

Legislative Review of Westchester County 2009 Proposed Operating Budget Department Budget Worksheet

County Department:	<u>Solid Waste Commission</u>	Date of Presentation:	<u>11/20/08</u>
Commissioner Name:	<u>Bruce Berger (Exec. Dir.)</u>	Commissioner Phone:	<u>(914) 813-6860</u>
Committee with Oversight Responsibility for Dept:	<u>Environment & Energy</u>	Committee Chair:	<u>Tom Abinanti</u>
Prepared by (Committee Coordinator): <u>Chris Crane</u>			

Budget: Proposed 2009:	\$ <u>1,559,230</u>	Approved 2008: \$ <u>1,642,729</u>	%Increase/ Decrease: <u>-5.1%</u>
Staffing: # employees 2008:	<u>8</u>	Proposed staffing 2009: <u>8</u>	% +/- Staffing: <u>0</u>
Sources of Funding: County:	<u>\$0</u>	State: <u>\$0</u>	Federal: <u>\$0</u> Grants: <u>\$0</u>
<i>Note: The SWC is a tax-levy neutral agency. It obtains revenue from licensing fees and violator fines.</i>			
Mandated portion of department budget:	\$ <u>0</u>	% of total dept budget: _____	% of county budget: _____

2008 DEPT. HIGHLIGHTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Did committee invite commissioner in this past year to discuss specific areas of concern? Describe.

Commissioner Bruce Berger (BB) and Deputy Commissioner Louis Vetrone (LV) updated the Env't. & Energy Committee at a November committee meeting. BB provided update on several entities – CRP (David Magel), A&D (Al Tranquillo III), and Earthline (transfer station at Croton, Regus). BB noted the recent sentencing of CRP manager David Magel and CRP's rejection of an SWC-ordered assignment of an independent auditor for the company. The County Attorney now represents SWC at the Supreme Court in this matter.

Report on 2008: Highlight of dept's accomplishments *(Usually in executive summary of dept budget)*

- SWC is working with WCDEF and Environmental Security Unit (ESU) of the Dept. of Public Safety as part of the administration recycling enforcement initiative.
- SWC has conducted meetings to inform trash haulers of the recycling enforcement initiative, which, according to SWC, has now become generally accepted by the industry. Other informational seminars have been provided to municipalities, school districts, and large waste generators (e.g., multi-unit buildings).

2009 Operating Budget

Impact of State budget cuts on dept: \$ none

Specific cutbacks to accommodate reduced spending? Program areas most affected:

What's expected public impact of proposed cuts? *[EXAMPLES: Public won't notice? Closing sites in these locations? Less funding for specific programs. Consolidating program areas to economize.]*

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QUOTES/COMMENTS

Quote from Oversight Committee Chair

Quote from Budget & Appropriations Chair

Other Comment(s)/Quotes, Facts

At 11/20 B&A review meeting, Chair Alvarado asked why several budget line items appeared inconsistent. The requested 2009 amounts significantly exceeded projected 2008 amounts (example – employee health insurance, supplies). Budget did not have a response. In one instance, BB stated that monies were being requested to accommodate a previous BOL request to retain forensic consulting services (for example, Contractual Services, Item 4380). BB stated that SWC was attempting to cut operating costs per the County Exec.'s directive (e.g., general supplies). BB stated that SWC is also seeking several Lexis Nexis inspections for inspectors to utilize in obtaining data. BB stated that relationship with trash haulers regarding recycling enforcement has improved, as haulers realize that SWC is tracing violations back to waste generators. Approx 33% of violations go to trash haulers, with half of this amount affecting private haulers (i.e., not municipal). SWC and DEF inspectors share information, data on entities. Most violations occur at transfer stations. Licensing fees for transfer stations are 'staggered' and can be reduced based on volume of recyclable material. (?) Transfer station licensing fee is \$20,000 per year; disposal facility (Resco) fee is \$50,000 per year.