TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY & THE STATE OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES IN JACKSONVILLE



Town Hall Meeting

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

7:00 PM

Councilman Matt Carlucci At-Large, Group 4



COUNCIL MEMBER MATT CARLUCCI AT-LARGE ,GROUP 4 OFFICE (904) 255-5159 FAX (904) 255-5230 SUITE 425, CITY HALL 117 WEST DUVAL STREET JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32202 E-MAIL: MCarlucci@COJ.NET

February 15, 2022 6009 Arlington Road, Jacksonville, FL, 32211 7:00 p.m.

MEETING AGENDA

RE: Accountability, Transparency, and the State of Solid Waste Services in Jacksonville In the interest of greater transparency, accountability, and improved services, the primary objectives of this meeting are to share information and receive feedback. The City's contracted hauler and Public Works leadership will be available to answer questions during the public Q&A.

I.	Welcome & Opening Remarks	(3-5 min)	(CM Morgan)
II.	Co-Host - Remarks	(3-5 min)	(CM Carlucci)
III.	Administration - Remarks	(7-10 min)	(Brian Hughes)
IV.	Q&A - Public Comment	(35 min)	(CM Carlucci)
V.	Thanks & Dismissal	(2-3 min)	(CM Morgan)

(HARD STOP at 8:15 p.m.)

NOTE: public comment participants will be required to complete a speaker card prior to the public comment portion of the agenda. Members of the public will be limited to three minutes to allow for a maximum number of speakers.

Due to COVID-19, masks are recommended, and social distancing will be in place. For additional information or correspondence, please contact Sheri Webber, Executive Council Assistant at swebber@coj.net. The meeting will not be livestreamed, audio recorded, or video recorded. Minutes will be made available 3-5 business days after the meeting concludes.

ADA ACCOMMODATION NOTICE: Pursuant to the American with Disabilities Act, accommodations for persons with disabilities are available upon request. Please allow notification 1-2 business days to process; last-minute requests will be accepted but may not be possible to fulfill. Please contact Disabled Services Division at: V 904-255-5466, TTY-904-255-5476, or email your request to KaraT@coi.net.

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Jeff Clements, Chief, Research Division
Kristi Sikes, Chief, Administrative Services Division
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CITY HALL AT ST. JAMES 117 WEST DUVAL STREET 4TH FLOOR, SUITE 425 JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32202

Daniel Moseley

Lynn Thompson

Marthe Fanning

Sheri Webber

Chet Aikens

Erica Lockley

TOWN HALL MEETING RE: SOLID WASTE SERVICES

Co-hosted by Council Members Joyce Morgan and Matt Carlucci Tuesday, February 15, 2022 7:00 p.m.

Location: Arlington Baptist Church, Arlington Road

Sign-in Sheet Record:

Matt Carlucci Joyce Morgan **Brian Hughes**

John Pappas Will Williams Bill Joyce

Greg Huntington

Pat Vail

Julie Olson

Ann Marie Tucker **Grant Tucker Dave Bruderly**

Tyler Marth JoAnn Tredennick

Kandace Knutson **Terry Kelley**

Kathy Walker

Dorothy Weldon

Herbert Ramsdell Alfredia T. Lyons **Terry Culmer**

Carolyn Cunningham Gary L. Conner

Dave O.

Danny Quitter **Cynthis Surles**

Total Attendance: 40+

Meeting Convened: 6:57 p.m.

CM Morgan called the meeting to order and gave opening remarks. CM Carlucci, as co-host, also gave opening remarks and thanks.

Mr. Hughes began with reviewing the announcement made earlier that day about the return of curbside recycling on Monday, April 4, 2022, and restated that Mayor Curry did not intend for the suspension of recycling to be a permanent situation. He then provided a brief history of solid waste services and events that have led to present-day constraints. He mentioned the effects of Consolidation which led to having an urban core still served by the City and the rest of the county/city served privately through contracts. He defined the haulers currently under contract: Meridian, WastePro, and Waste Management. Republic was defined as the managers of the city's recycling process.

Staff shortages and/or absences due to COVID-19 were also reviewed, as well as the significant shortage of CDL drivers to populate applicant pools whenever drivers are needed. Nation-wide driver shortages were mentioned with emphasis on the issue not being just about financial resources, but also about human resources. Mr. Hughes reiterated that City crews were continuing to augment contract areas when lapses in services occurred, despite having their own region to and working seven days a week.



