



County of Fairfax, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 3, 2023
TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Bryan J. Hill, County Executive
SUBJECT: Litter and Zero Waste Update

As requested by Chairman McKay, this memorandum provides an update on the implementation of the Litter Task Force recommendations, updates on the County Zero Waste Plan (adopted November 9, 2001) implementation, utilization of the plastic bag tax revenues, and information about litter enforcement capabilities.

In summary:

- To date, over \$2.25M in plastic bag tax revenue has been appropriated (attachments 1 and 2) with an additional \$1M expected to be appropriated through fiscal year 2023 Carryover Review in September 2023.
- Based on monitoring performed as a requirement of the County's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System permit, Clean Fairfax notes a decrease in plastic bags as litter since adoption of the plastic bag tax.
- Staff provided a status update on the Zero Waste Plan and Litter Task Force Report recommendation (Attachment 3). Staff recommend the Board of Supervisors allocate additional funding to support Fairfax County Park Authority implementation of Zero Waste Plan directives including providing for more recycling in parks, and that the Board require organic waste (e.g., food scraps) to be source-separated at County facilities.
- A small percentage (<5%) of complaints received by the Department of Code Compliance (DCC) reference litter or trash, and there is no trend over the past 3 years in litter complaints to DCC. Beyond outdoor storage use regulations, DCC has no direct litter enforcement mechanism in the County Code. Department of Public Works and Environmental Services (DPWES) Solid Waste staff do not have authority under County Code Chapter 109 to police litter beyond ensuring trash containers are adequately sized and serviced. As successfully prosecuting litter offenses would be difficult and require direct observation of the responsible party in the act, staff do not recommend seeking an increase in litter enforcement authority or activities for DCC, DPWES, or Fairfax County Police Department staff.

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- Operation Stream Shield (OSS), in coordination with shelter providers, continues to be successful with 273 tons of litter removed from 113 locations in fiscal year 2023 at a cost of \$0.82 per pound of litter removed and the added benefits of providing employment for people experiencing homelessness. Staff are working to expand the OSS program as it is the most cost-effective and beneficial litter reduction program.
- Staff continue to evaluate the Bandalong Trash Trap Pilot in Little Hunting Creek (Mount Vernon District). In fiscal year 2022, the proprietary device captured 648 pounds of litter at a cost of \$10 per pound, or 12 times more expensive than OSS costs.
- Staff provide a reminder of Community Cleanup Program guidelines should Board of Supervisors offices receive requests from communities for litter removal (Attachment 4).
- Staff recommend that the waste reduction strategies central to planned revisions of the County's 20-year Solid Waste Management Plan, due to requirements of the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) in 2025, are the most sustainable and impactful strategies to reduce litter on a countywide basis.

Plastic Bag Tax Revenue Use

Effective January 1, 2022, Fairfax County established a five-cent tax on disposable plastic bags provided at stores. Revenue from the tax accrues monthly and, pursuant to the [state enabling legislation](#) and [County ordinance](#), must only be used for certain designated purposes:

1. environmental cleanup,
2. pollution and litter mitigation,
3. educational programs designed to reduce environmental waste, and
4. the provision of reusable bags to recipients of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program benefits.

Funding from Fairfax County's plastic bag tax revenue is appropriated twice a year, at Carryover and at Third Quarter Review. Since the implementation of the bag tax, over \$2.25 million in revenue has been appropriated. Additional revenue received in the amount of \$1,043,364 is expected to be appropriated as part of the approval of the FY 2023 Carryover Review in September 2023. To facilitate disbursement of available revenue, the Office of Environmental and Energy Coordination (OEEC), in coordination with the Department of Management and Budget (DMB), has established a biannual project selection process through which 1) projects are solicited from County and contributory agencies, 2) project applications are reviewed and evaluated by a multi-agency selection committee, and 3) funding recommendations are shared with DMB and County leadership for final approval. This process ensures that revenue is being allocated in accordance with the statutory requirements while satisfying other County policies and priorities including the [One Fairfax](#) policy, the [Zero Waste Plan](#), and the [Community-wide Energy and Climate Action Plan](#).

A preliminary amount of \$668,460 in plastic bag tax revenue funding was appropriated in the *FY 2022 Carryover Review*, adopted October 11, 2022. The projects to which this funding was allocated, as well as the status of project implementation, are identified (Attachment 1). An additional \$1,582,900 of revenue funding was appropriated in the *FY 2023 Third Quarter Review*, adopted May 2, 2023 (Attachment 2).

