

**MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA
TOWN COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Jarvis Hall
4505 Ocean Drive
Tuesday, February 25, 2020
6:30 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Chris Vincent called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Also present were Vice Mayor Elliot Sokolow, Commissioner Edmund Malkoon, Commissioner Alfred "Buz" Oldaker, Commissioner Randy Strauss, Town Manager Bill Vance, Town Attorney Susan L. Trevarthen, Assistant to the Town Manager Neysa Herrera, Finance Director Lucila Lang, Municipal Services Director Ken Rubach, Development Services Director Linda Connors, Town Engineer Jay Flynn, Special Projects Coordinator Debbie Hime, Public Information Officer Steve d'Oliveira, and Town Clerk Tedra Allen.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

3. INVOCATION

Pastor Fred Powell III gave the Invocation.

4. ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, DEFERRALS OF AGENDA ITEMS

None.

5. PRESENTATIONS

5.a Adopt-a-Dune Program (Lee Gottlieb, Youth Environmental Alliance / Ken Rubach, Municipal Services Director)

Lee Gottlieb, representing Youth Environmental Alliance (YEA), recalled that in 2013, Lauderdale-By-The-Sea lost a great deal of its sand, which left several properties vulnerable. The Town purchased sea oats to help protect and restore the beach by trapping windblown sand. Lauderdale-By-The-Sea has implemented sea oats on 2.4 miles of shoreline and dunes over the past five years, with the assistance of YEA, several corporations, and more than 1000 volunteers.

Mr. Gottlieb recommended that the Town consider implementation of a dune restoration and maintenance plan as an essential element of its coastal resiliency. The Adopt-a-Dune program is intended to facilitate a continuous dune system along the entire Florida coast and beyond. The program partners volunteers with a municipal government and nonprofit. Funds will go directly toward restoration projects in Lauderdale-By-The-Sea. Private property owners are encouraged to take care of their own beachfronts and dunes.

Mr. Gottlieb continued that YEA has spoken with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) regarding the Adopt-a-Dune program. DEP's greatest concern was that inappropriate species might be planted on the beach. Any entity adopting a dune must partner with a knowledgeable nonprofit and/or municipal government.

Town Manager Bill Vance advised that he and Municipal Services Director Ken Rubach have previously worked with Mr. Gottlieb and have brought in consultants to help create a beach maintenance plan, which can be included in the next fiscal year's budget discussion. He noted that a dedicated beach maintenance fund could be annually budgeted to preserve, enhance, and improve the Town's beaches.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

At this time Mayor Vincent opened public comment.

Angela Aldawhi, resident, addressed parking on Bougainvillea Drive behind Walgreen's, expressing concern for pedestrians at that location. She pointed out that cars often drive across the median rather than making a U-turn elsewhere, which can result in stuck vehicles and lost revenue for businesses in this area.

John Graziano, resident, characterized Town Manager Vance's performance in his first year with Lauderdale-By-The-Sea as "as good or better [than] could be expected" with regard to hiring practices, availability to the community and Staff, and recommendation of changes to the Commission on Town issues.

With no other individuals wishing to speak at this time, Mayor Vincent closed public comment.

7. PUBLIC SAFETY DISCUSSION

None.

8. TOWN MANAGER REPORT

8.a Town Manager Report (Bill Vance, Town Manager)

Assistant to the Town Manager Neysa Herrera reported that on February 14, 2020, the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) released its list of recommended surtax-funded projects for the current fiscal year. Two Lauderdale-By-The-Sea projects have been recommended for funding:

- El Mar Drive improvements (\$240,000)
- Bicycle infrastructure resulting from an ongoing pedestrian study. (\$360,000)

These dollars will help cover design costs associated with the projects.

Another project within the Town's boundaries receiving surtax dollars in fiscal year (FY) 2020 is construction of bus shelters (\$138,000), with another \$150,000 pending in later years. The full list of surtax-funded projects compiled by the MPO will be considered by the surtax Oversight Board on April 2, 2020.

The 46th year of Broward County's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is now open, and the Town hopes to submit an application requesting \$30,000 to continue improvements to the Senior Center. This item will be brought before the Commission for consideration at their March 24, 2020 meeting.