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CM Carlucci called time for public comment and reminded everyone of the hard stop at 7:45 out of courtesy for library hours of operation. He also stated that hearing from the public was one of the primary reasons for holding the meeting and that he wanted to dedicate a full 30 minutes to citizen feedback. Each person wishing to speak was reminded to complete and submit a blue card and to keep remarks to three minutes per person.

Public Comment

<u>Speakers & Listed Topics</u> (not necessarily in order of appearance)

- Kandace Knutson; recycling issue questions
- Marthe Fanning (no topic listed)
- Grant Tucker (no topic listed & left mtg early)
- Robbin Byrd; suggestions & questions
- David Bruderly (no topic listed)
- JoAnn Tredennick; recycling
- Marthe Fanning (no speaker card available)

(this summary of remarks does not necessarily reflect the order of appearance)

Ms. Kandace Knutson spoke briefly about your disappointment in lack of service and communication on the part of both the haulers and the City overall. Mr. Hughes indicated that the City would act in the weeks leading up to the restart of curbside service to effectively communicate detailed instructions regarding recycling.

Mr. David E. Bruderly introduced himself as a retired consulting professional engineer working primarily from Gainesville and Jacksonville. He described his career of 50+ years helping clients identify and solve environmental challenges in ways that created opportunity for economic development and job creation while minimizing, if not eliminating pollution and ecosystem destruction. Mr. Bruderly stated that his first municipal solid waste management project was inventorying the municipal waste stream collected by Montgomery County, Maryland in 1972, to identify management alternatives. Waste management, he said, has evolved significantly since major federal environmental laws were enacted to manage recyclables, organics, and both toxic and non-toxic wastes in more sustainable ways.

He noted that landfills today are "sophisticated engineered structures," but stated that landfills are becoming obsolete. He mentioned action on the part of the US Environmental Protection Agency to initiate efforts to update federal solid waste management laws. "It is my professional opinion that changes in federal law will empower entrepreneurs to use readily available technologies and business



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models to make it possible for the Trail Ridge Landfill and other landfills serving surrounding counties to the last," said Mr. Bruderly. He then said that any plans to expand the existing landfill or develop transfer stations to reduce cost of waste hauling would be a mistake. He urged City Council and other city leaders to "Think globally and act locally."

Other speakers shared their frustration with the lack of transparency and communication on the part of the City in preparing residents for a citywide suspension of recycling. One speaker asked for clarification about refunds or waiving the solid waste fee in future and asked for greater clarity and transparency about why Mr. Hughes and Council members have deemed a refund unnecessary or undesirable.

Ms. Marthe Fanning stated that, until policies regarding monetary incentives or disincentives linked to recycling, achieving greater sustainability as a city will be impossible. She then suggested taxing consumers for plastic bag use at area stores. She also recommended a partnership with stores or corporations, possibly Publix, who are already actively collecting recyclable items that the City currently does not accept.

The last speaker, Ms. Bird extended apologies to CM Randy DeFoor for comments made at the West Branch Town hall January 31. She then referenced someone stating that waste problems were occurring before the pandemic and asked how long, and asked Council members present, "Why did you allow it get this bad?" Ms. Bird stated that the City's non-solid waste employees are paid out of the operating budget. And indicated that some had received overtime. She asked why these employees aren't paid from the "Waste Account" or Enterprise Fund. She then asked if [overtime] costs could be passed on to the contracted haulers if their contracts have been "violated" or not fulfilled. Ms. Bird called for proper bookkeeping and greater transparency. She also stated, "This is not free money." She suggested that any loans made from Enterprise Fund be put back, and said, "Stop shifting money around."

Ms. Bird exceeded her three minutes to speak and was granted additional time. She then directly asked Mr. Williams, "Will you get your department fully in order, with oversight of waste haulers and operational, or will you resign?" She then remarked upon the size of the Public Works department and its portion of the City budget. "We pay a Storm water fee but have drainage problems. We want our streets fixed, now we're paying a 6¢ Gas Tax. We're actually paying twice for the work. Departments are underperforming or performing poorly," Ms. Bird said. She then suggested that Mr. Pappas, as Director of Public Works, should resign and added, "I ask that all pertaining to John Pappas' employment require his resignation. Do not allow him to resign or retire with benefits."

