

Lakes Region Solid Waste Roundtable
Efficient Site Management
2/22/18

Common site issues:

- Cost
- Single-stream vs sorted
- Capacity/receiving
- Changing/updating facilities

Cost

- Disposal costs will be increasing in coming years
- China closed their doors
 - It's cheaper to send recycling to China
 - Will result in higher recycling costs
 - May either result in increased domestic capacity within the next 5 years or China re-opening doors.
- Look at buying compactor boxes or roll offs instead of renting
 - Will save money in the long run
 - Can potentially get grants for the purchase
 - May get better equipment
- Staffing
 - If increases are based on an index – be sure you know what the index is
- Municipal vs contracted
 - Look at potential long-term benefits
- Recycling is market driven
 - If the market is down, some types of recycling (i.e. cardboard) may be getting destroyed rather than recycled

Single-stream vs sorted

- Pricing
 - Need to look out long term
 - Market specs are tight, China was receiving about 30% of recycling, now it's taking none and the U.S. needs to figure out where to put it
 - Talk to vendors/buyers
- Contamination
 - Can have a higher contamination rate with single stream because people don't understand what can be recycled

Capacity/Receiving

- People aren't recycling as much because of the organization of the transfer station. Suggestions:
 - Pay as you Throw – doesn't always work.
 - Require clear bags – shame people into recycling.
 - Mandatory Recycling – doesn't always work
 - Encourage staff to approach people and discuss recycling when they see them trashing recycling
- Accepting construction debris without scale
 - Have set rates, limits arguments over price
 - Eyeball based on size of vehicle
- Contractors bringing loads from out of town projects
 - Could increase costs, but that cost would trickle down to their customers

Changing/updating facility

- Need to think/look at all angles when looking at (re)design
- Permitting is currently delayed, DES is not focusing there at the moment due to inadequate staffing. Talk to them to get timeframe.
- Be sure site is designed with what is being accepted and how it is being managed in mind
- Considerations when building or redesigning:
 - Why are you redesigning?
 - Design around the people who visit (do a lot of people stick around or do most just dash in and out)
 - Need to make sure communications and bathrooms are up to date
 - Make it as safe as possible but be aware it's not possible to be 100% safe, someone will always find a way
 - Be aware of the timeline, make specific goals
 - Don't plan on a redesign completing in less than a year if it will take 6 months just to get the permits
 - Involve the public
 - Get input and keep them in discussion
 - RFP vs Request for Qualifications (RFQ)
 - RFQ is a request for contractor qualifications prior to asking for bids
 - RFQs can result in better qualified people
 - Qualifications-Based Selection (QBS) is approved by NH Council
 - The score sheet used is defensible
 - Computers and mobile devices
 - Mobile devices are being used a lot more than before, can be useful in keeping public informed
 - Use website to help new residents and to keep people up to date on what is being accepted where at the facility
 - Markets are confusing – be flexible
 - Traffic and parking is an important consideration
 - If possible, try to make it as time efficient as possible
 - If buildings can't be set up better, use techniques to “waken” distracted drivers (i.e. rumble strips)
 - Signage
 - Make sure it's sufficient without being confusing
 - Suggested use of QR codes on signs that can be scanned by phones
 - Staff
 - Make sure employees are visible and knowledgeable