

the WORKS

Employee newsletter for the Miami-Dade County Public Works and Waste Management Department

More Hybrid Trucks Added to Waste Collection Fleet

Back in 2010, the Department took delivery of its first six hybrid waste collection vehicles. The trucks use a unique series hydraulic hybrid drive, which made the Department the first municipal waste agency in the United States to use this type of technology in its waste collection fleet.

The hybrid trucks have proven so successful that, with the help of a \$1.5 million federal grant, the Department has recently received 29 more of these vehicles.

"We have seen about a 40 to 45 percent reduction in fuel usage with the hybrid trucks," said Danny Diaz, PWWM Division Director, Fleet Management. "Additionally, these trucks go a lot longer without needing brake pad replacements than conventional trucks."

The hybrids have diesel engines to power them to their respective routes. But once there, they use energy stored during braking to travel from house to house.

"The hybrid trucks are both environmentally friendly, helping us to reduce carbon emissions, and they help the Department save money on fuel and maintenance costs too," Diaz said.



One of the Department's 35 hybrid waste collection trucks providing our signature service.

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear PWWM Staff,

It is my pleasure to serve as your Interim Department Director. Let me begin by saying how impressed I am with this Department. While Public Works and Waste Management is one of the departments in my management portfolio as Deputy Mayor, serving as Interim Director has given me a wonderful opportunity to become more familiar with



every aspect of the Department – particularly the operations divisions which provide essential services to the constituents of Miami-Dade County.

Since my appointment by the Mayor, I have been meeting with senior staff and visiting work sites throughout the Department. So far, I've met with our employees at the N.W. 58th Street Garbage and Trash Collections Operations Facility; the Road, Bridge, Canal and Mosquito Control Division; the Traffic Signals and Signs Division; and administration employees at the Stephen P. Clark Center and the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Office Building. I left each visit with pride and an even greater respect for the workers and the outstanding services we deliver. Enough wonderful things can't be said about how important the work of the Public Works and Waste Management Department is to this community.

During this transition period, I encourage each of you to remain positive and focused on our continued success and the Department's mission:

"To provide vital infrastructure systems and services and an integrated waste collection, recycling and disposal program that promote the mobility, health, safety, comfort, sustainability and prosperity of our community."

In closing, I'd like to extend warm wishes to each of you and your loved ones for a safe, happy and peaceful holiday season.

Regards,

Alina T. Hudak

Deputy Mayor and Interim Director

PWWM Mission Statement

"To provide vital infrastructure systems and services and an integrated waste collection, recycling and disposal program that promote the mobility, health, safety, comfort, sustainability and prosperity of our community."

SCADA Helping Out With Stormwater Control

When it rains a lot—and we know how often that happens in Miami-Dade County—SCADA is there to help our Department's stormwater staff alleviate street flooding.

SCADA stands for Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition. Also known as telemetry, SCADA allows for the remote monitoring and—perhaps more importantly—control of the Department's stormwater management assets. Right now, the Department has eight stormwater pump stations online under SCADA, with plans to expand the system.

Once SCADA has been fully implemented, the Department will be able to obtain real-time information for 14 stormwater pump stations, 9 water control structures, and 16 points along County-maintained canals.

SCADA sites are located throughout the County, and will be able to provide real-time data on pump station operations, canal levels and rainfall amounts during storms. The system includes an alarm feature that alerts stormwater staff about heavy rainfall, as well as the failure of a pump station or water control structure. Once notified of any of these events, the Department will be able to dispatch repair crews right away.

NEAT Facts

The NEAT teams completed the following tasks during the last two quarters reported (April 2013 through September 2013):

- 333 trash/debris removal sites were corrected
- 14,183 drain tops were cleaned
- 20,159 graffiti sites were addressed
- 541 potholes were repaired
- 9,471 trees were trimmed for safety purposes
- 2,302 uneven sidewalks were repaired
- 387 traffic signs were repaired
- 6,169 weed control sites were cleared

Welcome Our New County Engineer

Antonio "Tony" Cotarelo had been the Interim County Engineer since the merger, but now he's "official." Tony was formally appointed to Assistant Director, PWWM Engineering Services (County Engineer) in early December.

Congratulations, Mr. Cotarelo.



Five Years of Recycling Success

It's hard to believe it was five years ago that the County's residential recycling program was converted from the old, two-bin system to single-stream. But it was during the summer of 2008 that measures were put into place to ensure each one of the Department's more than 320,000 residential recycling customers had their new, distinctive blue carts to start the new program.

Single-stream recycling has helped the County nearly double the amount of recyclable materials collected. During the last full year of the old dual-stream recycling program, the County collected just 31,777.71 tons. In the first full year of single-stream recycling, however, we collected 59,615.97 tons. This number has held throughout the five years of the single-stream recycling program; in fact, the collection total has consistently been more than 60,000 tons each year, except for the first year of single-stream, as previously noted.

