

Memorandum

To: Laura Blackmon, County Manager
From: Gayle Wilson, Solid Waste Director
Subject: Orange County Landfill Capacity
Date: May 21, 2009

At the April 21, 2009 BOCC Meeting County staff reported to the Board, based on a February aerial survey of the landfill, that expected remaining capacity had been extended to approximately July/August of 2012, or about one additional year. The report indicated various reasons why and how this increase in capacity was achieved. Staff indicated that a follow-up survey would be performed to verify this finding due to the importance of a reliable understanding of remaining landfill capacity.

The follow-up survey was conducted in April and the results have just been recently received. The April survey has confirmed that landfill capacity should extend to the summer of 2012, consistent with the earlier determination. The consultant also indicated, depending on the rate of decomposition within the landfill, additional airspace (cubic yard volume of capacity) may be created over the next three plus years remaining. While this additional capacity is unpredictable and difficult to estimate, it is possible that an additional amount of airspace could be created extending landfill life beyond the summer of 2012 by a few weeks or months. This potential additional capacity should not be assumed or relied upon.