In order to explore the possibility of expanded natural gas service in Lauderdale-By-The-Sea, Staff, Town Manager Vance, and Commissioner Randy Strauss met with representatives of Tico Gas, which has a franchise in the Town. Staff is investigating County Ordinances and policies used by other municipalities to establish a clear and sustainable process for this service expansion.

Staff encourages Town residents to participate in the 2020 U.S. Census. In March, they will receive invitations to respond to the census by phone, mail, or online. Additional information, including dates, is available on the Town's website, and residents may contact Town Planner Jhanelle Campbell at Development Services at 954-640-4219.

The Town's Information Technology (IT) service provider conducted a cybersecurity seminar to create awareness of the dangers associated with scam emails. It was held on January 29, 2020 in Jarvis Hall and was open to all affiliates with a Town email address.

On February 21, 2020, the Town hosted a vacation rental workshop in Jarvis Hall to educate owners and managers on the current Town policies and regulations that apply to these properties.

Capital improvement projects expected in FY 2020 include:

- Terra Mar drainage improvements: plans are 100% complete and Town Staff and consultants working on this project met with residents to discuss details
- Palm Club: design for this project will reach 50% completion in April 2020; Staff expects design documents to be submitted on April 1, 2020, after which a community meeting with Palm Club residents will be scheduled to discuss design
- El Mar Drive improvements: Staff recommends this project be awarded to EDSA
- Friedt Park courtyard improvements: since approval by the Commission on February 11, 2020, Staff has met with State Contracting and Engineering to kick off this project
- Other ongoing municipal projects include South Median landscaping, painting of public restrooms on El Mar Drive, electric vehicle (EV) charging station at A1A parking lot

On January 18 and February 8, 2020, the Town completed one of its largest dune projects under the dune restoration program with the help of community volunteers, corporate partners, and other community groups, including YEA. Roughly 15,000 sea oats were planted as part of this project. Staff continues working with a beach consultant and FDEP to explore options of what can be done for these dunes at a later date. Nova Southeastern University has planted approximately 1000 staghorn corals in two locations off the Town's shore.

Commissioner Oldaker thanked the Town Manager and Assistant to the Town Manager for the comprehensive report, including backup materials. He recalled that Florida's Governor has expressed interest in allowing vacation rentals to be regulated at the local level and read a letter from the President of the Broward League of Cities to the Governor urging that he consider this option. [The letter was submitted into the record for this meeting.]

Commissioner Oldaker also requested additional information regarding the cybersecurity seminar. Town Manager Vance replied that this was a mandatory event for Staff.

8.b Action Plan

The Commissioners accepted the Action Plan without comment.

8.c New LBTS Brochure Distributed to Key Tourist Locations (Debbie Hime, Special Projects Coordinator)

Special Projects Coordinator Debbie Hime briefly reviewed the Town's new print brochure, which will be distributed to 230 nearby hotels, as well as other strategic locations throughout South Florida, including Port Everglades.

8.d First Year Overview of Town's New Government Website

Special Projects Coordinator Hime also noted that the Town's current website was created one year ago. Public Information Officer Steve d'Oliveira has served as content manager and ensured that information is correct. Visitors can now be tracked, including their locations, pages visited, and the time at which they use the site. The website will soon move into Phase 3.

Commissioner Malkoon requested additional information on what will be done in Phase 3 of the Town's website. Special Projects Coordinator Hime advised that search indexing will be improved, information prioritized, and fillable forms may be provided online. She asked that the Commissioners submit any comments or suggestions they may have so they can be incorporated into the website upgrade.

8.e Special Events Update (Debbie Hime, Special Projects Coordinator)

Special Projects Coordinator Hime advised that there were 64 Town events the previous year, eight of which were Town-sponsored, 35 of which required special event applications, and 21 that required park use permits. She noted that on Tuesday, March 17, 2020, the Village Grille and 101 will host a St. Patrick's Day event with music from 6:30 to 10 p.m. An Easter egg hunt is scheduled for Saturday, April 11, 2020.