The success of the single-stream recycling program is due to the hard work of the Department's employees and our recycling partners, as well as the enthusiastic participation of our customers. The program makes participating very easy: customers simply place all recyclable materials into their blue recycling carts — no need to separate materials.

Here's to many more years of recycling success!



Congratulations

CORNER

A total of 37 PWWM employees were rewarded for their hard work with a promotion recently. The following is a listing of the employees and their new positions:

Administrative Officer 3
Mariela Garcia

Assistant Controller
Ricki Rayborn

Assistant Director, PWWM Engineering Services (County Engineer)
Antonio Cotarelo

Automotive Equipment Operator 1
Cecil Parrish
Luis Ramos

Automotive Equipment Operator 3
Nigel Trim

Engineering Survey Technician 2
Anthony Taylor

Environmental Technician 2
Daniel Figueroa

Maintenance Mechanic
Jose Godefroy

Maintenance Repairer
Gregory McCullough

Professional Engineer
Ricardo Gavilan

PWWM Supervisor 3
Pedro Cueto

Sprayer Helper
Israel Chala-de la Cruz

Sr. Systems Analyst/Programmer
Elizabeth Patino

Traffic Construction Standards & Specifications Coordinator
Nahum Fernandez

Traffic Engineer 2
William Salazar

Trash Crane Operator
Todd Taylor

Trash Truck Driver 1
Michael Alvarez
Bolivar Barcenias, Jr.
Ulises Fernandez
Darrell Hunter
Reginald Jones

Trash Truck Driver 2
Israel Chala-de la Cruz
Rickey Torrence, Jr.

Waste Equipment Operator
Michael Debose
Thomas Gaines
Jeffrey Hood
David Williams

Waste Supervisor 1
Michael Sherrod

Waste Supervisor 2
Alfred Coleman

Waste Truck Driver
Omar Ayabarreno
Ray Baker
Jermar Davis
Antonio Frederick
Isaac McKune
Jessie Ponders
Jerome Warren
Reginald Woods

Welcome to the PWWM team:

Account Clerk
Winsome Azan

Administrative Officer 3
Suzanne Torano

Automotive Equipment Operator 1
David Aguiar
Roberto Perez
Marcus Sawyer

Bridge Operator-Part Time
Michael Palmer
Julio Rios
Terence Thomas

Bridge Repairer
Alfonso Garcia
Raul Perez
Carlos Valdez

Electrician
Raul Lobaina

Engineer 2
Williams Garcia

Engineering Drafter 2
Jorge Caballero

Flood Plain Construction Inspector
Eval Smith

PWWM Intergovernmental Affairs Coordinator
Jason Smith

Road Construction Cost Estimator
Francisco Del Campo

Safety Specialist 2
Daniel Lopez

Semi-Skilled Laborer
Ashley English
Hilda Isaac
Ridge Laville
Willis Mallard, Jr.
Cecil Persaud

Special Projects Administrator 1
Johanna Faddis

Sprayer Helper
James Cooper

Sprayer Helper-Trainee
Joel Arango, Jr.
Michael Curtis

Traffic Engineer 2
Roberto Moralejo, Jr.

Trash Truck Driver 1
Andre Brown
Charles Brunson
Myron Cody
Odlyn Jonathas
Tia Jones
Octavis Nixon
Andre Pemberton
Manuel Pinin

Waste Attendant 1
Lasean Bolds
Rudcie Bryant
Angelo Byrd, Jr.
Patrick Charite
Taurean Givens
Alberto Gonzalez
Kelonda Graves
Gerron Gross
Eric Leaks
Israelio Leyet Rodriguez
Latoya McCray
Edgar Nunez
William Parker
Antonio Ramirez
Earnest Ridgeway

Waste Operations Clerk
Leslie Aldama-Palmer

Waste Truck Driver
Lamont Washington

Congratulations, best wishes and a heartfelt thank you for a job well done to PWWM employees who have recently retired:

58th Street Garbage
Edwigde Bolivar
Waste Truck Driver
30 Years

Accounting and Bond Administration
Isabel Gomez
Accountant 1
19 Years

Director's Office
Kathleen Woods-Richardson
Department Director
31 Years

Enforcement
Raul Rodriguez
Waste Enforcement Officer 1
7 Years

Technical Services and Environmental Affairs
Billy Hardeman
Resources Recovery Administrator
30 Years

Facility Maintenance
Gregory Cooper
Auto Equipment Operator 3
33 Years

Highway Engineering
Armando Acosta
Engineer 1
34 Years

Human Resources
Omar De Armas
Training Specialist 2
18 Years

North Dade Landfill
Merrell Winfield
Waste Attendant 1
9 Years

Rickenbacker Causeway
Anthony Tufano
Administrative Officer 3
23 Years

Right-of-Way Division
Robert Battillo
Professional Land Surveyor
12 Years

Thomas Horn
Engineering Survey Tech 2
32 Years

Oscar Llarena
Engineering Survey Tech Supervisor
35 Years

Road, Bridge, Canal Maintenance & Mosquito Control
Nicolas Auguste
Semi-Skilled Laborer
31 Years

