held in each planning area. Local government agencies and citizen groups have reviewed the identified goals, objectives and policies to confirm the presence of sufficient enabling mechanisms.~~

**GOAL 1:** Hillsborough County shall provide for an environmentally sound and efficient solid waste management system.

*(Administrative)*

**ISSUES:** The impact of commercial, industrial and residential growth in Hillsborough County is readily apparent. As growth continues, responsibilities for collections, handling and disposal of the growing volumes of solid waste must be undertaken by the County for its residents. The County government must plan and operate its solid waste management system in an efficient and environmentally sensitive manner.

**OBJECTIVE 1.1:** The County shall ~~correct all facility deficiencies~~maintain level of service capacity at all facilities consistent with that identified in the Capital Improvements Element.

*(Administrative)*

**Policy 1.1.1:**

The County shall conduct an annual review of existing facility capacities to identify facility capacity deficiencies for County disposal facilities.

**Policy 1.1.2:**

Disposal facility deficiencies will be corrected prior to funding any solid waste program enhancements.

**OBJECTIVE 1.2:** The County shall provide for increases in disposal capacity of solid waste facilities to meet future needs.

**Policy 1.2.1:**

The County shall conduct an annual review of future facility needs and budget for those needs within the Capital Improvements Element.

**OBJECTIVE 1.3:** The County shall continue to operate solid waste facilities in compliance with minimum air, groundwater and surface water pollution standards established by federal, state and local laws, regulations and guidelines.

**Policy 1.3.1:**

The County shall conduct an annual review of facility operations and operating practices to evaluate compliance with federal and state requirements.

**Policy 1.3.2:**

The County shall conduct an annual review of technology and innovations available in solid waste management to exceed federal and state requirements.

**Policy 1.3.3:**

Based on annual reviews, county staff shall provide recommendations of measures to correct or enhance the existing solid waste management system.

**Policy 1.3.4:**

The level of service to be maintained by all facilities shall be as stated in the Capital Improvements Element.

**OBJECTIVE 1.4:** The County shall minimize the environmental damage attributable to the solid waste stream.

**Policy 1.4.1:**

The County shall continue to review and evaluate existing solid waste disposal practices to ensure compliance with minimum regulatory standards of the [Florida](#) Department of Environmental Protection, the Environmental Protection Commission [of Hillsborough County](#) and the [U.S.](#) Environmental Protection Agency.

[\*\(Administrative\)\*](#)

**Policy 1.4.2:**

No new solid waste or hazardous waste management sites shall be approved for location in the Coastal High Hazard Area. No new public landfill sites shall be located in the ~~coastal area~~ [Coastal Planning Area](#).

[\*\(Administrative\)\*](#)

**Policy 1.4.3:**

The County shall on an annual basis provide recommendations for a program and implementation strategy to further environmental protection from solid waste within the County.

**OBJECTIVE 1.5:** The County's solid waste management system shall take all practical measures to minimize the volume of the solid waste stream.

**Policy 1.5.1:**

The County shall continue recycling programs to separate the majority of newspaper, glass, plastic bottles, steel cans and aluminum cans reaching County disposal facilities.

**Policy 1.5.2:**

The County shall continue to review and implement recycling and waste reduction programs designed to reduce the per capita solid waste stream reaching County disposal facilities in compliance with state legislative guidelines.

**Policy 1.5.3:**

~~In 1992, the County evaluated its voluntary recycling program and determined that it was not going to meet the State's 1994 50% recycling goal for newspapers, aluminum cans and glass and plastic containers. Therefore,~~ †The County shall continue its voluntary recycling program through increased education and the promotion of waste reduction and recycling programs to attempt to meet in an effort to maintain the state recycling goal- for newspapers, aluminum, glass and plastic containers.

*(Administrative)*

**Policy 1.5.4:**

The Solid Waste Management Department will continue to promote and enhance the public information and educational programs concerning waste reduction, proper yard waste management techniques, composting and recycling.

**GOAL 2:** Hazardous waste will be handled in a manner which minimizes risk to the citizens and the environment.

**ISSUES:** Numerous large and small quantity generators of hazardous materials and wastes, including both commercial and industrial facilities, are located within Hillsborough County. While many of these facilities are registered and regulated under federal and state programs, large cumulative quantities of hazardous materials are improperly handled, treated and disposed of by small businesses, as well as the general public, often because they are unfamiliar with the complex and rapidly changing regulations. An inadequate number and distribution of facilities for the storage, treatment and especially transfer of hazardous materials/wastes continues to be a problem. Improved public education and stricter enforcement of existing regulations are needed.

The Environmental Protection Commission of Hillsborough County is the local environmental regulatory agency charged with controlling water pollution throughout Hillsborough County by interlocal agreement with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

The Environmental Protection Commission is responsible for keeping an inventory of small quantity hazardous waste generators in Hillsborough County. Local Fire Departments are also active in hazardous materials emergency programs.

**OBJECTIVE 2.1:** The County shall continue to develop and maintain its existing comprehensive hazardous waste management and emergency response programs which facilitate source reduction as well as the proper transfer, storage, disposal and recycling of hazardous materials and hazardous wastes.

**Policy 2.1.1:**

The Fire Department shall continue to assist the Environmental Protection Commission with its responsibility to promote public education on the types of hazardous materials and hazardous wastes as well as their proper use, storage and disposal.

**Policy 2.1.2:**

The County shall continue to promote the recycling and proper disposal of household hazardous waste by maintaining the County's existing household hazardous waste collection center system.

**Policy 2.1.3:**

The County shall maintain a comprehensive chemical emergency preparedness program, including the continued operation of a hazardous materials response team. The County shall identify legal mechanisms to obtain payment for cleanup from the responsible parties.