Ms. Bird was interrupted by CM Carlucci who expressed his deep appreciation for the work of Mr. Pappas and Williams, and for the City crews who have collectively been working seven days a week to



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help fill in the gaps in waste collection. CM Carlucci then concluded public comment and CM Morgan made closing remarks.

NOTE: a total of six speakers were heard. Because the meeting was not audio or video recorded, remarks from every speaker are not available.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:09 p.m.

NOTE: anonymous written ideas/complaints/questions were submitted in-person. Copies enclosed.

Minutes: Prepared by Sheri Webber, Executive Council Assistant – At-Large, Group 4, 904-255-5159, swebber@coj.net

The written minutes for this meeting are an approximation, are not verbatim, and are not legally binding. Because this meeting was not audio or video recorded, a verbatim transcript is not available.

NOTICED MEETING RE: SOLID WASTE SERVICES

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2022

CM CARLUCCI

FIRST & LAST NAME	EMAIL	PHONE
POT VALL	patraile et. net	618-0122
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Julie Olson	seolson jax Daol.co	m 63516226
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Dave Barderly	bruderly @ adicom	7527812696
Ty er hoth	TylerMarthagna	il.com 563-340-9
John Tredennick		904.860.5158

NOTICED MEETING RE: SOLID WASTE SERVICES

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2022 KANDACEJAX @ AOL. COM CARLUCCI PHONE FIRST & LAST NAME **EMAIL** ELLEY Terrylc 1022@gmail 904 687-964) on dweldrocmaicon. 904-554. hramjfrd@comcast.n av+140n 5@ asl. con (904) 343-5108 Culmeralber+ Egmail.com (904) 374-4394 (386) 983.5504 galecoleemac @ 201. com (204) 743.7336 9044728277 Du UN DO BILL and I was everal. de ejaya @mac.com 904-718-6485 CSUPles@bellsouthone 904-725-5533 hm. Danny Quitter amoseley, daniel@gnail. com 904955 6903 Daniel Moseley mygoodlife 2011 @grail.con 904-4165963 Erica Lockley lynn@thompsonwriting.com 904-955-2367

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JACKSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL

Please print and complete item 1 below for Council/Committee Public Hea	ring or item 2 below for Public Comments Section
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NAMEKANDACE LA KNUTSON	DATE: 2/15/2022
ADDRESS: 25/1 ROGERO ROAD	PHONE: 904-144-909/
REPRESENTING: SELF	
1: PUBLIC HEARING BILL NUMBER:	
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SPEAKING TIME IS LIMITED TO $\underline{\text{THREE (3) MINUTES}}$ PER SPEAKER NO SPEAKER MAY GIVE OR TRANSFER HIS/HER TIME TO ANOTHER PERSON

JACKSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL

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JACKSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL

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of City Council agenda:					
NAME: JoHnn Tredennice	DATE: 2-15-2022				
ADDRESS: 1206 Hubbard St.	PHONE: 904-860-5158				
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1: PUBLIC HEARING BILL NUMBER:					
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2. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC SUBJECT: recycling					

SPEAKING TIME IS LIMITED TO THREE (3) MINUTES PER SPEAKER NO SPEAKER MAY GIVE OR TRANSFER HIS/HER TIME TO ANOTHER PERSON

David E Bruderly PE

Subject:

21st Century Waste Management Policy Goals

John

I hope to participate in your workshop this evening in Arlington. I am a retired consulting professional engineer. From my base in Gainesville & Jacksonville I have spent most of the past 50+ years helping my clients identify and solve environmental challenges in ways that created opportunity for economic development & job creation while minimizing, if not eliminating pollution & ecosystem destruction. My first municipal solid waste management project was inventorying the municipal waste stream collected by Montgomery County, Maryland in 1972 to identify management alternatives. Waste management has evolved significantly since our major federal environmental laws forced society to learn how to identify, sort, count, measure, classify and manage recyclable cans, bottles, plastics, organics & toxic and non-toxic wastes in much more sustainable ways than merely dumping this material in a hole in the ground.