Jan Heitlager
Auto Equipment Operator 1
13 Years

Marcia Lorenzo
Bridge Operator
14 Years

Michael Moreton
Auto Equipment Operator 2
16 Years

New Phase of Operations at the Resources Recovery Facility

This past summer saw the opening of Cell 20 at the ashfill at the Resources Recovery Facility (RRF) in Doral. Cell 20 is the final cell to be built at the facility. It was constructed by Comanco to meet state and federal standards.

For decades, the RRF has helped Miami-Dade County reduce the need for landfill space. Most of the County's waste goes to the RRF for final disposition. There it is either processed as biomass fuel for use in other parts of the state, or burned to reduce the volume of waste to approximately 10 percent. Put another way, for every 10 trucks that bring waste to the facility, one truck hauls ash to the ashfill to be buried.

The RRF is operated by the County's partner, Covanta Energy. As an additional benefit to burning waste, the facility generates enough electrical power to run the plant, as well as power approximately 45,000 homes. Also, the RRF uses state-of-the-art technology to reduce dust emissions to nearly zero.



PWWM Senior Staff, as well as staff from Covanta Energy and other Departmental partners, cut a ribbon to commemorate the opening of Cell 20 at the Resources Recovery Facility.

A Fond Farewell to Two Great Leaders

The Department lost two great people earlier this year.

Kathleen Woods-Richardson, who had served as Department Director for nine years, left the County to become City Manager for the City of Miramar. Ms. Woods-Richardson had served the County for 31 years; 22 of those years were with the Department.

Christopher Rose served as Assistant Director for the Department for almost seven years. He came from the County's budget office, and left for the City of Miami to serve as Budget Director.

The staff of the Public Works and Waste Management Department bid both of them a fond farewell and best of luck in their new posts!

UPDATE : Bear Cut Bridge, West Bridge Construction

Construction work continues to move forward on the Bear Cut Bridge and the West Bridge on the Rickenbacker Causeway. Kiewit Infrastructure South Co., the contractor for the project, has begun demolition work on the West Bridge—the first bridge immediately after the Rickenbacker toll plaza. The pedestrian path will remain closed until February. Several toll plaza lanes have been closed to make way for the project and to facilitate the upcoming conversion to the SunPass electronic toll system.

Additionally, the customer service office was moved to the Causeway Maintenance Facility located on Arthur Lamb, Jr. Road. This is the road that leads to the Historic Virginia Key Beach Park, and it is directly across the street from the Miami Seaquarium.

For more information and updates on the Bear Cut Bridge and West Bridge construction project, visit www.bearcutbridge.com.



An aerial look at the construction on the Bear Cut Bridge. Photo courtesy of Smith Aerial Photos.

Did You Know?

In the last two quarters reported (April 2013 through September 2013), our residents recycled:

- 15,646 tons of newspaper
- 1,624 tons of mixed paper
- 409 tons of tin cans
- 1,963 tons of plastics
- 258 tons of aluminum
- 6,640 tons of glass
- 1,592 tons of cardboard/paper

Major Street Co-Designation Events in Miami-Dade County

The Public Information and Outreach Division in conjunction with the Traffic Signals and Signs Division coordinated several major street co-designation events over the last few months. Here are a few:

Ralph Sanchez Speedway in Homestead

Ralph Sanchez helped bring professional auto racing to Miami back in 1983, with the Miami Gran Prix. He later helped build what is now the Homestead-Miami Speedway in Homestead. Mr. Sanchez passed away earlier this year but he was commemorated this summer with the co-designation in his honor of a portion of SW 137th Avenue in Homestead. The street is now known as "Ralph Sanchez Speedway Boulevard."



Commission Vice Chair Lynda Bell, Mayor Carlos A. Gimenez, Commissioner Dennis C. Moss, Senator Javier D. Souto, and Commissioner José "Pepe" Diaz with members of the Sanchez family.

Republica Argentina Avenue

While many streets in Miami-Dade County carry the names of prominent persons, only one has been co-designated in honor of a country. This past summer, a portion of SW 92 Avenue in Westchester was renamed "Republica Argentina Avenue." Present at the co-designation ceremony were State Representative Jeanette M. Nuñez; a representative of Mayor Gimenez's office; Commission Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa; District 10 Commissioner Senator Javier D. Souto; City of Miami Mayor Tomas Regalado; Consul General of Argentina, Ambassador Miguel Talento; and several leading Argentinean-Americans.



