FAIRFAX COUNTY
VIRGINIA

Solid Waste Management

Christopher Herrington, Director
Department of Public Works and Environmental Services

July 7, 2026

Agenda

- FY2028 Refuse Disposal Fund fiscal guidance

Fund 40150 Refuse Disposal

Permitting and Enforcement

Transportation and Disposal

Legacy Landfill Liabilities

Outreach and Education

Recyclables (Purple Can Club)

Household Hazardous Waste

Electronic Waste

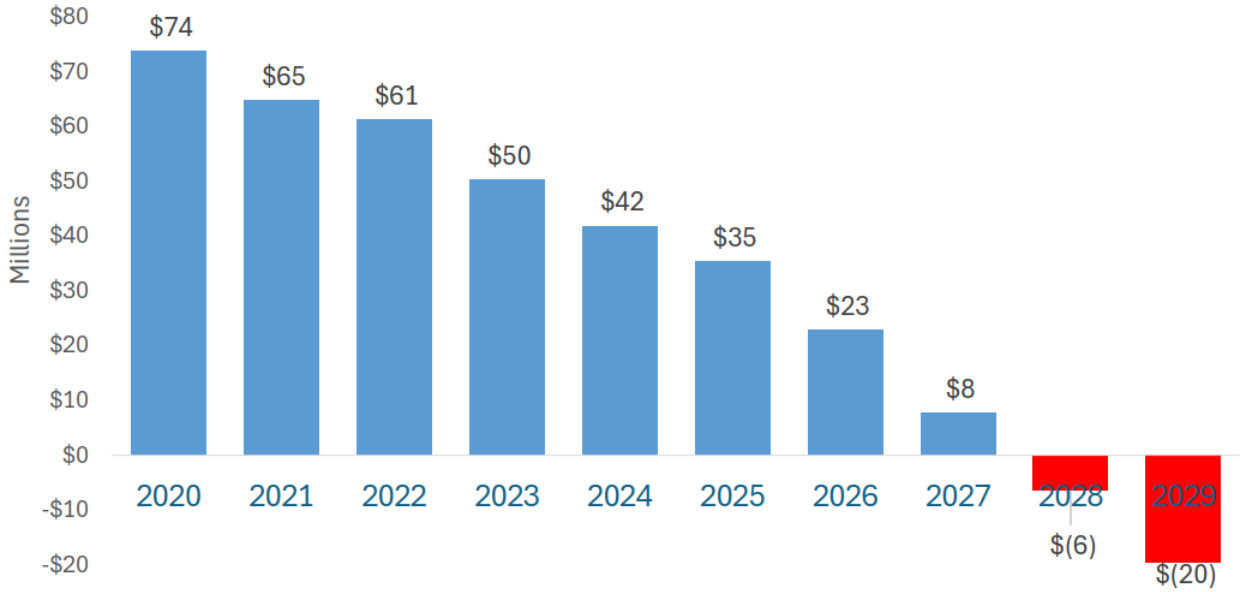
Waste Oil

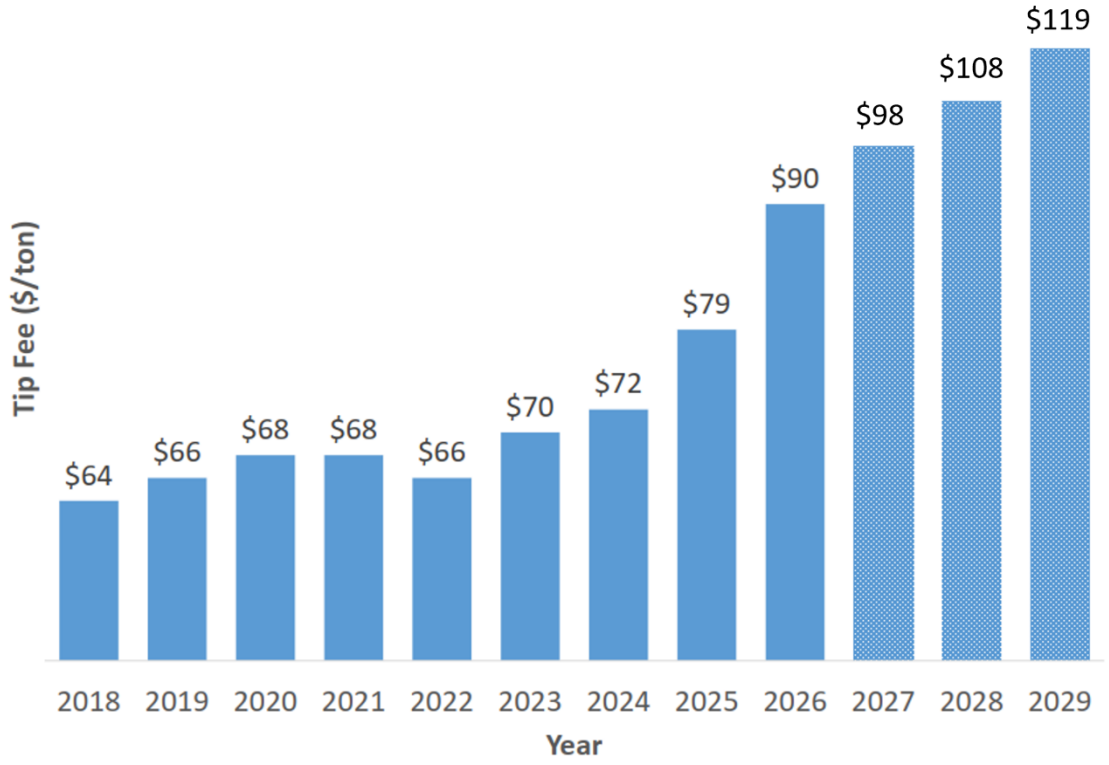
fairfaxcounty.gov/budget/sites/budget/files/Assets/documents/fy2027/advertised/volume2/40150.pdf

