

MEMORANDUM

To: Policy Board
From: Pauline Yoder, Interim Executive Director
Date: September 22, 2021
RE: Solid Waste Consultant

At the August Executive Committee meeting, the Committee approved coming before the Policy Board with a proposal to pursue a consultant to explore options and implications for the future of solid waste within the region. Potential options and implications to pursue would be as follows:

- Long-term / New Plant Options
 - Types of plants and associated costs
 - If moving location, choices of location and associated costs and implications (for example, Hartford would like to see a new location next to sewage treatment plant but would require shutting down of Brainerd airport. Other implications)
 - Permits and timing needed
- Short and Medium-term options costs and implications
 - Transfer to out of state landfill
 - Revive MIRA (short and medium term and
- Associated Costs: capital costs, ongoing and maintenance costs, required tonnage amount for waste for sustaining levels, etc.
- Alternative methods to apply to take various waste products out of the waste stream
 - feasibility and executability
 - challenges and opportunities

Staff recommends allocating funds from Regional Services Grant or the CRCOG Regional Fund for this purpose. Given the potential opportunity in other entities contributing funds to this effort, staff proposes up to \$75,000 for this purpose at this time.