Senator Souto, Chairwoman Sosa and Ambassador Talento pose for a picture with the presentation plate for Republica Argentina Avenue.

Live Like Bella Way

Little 10-year old Bella Rodriguez-Torres lost her six-year fight with cancer earlier this year, but her spirit lives on. "Live Like Bella" began as a movement to enjoy life every moment. Now, a portion of SW 107th Avenue in southwest Miami-Dade carries her name. The street was co-designated "Live Like Bella Way" to honor the girl who became famous for her positive attitude and infectious smile.



Mayor Carlos A. Gimenez and Commission Vice Chair Lynda Bell pose for a picture in front of the newly unveiled "Live Like Bella Way" co-designation sign with Bella's family.

OLLA (Our Lady of Lourdes Academy) Way

A venerable 50-year old Miami-Dade institution was honored late this summer with a street co-designation. Our Lady of Lourdes Academy, a Catholic all-girl school, was founded in 1963 at the request of Monsignor Bryan Walsh. The school's original mission was to educate Cuban refugees who were under the care of the Catholic Welfare Bureau. The Academy celebrated its golden anniversary in style, as a portion of the street in front of the school, SW 84th Street, was co-designated "OLLA Way."



Unveiling the presentation plate for OLLA Way, from left to right, are: Vanessa Borge, OLLA graduate and CBS 4 reporter; District 7 Commissioner Xavier L. Suarez; Deputy Mayor and Interim Department Director Alina T. Hudak; and Sister Kathryn Donze, OLLA Principal.

PWWM Employees Lend a Hand to the Overtown Youth Center's and Jose Diego Program's "Back-to-School Drive"

Once again, the Department reached out to help the Overtown Youth Center (OYC) and Jose Diego Program with their annual "Back-to-School Drive." Employees donated cash and school supplies, which were distributed to children in time for the start of the school year.

Plenty of supplies and monetary gifts were provided to equip dozens of youngsters. Thanks to the generosity of PWWM employees, the kids received important tools they need to succeed in school: pencils, paper, notebooks, calculators, scissors, crayons and so much more.



Andrea Hankerson, Yance Torres of the OYC, and Assistant Director Paul Mauriello with the school supplies donated to the OYC and Jose Diego Program.

PWWM Wins GFOA's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting—Again!

PWWM has certainly earned bragging rights for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). The publication has just been honored, for the 19th consecutive year, with the prestigious Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA).

According to the GFOA's website, the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting award program was created "to encourage and assist state and local governments to go beyond the minimum requirements of generally accepted accounting principles to prepare comprehensive annual financial reports that evidence the spirit of transparency and full disclosure and then to recognize individual governments that succeed in achieving that goal."

Kudos to Controller Maria Sanchez and the Accounting Division for a job well done!



PWWM's "Pink Panthers" Making Strides Against Breast Cancer

The PWWM's Pink Panthers are back to raise awareness for Making Strides Against Breast Cancer. Making Strides Against Breast Cancer is a major fundraiser for the American Cancer Society. It is the largest network of breast cancer awareness events in the nation, taking place in nearly 300 communities.

Breast cancer is a serious disease and with the help of family, friends and co-workers, the Pink Panthers continue to raise funds to go towards breast cancer research and help save lives.

So far, Pink Panther supporters have helped raise nearly \$1,000. This was accomplished by sending emails, making phone calls and hosting fundraising events. Your donation helps save lives by helping people stay well, helping people get well, and finding cures. Everyone who signed up to walk, volunteer or make a donation towards this cause is helping to put an end to this disease.

Thank you for your support!



Carlos A. Gimenez
MAYOR

Rebeca Sosa
COMMISSION CHAIRWOMAN, DISTRICT 6

Lynda Bell
COMMISSION VICE CHAIR, DISTRICT 8

Barbara J. Jordan
DISTRICT 1

Jean Monestime
DISTRICT 2

Audrey M. Edmonson
DISTRICT 3

Sally A. Heyman
DISTRICT 4

Bruno A. Barreiro
DISTRICT 5

Xavier L. Suarez
DISTRICT 7

Dennis C. Moss
DISTRICT 9

Senator Javier D. Souto
DISTRICT 10

Juan C. Zapata
DISTRICT 11

José "Pepe" Diaz
DISTRICT 12

Esteban Bovo, Jr.
DISTRICT 13

Alina T. Hudak
DEPUTY MAYOR AND
INTERIM DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR

Aneisha Daniel
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR,
FISCAL AND INTERNAL SERVICES AND ACTING
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, ADMINISTRATION

Antonio Cotarelo
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, PWWM
ENGINEERING SERVICES (COUNTY ENGINEER)

Paul Mauriello
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR,
WASTE MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS

Gayle Love
SENIOR DIVISION DIRECTOR
PUBLIC INFORMATION & OUTREACH DIVISION

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EDITOR



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