

# Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government

200 E. Main St  
Lexington, KY 40507



## Docket

Tuesday, May 13, 2025

1:00 PM

Council Chamber

**Environmental Quality and Public Works Committee**

## Committee Agenda

- [0388-25](#) Approval of Environmental Quality and Public Works Committee Summary
- [0486-25](#) Water Quality Management Fee Incentive Grant Program
- [1200-24](#) Waste Contamination Reduction Plan
- [0390-25](#) Items Referred to Committee

## Adjournment



# Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government Master

200 E. Main St  
Lexington, KY 40507

**File Number: 0388-25**

**File ID:** 0388-25

**Type:** Committee Item

**Status:** Agenda Ready

**Version:** 1

**Contract #:**

**In Control:** Environmental  
Quality and Public  
Works Committee

**File Created:** 04/16/2025

**File Name:** Approval of Environmental Quality and Public Works  
Committee Summary

**Final Action:**

**Title:** Approval of Environmental Quality and Public Works Committee Summary

**Notes:**

**Sponsors:**

**Enactment Date:**

**Attachments:** eqpw\_summary\_2025-04-22

**Enactment Number:**

**Deed #:**

**Hearing Date:**

**Drafter:**

**Effective Date:**

## History of Legislative File

Ver- sion:	Acting Body:	Date:	Action:	Sent To:	Due Date:	Return Date:	Result:
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### Text of Legislative File 0388-25

Title

Approval of Environmental Quality and Public Works Committee Summary



## Environmental Quality & Public Works (EQPW) Committee

April 22, 2025

### Summary and Motions

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Chair Hannah LeGris called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Committee Members Dave Sevigny, James Brown, Tyler Morton, Emma Curtis, Liz Sheehan, Denise Gray, Amy Beasley, and Hil Boone were present. Committee Member Joseph Hale was absent. Vice Mayor Dan Wu, Council Member Chuck Ellinger II, and Council Member Shayla Lynch were present as non-voting members.

#### I. APPROVAL OF MARCH 11, 2025 COMMITTEE SUMMARY

Motion by Morton to approve the March 11, 2025 Environmental Quality & Public Works Committee Summary. Seconded by Curtis. Motion passed without dissent.

#### II. URBAN FORESTRY / STREET TREES UPDATE

Heather Wilson, Urban & Community Forestry Section Manager, began with an overview of Urban Forestry and how trees provide Lexington with environmental, health, social, and economic benefits. She reviewed the canopy tree coverage statistics and future goals for the program. She spoke about the Lex Grow Trees campaign and reviewed the target areas for funding. There was an infusion to the Hazardous Street Tree (Cost-Share) Program to help clear the backlog. Pilot programs resulted in 389 trees being planted and addressed targeted goals. In round one, nine recipients received grant funding; in round two, six received grant funding. Lauren Gawthrop with Impression Marketing reviewed the survey results from 454 online surveys representing all Lexington zip codes. There were 37 survey questions with a combination of open-ended questions and ranking exercises to assess attitudes and feelings about trees. She mentioned the things Lexington residents said were of concern or things they love.

She reviewed a graphic to illustrate that a significant percentage of people understand the correct method for mulching, but there is still confusion about tree care practices. Wilson suggested never planting a tree over 1.5 inches in diameter. Planting larger-caliper trees provides an instant impact, but the smaller trees catch up and grow quickly. There is concern about areas where several trees are planted, but the trees are not growing. Wilson said mulching and pruning help, and the idea is to have a program dedicated to mulching and maintaining. Tree plotter software allows you to see the tree canopy grow. When asked about percentages and how they correlate to districts, Gawthrop said there wasn't a strong correlation.

Wilson noted that Fayette County Public Schools is engaged in increasing the canopy, but the University of Kentucky's grounds include agricultural research spaces that are not ideal for the canopy. Looking for ways to be impactful and increase tree canopy, Wilson said some rights-of-way are state-owned, and issues are with Traffic Engineering and the location. Spaces ideal for planting need to be free from being used for events, etc., and trees can also slow traffic. Regarding the Tree Canopy website, Wilson said the Tree Plotter is live, and she can work with each office to navigate this. **No action was taken on this item.**

### III. LEXTRAN SERVICES AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Fred Combs, General Manager of Lextran, provided an overview of Lextran's services and environmental impacts. Highlights for 2025 include Transit Center renovation, Collective Bargaining Agreements, micro-transit feasibility, on-time performance, technology systems improvements, hiring and retention, and paratransit outreach. There are 25 fixed-route service routes; paratransit services (Wheels) operate county-wide. Combs reviewed the micro-transit feasibility study, including data analysis, case studies, and preliminary findings. Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) is a bus service that mimics light rail: high frequency, dedicated lanes, faster boarding times, and unique branding. He reviewed environmental impacts such as replacing diesel with cleaner fuels, expanding CNG fueling, and installing solar lighting at bus stops. Looking ahead to 2026, the focus is on completing major projects, making fixed route service improvements, and incorporating new vehicles.

