



Solid Waste Management

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Department of Public Works and Environmental Services

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Agenda

- End Unified Sanitary District Model Development
- Add Sustainability Fee in Fiscal Year 2028
- Direction to Staff on New Food Waste Recycling Authority

End Unified Sanitary District Model Development

Last Action

- Private hauler and HOA forums completed (*see May 1 memo for results*)

Current State

- Absent further direction, staff ending all work on the Unified Sanitary District Model
- Staff will post notice that the proposal is withdrawn on the project website

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/recycling-trash/unified-sanitation-districts>

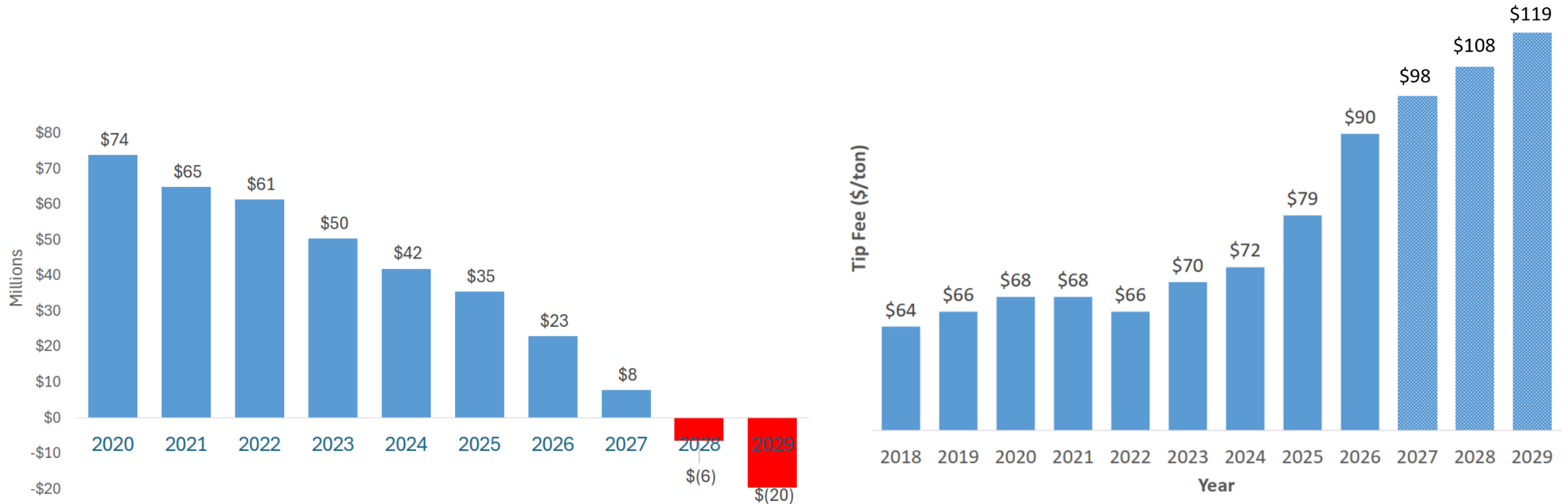
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- End Unified Sanitary District Model Development
- **Add Sustainability Fee in Fiscal Year 2028**
- Direction to Staff on New Food Waste Recycling Authority