9. TOWN ATTORNEY REPORT

Town Attorney Susan Trevarthen requested that an Executive Session be scheduled regarding *Town of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea v. Florida Development Group* on March 10, 2020, at 5:30 p.m. The Commissioners agreed to the scheduling of this session by consensus.

10. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

10.a February 11, 2020 Town Commission Meeting Minutes (Tedra Allen, Town Clerk)

Commissioner Oldaker made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Sokolow, to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

11. CONSENT AGENDA

Items 11c, 11d, and 11e were pulled for additional discussion.

11.a Special Event Application from the Community Church for Easter Sunrise Service Sunday, April 12, 2020 (Debbie Hime, Special Projects Coordinator)

11.b Special Event Application for Community Christian Church Beach Baptism on May 30, 2020 (Debbie Hime, Special Projects Coordinator)

Vice Mayor Sokolow made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Oldaker, to approve Items 11a and 11b. Motion carried 5-0.

11.c Meeting Schedule (Tedra Allen, Town Clerk)

Mayor Vincent explained that a special meeting will be scheduled for the swearing-in of Town officials following the municipal election. The regularly scheduled Commission meetings in March are set for March 10 and March 24, 2020. The election will be held on March 17. Election results will not be certified until March 27. Staff requests that the March 24 meeting be rescheduled for March 31 so the swearing-in may be performed, and votes certified on that date. The Personal Code of Conduct may also be provided for newly elected officials at that time.

Commissioner Oldaker made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Sokolow, to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

11.d Town Seat on LBTS Chamber of Commerce (Tedra Allen, Town Clerk)

Town Manager Bill Vance advised that he has participated as an *ex officio* member of at least one Chamber of Commerce in the past. This addition can help coordinate Town and Chamber projects and provide local government experience and immediate feedback

from the Town. He concluded that he would be willing to accept the seat on the Chamber's Board if that is the Commission's desire.

It was confirmed that should Town Manager Vance perceive a conflict of interest arising from his seat on the Board, he would recuse himself at that time.

Vice Mayor Sokolow made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Strauss, to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

11.e Canal Dredging Study (Ken Rubach, Municipal Services Director)

Municipal Services Director Ken Rubach stated that some Commissioners requested a preemptive study to determine the depths of the Town's six canals, as well as what work would need to be done prior to any dredging. Additional information was provided in the Commissioners' backup materials. Two different types of surveys would be performed: one which measures depth from the surface to the bottom of the canal, and another which determines the composition of the bottom, including aquatic and/or plant life.

Commissioner Strauss made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Oldaker, to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

12. OLD BUSINESS

12.a Town Manager's Performance Evaluation (Tedra Allen, Town Clerk)

Commissioner Oldaker commented that this year's evaluation process was unique due to a series of Staff changes, including a change in the position of Town Manager. He recommended that the Town Manager's salary be increased by 5%, which was consistent with an across-the-board 5% increase received by Staff.

The Commission discussed this proposal, with Vice Mayor Sokolow stating that while he was very pleased with the Town Manager's performance, particularly in dealing with the Town's business community, he was not prepared to discuss salary at this time. Mayor Vincent observed that while there were some disparities within the Town Manager's evaluation, he remained very impressed with Town Manager Vance's ability. Town Manager Vance suggested that salary discussion could be postponed until his one-year anniversary with the Town.

The Commissioners agreed by consensus that each of them would meet with the Town Manager on an individual basis to discuss salary.

12.b Condition of Florida Development Group (FDG) Property (Susan Trevarthen, Town Attorney)

Town Attorney Trevarthen reported that after the Concord Wilshire proposal for FDG's property was withdrawn, Staff reached out to FDG for consent to perform an updated inspection. The interior inspection will be performed later this week. Its findings will help to determine how the Town will pursue the disposition of the former Holiday Inn building. She recalled that the original foreclosure complaint was filed 14 months ago and led to compliance and payment regarding the FDG Central and Villa Capri properties, although liens remain on the latter.