DCC Litter Enforcement Status

Over the last 3 years, approximately 5% of the 13,000 complaints received by DCC referenced “trash” or “litter.” There is no temporal trend in the number of these complaints received by DCC over this time period. As the community frequently uses “trash” or “litter” to describe items being stored outside, many of the approximately 5% of complaints are not for actual dumping or uncollected refuse on the ground.

Beyond the regulations for outdoor storage on private property established in [County Zoning Ordinance Article 4 \(Use Standards\)](#), DCC has no code enforcement authority specifically regarding litter. When DCC receives litter complaints from the public that are not violations of outdoor storage use regulations, they are referred to other agencies for resolution as DCC does not have a direct enforcement mechanism. For example, litter on an active construction site is referred to the Land Development Services (LDS) site inspector, litter at apartment complexes are referred to DPWES Solid Waste, litter outside of restaurants are referred to inspectors in the Health Department, and litter in the state right-of-way is referred to the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT).

Littering is difficult to prosecute without direct observation of the littering offense to generate sufficient evidence to identify a responsible party. If the goal of a litter abatement enforcement program was to prevent dumping on public lands, a surveillance system to record incidents of dumping would need to be implemented and new resources would have to be identified to review the recordings, investigate the incidents to identify the responsible parties, and then pursue enforcement actions. Because of the relatively low volume of litter complaints, and the amount of time necessary to successfully prosecute littering offenses, DCC staff do not recommend pursuing additional litter enforcement authority.

DPWES Program Updates

Operation Stream Shield

DPWES manages the [Operation Stream Shield](#) (OSS) litter removal program, funded by a mix of stormwater tax and plastic bag tax revenues. OSS crews are deployed in all Board of Supervisor districts employing clients from multiple shelter facilities for people experiencing homelessness to remove litter and invasive plants. In fiscal year 2023, OSS cleaned 113 distinct locations during 242 cleanup events removing 273.4 tons of trash and 373 trash bags of invasive plants.

OSS provided temporary employment to 242 clients, with 30 clients graduating from OSS in fiscal year 2023 to regular employment including 2 now employed with the County. The total fiscal year 2023 cost was \$448,000, equating to \$0.82 per pound of litter removed.

