



Snohomish County Solid Waste Flow Control

Snohomish County Council Presentation
January 18, 2011



Snohomish County Public Works
Solid Waste Division

Code Amendments

- Flow Control
- Current Issues
- Concerns
- Proposed Changes
- Next Steps

Flow Control Overview

- “Flow Control” refers to a governmental entity’s ability to determine, by ordinance, where the solid waste collected within its boundaries will be taken for disposal
- Contentious issues last 15 plus years
- U.S. Supreme Court ruling in 2007

Flow Control Overview

- Solid Waste Division
 - Created 1973
 - Code updated 1984
 - Revised 2005
 - Proposed revisions
- Participation by cities and towns and solid waste companies
- Council approved additional resources

Why Flow Control?

- Garbage produced in Snohomish County is to be managed through Snohomish County's Solid Waste System and Facilities
 - Protects public health and safety and environment
 - Provides predictable revenue stream for paying system costs and stabilizes rates for customers
 - Interlocal agreements to manage waste in an environmentally sound and cost effective manner

How Much Diversion is Happening?

- Difficult to state with certainty
- Construction Demolition and Land clearing debris (CDL) Processors acknowledge = 15,000 tons/year
- Possible range = 50,000 – 100,000 tons/year
- Minimum likely gross revenue loss = \$1.5 million/year

How Is Diversion Happening?

- CDL waste hauled directly from construction site to rail yard
- CDL waste hauled as recyclables but not recycled
- Non-recyclable waste is in CDL loads going to processors
- Residual waste from processors diverted from Snohomish County's disposal system
- Companies encouraging local businesses and haulers to use non-system disposal sites
- Officers have observed waste leaving the county for disposal

A “Recycling” Container



CURRENT ISSUES

Processing Facility



CURRENT ISSUES

Processing Facility



CURRENT ISSUES

Waste Leaving Snohomish County



CURRENT ISSUES

Encouraging Diversion

\$\$\$SAVE\$\$

\$\$\$SAVE\$\$

CATON LANDFILL LLC

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Accepted Materials:

DEMO/BUILDING MATERIAL, CEMENT, ASPHALT, WOOD, DRIED PAINT CANS, METAL, GLASS, APPLIANCES (no compressors or freon), PAPER, CLOTHING, RUGS, FURNITURE, ROOFING MATERIALS, LOGS/STUMPS, BRUSH, LIMBS, GRASS CLIPPINGS, LEAVES, PIPE, PLASTIC, BRICK, BLOCK, DIRT, CONCRETE, ROCKS, INSULATION, WHAREHOUSE SPENT LIME, CHIPPED RUBBER TIRES, CARDBOARD, WIRING, ETC...

PRICING:

\$4.00 PER CUBIC YARD - ANYTHING UNDER 200 C/YD
\$3.00 PER CUBIC YARD - ANYTHING OVER 200 C/YD

WE ALSO SELL DIRT:

TOP SOIL = \$8.00 PER CUBIC YARD
SUB SOIL = \$7.00 PER CUBIC YARD

FOR THE COST YOU ARE ALREADY PAYING IN THE PUGET SOUND, YOU CAN SAVE HUNDREDS BY TRANSFERING YOUR DEMO TO CATON LANDFILL.



Recent Steps Taken

- Coordination with SWAC and communications to relevant parties (contractors etc.)
- 2009 two deputies for surveillance
- Active enforcement postponed to work with processors
- Rule making process began in fall of 2009
- Two public meetings in Dec. 2009
- Decision to amend code
- Series of meetings with processors & haulers

Haulers and Processors

- WUTC certificated and city-contracted haulers of solid waste
 - Such as WM, Allied, Rubatino, Sound Disposal
 - Can legally transport solid waste and recyclables
- Non-certificated haulers of CDL recyclables
 - Can only haul commercially-generated recyclables, not solid waste
- Processors (Reclamation sites)
 - Receive recyclable materials and sort, separate, bale and otherwise prepare to sell

Issues of Certificated Haulers

Certificated Solid Waste Hauling Companies:

- Others are hauling solid waste illegally
 - Not separating solid waste from recyclables
 - Not really recycling “recyclables” (sham recycling)
- Lost revenues, unfair business practices and lack of level playing field

Issues of Non-certificated Haulers

Haulers of “Recyclables” and Processors:

- They can’t compete against cheap disposal if others haul CDL waste to rail yard from construction site
- Certificated haulers can legally haul both solid waste and recyclables and don’t have to identify which is which
 - Customer doesn’t know what is really happening and can be told to put it all together – waste and recyclables
- They can’t haul waste, so this is unfair

Issues of Processors (Reclamation Sites)

Processors of Construction, Demolition and Land clearing Debris (CDL):

- Want to be able to accept all CDL regardless of the amount of non-recyclable waste with it
- Don't want to take residual processing waste to transfer stations at full cost
- Want to be able to haul their residual waste in intermodal containers to rail yard at a discounted rate

Goals for Changes

- ✓ Encourage and provide financial incentive for recycling
- ✓ Ensure recyclables are legitimately recycled
- ✓ Ensure solid waste is legally hauled and disposed
- ✓ Ensure that non-recycled waste is disposed within Snohomish County solid waste facilities
- ✓ Provide level playing field – everyone operating by same rules

