

resource rediscovery

Modernizing the CT Solid Waste System Project **RFP**

Project Overview

10.15.15





What is the “Connecticut Solid Waste System Project?”

- “CSWSP” includes 6 facilities throughout CT
 - 4 transfer stations: Ellington, Essex, Torrington, Watertown
 - The MIRA recycling center and Trash Museum at 211 Murphy Rd., Hartford
 - The “MidConnecticut” Connecticut Waste System Resource Recovery Facility (RRF), South Meadows, Hartford
- The system handles over 700,000 tons of trash/year, and 50,000 tons of recyclables. Provides approx. 1/3 of CT in-state disposal capacity.
- Facilities began operation in late 1980s and 1990s.

South Meadows RRF



Recycling Center



Photo Source:
<https://westhartfordrecycles.wordpress.com/>



Why Redevelopment is Needed

- RRF exceeding design life.
 - Aging equipment difficult and expensive to maintain
 - Plant shutdowns cause backups in processing trash
 - Maintaining the current facility will require major capital investments, with costs passed along to member towns, including Hartford
- Process to receive and grind trash into “RDF” fuel is inefficient.
- Newer waste conversion technologies can increase efficiency and decrease environmental and community impacts (greater energy production, lower emissions, etc.).
- Current system built with expectation of steady supply of trash. Today, state seeks to recycle more and decrease trash.
- Statutory obligations: requirement for solid waste system to be consistent with the State’s Solid Waste Management Plan (CGS Sec. 22a-229).



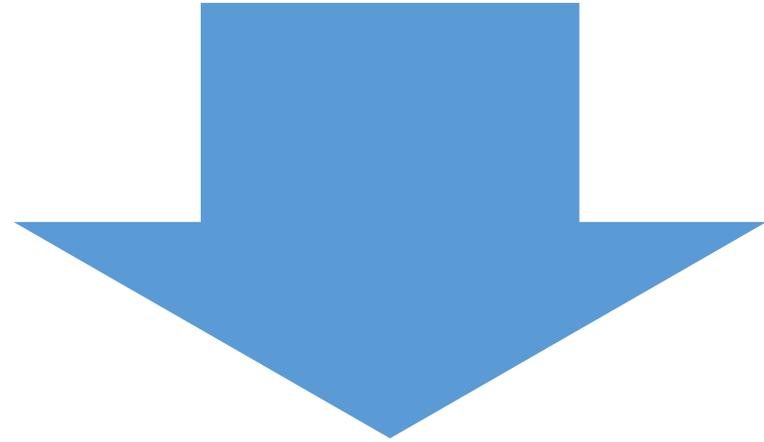
What CT is Doing to Solve the Problem

- In 2013 the state's Resources Recovery Task Force listened to concerns about community impacts of the South Meadows RRF.
- The Task Force recommended the state move to bring more innovative technologies into the state to replace aging RRFs.
- In 2014, the legislature established a process to seek a developer for the CSWSP (P.A. 14-94).
- DEEP is drafting a Request for Proposals (RFP) with input from MIRA, City of Hartford, and others.
 - Final proposal to be selected by DEEP in 2017
 - Final project subject to permitting and local approvals





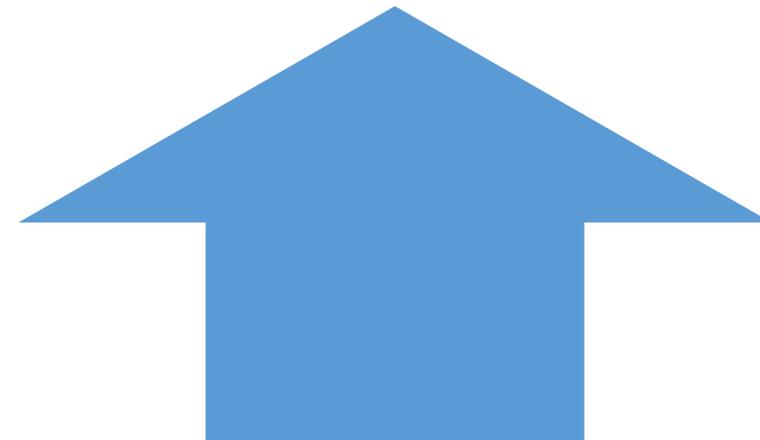
What are the Project Goals?



INCREASE:
Quality Jobs
Materials Recovered
Efficiency of Energy Recovery
Purchase Local Goods and Services



DECREASE:
Emissions
Residuals for Disposal
Negative Community Impacts
Amount of Trash Combusted or Landfilled



What Could the Future Hold in the South Meadows?



- Smaller overall facility “footprint”
- Closed system, zero-emissions conversion technologies for portion of trash
- Reduced combustion of trash under more stringent emissions standards
- Sorting recyclables from incoming trash
- Phased down throughput as state recycles more = fewer trucks
- Improved visual impact
- Other...

What Could the Future Hold in the South Meadows?



Modern Waste-to-Energy Facility with Recycling MRF and Composting
Lee County, FL



Recycling MRF and Transfer Station
San Matteo, CA

What Could the Future Hold in the South Meadows?



These images are intended to give a general sense of the visual impact of potential future development. They do not encompass the full range of technological possibilities.

Biogas Facility (Planned)
Grove City, OH



How this will Impact Hartford?

- New host benefit agreements, including financial benefits for the City.
- Employment opportunities.
- More sustainable option for managing Hartford's and other communities' trash and recycling.
- Less pollution = better for the environment AND human health.



What Outcomes are NOT Acceptable?

- Unmanageable / noncompetitive costs for service to Hartford and other communities.
- Technologies that lack an environmental track record.
- A 100% mass burn or RDF process without modern recycling/waste conversion add-ons.
- A proposal that “locks in” current waste composition and does not account for increased recycling.
- Proposals that can not receive permits and/or necessary local approvals.
- Developers unable to finance and complete project.
- The status quo.



Community Involvement is Key

- Project should reflect priorities of host communities.
- To view draft and other info, visit: www.ct.gov/deep/ResourceRediscovery.
- Give comments on draft RFP through October 27, 2015 by email to: lee.sawyer@ct.gov.
- Throughout process, many other opportunities to comment:
 - City of Hartford representation in selection process
 - Public review and comment on final proposal(s) in 2017
 - Legislative review and likely hearing prior to final selection
 - Public notice of permit applications
 - Local approvals, including P&Z

Discussion: What are Your Project Goals?



Welcome to Sharon Lewis, Executive Director, CT Coalition for Environmental Justice,
for closing remarks.