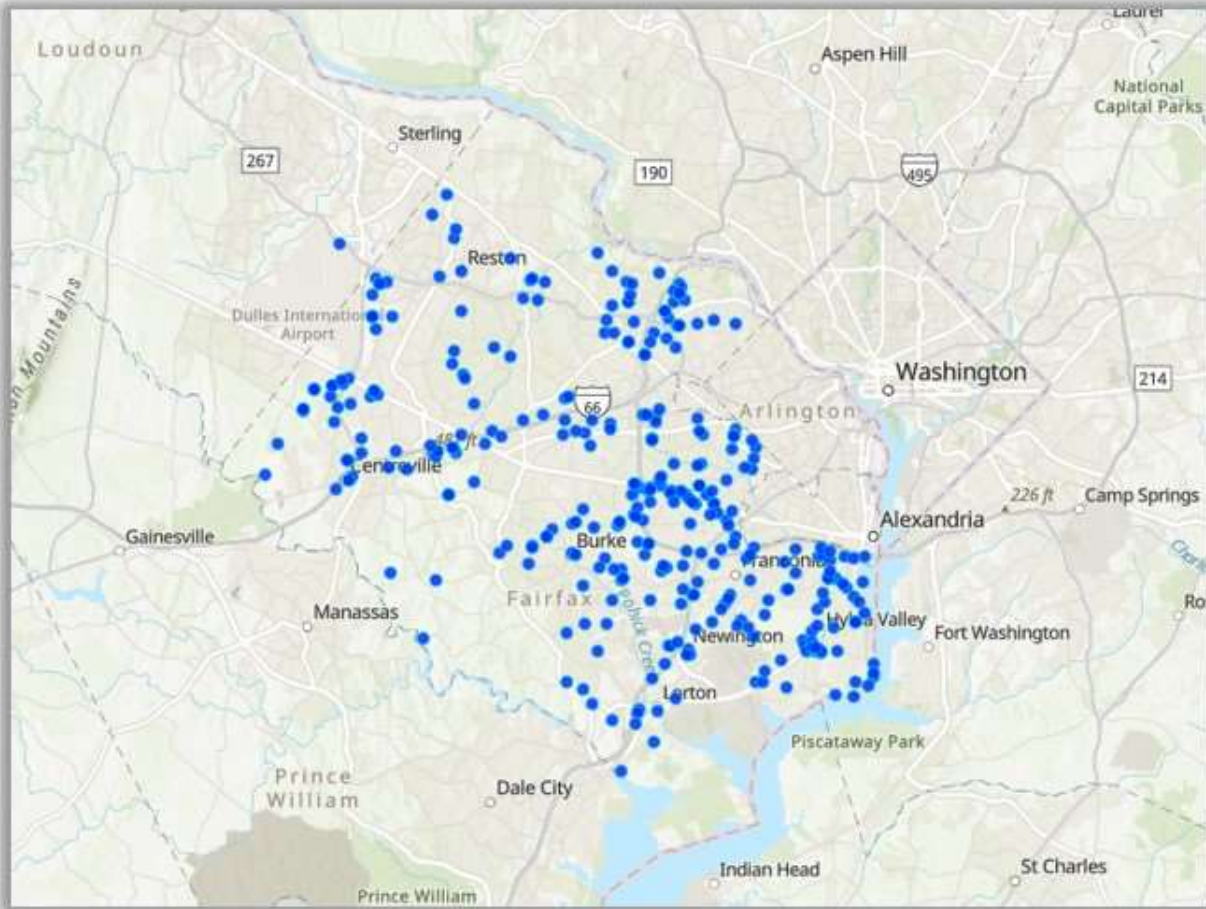


Figure 1. Map of OSS work locations.

DPWES is currently working with non-profit partners to amend and expand the OSS contract. This includes OSS partners transporting the collected waste for disposal (disposal is now managed by DPWES), and enhanced recycling including separating glass. Staff are also discussing with OSS partners evaluating the potential for nuisance sign removal from the right-of-way services previously provided by the community labor force, cleaning of some stormwater management facilities, and servicing trash cans at some bus stops and commuter lots. DPWES and Clean Fairfax are already working to improve the categorization of litter collected by OSS clients. Based on comments collected from OSS crew supervisors over the past year, the most frequently collected items were plastic bottles, plastic bags, cans, and paper products.

Bandalong Trash Trap Pilot

DPWES has installed and maintains a Bandalong trash trap in Little Hunting Creek as a pilot project evaluation to capture debris and litter. The Bandalong is a proprietary device capturing litter as it floats downstream. The majority of material captured by the device is woody debris, an important habitat component for aquatic systems, and not litter. For fiscal year 2022, the Bandalong captured 648 pounds of litter at an estimated cost of \$10 per pound (12x more than OSS costs). At present, DPWES is not considering expansion of the Bandalong pilot to additional locations and is focusing on OSS expansion because of the lower cost per weight of litter removed and additional social benefits provided by OSS.

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit Requirements

As a requirement of the County's MS4 permit from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the County monitors "floatable" litter quarterly below 5 storm drain outfalls representing a range of land use types (high density residential, medium density residential, low-density residential, commercial, institutional). The County's non-profit partner Clean Fairfax is funded from the stormwater tax to categorize and remove the floatables below the selected outfalls.

High and medium density residential areas generate the most litter. The most observed type of litter are "food and beverage containers" and "household waste." Clean Fairfax reports a decline in plastic bags as litter in the MS4 monitoring areas since the plastic bag tax was enacted, with approximately a 64% reduction in the count of plastic bags at the medium density residential site from 2021 to 2023.

DPWES Enforcement Authority

County Code Chapter 109 (*Solid Waste Management*) is enforced by DPWES. Although Chapter 109 establishes requirements for ensuring trash containers are adequately sized and serviced, Chapter 109 does not otherwise provide DPWES with litter enforcement authority and DPWES does not have staff resources available to police litter. Other than inadequate or overflowing containers, most litter complaints received by DPWES are for litter on Virginia Department of Transportation's right-of-way that are the responsibility of VDOT to remediate. Litter and overflowing dumpster complaints received by DPWES are low in volume, averaging 5 per month. For overflowing dumpster complaints, DPWES staff respond quickly and work with the property owner and solid waste provider to remediate the problem and ensure containers are adequately sized and serviced.

