

March 15, 2005

Mayor Kevin Foy  
Town of Chapel Hill  
306 North Columbia Street  
Chapel Hill, NC 27516

Dear Mayor Foy:

It is with great pleasure that the Solid Waste Advisory Board (SWAB) requests the Town of Chapel Hill's (Town) participation in a Solid Waste Advisory Board Work Group created specifically to produce a new Solid Waste Management Plan (Plan). This new Plan would continue to endorse the 61 percent waste reduction goal previously agreed to by the three Towns and the County. The Town rejected the most recent Plan submitted to North Carolina's Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NCDENR) and has made known very specific interests/concerns regarding any new Plan and a strong interest in being actively involved in creating a revised Plan.

At the February 8 Board of County Commissioners' (BOCC) Work Session, the BOCC indicated that the SWAB is best positioned to take the lead role in development of a revised Solid Waste Management Plan and to coordinate substantive input from the various governing boards within the County. To initiate development of a new Solid Waste Management Plan, the SWAB is requesting that each jurisdiction appoint at least one elected official to participate in the SWAB Solid Waste Plan Work Group and to work side by side with their appointed SWAB representatives. Involvement by a Town staff member is also welcome. UNC is also being invited to send a representative to the Work Group. The SWAB Work Group will meet periodically (probably at least monthly) over the course of a year to review and discuss staff work and to provide guidance as the new plan is developed. Additionally, these members could keep their own boards apprised of the progress and key issues relative to the Plan development process.


It is expected that the Work Group would:

- reexamine and reconsider the portion of the Plan that serves as the means by which the 61% goal could be achieved, including
  - residential and commercial recyclable material collection methodologies
  - equipment and staffing
  - adding new materials (mixed paper curbside) and marketing
  - regulatory issues, including Pay As You Throw
  - material processing options/MRF
  - financial impacts and funding requirements for the enterprise fund
  - implementation issues
- receive input from the SWAB, the Towns, the public, and the BOCC, and
- prepare a recommended revised Plan and have that revised Plan considered and adopted by the three Towns and the BOCC before the next 3-Year Update to NCDENR is due on June 30, 2006.

The initial (kickoff) meeting of this new Work Group is scheduled for April 7 at 7:00 PM at the Orange County Government Services Center in Hillsborough. It is also hoped that you would

perhaps be available to speak with Chapel Hill's SWAB representatives (Jan Sassaman and Randy Kabrick) by March 25 to discuss how the Town may wish to participate and further explore the Town's substantive interests regarding the Plan. Randy or I will contact you soon to try and arrange such a preliminary meeting.

Sincerely,



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Jan Sassaman, Ph.D., Chair and  
Chapel Hill Representative  
Solid Waste Advisory Board



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Randy Kabrick, P.E., DEE  
Chapel Hill Representative  
Solid Waste Advisory Board

cc: Cal Horton, Town of Chapel Hill Manager  
John Link, County Manager