

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2007

Rivanna Solid Waste Authority's Community Meeting to Address Improvements to Area's Trash and Recycling System

November 14, 2007— What are some options for improving trash and recycling services in the Charlottesville-Albemarle County area? Does the community want more opportunities to recycle? What are some alternative funding mechanisms for trash and recycling services? What kinds of facilities and services would make the community environmentally sustainable?

These are some of the issues that will be discussed Thursday, November 15, at a community meeting hosted by the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority (RSWA). The meeting will take place from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm at City Council Chambers, City Hall, 605 East Market Street, Charlottesville.

Thursday's community meeting is a key element in RSWA's strategic planning process, which was launched in August 2007. With support from solid waste consultants Gershman, Brickner & Bratton, Inc., assisted by Draper Aden Associates, the planning process includes a critical review of the RSWA's services and facilities, personal and phone interviews with more than 50 community stakeholders, discussions with the RSWA Citizens Advisory Committee, data and document review, technical evaluation, and benchmarking with five communities that are similar in one or more ways to the Charlottesville area. In addition, the public is invited to complete an online survey to provide its suggestions for improvements to current facilities and services (http://www.rivanna.org/rswa_strategicplan/tellus.htm).

During the November 15 community meeting, the consultants will present the findings of their assessment and discuss a number of options for improving the trash and recycling system in the Authority's service area. Public comment will be sought at a second community meeting on December 4, also at City Hall from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm. Following the two meetings, the consultants will draft a report for the RSWA Board of Directors, elected officials, and University officials, which is intended to lead to public discussions and decisions toward new expectations for RSWA.

According to Mr. Tom Frederick, Executive Director of the Rivanna Solid Waste Authority, "The anticipated outcome of the strategic planning process will be a community consensus on a new solid waste management paradigm that provides a clear role for RSWA in serving Albemarle County and the City of Charlottesville. The strategic plan will likely include recommendations for improved facilities and services as well as for financing mechanisms that will support these improvements and ensure the financial viability of the area's solid waste management system. The plan is an opportunity for a new beginning in solid waste management in our community."

The meetings on November 15 and December 4 are open to residents of the City of Charlottesville, Albemarle County, Town of Scottsville, the U.Va community, and institutions and businesses within the RSWA service area. For more information on the strategic planning process, please visit

http://www.rivanna.org/rswa_strategicplan/index.htm. The meetings will be taped and available on the RSWA strategic planning web pages.

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