The first deadline for FDG to respond to the Town's litigation will occur at the end of the week (February 28, 2020). Town Attorney Trevarthen recalled that she had requested an Executive Session to discuss this issue further with the Commission. She recognized Development Services Director Linda Connors and Development Services Staff for their help on this issue.

Commissioner Oldaker noted that the liens collected may differ from the amount that has accrued thus far. Town Attorney Trevarthen further explained that each lien against a given property includes different details and may be very complicated. Options may include lien mitigation requests after compliance is reached, as well as taking a property into receivership.

13. NEW BUSINESS

13.a El Mar Drive RFQ (Jay Flynn, Town Engineer / Ken Rubach, Municipal Services Director)

At this time Mayor Vincent opened public comment.

Barbara Cole, resident, stated that she would like the contractor selected for the El Mar Drive project to undertake a comprehensive study of that roadway to see how it is used for different modes of transportation, including vehicular, bicycle, and pedestrian activity.

With no other individuals wishing to speak at this time, Mayor Vincent closed public comment.

Town Engineer Jay Flynn recalled that the Town advertised a public request for qualifications (RFQ) for design consultants to undertake improvements to El Mar Drive. The Town received six responses, which were ranked earlier this month by a selection committee. The rankings listed EDSA as the preferred respondent, followed by Craven Thompson. The committee recommends approval of these rankings and authorization of the Town Manager to proceed with negotiations to finalize the scope of work and associated fees. In the event an agreement could not be met, the Town Manager would undertake negotiations with the second-ranked firm.

Town Engineer Flynn addressed Ms. Cole's concerns, stating that the project will be an extension of existing streetscape improvements within the Town. The resulting streetscape will be unique to Lauderdale-By-The-Sea.

Town Manager Vance noted that the first visionary work session for this project is anticipated at the end of March 2020. The public will be provided with notice, as the RFQ requests that design consultants engage in extensive community outreach and consensus-building. Town Engineer Flynn continued that meetings between Staff and the design consultant are already planned, and community outreach can begin while the project's survey is still in process. He estimated that design would be complete by the end of 2020, with construction to begin in 2021 and completion in 2021-2022.

Commissioner Oldaker asked if all plans from the previous iteration of the project, which had been undertaken in partnership with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and the Broward MPO, have been discarded. Town Engineer Flynn advised that the Town is retaining one paper copy of the survey from that experience, which would serve as a "base map" for community outreach and consensus-building. The survey cannot be used for design purposes.

Vice Mayor Sokolow pointed out that after the conclusion of the Town's involvement in the MPO/FDOT, FDOT and its consultants had been expected to provide the Town with all materials for which the Town had paid.

Commissioner Oldaker made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Sokolow, to approve the rankings. Motion carried 5-0.

14. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Malkoon stated that he recently met with American Medical Response (AMR) to review their quarterly statistics and determine any needs. He noted that AMR is working on a project to ensure that all Town condominiums, as well as Town buildings including Town Hall, are equipped with defibrillators. AMR's medical director is willing to write prescriptions for these devices.

Commissioner Malkoon continued that the Garden Club will host a flower show on Saturday, February 29, 2020. He added that he had participated in a public television program called "Check Please South Florida," which will feature the Blue Moon. The show will air on Monday, March 2, 2020 as well as Thursday, March 5.

Commissioner Oldaker recognized Municipal Services Director Rubach for Staff's work on the South Median. He also noted that the Town has relocated an electronic speed limit sign to Bougainvillea Drive south of Commercial Boulevard to address residents' concerns.

Commissioner Strauss stated that he has discussed the possibility of placing inexpensive cigarette butt receptacles made from PVC pipe along the beach to encourage keeping the Town's beaches clean. He has requested that Staff prepare a presentation on this and other options to be shown at the first Commission meeting in March 2020.

Mayor Vincent acknowledged the concerns raised regarding traffic on Bougainvillea Drive and asked that this be made a priority for the Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO), including the gathering of data since the median was added. He also complimented Public Information Officer Steve d'Oliveira and all participants in the recent Sea Shorts program.

15. ORDINANCES 1ST READING

None.

