



## **“LANDFILLED” DISCUSSION SERIES**

### **PUBLIC FEEDBACK**

Date: June 26, 2008

Time: 7 p.m.

Location: Harvest Hills Community Center, Independence, Mo.

Facilitator: Dan Cash

Recorder: Bettse Folsom

Other observers: none

Number of participants: 11

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### **As we watch landfill space disappear and consider the possibility of trash costs rising, what actions do you think we should be taking now?**

- Separate glass, metal, etc.
  - Recycle
- Paper bags instead of plastic bags
- Reusable bags – compensation from store on returning bags
  - Commercial influence and change our own codes
  - Incentives for business and residential
    - Example: return cans and bottles for money

### **Do you know where your trash goes?**

- Maryland Best Practices
  - Curbside – three bins – trash, recycle, glass
- Depends on what company picks up
- Mattresses, etc. – enforcement on what goes in trash
- Some external imports of trash
- Inappropriate items for trash

### **Do you know how much you pay for trash?**

Don't know, part of housing dues HOA

### **Would your participation in recycling programs increase if it would prevent a landfill from being placed near your home?**

- Still be paying some amount
- No, not more convenient
- Already recycles
- Lees Summit best practices
  - Pay more if effectively reused – convenient – greater value, time consuming
- Incentives to kids example in the past – treats for collecting
  - Adults saw benefit to kids

### **Are you changing your habits in other areas to be more environmentally friendly?**

- Not to drive so much
- More frozen foods – better packaging
- Energy efficient light bulbs

- Some adverse to these – disposing and breakage
- Grease down drain
  - Already cooked bacon

**Do you feel like you know enough about what can and cannot be recycled?**

- Keeps changing
  - Example: mixing excess paint with sand
- Moving target
- Burning

**Is recycling important?**

- Saves money – before in olden days never threw anything away
- Sometime depends on situation and convenience
- Convenience and time
- Careful on assumption and what can be recyclable
  - Items that cannot be recyclable

**Should you be rewarded for recycling?**

- Paper bin pays back to community
- How would they know who recycles or not (trash men)?
  - Conscious or not
- Incentive for aluminum
  - Provide market for these items
- Limit; no more trash than two bags
- Positive expectation develops
  - Biggest problem: convenience
- It is not because of convenience, but applicable
- Capability to do this – never had
- Program or means for recycling
- It is possible, but not at home
  - Driving, added gas
- Separation is inconvenience
- Huge metal bins are so tall
- Tire disposal
- Politically active to be better
- Germany best practices
- Opportunities, but you have to seek them out

**Design your ideal recycling system. What would the system look like for your home or office?**

- Curbside with bins
- All packaged (biodegradable) – would disintegrate
  - Appropriate sizing
  - Chips with less air in bags
- Recycle in convenient to home and inside with using
- SMART trash cans that would choose recycling items

**Do you feel responsible for reducing the amount of trash you produce?**

- We are a throw-away society
- Expect leaders will lead us
  - Security issue
  - Communicate to leaders
  - Rain Gardens example
  - People lead leaders and demand it

**Who should lead recycling efforts?**

- Trash people led by industry
- Combination of industry and government
- Led by city government
  - Practical issue
- Construction scraps/materials