

Proposed Vision and Policies

Staff proposed the following edits to the vision and policies for the 2024-2044 Dakota County Solid Waste Management Plan. Underlined and strike-through text show proposed changes from the current 2018-2038 county plan.

County Solid Waste Vision

The existing vision defines the desired solid waste management system to be implemented by the public and private sectors through efforts identified in the plan:

A comprehensive waste management system that protects, preserves, and enhances the environment and public health.

County Solid Waste Policies

The following policies define the county's position on specific issues and roles or actions that the County generally will take:

1. Prioritize waste management in preferred order: waste and toxicity reduction, reuse, recycling and organics recovery/diversion (prevention, consumable food rescue for people, food scraps for livestock, food for industrial uses, and then composting), resource recovery, land disposal.
2. Regulate waste in accordance with county ordinances.
3. Implement projects and programs toward achieving state laws, rules, and the Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Policy Plan goals and objectives.
4. Employ multiple approaches including educational, regulatory, and financial to meet the Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Policy Plan goals and objectives efficiently and effectively.
5. Collaborate with the private and public sector to address waste management issues.
6. Hold all persons, including waste generators and waste system operators, accountable for proper waste management and for following the County Solid Waste Management Plan.
7. Advocate for practical state and federal product stewardship laws that create effective, producer-led toxicity and source reduction, reuse, and recycling, with an emphasis on products that pose a public health or safety risk.
8. Seek external sources of funding to implement the county Solid Waste Management Plan and for long-term and post-closure care of landfills.

9. Engage the public in decisions that impact their communities with special emphasis on state-identified Environmental Justice Areas of Concern.