16. ORDINANCES 2ND READING

16.a Ordinance 2020-03 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 20, "UTILITIES," OF THE TOWN'S CODE OF ORDINANCES BY AMENDING ARTICLE I, "SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM," SECTION 20-19, "RATES AND CHARGES," AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE (Lucila Lang, Finance Director)

At this time Mayor Vincent opened public comment.

Barbara Cole, resident, requested additional information on the reason for the sewer rate increase, as well as information on the Town's sewer/water infrastructure.

With no other individuals wishing to speak at this time, Mayor Vincent closed public comment.

Town Manager Vance explained that because Broward County is coordinating significant enhancements to its wastewater treatment plant, they have determined that all beneficiaries who use this plant will need to pay more for its services. This 25% increase was passed on to the Town through Pompano Beach. Town Staff projected that a 15% increase in local sewer rates would be enough to maintain the Town's \$1.2 million Sewer Fund balance while also meeting the fiscal obligations of the rate increase.

Mayor Vincent recalled that in the past, the Town conducted a sewer study and voted on some incremental rate increases to ensure sufficient reserves. Town Attorney Trevarthen recalled that the incremental rate increase was intended to build up a larger balance to cover the costs of rebuilding a pump station.

Municipal Services Director Rubach addressed the question regarding the Town's sewer and wastewater infrastructure, stating that over the past five years, all sanitary sewer mains within the Town were lined, which would add another 30 years to the life of that pipe.

Commissioner Strauss made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Oldaker, to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

17. RESOLUTIONS – PUBLIC COMMENTS

17.a Resolution 2020-06 – A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA, FLORIDA, APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE REMOVAL OF MIXED PAPER FROM THE LIST OF MATERIALS THAT CAN BE COLLECTED IN THE CURBSIDE RECYCLING PROGRAMS, PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

At this time Mayor Vincent opened public comment.

Barbara Cole, resident, requested additional explanation of the proposed Resolution.

With no other individuals wishing to speak at this time, Mayor Vincent closed public comment.

Town Manager Vance advised that the main issue is the current market for recyclables. He acknowledged that while contamination of recyclables is an ongoing effort, the problem with mixed paper is that markets such as China are no longer accepting this material. It is a waste management decision rather than a Town decision to no longer accept mixed paper.

Commissioner Oldaker referred residents to an article on this topic in the *Sun-Sentinel* dated February 21, 2020 and provided a hard copy for inclusion in the record with the documents from tonight's meeting. Commissioner Strauss added that there is also no market for glass recyclables at present. Commissioner Malkoon advised that information is available online on the reuse of materials that cannot be recycled.

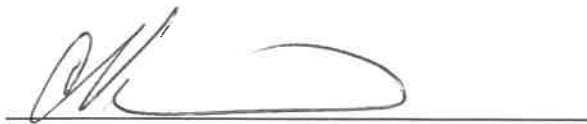
Vice Mayor Sokolow made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Oldaker, to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

18. QUASI JUDICIAL PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

19. ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to come before the Commission at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'CV', is written over a horizontal line.

Mayor Chris Vincent

Lauderdale-By-The-Sea
Regular Town Commission Meeting
February 25, 2020

ATTEST:

Tedra Allen

Town Clerk Tedra Allen

3-10-2020

Date

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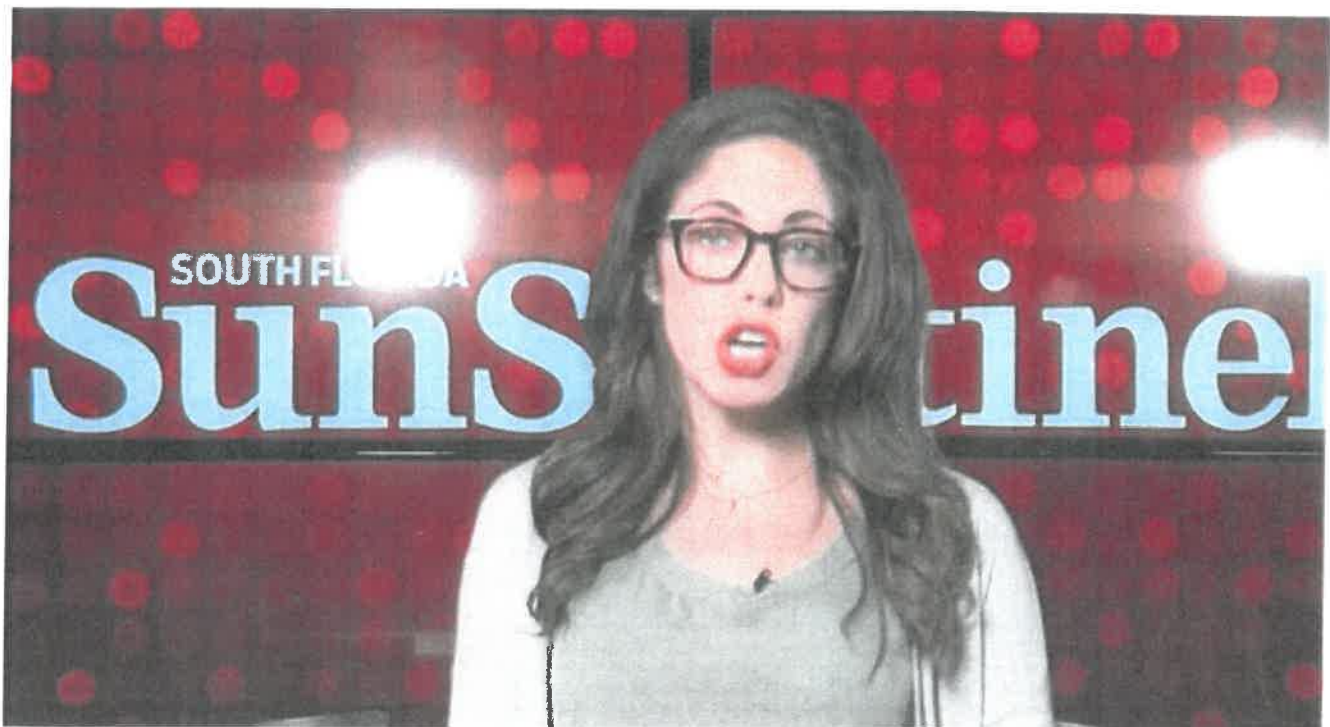
BROWARD COUNTY NEWS

LOCAL NEWS

Broward County, you'll have to stop recycling paper. Here's why.



By LISA J. HURIASH
SOUTH FLORIDA SUN SENTINEL | FEB 21, 2020



Saying residents have been unable — or unwilling — to recycle properly, Waste Management is ending “mixed-paper” recycling completely in Broward County.



Hundreds of thousands of Broward County residents will have to stop recycling newspapers, pamphlets and other mixed paper because people have been tossing too much garbage into their recycling bins.

Saying Broward has not recycled properly, [Waste Management](#) is ending “mixed-paper” recycling completely. That includes newspapers, mail, magazines, glossy inserts, pamphlets, catalogs, print and office paper and school paper.

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But environmental groups point the finger back at Waste Management with a message: Figure it out before giving up on recycling completely.

Already, 14 [Broward cities](#) whose contracts require a six-month notification were put on notice that they'll have to chuck their paper products in the trash beginning Aug. 1, although some cities may implement the change sooner.

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Mixed paper “has no viable market” to be resold as recyclables, according to the notice.

The 13 other Broward cities that Waste Management serves are expected to eventually be weaned off mixed-paper recycling as well, but that “will depend on new contract terms,” according to Dawn McCormick, a Waste Management spokeswoman. “Cities could end it on their own if the pricing gets more negative.”

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The decision shocked Broward County Vice Mayor Steve Geller: “We’ve known we’d be dealing with this in the next year or two. I don’t think we had any idea we’d be dealing with this in the next week or two,” he said Thursday.

McCormick said the reason is twofold:

First, she said Broward (with a population of nearly 2 million) is putting trash in the recycling bin, causing contamination rates of 30 percent. That means paper that could be recycled is getting mixed with dirty diapers, bowling balls and leftover spaghetti. Unable to clean it enough to sell it, the paper gets sent to the landfill anyway or burned to turn into electricity.