Fund 40150 Deficit

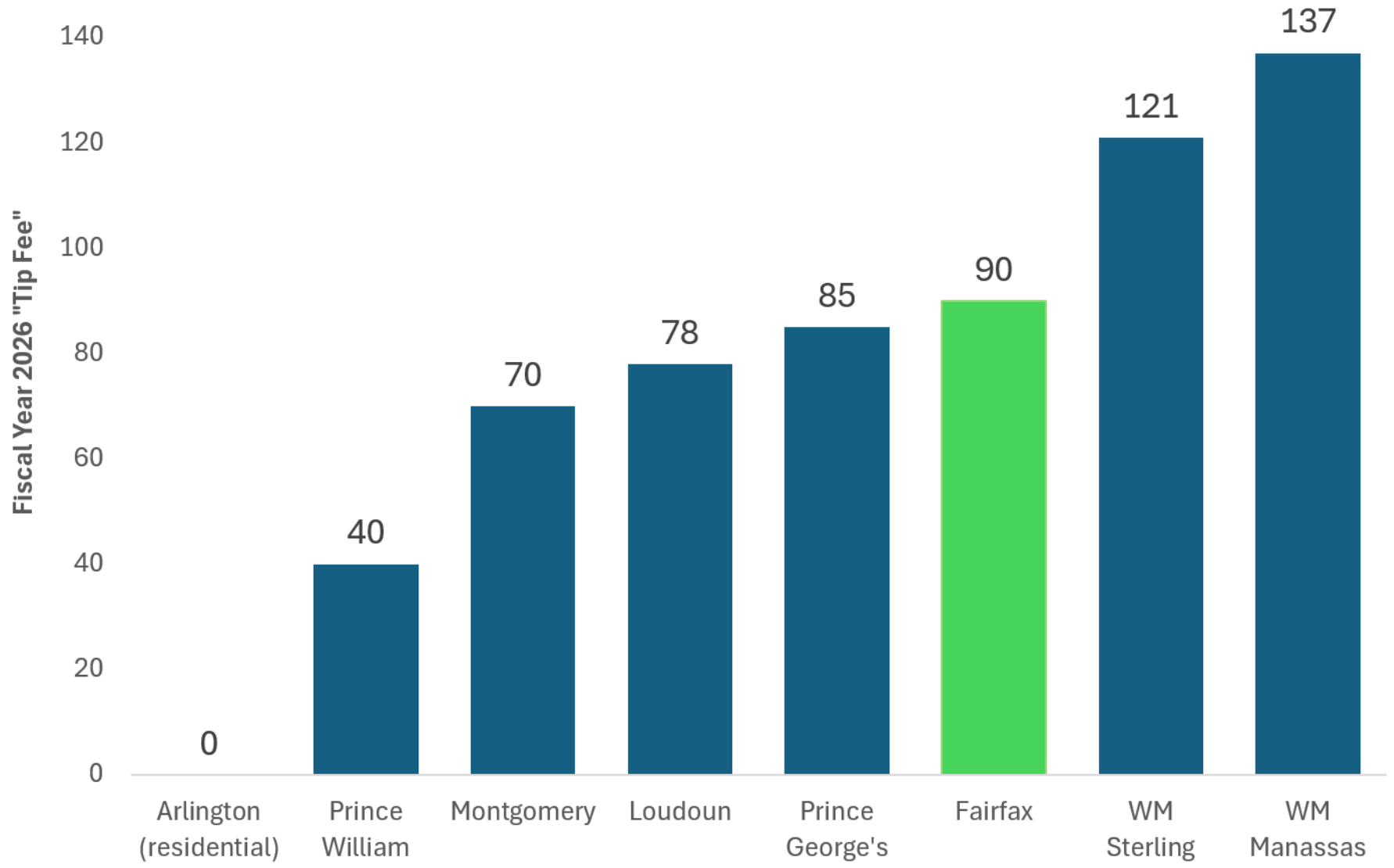
Problem

- Raising tip fee to maintain fiscal solvency increases risk to **flow control**
- Existing tip fee exceeds neighboring jurisdictions increasing risk of trash **leakage** out-of-county
- Reserve fund used to offset **tip fee** exhausted in FY2028





Regional Tip Fees



Regional Systems

Jurisdiction	Residential System	Days Open	Residential Systems Benefit Charge/Fee	FY2026 Tip Fee	Notes
Fairfax County	Free Market	Monday-Sunday	$0	$90	Residential/Commercial pay tip fee
Prince William	Free Market	Monday-Sunday	$75	$40	Commercial pay tip fee
Arlington	USD	Monday-Saturday	$415.75	$0	Commercial is variable fee
Loudoun	Free Market	Monday-Saturday	$0	$78	Residential/Commercial pay tip fee
Montgomery, MD	Partial USD	Monday-Sunday	$143.38	$70	Residential owners pay $56.21 Disposal Fee and $87.17 Base Systems Benefit Charge
Prince Georges, MD	USD	Monday-Saturday	$36.34	$85	USD Total Fee $358.24; Commercial haulers, businesses & municipalities pay tip fee

Options to Increase Revenues

Option	Benefits	Concerns
Sustainability fee	Reliable; unlocks projects and new diversion opportunities; buffers tip fee; protects flow control; closes revenue gap	Direction from the Board was not to pursue the fee at the present time
General Fund subsidy	Does not require separate “trash tax”; closes revenue gap	Adds new pressure to General Fund challenges
Charge for services currently free	Those actually using the service pay (+$50K)	Unreliable; increases risk of hazardous dumping; disincentivizes diversion; will not close revenue gap
Increase enforcement	Those violating current code pay (+$2M)	Unreliable; not permanent; will not close revenue gap
