

Resolution to the Board of Orange County Commissioners Recommending Implementation of
Fluorescent Lamp Recycling and Vegetable Oil Recycling at Solid Waste Convenience
Centers

Whereas the Solid Waste Management Department now recycles mercury-bearing fluorescent lamps and tubes through its hazardous waste collection contractor located at the landfill for \$0.60 per pound, and

Whereas the weight of lamps recycled by the County's hazardous waste contractor ECOFLO has grown continuously from 796 pounds in 2003-04 at a cost of \$478 to a projected 9,700 pounds in 2009-2010 at a projected cost of \$5,820, and

Whereas if the County were to take over management of fluorescent lamp recycling, the price could be reduced from \$0.60 per pound to \$0.12 per pound thus reducing the cost of recycling lamps to a projected \$3,000 even if lamp volume increases to 25,000 pounds, as projected for 2010-11, and

Whereas County recycling staff have determined that lamps could be co-collected on the same collection route with electronics with no additional collection expenses, and

Whereas there is increased resident demand for fluorescent lamp recycling at the convenience centers, especially as the compact fluorescent lamps begin to burn out and have to be replaced, and

Whereas residential cooking oil is now recycled only at the hazardous waste collection point at \$0.60 per pound, and

Whereas there is increased resident demand for more opportunities to recycle cooking oil, and

Whereas two private entities have offered to collect cooking oil and provide collection containers at no cost from the Solid Waste Convenience Centers, and

Whereas diversion of used cooking oil from the sewers, as well as the landfill, has operational and environmental benefits to the local public wastewater system operations, and

Whereas those public wastewater plant operators including OWASA and Town of Hillsborough could be requested to support the project by contributing funds for signs and program publicity, and

Whereas space could be made available at some of the Solid Waste Convenience Centers to collect both fluorescent lamps and cooking oil,

Now therefore be it resolved that:

The Solid Waste Advisory Board recommends that the Board of Orange County Commissioners authorize staff to thoroughly consider adding these two materials for collection at the two larger/centralized staffed Solid Waste Convenience Centers pending an assessment of the capability to properly manage the materials and

That if such programs are implemented that an evaluation be conducted one year after implementation to determine the effectiveness of both collection programs.

This the 10th day of March, 2010.



Jan Sassaman, Chair