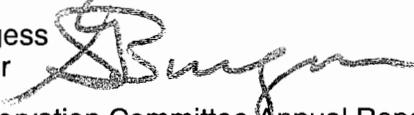


Memorandum



Date: May 5, 2009

To: Honorable Chairman Dennis C. Moss and Members,
Board of County Commissioners

From: George M. Burgess
County Manager 

Subject: Resource Conservation Committee Annual Report FY 2008

Agenda Item No.
12(B)4

Pursuant to Resolution No. R-702-05, the annual report of the Miami-Dade County Resource Conservation Committee (RCC) shall be provided to the Board of County Commissioners and should be issued, if possible, to coincide with the annual celebration of Earth Day.

I am pleased to present to the Board the attached 'Executive Summary' of the RCC for the period from October 2007 to September 2008. This summary provides an update on the County's Recycling and Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) activities found in the RCC Annual Report 2008.

The full report may be viewed at: http://www.miamidade.gov/derm/conservation_about_us.asp.

BACKGROUND

In 1992, Resolution No. R-214-92 created the Recycling Management Committee and established "a procurement policy for Metropolitan Dade County favoring waste reduction and implementing a program to purchase commodities containing recycled or recycleable content." This resolution was passed in order to facilitate compliance with the Florida Solid Waste Act of 1988, which called for a 30% reduction in the solid waste stream by 1994, and with Florida Statute 403.7065: "...any political subdivision of the State which is using State funds...is required to procure products or materials with recycled content when those products or materials are available at reasonable prices." At that time, the Committee was chaired by the Director of GSA Procurement Management and the primary responsibility of the Committee was to promote recycling to County departments, facilitate departments' recycling activities, and assist GSA Procurement Management in promoting the use of waste-reducing products, recycled products and recycleable products.

The Department of Procurement Management separated from General Services Administration in 2000, and since most departments already had established recycling programs, the Committee decided to focus on promoting the use of waste reducing/recycled/and recycleable products. It was determined that the Committee could facilitate these activities under the direction of the Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM).

Furthermore, on April 22, 2003, the Board of County Commissioners passed Resolution No. R-374-03, which established a policy for the County to favor waste-reduction, environmentally preferred promotional activities, and purchases of commodities containing recycled or recycleable content. As a result of R-374-03, the Recycling Management Committee was renamed the Resource Conservation Committee (RCC) and DERM received the RCC Chairpersonship. The first annual report was submitted to the Board on August 3, 2004. The report summarized the efforts of the committee and recommended implementation of policies and guidelines to encourage waste reduction, promote recycling activities, and initiate Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) activities among County departments. Additionally, Resolution No. R-702-05, adopted June 7, 2005, set forth long term goals (5-year) for the RCC.


Assistant County Manager



Executive Summary

Resource Conservation Committee

Annual Report - FY 2008

Background:

On April 2003, the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) adopted Resolution No. R-374-03, establishing a policy for Miami-Dade County to favor waste reduction, environmentally-based promotional activities, and purchases of commodities-containing recycled or recyclable content. Additionally, the resolution effected the renaming of the Recycling Management Committee to the Resource Conservation Committee (RCC) and placed the Chairmanship under the Director of the Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM) or his designee.

Resolution No. R-702-05, adopted June 2005, set forth the long-term, 5-year goals for the RCC.

1. Increase the percentage of County purchases of office goods containing recycled materials and/or qualifying as an environmentally preferred product.
2. Increase the rate of participation in recycling by County agencies.
3. Increase the overall percentage of the County's operational waste stream that is eliminated or diverted through recycling and conservation efforts.
4. Reduce operational costs through environmentally preferable products, services and practices.

Achievements in FY 2008 listed below correspond to the above goals:

1. An increase of Environmentally Preferable Products (EPP) provided by the County's GSA store is noted for FY 2008. Compared to FY 2007, the GSA catalog now contains three additional products resulting in a total of twenty-five (25) EPP items. The purchasing of these items has nearly doubled since the previous year with a total of \$2,201,808 spent on EPP.
2. The 2007 Annual Report noted that 77% of County departments participated in the used toner recycling program. This percentage was based on sixty-six (66) active departments. The structural reorganization of County departments during FY 2008 streamlined County operations to sixty (60) active entities. As a result, the percentage of County departments participating in the used toner recycling program for FY 2008 was 65%.
3. Changes in operational procedures, increases in recycling activities, and increases in EPP, all resulting in lower environmental impacts and financial cost savings, have been reported by departments such as Finance, ETSD, MDAD, WASD, MDP&R, MDT and GSA (see report for details on each department's initiatives).
4. Implementing Pollution Prevention Programs such as "green printing" by GSA Print Shop continues to set an example of waste reduction alternatives at County-operated facilities. The green printing initiative promotes the purchasing of certified paper from sustainably managed forestry and the conversion from petroleum to vegetable-based inks.

The full report contains information provided by all participating departments and can be accessed at http://www.miamidade.gov/derm/conservation_about_us.asp. Departments and their designees are listed in the Report Summary Matrix.