Lines of recycling and trash cans await pickup in Oakland Park on Thursday, (Joe Cavaretta / South Florida Sun Sentinel)

“The mixed paper that is finding a market has to be of the best quality, and that means it can’t have excessive contamination rates coming in the door,” she said. “Broward County is not finding a home [for its paper] because the quality is so bad. The contamination is so high we are not able to get it clean enough.”

And, she said, the global market demand for recycled paper is slowing. Waste Management was sitting on more than 400 bales of mixed paper of poor quality, each weighing more than a ton, at its Pembroke Pines facility last winter. That wound up being burned to get rid of it.

In Broward, “we can’t produce bales that are clean enough to find a market,” she said. “If you recycle right but your neighbor uses it as second garbage can, it ruins everyone on the block.”

McCormick said the demand from China for recycled paper has dried up, and the demand from other importers — India, Mexico and within the U.S. — is not as strong.

The company said its recycling income dipped nearly \$90 million compared with 2017.

[RELATED: Waste Management pulls back request to inject 'garbage juice' underground, for now »](#)

The decision distresses Broward County Commissioner Tim Ryan, who said he wished Waste Management had talked to local government before making this decision.

“There ought to be a discussion among the cities and Waste Management at the table,” he said.

He said he hopes there's time to change Waste Management's mind: "Give us a plan of action of how we might be able to go forward with recycling more, not less."

Waste Management is the country's largest hauler and also the largest recycling processing company with recycling operations in 30 states and Canada.

McCormick said other locations around the country have abandoned recycling entirely.

But elsewhere in South Florida, things are status quo.

McCormick said the agency handles recycling in Miami-Dade County, where mixed-paper recycling will continue because its contract doesn't allow for paper to be eliminated from recycling.

Waste Management says too many people in Broward County are mixing garbage with their recyclables. (Joe Cavaretta / South Florida Sun Sentinel)

No cities in Palm Beach County plan to end paper recycling, said Willie Puz, spokesman for the Solid Waste Authority, a special taxing district created by the Florida Legislature. There, residents separate their paper for recycling from their glass, metal and plastic, which cuts down on the contamination rates.

Although paper is not a money-maker, it won't disappear: "As a government entity we're not in it to make money; we're in it to do the right thing," Puz said.

Eric Goldstein, an attorney with the New York-based Natural Resources Defense Council, a nonprofit international environmental advocacy group, said China has “jolted the recycling market by essentially saying they are not accepting any more recyclables from the United States.”

They no longer wanted to import “poor quality stuff,” he said.

Still, “mixed paper is a commodity like wheat, cotton or copper. Prices fluctuate. Overall we know recycling makes sense to do for environmental and economical reasons. There’s no reason to abandon the approach just because of changed market conditions. ... It’s cheaper and more sustainable to make paper from paper rather than from virgin timber.”

He said Waste Management’s homepage declares it is “always working for a sustainable tomorrow” — and so it should figure out a way to invest in recycling facilities within the United States instead.

“Waste Management has a responsibility to figure out how to make recycling succeed in the communities it is serving rather than throwing in the towel,” Goldstein said. And it’s the job of the cities to educate homeowners, he said.

[RELATED: It's hubby vs. landfill in search for wife's \\$10,000 diamond ring »](#)

Further financial burden could land on the cities, said Coral Springs Commissioner Larry Vignola.

If people continue to recycle paper once the new rules are in effect, as they’ve grown accustomed to doing, Waste Management could fine the cities for contaminating recycling, he said.

“Hopefully the market will rebound in a few years, but this is going to be a challenge,” he said. “It’s a shame. Everybody is a lot more environmentally conscious and striving to do the right thing by the environment. That’s very frustrating. We still have people putting plastic bags in the recycling bins. Not everyone really understands what’s recyclable and what’s not.”

Despite Waste Management's notification letters, Fort Lauderdale Commissioner Steve Glassman hopes this isn't the end for paper recycling.

"I'm hopeful we are able to figure this out," he said. "It makes no sense to fill up the landfills with this kind of material that can be recycled. I don't know if there's time to change anything now, but I think we need to have that conversation. I think we need to get it back on track."