DPWES staff note that the District of Columbia has a [litter enforcement program](#) in which officers may issue notices of violations (NOVs) with fines of \$75 to pedestrians or \$100 to drivers who are directly observed littering. In 2021, two notices of violation were issued to pedestrians but subsequently dismissed, and 30 NOVs were issued to drivers of which 7 were dismissed. Total NOVs for 2019 and 2020 were similar.

Community Cleanup Guidelines

The Community Cleanup Program (Attachment 4) remains available as a General Fund program to provide communities with support to remove litter and bulky items not collected by their normal trash collection provider. Applications for Community Cleanup funds are submitted to the community's respective Board of Supervisors office, and the program is managed by DPWES.

Solid Waste Management Plan Revisions

The Virginia Department of Environment (DEQ) requires the [County's Solid Waste Management Plan](#) to be revised every 5 years. DPWES is now finalizing procurement of a consultant to assist with a major revision to the 20-year plan. The revised plan will provide an updated understanding of local waste projections, identify, and prioritize zero waste and circular strategies, and establish an actionable implementation roadmap. Recommended approaches will be technically and financially feasible, leverage new technologies, and will be rooted in the goals of One Fairfax and the Board's sustainability directives. Four strategic goals within the project have been identified and are critical to the future of the solid waste management system in Fairfax County.

These guiding goals are:

- Create a resilient, economically feasible, and equitable, system that provides for diversion and disposal of all materials collected in Fairfax County.
- Create, promote, maintain, and enforce a waste reduction culture within the residential and commercial community.
- Empower, encourage, and incentivize innovative de-centralized solid waste management systems within neighborhoods.
- Reduce organic waste collected by promoting and requiring self-management at the generation locations.

The waste reduction goals central to the revision of the County's Solid Waste Management Plan will be the most sustainable community-wide approach to reducing litter.

cc: Rachel Flynn, Deputy County Executive
Ellicia Seard-McCormick, Deputy County Executive
Christina Jackson, Chief Financial Officer
Jai Cole, Director, Fairfax County Park Authority
Jose Comayagua, Director, Facilities Management Department
John Morrill, Acting Director, Office of Environmental and Energy Coordination
Lee Ann Pender, Director, Procurement and Material Management
Gabriel Zakkak, Director, Code Compliance
Eric Forbes, Deputy Director, DPWES, Solid Waste Management Program

Attachments: Attachment 1: Programs and Projects Supported by Plastic Bag Tax Revenues in
FY 2022 Carryover Package
Attachment 2: Programs and Projects Supported by Plastic Bag Tax Revenues in
FY 2023 Third
Quarter Review Package
Attachment 3: Update on Litter Task Force Report Recommendations
Attachment 4: Community Cleanup Program Guidelines

Plastic Bag Tax Revenue Projects: FY 2022 Carryover

Project Name	Project Status and Summary	Lead Agencies	Statutory Objective(s)	Funding Allocated
<u>Operation Stream Shield (OSS)</u>	Ongoing. OSS provides temporary work experience to individuals experiencing homelessness while supporting the removal of litter from in and around county streams and riparian areas.	DPWES, OPEH	- Environmental cleanup - Pollution and litter mitigation	\$370,000
Waste Collection at Commuter Facilities and Bus Stops	Ongoing. Funding supports waste collection from containers at commuter parking lots and bus stops.	DPWES	- Environmental cleanup - Pollution and litter mitigation	\$102,960
<u>Storm Drain Education and Labelling Projects</u>	Ongoing. Funding supports the provision of labels and labelling equipment.	NVSWCD	- Education programs designed to reduce environmental waste	\$60,000
Waste Reduction and Recycling Campaigns at Fairfax Housing Authority Properties	Ongoing. DPWES and DHCD are revamping recycling systems at 10-15 properties to energize tenants and property management to properly manage their waste.	DPWES, DHCD	- Education programs designed to reduce environmental waste - Pollution and litter mitigation	\$50,000
Waste Reduction Posters at Bus Shelters	Funds the design and placement of multilingual ads in bus shelters to encourage recycling within high vulnerability index communities. Phase I, which funded a three-month run of 30 ads, is complete. Phase II is expected to be complete in October 2023.	DPWES	- Education programs designed to reduce environmental waste	\$30,000
Bandalong and StormX Maintenance	Ongoing. Bandalong and StormX are used to capture litter in county waterways. Funding supports maintenance of these technologies.	DPWES	- Environmental cleanup - Pollution and litter mitigation	\$20,000

