

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. D(2)

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: January 14, 2003

TITLE: A Report on Activities of the Orange County Solid Waste Advisory Board

DEPARTMENT: PLANNING	PUBLIC HEARING: No
ATTACHMENTS: A. Resolution B. Memo from SWAB to County Commission C. Memo from Solid Waste Director to SWAB	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Bill Rehm, SWAB Member Philip J. Prete, 918-7326

PURPOSE

The Orange County Solid Waste Advisory Board (SWAB) is charged with reviewing the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan and various alternatives to financing the program. The Advisory Board is scheduled to make recommendations to the County Commissioners for consideration in the 2003 – 2004 budget cycle. Bill Rehm, one of Carrboro's two appointees to the Advisory Board is presenting a brief report on the status of that process to the Aldermen for discussion and feedback. The Administration recommends that the Aldermen receive the report and schedule a work session to discuss these issues in more detail.

INFORMATION

The Solid Waste Advisory Board has taken on the task, as part of their charge, of evaluating and making recommendations to the County Commission for consideration in the 2003-04 budget cycle on the following:

- ◆ The County-wide Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan
- ◆ The ten year projected budget necessary to implement the Plan
- ◆ Financing alternatives for covering the projected revenue shortfall

Recommendations will include endorsement of the Comprehensive Plan - or alternatively, rejection of some components of the plan based on budgetary considerations - and a suggested mix of financing measures to cover the budgetary implications of the Plan. This is particularly important as the County approaches the end of its landfill capacity, requiring shifting to a system of waste management that cannot be supported by tipping fee revenue alone.

Primary financing alternatives the SWAB could consider *to supplement* the tip fee include a countywide tax, solid waste service district taxes, a countywide availability fee, a governmental fee, or some combination of these, or other funding mechanisms. The UNC School of Government Environmental Finance Center has been working with the SWAB to analyze the fiscal impact of various scenarios and the SWAB will include that information to support recommendations when it is complete.

FISCAL IMPACT

These deliberations could have a significant impact on Carrboro's solid waste management goals and programs, and will potentially result in a new tax or fee imposed on Carrboro residents and businesses in the next fiscal year.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION:

The Administration recommends that the Board 1) receive the report; 2) provide feedback to the SWAB representatives; and 3) schedule a timely work session to discuss the SWAB recommendations.