Add Sustainability Fee in Fiscal Year 2028

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



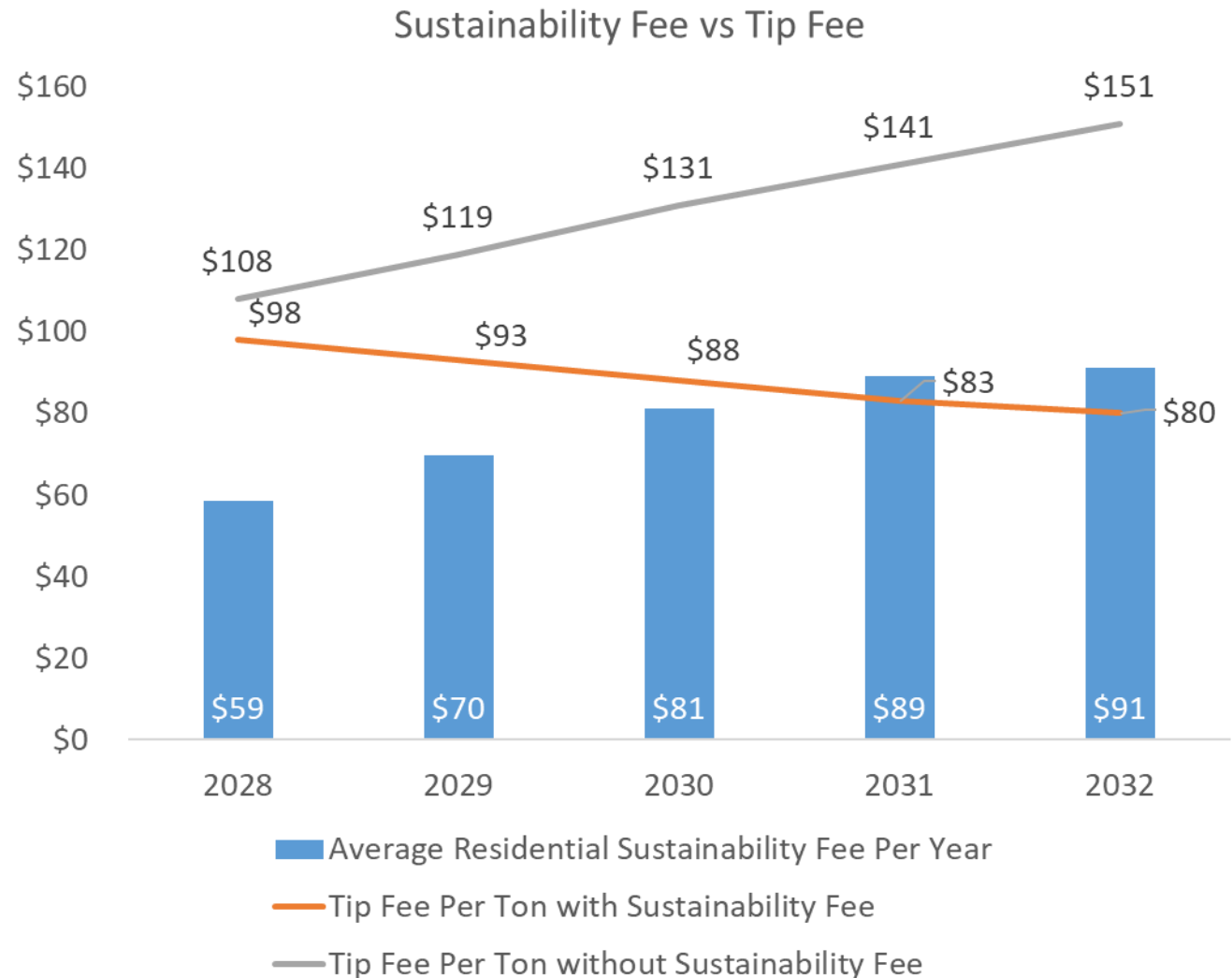
Add Sustainability Fee in Fiscal Year 2028

Recommendation

- implement *ad valorem* fee in FY28 to generate \$24.5M annually
- \$59 for an average residence

Benefits

- Enables reduction in tip fee
- Supports reinvestment in system
- Reduces leakage incentive
- Protects flow control
- Provides emergency reserve
- May enable new diversion options



Add Sustainability Fee in Fiscal Year 2028

Alternative to New Fee

Reduce Fund 40150 (Refuse Disposal) operating expenses by 28% (or \$14M), including all of the following:

Alternative Actions Necessary without Sustainability Fee	Cost Savings
Close i66 Transfer Station and i95 Landfill on Sundays	\$1.0M
Eliminate all free services (glass and e-waste recycling, home hazardous waste drop-off)	\$2.7M
Reduce workforce by 10% (with associated service level decreases)	\$1.7M
Increase code enforcement fines	\$2.0M
Subsidize from General Fund	\$6.6M

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Direction to Staff on New Food Waste Recycling Authority

New enabling authority for food waste separation by ordinance for large generators
[HB 1011](#) (Tran), [SB 226](#) (Surovell)

Who is covered

- Large food-waste generators (e.g., schools, supermarkets, institutional cafeterias, restaurants)

What's required

- Divert food waste by prevention, donation, on-site organics recycling, or off-site processing

Largest generators

- Businesses generating ≥ 1 ton/week must use a permitted composting facility within 30 miles

Direction to Staff on New Food Waste Recycling Authority

Questions for the Board:

- **Direction:** initiate ordinance development?
- **Scope:** include schools? restaurants? of what size?
- **Timeline:** what effective date or phasing?
- **Waivers:** what is an undue hardship?