

Memorandum

MIAMI-DADE
COUNTY

Date: April 6, 2010

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 2009

Agenda Item No. 12B4

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 the attached Executive Summary for the FY2008-09 RCC Annual Report.

To conserve resources, the full report is posted at: http://intra.miamidade.gov/rcc/annual_reports.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 General Services Administration (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 GSA 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.

Furthermore, on April 22, 2003, the Board passed Resolution No. R-374-03, which established a policy for the County to favor waste reduction and purchases of commodities containing recycled or recycleable content. The Recycling Management Committee was renamed the Resource Conservation Committee and was moved under the Department of Environmental Resources Management. The first annual report was submitted to the Board on August 3, 2004 and 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 was adopted June 7, 2005, setting forth 5-year goals for the RCC.



Assistant County Manager

Executive Summary

Resource Conservation Committee

Annual Report - FY2009

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 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 FY2009 corresponding to the above goals:

1. An increase in the number of recycled content products available for purchase by the County resulted in a significant increase from \$2.2 million in FY2008 to \$3.5 million in FY2009.
2. An online Data Collection Form was developed and implemented in FY2009 to track and evaluate Recycling and Reuse, Waste Reduction Practices and Recycled Content Purchasing. Completed forms from departments were evaluated for this report.
3. A mixed paper recycling contract was awarded in October 2008 and expires in November 2010, but is renewable for 3 additional years. In FY2009, 2.2 million pounds of paper and cardboard were recycled, an increase over previous reporting years (see Tables 3a & 3b).
4. The used toner cartridge recycling contract was awarded in May 2008 and expires in 2013, allowing County departments to continue this recycling effort. In FY2009, toner recycling was greater than the FY2003-04 base year (see Tables 3a & 3b).
5. Reduction in departments' operational waste streams is achieved through procedural changes, recycling and purchasing activities. The GSA Print Shop purchased new equipment that uses natural dyes and cleaners, leaving only recyclable waste products (aluminum plates and scrap paper). The Finance Department reduced paper use and operational costs by distributing monthly/annual documents electronically. Transit has begun a program to recycle all possible wastes associated with MetroMover operations (see Table 4b).
6. The ongoing recovery of methane gas from WAsD wastewater treatment plants for use as an on-site fuel continues to set an example of reducing operational costs through environmentally-preferable practices.

The full report contains information provided by all participating departments and can be accessed at http://intra.miamidade.gov/rcc/annual_reports.asp.