Proposed Changes

- Establish new definitions
 - Construction, demolition and land-clearing waste (CDL)
 - Intermodal container and facility
 - Recyclable materials
 - Solid waste disposal system facility
 - Source separation

Proposed Changes

- Prohibits direct haul of intermodal containers from construction/demolition sites to rail yard
 - ✓ Eliminates unfair, cheap disposal that competes against recycling
 - ✓ Stops by-pass of Snohomish County system

Proposed Changes

- All containers must be marked as solid waste or recycling
 - Generator must separate solid waste from recyclables, if recycling
 - Solid waste containers can only go to Snohomish County facilities
 - Recycling containers must have less than 10% non-recyclable solid waste and can go anywhere

Proposed Changes

- ✓ Uncontaminated recyclables have higher value and cost less to process
- ✓ Less non-recyclable waste inbound = lower final disposal costs of residuals for processors
- ✓ Removes confusion over what is happening to material and who can haul it
- ✓ Reduces by-pass of Snohomish County system for non-recycled waste

Proposed Changes

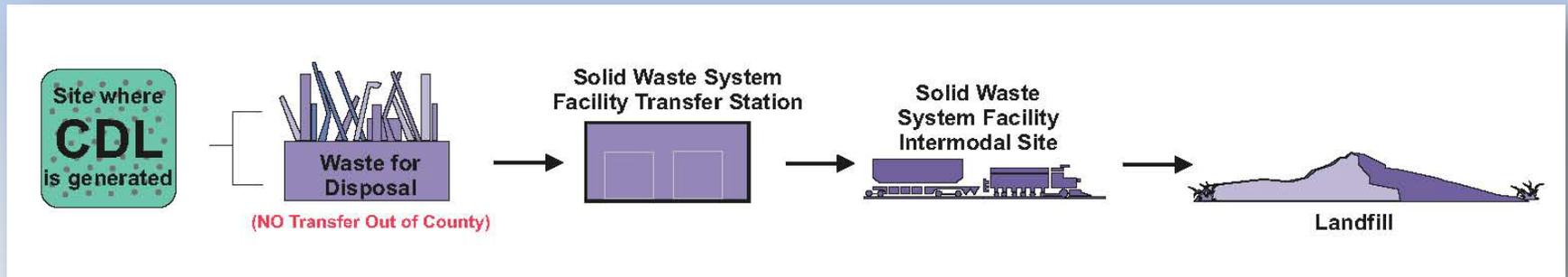
- Clarifies that non-recycled waste (residuals) from processing facilities must be taken to Snohomish County Solid Waste System Facilities
- Allows residuals from processors to be direct hauled to rail facility at reduced rate of \$82 per ton (vs. \$105)

Proposed Changes

- ✓ Provides motivation for processors to seek “clean” loads of recyclables
- ✓ Provides discounted rate for direct haul to rail yard ONLY to processors of recyclables, which provides financial incentive for recycling
- ✓ Removes confusion over what is happening to material
- ✓ Reduces by-pass of Snohomish County system for non-recycled waste