Project Name	Project Status and Summary	Lead Agencies	Statutory Objective(s)	Funding Allocated
Bulk Purchases of Vehicle Fluids	Complete. Bulk fluid tanks installed at DVS Newington and Jermantown Facilities. Purchasing fluids in bulk and dispensing them via facility reels helps avoid the disposal of over 4,000 one-gallon antifreeze bottles and over 250 55-gallon transmission-fluid barrels.	DVS	- Pollution and litter mitigation	\$14,500
Reusable Bags – SNAP & WIC Recipients	Ongoing. Funding is being used to provide reusable shopping bags to the county’s SNAP and WIC recipients. Bags are available for walk-ins at DFS and FCHD locations.	DFS, FCHD	- Provision of reusable bags to SNAP and WIC recipients - Pollution and litter mitigation	\$5,500
Reusable Bags – Food Pantries	Ongoing. Funding is being used to provide reusable shopping bags to area food pantries.	OEEC, NCS	- Pollution and litter mitigation	\$5,500
Reusable Bags – County-Run Farmers Markets	Complete. Funding supported the provision and distribution of 1,000 branded reusable tote bags at the start of the 2023 season to patrons of county-run farmers markets.	FCCA	- Pollution and litter mitigation	\$5,000
Volunteer Stream Cleanups	Ongoing. Funding is being used to provide gloves and trash bags for volunteer stream cleanups	NVSWCD, FCCA	- Environmental cleanup - Pollution and litter mitigation	\$5,000
TOTAL				\$668,460

Plastic Bag Tax Revenue Projects: FY 2023 Third Quarter Review

Project Name	Project Summary	Lead Agencies	Statutory Objective(s)	Funding Allocated
Waste Collection at Commuter Facilities and Bus Stops	Recurring request. Funds thrice weekly collection of waste from bus shelters and commuter facilities over a one-year period.	DPWES	- Environmental cleanup - Pollution and litter mitigation	\$477,816
Operation Stream Shield (OSS)	Recurring request. OSS provides temporary work experience to individuals experiencing homelessness while supporting the removal of litter from in and around county streams and riparian areas.	DPWES	- Environmental cleanup - Pollution and litter mitigation	\$350,000
Zero Waste Implementation	Funding will be allocated to projects that advance the County's operational goal to be Zero Waste by 2030.	DPMM	- Environmental cleanup - Pollution and litter mitigation	\$229,692
Reusable Foodware Projects Pilot	Funds the purchase and/or rental of reusable foodware for county foodservice operations and county-hosted events in an effort to reduce single-use, disposable foodware.	DPMM	- Pollution and litter mitigation	\$205,000
Compost Collection – County-Run Farmers Markets	Funding allows for the continuation of compost collection at county-run farmers markets during the 2024 market season.	FCPA	- Education programs designed to reduce environmental waste - Pollution and litter mitigation	\$151,800
Reusable Bags & Compost Bins – County-Run Farmers Markets	Funds the following items for patrons of the 2024 farmers market season: 1) compostable produce bags, 2) countertop compost bins, 3) compostable bin liners, and 4) reusable branded tote bags.	FCPA	- Education programs designed to reduce environmental waste - Pollution and litter mitigation - Provision of reusable bags to SNAP and WIC recipients	\$56,930

Project Name	Project Summary	Lead Agencies	Statutory Objective(s)	Funding Allocated
Waste Facility Inventory	Funds the creation of a GIS inventory of waste collection facilities (waste, recycling and compost receptacles) in the FCPA system that will capture facility location, waste volume collected and other data. The inventory is critical to informing the workflows and internal policies needed to implement the county's Zero Waste Plan.	FCPA	- Environmental cleanup - Pollution and litter mitigation	\$42,500
Reusable Pallet Wrap Program	Funds the purchase of 208 reusable pallet wraps, reducing the use of plastic film in the storage and transport of materials for county agencies. Each application of a reusable pallet wrap eliminates approximately 250 square feet of plastic film from the county's operational waste stream.	DPMM	- Pollution and litter mitigation	\$32,662
Reusable Bags – SNAP & WIC Recipients	Recurring request. Funding will be used to provide reusable bags to eligible walk-ins at DFS and FCHD facilities and at outreach events.	DFS, FCHD	- Provision of reusable bags to SNAP and WIC recipients - Pollution and litter mitigation	\$31,500
Wonder Wagon Mobile Nature Center	Funds the purchase of branded and sustainably sourced reusable items (e.g., reusable bags, straws, silverware, or takeout containers) as giveaways for Wonder Wagon outreach events. The Wonder Wagon will bring environmental and nature programs to underserved communities and Title I schools.	FCPA	- Education programs designed to reduce environmental waste - Pollution and litter mitigation	\$5,000
TOTAL				\$1,582,900