Increase plastic bag tax	Existing fee (+$1M)	Reduces additional litter and diversion opportunities; will not close revenue gap
Corporate sponsorships	Untapped source (+$1M)	Unknown interest level; conflict of interest perceptions; unprecedented; will not close revenue gap

Options to Decrease Costs

Option	Benefits	Concerns
Reduce operating hours	Maximize efficiency based on actual use	Loss of convenience; reduced diversion; will not close revenue gap (+$1M)
Eliminate free services	Reduces operational costs	Loss of convenience; reduced diversion; increased dumping; will not close revenue gap (+$2M)
1 year freeze on non-mandatory CIP	Substantial short-term cost reduction (+$5M)	Facility needs become more expensive in the future; loss of diversion; degrades employee and customer experience
Eliminate contract hauling, modify hauling operations	Substantial cost reduction (+$4M)	Requires reclassifying or adding 9 FTEs; increases workload for employees and requires Union coordination; increases fire risks; reduces capacity to manage facilities
End transfer to General Fund, DPWES for indirect costs	Reduces operational costs (+$1.4M)	Equivalent to General Fund subsidy; increases burden on wastewater and stormwater funds; will not close revenue gap

Other Alternatives

- Abandon flow control
- Eliminate i-66 Transfer Station and hauling operations
- ~~Unified Sanitary District Model~~

These options are not feasible and would not address FY28 revenue deficiencies

Ongoing Activities

- Meeting with regional partners (could use MWCOG support)
- Potential study by Auditor of the Board
- Evaluating/implementing operational efficiency improvements
- Pursuing new legislative authority