

Solid Waste Disposal and Recyclable Materials Processing Authority of Broward County, Florida
SWABC Executive Committee C&D & Commercial Recycling Sub Committee

C&D Stakeholders Industry Workshop

April 14, 2026, 8:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Broward County Government Center West

1st Floor Board Room – Surtax Plaza

1 North University Drive

Plantation, FL 33324

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order, roll call was taken and a quorum established.

Present: Subcommittee Chair Mead and Vice Chair Horland.

Not Present: Member Newton.

Public Comment – There was no public comment.

Meeting Minutes - Motion: *A motion was made by* Vice Chair Horland and seconded by Chair Mead to approve the minutes of March 17, 2025. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Business Community, Service Providers, and Processors Round Table

C&D Recycling Program Framework and County Ban Direct Haul of C&D to Final Disposal - Travis Barnes of Resource Recycling Systems (RRS) opened discussion on the draft C&D ordinance, explaining the goal is to increase recycling rates to help meet Florida's 75% recycling target by diverting more construction and demolition debris from landfills. He emphasized the meeting was intended as a working session to gather direct feedback from processors, contractors, haulers, and other stakeholders on what would be practical and enforceable. He clarified that the Solid Waste Authority cannot adopt or enforce an ordinance itself and that any future ordinance would need to be adopted and enforced by Broward County and individual municipalities.

Mr. Barnes outlined two draft ordinance approaches under consideration. The first would simply prohibit direct hauling of C&D debris to landfills and require materials to go to a processing facility first. The second was a more comprehensive ordinance that included recycling targets, reporting requirements, and operational standards for both facilities and projects. He noted that the goal of the meeting was to better understand current operations before refining either option.

Industry representatives from Coastal Waste, Waste Management, contractors, and trade groups largely agreed that the current draft ordinance was overly complicated and created unnecessary administrative burdens. Processors explained they already submitted detailed monthly reports to Broward County documenting inbound tonnage, outbound materials, and diversion rates, and argued that additional certification requirements, reporting mandates, and fees would be duplicative. They warned that added regulatory costs would ultimately be passed on to customers and could create barriers to entry for smaller operators.

Processors also explained that recycling rates were heavily influenced by the type and quality of inbound material and fluctuating commodity markets. They noted that materials such as concrete and metal were often removed before reaching processing facilities, while some materials such as plastics and roofing materials may not always have viable end markets. They cautioned against strict recycling thresholds or penalties tied to fluctuating markets and material composition.

Contractors strongly opposed requirements that would force them to track waste streams at individual job sites or tie compliance to certificates of occupancy. They said job sites often lack space for source separation, waste volumes can change unexpectedly during demolition and renovation projects, and tracking material by project would create significant labor costs and administrative burdens. Several contractors stated they supported recycling but believed separation and tracking should occur at processing facilities rather than construction sites.

Louis DiVita of Florida Waste Haulers & Recycling Coalition argued that the ordinance should be simplified significantly by following existing Florida statute definitions of C&D debris and requiring all C&D material to go through a permitted processing facility before reaching a landfill. He recommended eliminating project-specific recycling plans, reporting requirements, exemptions, noncompliance fees, and project thresholds. He stated that banning direct hauling of unprocessed C&D waste to landfills would achieve the recycling goal in the simplest way possible.

Discussion also focused on concrete recycling, with contractors explaining that concrete was frequently crushed and reused directly on job sites or transported directly to crushers or fill locations, and that much of this recycling activity may not be reflected in county recycling data. Subcommittee members discussed opportunities to better capture those recycling figures without creating new burdens.

In summary, Mr. Barnes acknowledged that stakeholders were generally aligned around a simpler approach focused on requiring materials to go to processing facilities while minimizing burdens on contractors. He noted there may also be opportunities to improve recycling rates by better tracking existing recycling activity that was already occurring. Clarification by was also requested by participants on whether municipalities were contractually required under the interlocal agreement to direct C&D material into the Solid Waste Authority system, noting conflicting interpretations had been provided at prior meetings.

C&D Recycle Program Tentative Phased Timeline – Not discussed.

Mandatory Commercial Recycle Program – Tentative Phased Timeline – Not discussed.

New/Old Business –

The SCS and RRS team was tasked with:

- Revising the draft C&D ordinance based on stakeholder feedback, noting support for a simpler direct-haul ban approach.
- Reevaluating project-level reporting requirements, recycling thresholds, certificate of occupancy penalties, and additional certification requirements due to stakeholder concerns over administrative burden and cost.
- Exploring a streamlined countywide ordinance requiring all C&D material to go to permitted processing facilities before landfill disposal.
- Identifying ways to better capture existing recycling activity already occurring outside current reporting systems, particularly concrete crushing and reuse.
- Obtaining legal clarification on whether municipalities were required under the interlocal agreement to direct C&D material into the Solid Waste Authority system.

Industry attendees were thanked for their valuable insight and critical participation in the workshop.

Adjournment - Motion: *A motion was made by Chair Mead and seconded by Vice Chair Horland to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Mead adjourned the meeting.*