

# resource rediscovery

Modernizing the CT Solid Waste System Project **RFP**

## Project Overview

10.15.15





# What is the “Connecticut Solid Waste System Project?”

- “CSWSP” includes 6 facilities throughout CT
  - 4 transfer stations: Ellington, Essex, Torrington, Watertown
  - The MIRA recycling center and Trash Museum at 211 Murphy Rd., Hartford
  - The “MidConnecticut” Connecticut Waste System Resource Recovery Facility (RRF), South Meadows, Hartford
- The system handles over 700,000 tons of trash/year, and 50,000 tons of recyclables. Provides approx. 1/3 of CT in-state disposal capacity.
- Facilities began operation in late 1980s and 1990s.

# South Meadows RRF



# Recycling Center



Photo Source:  
<https://westhartfordrecycles.wordpress.com/>



# Why Redevelopment is Needed

- RRF exceeding design life.
  - Aging equipment difficult and expensive to maintain
  - Plant shutdowns cause backups in processing trash
  - Maintaining the current facility will require major capital investments, with costs passed along to member towns, including Hartford
- Process to receive and grind trash into “RDF” fuel is inefficient.
- Newer waste conversion technologies can increase efficiency and decrease environmental and community impacts (greater energy production, lower emissions, etc.).
- Current system built with expectation of steady supply of trash. Today, state seeks to recycle more and decrease trash.
- Statutory obligations: requirement for solid waste system to be consistent with the State’s Solid Waste Management Plan (CGS Sec. 22a-229).



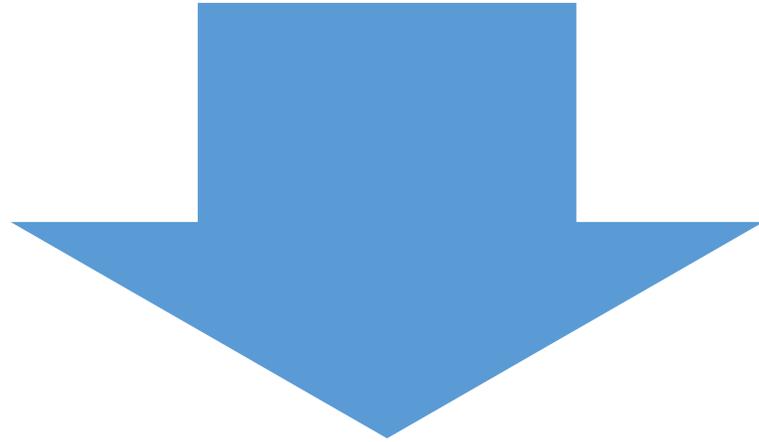
# What CT is Doing to Solve the Problem

- In 2013 the state's Resources Recovery Task Force listened to concerns about community impacts of the South Meadows RRF.
- The Task Force recommended the state move to bring more innovative technologies into the state to replace aging RRFs.
- In 2014, the legislature established a process to seek a developer for the CSWSP (P.A. 14-94).
- DEEP is drafting a Request for Proposals (RFP) with input from MIRA, City of Hartford, and others.
  - Final proposal to be selected by DEEP in 2017
  - Final project subject to permitting and local approvals





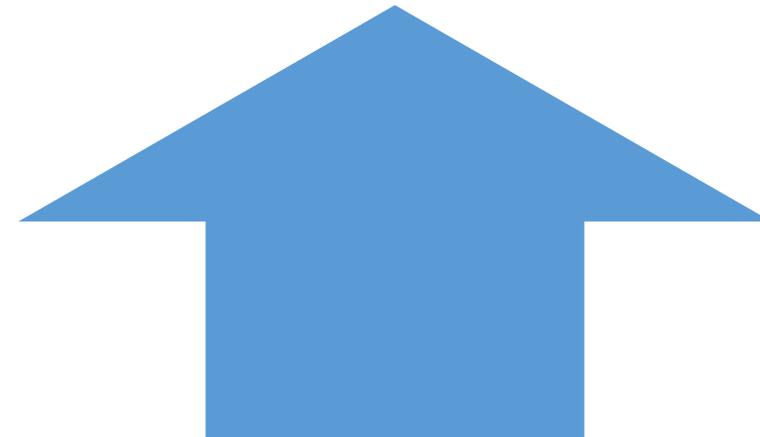
# What are the Project Goals?



## **DECREASE:**

Emissions  
Residuals for Disposal  
Negative Community Impacts  
Amount of Trash Combusted or  
Landfilled

**INCREASE:**  
Quality Jobs  
Materials Recovered  
Efficiency of Energy Recovery  
Purchase Local Goods and Services



# What Could the Future Hold in the South Meadows?



- Smaller overall facility “footprint”
- Closed system, zero-emissions conversion technologies for portion of trash
- Reduced combustion of trash under more stringent emissions standards
- Sorting recyclables from incoming trash
- Phased down throughput as state recycles more = fewer trucks
- Improved visual impact
- Other...

# What Could the Future Hold in the South Meadows?



Modern Waste-to-Energy Facility with Recycling MRF and Composting  
Lee County, FL



Recycling MRF and Transfer Station  
San Matteo, CA

# What Could the Future Hold in the South Meadows?



These images are intended to give a general sense of the visual impact of potential future development. They do not encompass the full range of technological possibilities.

Biogas Facility (Planned)  
Grove City, OH



# How this will Impact Hartford?

- New host benefit agreements, including financial benefits for the City.
- Employment opportunities.
- More sustainable option for managing Hartford's and other communities' trash and recycling.
- Less pollution = better for the environment AND human health.



# What Outcomes are NOT Acceptable?

- Unmanageable / noncompetitive costs for service to Hartford and other communities.
- Technologies that lack an environmental track record.
- A 100% mass burn or RDF process without modern recycling/waste conversion add-ons.
- A proposal that “locks in” current waste composition and does not account for increased recycling.
- Proposals that can not receive permits and/or necessary local approvals.
- Developers unable to finance and complete project.
- The status quo.



# Community Involvement is Key

- Project should reflect priorities of host communities.
- To view draft and other info, visit: [www.ct.gov/deep/ResourceRediscovery](http://www.ct.gov/deep/ResourceRediscovery).
- Give comments on draft RFP through October 27, 2015 by email to: [lee.sawyer@ct.gov](mailto:lee.sawyer@ct.gov).
- Throughout process, many other opportunities to comment:
  - City of Hartford representation in selection process
  - Public review and comment on final proposal(s) in 2017
  - Legislative review and likely hearing prior to final selection
  - Public notice of permit applications
  - Local approvals, including P&Z

# Discussion: What are Your Project Goals?



Welcome to Sharon Lewis, Executive Director, CT Coalition for Environmental Justice,  
for closing remarks.