



## Request for City Council Committee Action From the Department of Public Works

**Date:** November 22, 2005  
**To:** Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee  
**Subject:** **Preliminary Options Analysis for Hennepin County/City of Minneapolis  
Joint Household Hazardous Waste and Voucher Facilities**

**Recommendation:**  
Receive and file report following presentation

**Previous Directives:**  
10/8/04 Authorization to enhance contract with Foth and Van Dyke  
1/18/05 Authorization to coordinate examination of facilities effort with Hennepin  
County

**Prepared by:** Susan Young 612-673-2433

**Approved by:**

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Klara A. Fabry, P.E., City Engineer, Director of Public Works

**Presenters:** Susan Young, Minneapolis Solid Waste and Recycling Services  
Phil Eckhert, Director, Hennepin County Environmental Services

**Financial Impact** (Check those that apply)

No financial impact - or - Action is within current department budget.  
(If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)

Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget

Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget

Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase

Action requires use of contingency or reserves

Other financial impact (Explain):

Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator

**Background/Supporting Information:**

Hennepin County currently owns and manages two permanent facilities that accept Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and problem materials (i.e. mercury items, electronic goods, household batteries, rechargeable or cordless appliances) from residents on a year-round basis. These facilities are located in Bloomington and Brooklyn Park. The South Hennepin Recycling and Problem Waste Drop-off Center in Bloomington was expanded in 2004. The Hennepin County Recycling Center and Transfer Station in Brooklyn Park is currently under expansion.

In addition, Hennepin County has tried various models for collecting HHW from Mpls residents. In 2005, they held 13 one-day and 4 multi-day HHW collection events throughout the City at which there were 3,734 participants.

Participation in household hazardous waste management programs is inversely correlated to the distance a customer needs to travel to use the facility (see attached map from 2004). Minneapolis, as a core urban city whose residents have a lower vehicle ownership percentage than the surrounding suburbs, would greatly benefit from permanent HHW facilities. One or two permanent HHW facilities in Minneapolis would make it much easier for our residents to dispose of their household chemicals, including paints, cleaners and pesticides. They would not feel the need to “store” these items until the next weekend event, and would not “miss” an opportunity to safely and conveniently dispose of the wastes if they were out of town on “the” neighborhood event weekend.

As part of Hennepin County’s 2005 capital budget, County staff has been directed to work with the City to develop a plan for a HHW facility to be located in Minneapolis. This direction includes financing for cooperative preliminary consultant services and future programming expenses pending satisfactory agreement with the city concerning operational and functional issues.

As part of City solid waste planning, and City Council direction, alternate uses for the South Transfer Station, where the City has transfer and disposal capacity, disaster recovery capacity, and conducts the Voucher Program, are being explored. The services and programming at the South Transfer Station are important to the mission and functions of Solid Waste and Recycling Services, and so alternate location(s) to provide these services would be needed in the event the City sells the Transfer Station.

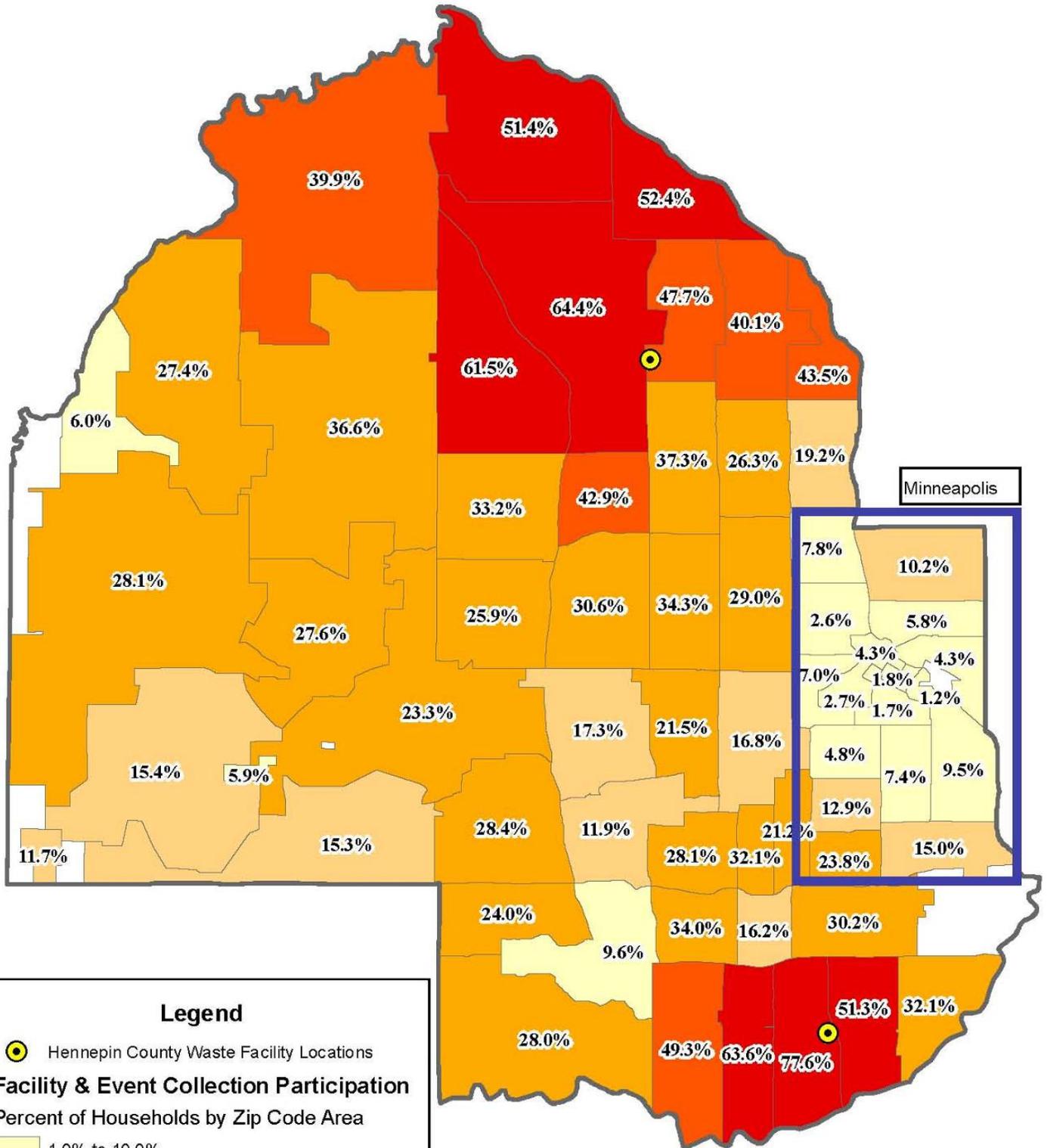
The City Council determined that a joint study to evaluate the feasibility and options to co-locate the needed County and City facilities would be prudent, and directed staff to begin the effort.

Attached for your information, please find the “Preliminary Facilities Options Analysis” prepared by Foth and Van Dyke for the City and Hennepin County. Base levels of service, and a variety of programming options for joint facilities, were evaluated. A combination of split HHW facilities (two facilities) and Voucher Transfer with time-separated solid wastes transfer when needed is recommended to be pursued as the most cost-effective and land-efficient solution.

The next step in the process will be to identify a number of sites that could meet City/County needs, develop preliminary cost estimates, and consider potential cost sharing approaches between the City and County.

# Percent Participation - 2004

## Permanent Facilities and Event Collections



Minneapolis