**Policy 2.1.4:**

By [19952008](#), the County shall request the Metropolitan Planning Organization to prepare a hazardous materials and waste transport plan to reduce environmental and public health risks.

[\(Administrative\)](#)

**Policy 2.1.5:**

The County and the Environmental Protection Commission shall ensure that existing hazardous waste generators, as well as hazardous waste transporters and treatment/storage/disposal facilities, are identified and regulated.

**Policy 2.1.6:**

The Environmental Protection Commission shall continue to regulate and revise, where necessary, all Class I and Class III landfill operating plans to ensure that adequate safeguards exist to prevent the disposal of hazardous wastes.

**Policy 2.1.7:**

The County shall, upon request of other local governments, the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council or the state, provide technical assistance in the planning and location of a hazardous waste treatment/storage/disposal facility to minimize the potential for adverse environmental impacts and to protect public health and safety.

**Policy 2.1.8:**

The County initiated an interlocal agreement with the Environmental Protection Commission (EPC) that ensures that 20 percent annual verification inspections of small quantity hazardous waste generators within the County are performed, and that EPC will ensure corrective actions for Small Quantity Generators (SQGs) where necessary.

**OBJECTIVE 2.2:** The County shall further federal and state regulatory agencies objectives relating to the enforcement of hazardous waste laws and regulations.

**Policy 2.2.1:**

The County shall request a comprehensive study of hazardous waste sites from the Environmental Protection Agency, the Environmental Protection Commission (EPC) of Hillsborough County, and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection in the inventorying of hazardous waste contamination sites within County boundaries.

(Administrative)

**Policy 2.2.2:**

The County shall continue to assist the ~~Environmental Protection Commission~~EPC, in providing technical assistance to the Environmental Protection Agency and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to rank clean-up priorities. The County shall continue to assist said agencies in their efforts to direct federal and state funds to the implementation of investigations, and clean-up actions for currently identified potential chemical contamination sites.

(Administrative)

**Policy 2.2.3:**

The County shall continue to assist the ~~Environmental Protection Commission~~EPC, to direct federal and state funds to the implementation of

cleanup actions for all currently identified Superfund sites within County boundaries.

[\(Administrative\)](#)

**OBJECTIVE 2.3:** The County shall further federal and state regulatory agencies management objectives relating to hazardous waste and hazardous materials laws and regulations.

**Policy 2.3.1:**

The County shall continue, through its Hazardous Materials Response Team, to provide emergency response to hazardous waste incidence thus reducing the potential risk to its citizens.

**Policy 2.3.2:**

The County, in cooperation with ~~Environmental Protection Commission~~EPC, shall continue to provide the information needed by hazardous waste generators to comply with federal and state regulations.

[\(Administrative\)](#)

**Policy 2.3.3:**

The County shall designate an agency and provide necessary funding in order to continue to provide its employees a safe working environment through mandatory training for those employees who could potentially come in contact with hazardous wastes or materials at their job sites.

## **V. PLAN IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING**

Implementing a plan means to carry the plan to action. Implementation occurs when the programs and activities stated in the goals, objective and policies are established and carried out. The goals, objectives and policies in the Solid Waste Element suggest a number of programs, and activities to be developed for the purpose of addressing the solid waste problems and needs for the residents of unincorporated Hillsborough County.

A monitoring and evaluation process has been developed by The Planning Commission. This will provide a consistent process for all Elements of the Comprehensive Plan in the preparation of the required five-year evaluation and appraisal report. The monitoring and evaluation procedures will address:

- a. Citizens' participation in the process;
- b. Updating appropriate baseline data and measurable objectives to be accomplished in the first five-year period of the plan, and for the long-term period;
- c. Accomplishments in the first five-year period, describing the degree to which the goals, objectives and policies have been successfully reached;
- d. Obstacles or problems which resulted in under achievement of goals, objectives or policies;
- e. New or modified goals, objectives or policies needed to correct discovered problems; and
- f. A means of ensuring continuous monitoring and evaluation of the plan during the five-year period.

The monitoring and evaluation process will serve as a reporting mechanism to keep The Planning Commission apprised on a regular basis as to how the plan is being implemented and updated.

## VI. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this element of the comprehensive plan update, the following definitions apply:

**Class I Landfill** - a landfill which receives more than 20 tons (or 50 cubic yards) of solid waste per day. Initial cover is required at the end of each working day.

**Class III Landfill** - a landfill which receives only construction debris, trash or yard waste. Initial cover is required once every week unless the site is operated as a composting facility.

**Hazardous Material** - a substance or material in a quantity or form that may pose an unreasonable risk to health and safety, or property when stored, transported, or used in commerce.

**Hazardous Waste** - as defined in 40 CFR 261.3. A waste, or a combination of wastes which because of its quantity, concentration, physical, chemical, or infectious characteristics may cause, or significantly contribute to, an increase in mortality or an increase in serious irreversible or incapacitating reversible illness or may pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly transported, disposed, stored, treated, or otherwise managed.

**Recycling** - any process by which materials which would otherwise become solid waste are collected, separated, processed, and sold for reuse or reused.

**Solid Waste** - garbage, refuse, and other discarded solid materials, including solid materials resulting from industrial, commercial, or agricultural operations, governmental operations, and from community activities, but does not include solids or dissolved materials in domestic sewage or other significant pollutants in water resources, such as silt, dissolved or suspended solids in industrial waste water effluent, dissolved materials in irrigation return flows, other common water pollutants or special wastes, or any by-products, the sale or reuse of which is intended by the person from whose process they resulted.

**Solid Waste Disposal Facility** - any solid waste management facility which is the final resting place for solid waste, including landfills and incineration facilities that produce ash from the process of incinerating municipal solid waste.

**Transfer Station** - a facility where solid waste is placed before being transferred to a solid waste processing or disposal facility.