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Now the county has to decide: "Do we pay more for recycling, do we want to put it in the landfill. Sitting here today I don't have the answers," said Vice Mayor Geller of the county commission.

And, he said the county and its cities might have little wiggle room. "Right now Waste Management has the monopoly here. When we have one company and they are saying, 'No, sorry, we're not doing it,' it's like FPL. Right now there is a monopoly, which is Waste Management. I don't know there's another company we can turn to and say 'You do it.' They're the only game in town right now."

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The list of what can still be recycled in Broward generally includes clean, dry and empty cardboard such as Amazon shipping boxes and diaper boxes, plastic bottles and jugs, aluminum and steel cans, and glass bottles and jars. Only clean pizza boxes that have no grease, paper or food are recyclable.

Who's affected

The cities that were put on notice they can no longer recycle paper effective Aug. 1: Coconut Creek, Coral Springs, Deerfield Beach, Fort Lauderdale, Lauderdale-by-the-Sea; Lauderhill, Lighthouse Point, Margate, North Lauderdale, Oakland Park, Pembroke Park, Plantation, Tamarac, Wilton Manors.

The remaining Broward cities served by Waste Management could end paper recycling, but no timetable has been announced: Cooper City, Dania Beach, Davie, Hillsboro Beach, Lauderdale Lakes, Miramar, Parkland, Pembroke Pines, Pompano Beach, Sea Ranch Lakes, Southwest Ranches, West Park, Weston.

Lisa J. Huriash can be reached at lhuriash@sunsentinel.com or 954-572-2008 or Twitter @LisaHuriash



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Mayor, Oakland Park
Lynn Stoner
Mayor, Plantation
Ken Thurston
Mayor, Lauderdale
Becky Tooley
Commissioner, Coconut Creek
Glenn Troast
Mayor, Lighthouse Point
Lorenzo Wood
Vice Mayor, North Lauderdale

Samuel S. Goren, Esquire
Goren Cherof Doody & Ezrol, PA
Legal Counsel

Mary Lou Tighe
Executive Director
Sely Cochran
Deputy Executive Director

February 25, 2020

The Honorable Ron DeSantis
Governor
State of Florida
The Capitol, Plaza Level 5
400 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis,

On behalf of the 31 municipalities in Broward County, we thank you for your comments expressing your serious concern in the legislative effort to preempt short-term rentals to the state. This issue impacts almost all our cities and residents and is of the utmost concern to Broward's elected municipal leaders. It is important that local officials be able to determine how this issue should be best handled within our cities as we hear and see the impact on our neighborhoods every day.

We will continue to work with our Legislators and encourage them to allow local voices to make local choices about short-term rentals. That said, we appreciate your leadership and your understanding and look forward to working with you on this very important issue.

Sincerely

Daniel J. Stermer
President
Mayor, City of Weston

c. Broward County Legislative Delegation
Broward County Board of County Commissioners
Broward League of Cities, Board of Directors



Suite 122 Governmental Center, 115 South Andrews Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301
Phone: 954.357.7370 Fax: 954.357.5563
Internet: www.browardleague.org

Meeting Date: February 25, 2020

Town Commission
Public Comments are limited to three (3) minutes.

<u>Barbara Cole</u>	<u>LBTS</u>	<u>13A</u>
PRINT NAME	ADDRESS	ITEM #

Public Comments are limited to three (3) minutes.

<u>John Graziano</u>		<u>TIME 1</u>
PRINT NAME	ADDRESS	ITEM #

Public Comments are limited to three (3) minutes.

<u>✓ Angelina Alahwi</u>	<u>4309/4305 Bougainville</u>	<u>Parking</u>
PRINT NAME	ADDRESS	ITEM #
	<u>4323 N Ocean Dr</u>	<u>Bougainville Dr</u>

Public Comments are limited to three (3) minutes.

<u>James Callahan</u>	<u>232 Bomber Ave</u>	
PRINT NAME	ADDRESS	ITEM #

Public Comments are limited to three (3) minutes.

PRINT NAME	ADDRESS	ITEM #
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