In the 21st Century landfills are sophisticated engineered structures. However, they are becoming obsolete. The US Environmental Protection Agency has initiated an effort to bring our federal solid waste management laws up to 21st Century expectations. This effort will create economic opportunities.

It is my professional opinion that changes in federal law will empower entrepreneurs to use readily available technologies & business models to make it possible for the Trail Ridge Landfill and other landfills serving surrounding counties to the last landfills ever needed to serve the waste disposal needs of Northeast Florida. However, newspaper articles suggest that the City is planning to expand this facility and, perhaps, develop transfer station(s) to reduce cost of waste hauling. This would be a mistake. It is time for federal, state & local politicians to update waste management & resource recovery policy & laws to reflect 21st Century ecological realities and technical & business capabilities.

To this effect, City Council MUST "Think Globally and Act Locally"... as you consider your response to the recent pandemic induced waste management crisis.

- 1) Pollution is bad.
- 2) Municipal, commercial & industrial waste materials are valuable resources, but that value can be recovered only IF waste is properly managed.
- 3) Resource recovery can create economic opportunities that sustain a wide range of jobs while minimizing pollution.

Rather than be satisfied with just restarting the curbside pickup of residential waste, City Council should respond to strong public support for recycling by adopting policy guidelines that are worthy of the **Bold New City of the South**.

- 1) establish a goal of minimizing lifecycle air, water, land & climate pollution from operation of the entire waste management system, i.e. from manufacture of products to final disposition of packaging & products.
- 2) establish a goal of maximizing economic, environmental & social benefits from the operation of the waste management program.
- 3) establish a goal of eliminating the need to expand the Trail Ridge Landfill or secure a site for a new landfill.
- 4) redesign the waste management system to not just be a cost-effective extension of the current waste management philosophy/policy, but to maximize the cash, environmental & social value/benefits of waste management jobs & recovered materials to the entire community.
- 5) solicit partnerships with independent agencies, local businesses, non-profits & schools to create entrepreneurial reuse/recycling opportunities designed to achieve criteria 1, 2, 3 & 4.

David E. Bruderly PE-Ret. 13907 Spanish Marsh Trail Jacksonville FL 32225 352-281-2696 (m)

Current Service

- North-Northeast Contract Hauler Meridian Waste
 Current Contract Period: October 1, 2021 September 30, 2027
 Only Automated Recycling Equipment...Bulk Collection with Garbage
- Southeast Contract Hauler Waste Pro
 Current Contract Period: March 1, 2013-September 30, 2023 (amended July 2014,
 March 2017 and July 2020). Waste Pro has been servicing this area since 2007.
 Garbage & Recycling Automated Equipment...Separate dedicated Bulk Collection Route
- West Contract Hauler (ADS/Waste Management)
 Current Contract Period: October 23, 2015 February 28, 2023 (City option until September 30, 2023). ADS started servicing this area in 2007.
 Only Automated Recycling Equipment...Bulk Collection with Garbage Collection
- COJ Core Area COJ
 No Automated Equipment, just rear loader tippers...Bulk Collection with Garbage
 Collection

Contract Hauler Monthly Contract Rates:

- North-Northeast Contract Hauler Meridian Waste Initial Six Month Period: \$22.44 per premise
 Thereafter: \$16.42 per premise
- Southeast Contract Hauler Waste Pro \$14.33 per premise
- West Contract Hauler ADS/Waste Management \$10.65 per premise

Number of Annual Curb-Side Collections Summary			
	COJ Automated Household	COJ Non-Automated Household	
Household Waste	48	48	
Yard Waste	48	48	
Bulk	24	48	
Recycling	24	24	
Total Schedule Collections	144	168	
Appliance/Tires	Scheduled when needed	Scheduled when needed	
Hazardous waste	Remote Collection Events	Remote Collection Events	
Annual Solid Waste Fee	\$ 151.80	\$ 151.80	
Average Rate per routine collection	\$ 1.05	\$ 0.90	

City efforts To-Date to address Collection Challenges:

- 1. Utilized City Solid Waste Crews to support Contract Crews
- 2. Utilized Non-Solid Waste City Employees to support Collection Crews
- 3. Utilized Emergency Debris Management Contractor to support Collection Crews (Yard Waste)
- 4. Implemented a Yard Waste Processing Contract along east side of the St. Johns River to reduce disposal travel time for the Southeast Contract Hauler and Solid Waste crews to the City's Trail Ridge Landfill
- 5. Suspended Recycling Curb-Side Collection and implemented Remote Recycling Collection Sites (15 locations 14 District Parks & MRF)...funded by Federal AARP Grant (Serviced twice a Day, 7 Days a Week started at all Sites 12/20/21)
- 6. Initiated Solid Waste Transfer Station Service Contract Procured Vendor did not receive approval for Transfer Site...continuing to pursue alternate locations

Solid Waste Collections Service – Public Hearings Department of Public Works

The City of Jacksonville provides four main components of routine Solid Waste Collections (Garbage/Bulk/Yard Waste/Recycling) within four separate Service Areas of the City. Collection for each of these four Service Areas (284,144 Total Premises) is performed by four separate entities (City of Jacksonville Crews & Three Private Contract Haulers):



•	City of Jacksonville	51,442 Premises	
•	Meridian Contract	78,219 Premises	Contracted through 9/30/27
•	Advanced/Waste Management	75,810 Premises	Contracted through 9/30/23
•	Waste Pro	78,673 Premises	Contracted through 9/30/23

Collection Service History

- City personnel serviced the urban core area (the City) prior to consolidation in 1968.
 Other areas of the County were under a franchise system that allowed for private haulers to provide service with a subscription directly with residents (dumping was a big issue).
- After consolidation, franchise agreements were still in place until 1972. In 1973, the
 area outside the core city was divided into five different service areas for solid waste
 collection. The City personnel continued to service the core area and private haulers
 were contracted by the City for each of the other areas with oversight by the Utility
 Regulatory Board (a City Agency).
- The five service areas outside of the City's core were later reduced to three service areas serviced by private haulers...contracted by the City. Oversight of the hauler contracts by the Solid Waste Division.
- The City mandated Automated Collection Service for Garbage & Single Stream Recycling (not Bulk or Yard Waste) in 2012...the big focus for this mandate was an attempt to reduce Workers' Comp issues. The mandate was to be transitioned over time/contracts, as the transition required the private haulers to purchase new equipment (also required COJ to provide automated carts). The transition occurred as follows:
 - North-Northeast Service Area Contract Hauler Garbage & Recycling automated equipment in 2012...Bulk by tagging and/or call-out
 - o Southeast Service Area Contract Hauler Garbage & Recycling automated equipment in 2013...Bulk by tagging and/or call-out
 - West Service Area Contract Hauler only Recycling automated equipment in 2016...Bulk with Garbage Collection
 - Core City Service Area COJ No Automated Equipment, only rear-loader tippers...Bulk with Garbage Collection (note: Recycling Carts were provided)
 - North-Northeast Service Area New Contract Hauler eliminated automated garbage collection and dedicated bulk routes in October 2021
 - Replaced North-Northeast Contract Hauler Rebid the Service Area (Received 2 Bids – Meridian & Republic)
 - Meridian replaced Republic
 - Only Recycling Collection Automated
 - Bulk Collection with Garbage Collection
 - Higher Cost

Recycling Information

These items are accepted

PAPER

Mail, office and school paper

Newspapers, magazines, catalogs, phone books

Paperback books

Brown paper bags

Fiberboard boxes

Corrugated cardboard, flattened and 2'x3' or smaller

PLASTICS

Numbered 1-3.5 and 7

Water/soda bottles

Detergent bottles

Cleaning solution bottles

CARTONS

Milk and creamer containers

Juice boxes

Soup and broth containers

GLASS

Green, brown or clear bottles and jars (discard lids with garbage)

METAL

Steel food containers

Aluminum cans

Aluminum baking pans

ITEMS SHOULD BE CLEAN, EMPTY, AND DRY.

These items are NOT accepted

ANY #4 PLASTICS (LDPE)

including cling wrap, sandwich bags, and plastic garbage or grocery bags.

ANY #6 PLASTICS (POLYSTYRENE)

including Styrofoam, disposable cups and bowls, take-out food containers, packing peanuts, plastic cutlery, hangers, and medicine bottles.