Attachment 3. Update on Zero Waste Plan (2021) Litter Task Force Report (2021) Recommendations

In September 2021, the Board of Supervisors adopted the Community-wide Energy and Climate Action Plan (CECAP) which includes policy directives affecting countywide solid waste management to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

On November 9, 2021, the Board of Supervisors adopted the [Fairfax County Government and Schools Zero Waste Plan](#), establishing goals of diverting 90% of waste away from landfills and incinerators and decreasing the total amount of waste generated by 25% by 2030.

On December 14, 2021, the Litter Task Force (LTF) Report was presented to the Board of Supervisors Environmental Committee by Jen Cole, Executive Director of Clean Fairfax.

As there is overlap between the recommendations of the LTF and the Board’s Zero Waste Plan, staff provide a combined status update on the short term (Table 1), medium term (Table 2) and long term (Table 3) recommendations from the LTF Report cross-referenced to the Zero Waste Plan.

- DPMM = Department of Procurement and Materials Management
- FMD = Facilities Management Department
- FCPA = Fairfax County Park Authority
- DPWES = Department of Public Works and Environmental Services
- LDS = Land Development Services

Table 1. Short Term Recommendations

Litter Task Force Report Recommendation	Status
1. Prohibit use of single use/disposables at county facilities and at county events.	<p>While the Zero Waste Plan does not explicitly recommend prohibiting the use of single use/disposables at County facilities and County events, it encourages the phasing out of many of these products and does recommend prohibiting single-use plastics.</p> <p>Zero Waste strategies related to this LTF recommendation include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.3 Implement Reusable Food Service Ware 3.4 Install Additional Air Hand Dryers 3.5 Install Additional Bottle Filling Stations 4.4 Establish Board Directive/Policy to Ban Single-use Plastics 4.6 Use Events as a Catalyst to Minimize or Eliminate Waste <p>Food Service Ware and Events</p> <p>The Zero Waste Core Team has requested \$205,000 from the Plastic Bag Tax fund to support reusable foodware projects in day-to-day</p>

operations and County-sponsored events. Conversations are in progress with several relevant departments.

For example, FCPA has evaluated a pilot program for reusable foodware at one of its golf grills, transitioned all grills to more sustainable/reusable options in the meantime, and is evaluating reusable options for its hosted events. FCPA tested compostable foodware options at the 2023 Springfest Earth Day event, with a major learning of trained and dedicated staffing required for proper waste collection and sorting.

Air Hand Dryers

FMD continues to integrate into design and construction for applicable infrastructure replacement projects. Most paper towel dispensers that remain in buildings are in facilities that are on the County Capital Bond program and should be eliminated with the DPWES Capital Facilities completion of the Bond projects.

FCPA completed air hand dryer audit for 52 staffed facilities in early 2023 and found 185 existing hand dryers, with 150 upgrades needed (\$320,000, estimated) for underperforming equipment, 48 new dryers needed where none exist currently (\$124,000, estimated), for a total funding need of \$444,000. FCPA non-staffed facilities will be evaluated later in the year for scope and impact.

Bottle Filling Stations

FMD continues to integrate into design and construction for applicable infrastructure replacement projects. Over the past few months, FMD has installed water-filling station at 6 FRD and DVS sites as well as at Hollin Hall, Baileys Community Center, and Gum Springs Community Center. FMD continues to include bottling filling stations in Infrastructure replacement project designs where applicable.

FCPA received \$97,290 from EIP2023 funding to upgrade 32 fountains to bottle filling stations at Rec, Golf, Nature Center, and Maintenance facilities for Phase I upgrade effort. Approximately 17 upgrades remain for Phase II. Phase III evaluation is upcoming to evaluate upgrading non-staffed parks and outdoor fountains.