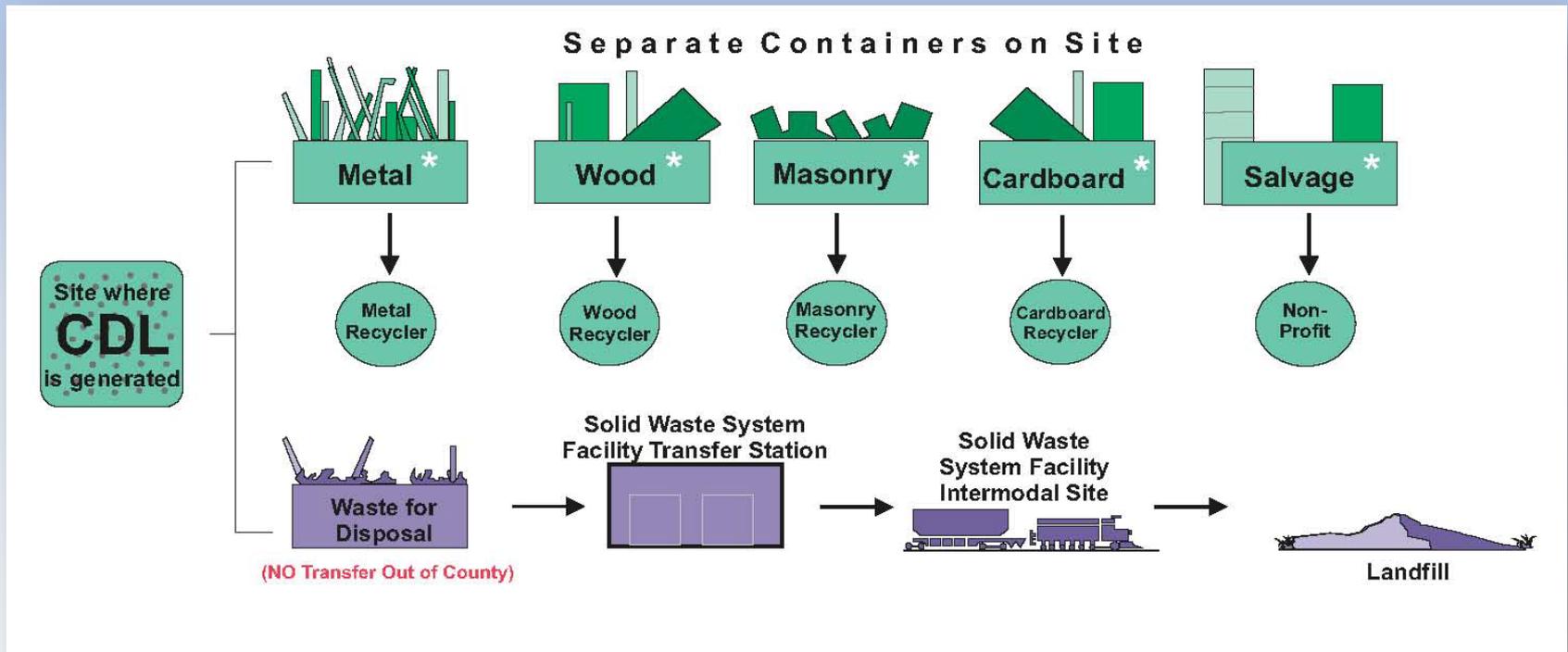
Pathway Options With Proposed Changes

1. No Source Separation/Disposal as Waste



Pathway Options With Proposed Changes

2. Source Separation of Specific Recyclable CDL



* Containers of recyclables with less than 10% waste



WASTE

RECYCLING OF
WOOD

PROPOSED CHANGES



WOOD ONLY

PROPOSED CHANGES



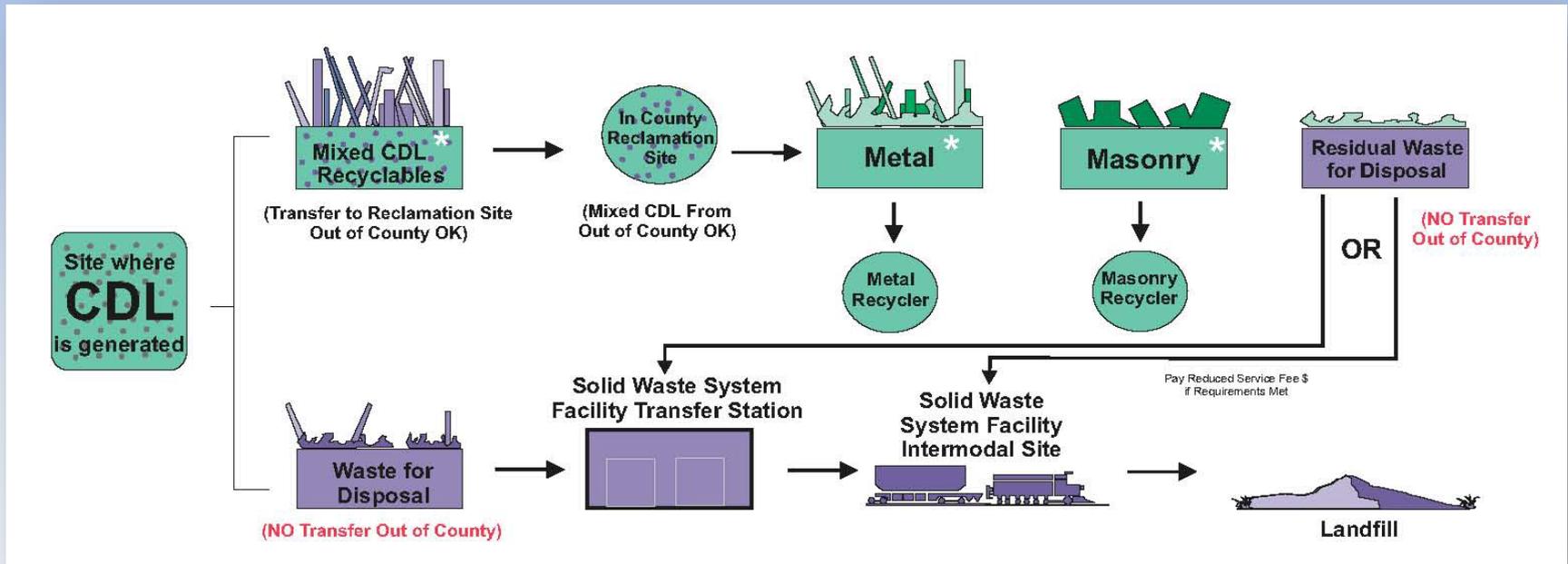
PROPOSED CHANGES



PROPOSED CHANGES

Pathway Options With Proposed Changes

3. Source Separation of Mixed Recyclable CDL (with less than 10% waste)



* Containers of recyclables with less than 10% waste

Next Steps

- Education and Outreach
 - Processors
 - Haulers
 - Contractors
- Sharing info with local and neighboring jurisdictions
- Three month lead time before full implementation