ANY TYPE OF PLASTIC THAT IS NOT MARKED AS RECYCLABLE SHREDDED PAPER

WEAPONS

BATTERIES

FIREWORKS OR FLARES

NEEDLES

FOOD OR YARD WASTE

CABLES OR WIRES

RUBBER

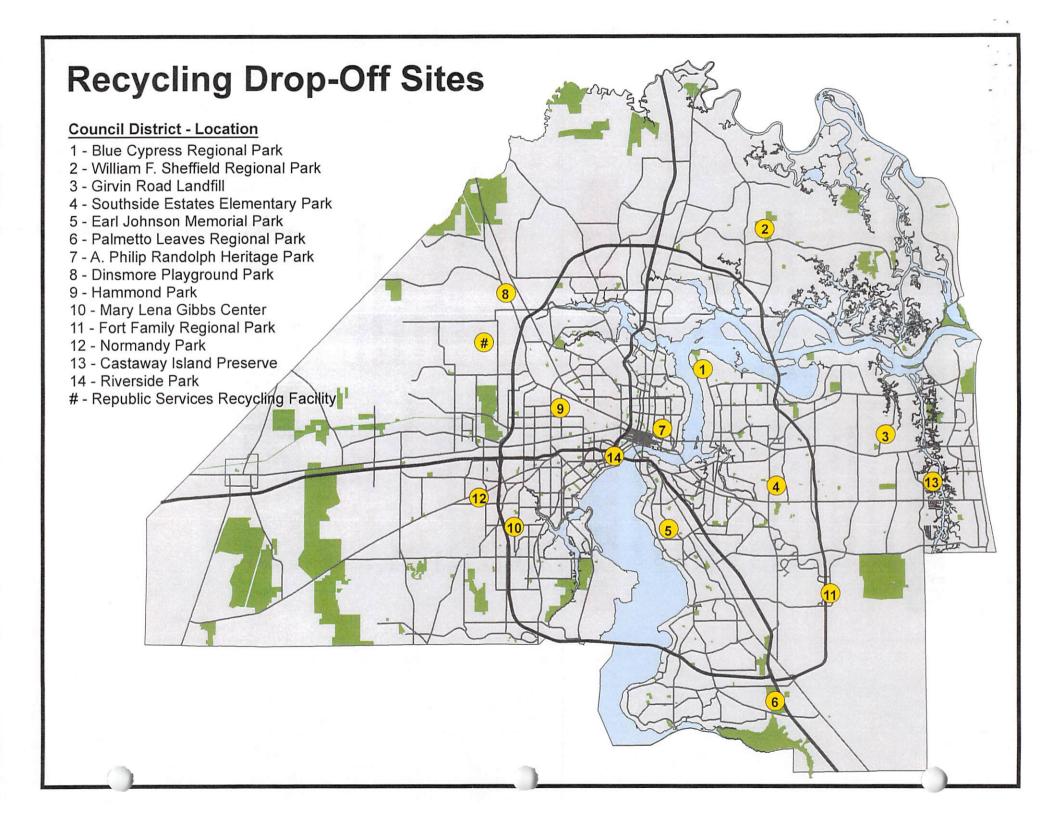
AEROSOL CANS

COLORED GLASS

(except brown and green)

REMEMBER, JUST BECAUSE AN ITEM MIGHT CONTAIN A RECYCLABLE MATERIAL DOES NOT MEAN IT CAN BE RECYCLED. MOST RECYCLABLE ITEMS. INCLUDING PLASTICS, WILL BE MARKED WITH THIS SYMBOL:





UPCOMING TOWN HALLS RECYCLING • YARD DEBRIS • OTHER SERVICES

Council Member Matt Carlucci, At-Large, Group 4

will host two opportunities for public feedback on Jacksonville's solid waste services

Co-hosts

CM Randy DeFoor (Dist. 14)

CM Brenda Priestly Jackson

(Dist. 10)

CM Randy White (Dist. 12)

Monday, January 31 6:45 pm

at the West Branch Library 1425 Chaffee Rd. S., 32221 Co-host

CM Joyce Morgan (Dist. 1)

Tuesday, February 15

7:00 pm

Chapel Hall at

Arlington Baptist Church

6009 Arlington Rd., 32211



Your voice matters.