Single Use Plastics Ban

The Zero Waste Core team has completed Phase 1 of 2 of a weight-based waste audit to assess the amount and variety of single-use products and packaging, including plastic single-use products,

	<p>generated by County operations. Phase 2 is schedule for Fall 2023. Through the above strategies, the Core Team is working to reduce reliance on these products.</p>
<p>2. Participate and promote Cover/Secure Your Load Week</p>	<p><u>DPWES Response:</u> DPWES staged multi-lingual events at the I-66 transfer station and I-95 landfill during the Secure Your Load week of June 6, 2023. A weeklong campaign was posted to social media to help reinforce the message and to reach a larger audience in the community. DPWES has implemented new standard operating procedures to ensure County and County contractor trailers are adequately covered leaving the I-66 transfer station.</p> <p><u>FCPA Response:</u> FCPA will look at current fleet equipment used for hauling items to identify opportunities for more secure loads. FCPA has requested dedicated waste hauling vehicles to help reduce risk of blow-off from transporting collected trash and recycling.</p>
<p>3. Sponsor “free dump” or “Dumpster Days” days to discourage illegal dumping of large household items</p>	<p><u>DPWES Response:</u> Illegal dumping has not been a significant issue in terms of complaint volume, and staff compliance resources continue to largely be focused on trash collection issues. As the focus on an equitable delivery of our services evolves, we will be evaluating service models for the County as part of the Solid Waste Management Plan update for 2025.</p> <p>DPWES completed an initial review of the number of complaints and their location in association to High Vulnerability Index (HVI) areas. DPWES found that more than half of the complaints were in HVI areas and are currently formulating an outreach strategy to begin improving those areas. Based on our analysis of the number of complaints, DPWES does not recommend “free dump” or “Dumpster Days” at this time.</p> <p><u>FCPA Response:</u> FCPA has hosted similar activities in the past at Rec Center parking lots with mixed results, including dumping after hours, dumping in the days around the event. FCPA does not currently support adding single day waste collection events to its facilities given current and projected staffing constraints. Any new single day public waste collection effort should consider the current Farmers Market model</p>

	with set and routine times and dates, ample communication, and monitoring before/after events to ensure no dumping outside hours.
4. Install and service litter and recyclables cans at county facilities, including parks and playing fields	<p>This was absorbed into Zero Waste Plan implementation as it matches the following Zero Waste strategy: 3.2 Standardize and increase waste receptacles and signage</p> <p><u>FMD response:</u> FMD currently leads a cross-agency pilot funded by OEEC to install and service three-bin collection stations throughout administrative office space within the Government Center. Outside of the Government Center three-bin pilot program, each County agency is responsible for providing three-bin stations for implementation at their buildings.</p> <p><u>FCPA Response:</u> FCPA has submitted equipment purchase and long-term staffing plan to add or upgrade the recycling collection at park facilities. The request includes dedicated waste hauling vehicles, compactors at each Area Maintenance facility, recycling bins, and full-time and seasonal staffing. FCPA will be unable to expand its waste collection capability without the requested resources.</p>
5. Install water bottle filling stations in county buildings	<p>This is being absorbed into Zero Waste Plan implementation as it matches the following Zero Waste strategy: 3.5 Install Additional Bottle Filling Stations</p> <p><u>FMD response:</u> FMD continues to integrate into design and construction for applicable infrastructure replacement projects. Over the past few months, FMD has installed water-filling station at six Fire and Rescue and Department of Vehicle Services sites as well as at Hollin Hall, Baileys Community Center, and Gum Springs Community Center. FMD continues to include bottling filling stations in Infrastructure replacement project design where applicable.</p> <p><u>FCPA Response:</u> FCPA received \$97,290 from EIP2023 funding to upgrade 32 fountains to bottle filling stations at Rec, Golf, Nature Center, and Maintenance facilities for Phase I upgrade effort. Approximately 17 upgrades remain for Phase II. Phase III evaluation is upcoming to evaluate upgrading non-staffed parks and outdoor fountains.</p>

6. DPWES to review development and re-development plans for waste management adequacy	<p><u>DPWES Response:</u> DPWES and LDS are currently identifying Public Facility Manual updates to improve the plan review process and clearly define requirements for disposal options.</p>
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Table 2. Medium Term Recommendations

