



**National
Waste & Recycling
Association**SM

Collect. Recycle. Innovate.

1550 Crystal Drive
Suite 804
Arlington, VA 22202
T 202.244.4700
F 202.966.4818

June 23, 2022

Mr. Robert Schindler
Chair, Louisville Metro Solid Waste Board
600 Meriwether Ave
Louisville, KY 40217

cc. Mr. Bruce Burrow
Chair, Louisville Metro Solid Waste Advisory Committee

Re: Louisville/Jefferson County Solid Waste Management District Five-Year Plan

Dear Mr. Schindler:

The National Waste & Recycling Association's (NWRA) Kentucky Chapter would like to state our appreciation for the continued dialogue on all things waste and recycling with Metro leadership and the Louisville Metro Solid Waste Board. We believe that it's important to include voices from the waste and recycling industry in the long-term planning process, as both subject matter experts, and representatives of over 250,000 customers in the Louisville Metro area.

The Five-Year Solid Waste Plan is not just a statutory requirement, but an opportunity to set a course of action for the future. Solid waste and recycling collection in Metro Louisville is complicated, with 83 incorporated cities, and a large number of homeowners' associations, in addition to the Urban Services District collected by Metro Public Works. Despite that complication, Metro Louisville's current diversion rate of 54% is higher than Austin, TX's 42%, and approaching Seattle, WA's 60% rate. It is also significantly ahead of regional peers such as Nashville (24%) and Indianapolis (7%).

Private sector haulers, disposal, and materials recovery facilities have been leaders in driving that rate, and will continue to lead as Metro Louisville seeks to achieve its short-term goal of 58% diversion (70% of recoverable materials) and 80% recycling participation by 2026, and its long-term goal of 90% diversion of recoverable materials and 90% recycling participation.

To that end, please find the attached document, which provides the Kentucky Chapter's positions on how best to align the goals of the Five-Year Solid Waste Plan with the Short-Term goal of the Solid Waste Master Plan in 2026.

Please let us know if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Robert Lee
President, NWRA Kentucky Chapter