Litter Task Force Report Recommendation	Staff Comments
7. Enforce adequate waste collection requirements on Medium and High Density Housing	<p><u>DPWES Response:</u> DPWES currently enforces system adequacy requirements for medium and high-density housing. DPWES has created and filled vacant positions that will allow the program to proactively inspect and enforce Chapter 109.1 for medium and high-density housing. Initial planning and program development is underway.</p>
8. Revise applicable ordinances to prohibit the use of bags for overnight refuse set-out	<p><u>DPWES Response:</u> DPWES agrees that trash left in plastic bags overnight outside of containers does increase the probability that litter will result if bags are damaged. However, modifying County Code to require containers will impact existing townhome communities where containerized storage areas are not available. Containerized waste requirements will be reviewed as part of the 2025 Solid Waste Management Plan revisions, including moving to a three bin, pay-as-you-throw system.</p>
9. Prohibit waste container placement in close proximity to storm drains	<p><u>DPWES Response:</u> DPWES and LDS are identifying Public Facility Manual updates to improve the plan review process and clearly define requirements for disposal options.</p>
10. Re-evaluate the methodology used to calculate capacity and servicing needs for new and existing developments	<p><u>DPWES Response:</u> DPWES and LDS are identifying Public Facility Manual updates to improve the plan review process and clearly define requirements for disposal options.</p>
11. Update ordinance to establish a litter and illegal dumping enforcement unit	<p>Board Action to allocate funding will be required to implement this recommendation. However, staff do not recommend allocating limited resources to litter enforcement given the challenges of identifying and prosecuting responsible parties.</p>

Table 3. Long Term Recommendations

Litter Task Force Report Recommendation	Staff Comments
12. Support a Statewide Bottle Bill Legislation	These are included in the County’s legislative agenda.
13. Support the Break Free From Plastic Pollution Act Bill in Congress	
14. Establish Prince William County-style Flow Control	<p><u>DPWES Response:</u> This will be evaluated as part of the 2025 Solid Waste Management Plan revision. However, staff note that this model does not support a waste reduction framework for the community encouraged by CECAP.</p>
15. Establish Extended Produced Responsibility for County contracts and support source reduction efforts wherever possible	<p>This was absorbed into Zero Waste Plan implementation as it is aligned with the following Zero Waste strategy: 2.2 Expand Sustainable Purchasing Program</p> <p><u>DPMM Response:</u> DPMM is currently drafting a Sustainable Procurement Policy which will include Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and other waste reducing approaches.</p>



County of Fairfax, Virginia

To protect and enrich the quality of life for the people, neighborhoods, and diverse communities of Fairfax County

January 2023 rev

Community Clean-up (CCU) Program Guidelines

Community Clean-Up (CCU) is a General Fund Program intended to provide any Fairfax County community with a method to keep their subdivision properties (common areas: playgrounds, walking trails, creeks, ponds) clean and free of bulky debris not normally collected by their regular refuse collection service. This service is not intended to replace regular refuse collection services nor to provide disposal of material resulting from land clearing, construction, remodeling or “spring clean-up” from private residences/property. Continuation of community clean-ups is subject to annual funding.

The Community/Civic Association (C/CA) must submit the CCU Application through their respective Board of Supervisor’s office. C/CA must designate a single stationary location selected by the community and approved by the County.

Community Responsibilities and Acknowledgements:

- 1) Community Clean-Up (CCU) Applications **MUST** be submitted through their respective Board of Supervisor’s office.
- 2) Due to limited funding and yearly demand, only one clean-up per community will be scheduled each year.
- 3) Clean-ups will be scheduled on a first come first served basis.
- 4) Once annual funding is exhausted, no additional clean-ups will be scheduled for the remainder of the year. The County operates on a fiscal year from July 1 to June 30.
- 5) The C/CA representative is responsible for selecting and acquiring permission for the site where their clean-up is to be held. Locations are typically school parking lots or community recreation centers.
- 6) Users must follow procedures to assure the safety of the public and county staff.
- 7) There must be a representative(s) of the community on site during the hours of the scheduled clean-up operation.
- 8) No material is to be placed on the ground prior to the designated start time or after closing time.
- 9) The C/CA representative will be responsible for any final policing of the grounds if needed.
- 10) The C/CA representative is responsible for distribution of these rules to all homes in the community prior to the scheduled clean-up day.
- 11) This program is intended to provide a method to keep Fairfax County common areas (playgrounds, walking trails, creeks, and ponds) clean and free of bulky debris.

The following items **will not** be collected as part of the community clean-up:

Asbestos, hazardous chemicals and pesticides, toxic waste, animal waste and explosives.

******Other items may be subject to approval by the County******

Please contact Susan Davidson (susan.davidson@fairfaxcounty.gov) or Xiomara Crespin (Xiomara.crespin@fairfaxcounty.gov) to request more information.



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