Combs confirmed the micro-transit study should be complete next month; however, implementation depends on securing funding. There was concern about the Wheels program when a passenger scheduled a ride in advance; however, they remained on the bus for a while before they arrived at their destination. Combs said they are working on improvements to the reservation process. Combs noted that micro-transit will not replace bus routes but must interface with the fixed route service. Combs confirmed the feasibility study will not be complete until after the fiscal year, and no funding is requested for micro-transit in their budget because their priority is service frequency. They are looking for partners because they can manage and operate the service; however, they can't justify diverting resources to micro-transit when they have other needs. Considering a pilot program to test this out, Combs said it would likely be over \$500,000 per year for one zone, but the feasibility study results will show the exact funding amounts. Combs confirmed they have not included money in their budget for a pilot program.

Regarding an additional study for implementing *Imagine Nicholasville Road*, including BRT, Combs said the study is close to completion. He noted that the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) manage this project. The study's outcome is what they would need to be able to write a grant, but there is uncertainty regarding federal grants at this time. Combs pointed out they don't have to wait to pull some of the elements of BRT into their current service. **No action was taken on this item.**

### IV. ITEMS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

No Action was taken on this item.

The meeting adjourned at 2:26 p.m.



# Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government

## Master

200 E. Main St  
Lexington, KY 40507

**File Number: 0486-25**

**File ID:** 0486-25

**Type:** Committee Item

**Status:** Agenda Ready

**Version:** 1

**Contract #:**

**In Control:** Environmental  
Quality and Public  
Works Committee

**File Created:** 05/08/2025

**File Name:** Water Quality Management Fee Incentive Grant  
Program

**Final Action:**

**Title:** Water Quality Management Fee Incentive Grant Program

**Notes:**

**Sponsors:**

**Enactment Date:**

**Attachments:** WQMF Grant Update final 05132025

**Enactment Number:**

**Deed #:**

**Hearing Date:**

**Drafter:**

**Effective Date:**

### History of Legislative File

Ver- sion:	Acting Body:	Date:	Action:	Sent To:	Due Date:	Return Date:	Result:
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### Text of Legislative File 0486-25

Title

Water Quality Management Fee Incentive Grant Program



# WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT FEE INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM

Director Charles H. Martin, P.E., Division of Water Quality

Environmental Quality & Public Works Committee

May 13, 2025





## **AGENDA**

- Brief Background
- Funding Categories and Goals
- Staff Goals
- Discussion







## BACKGROUND

### April 2009 Task Force Report to Council

- Provided recommendations for the fee that became Code of Ordinance Article XIV.
- One task force recommendation was creation of the incentive grant program.
  - Fund at approximately \$1,200,000 per year for grants to fund water quality oriented education programs, water quality projects and flood mitigation projects.
  - Allocate incentives grants among residential (\$200,000) and non-residential (\$1,000,000) properties.





## GRANT FUNDING SNAPSHOT 16 YEARS LATER

YEAR	ALLOCATION
2009	\$1,200,000
FY25	\$1,615,000

Section 16-410(8) requires 10% of total annual revenue to be allocated to the program.





## CURRENT INCENTIVE GRANT FUNDING STRUCTURE

Funding Description:	1 Class A Neighborhood	2 Class B Education (BE)	3 Class B Infrastructure (BI)	4 Change Order (CO)	5 Innovative & Experimentation (I & E)
Percentage of Annual Funding Allocated:	17.0%	6.0%	77.0%	Capped at 10% of the annual fiscal year's budget	<i>*Fund Receives no annual allocations</i>
Cost Share:	20.0%	20.0% beyond the first \$3,000	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%
Max Award:	\$120,000.00	\$40,000	\$360,000.00	Total Award including CO shall not exceed the maximum amount in columns 1-3	I&E awards are not to exceed the maximum for grant type





# Class A Neighborhood Scoring Sheet



RANKING CRITERIA	Point Range	Score
<b>1. PROJECT IMPACT (Up to 70 points total)</b>		
Does the project:		
1a) Install a feature that serves to improve water quality? If so, what is the size of the proposed BMP, project area AND/OR tree canopy where the improvements will occur? (i.e., SF, LF, Gal) Note: The tree canopy is calculated using Article 26-5(6)(e)2 of the LFUCG Zoning Ordinance with categories of trees found in Section VII of the LFUCG Planting Manual.		
i. > 1,000 SF; >1,500 LF; or >1,000 Gal	Circle one: 15	
ii. 501 to 1,000 SF; 751 to 1,500 LF; or 101 to 1,000 Gal	10	
iii. < 500 SF; <750 LF; or <100 Gal	5	
iv. 0 SF; 0 LF; or 0 Gal	0	
1b) Involve citizens in activities that improve water quality, reduce water pollution, etc., (i.e., plantings, installation of stormwater control devices, stream cleanups)?	0 to 5 points:	
1c) Educate citizens about water quality and stormwater related issues?	0 to 5 points:	
1d) Install a feature that serves to reduce stormwater runoff? If so, what is the drainage area to be treated by the project BMP(s) AND/OR the proposed tree canopy area - not including (1a)?		
i. > 20,000 SF	Circle one: 15	
ii. 5,001 to 20,000 SF	10	
iii. < 5,000 SF	5	
iv. 0	0	
1e) Address a known flooding, infrastructure, or water quality problem?	0 to 10 points:	
1f) Produce a long-term, sustainable benefit?	0 to 5 points:	
1g) Involve installation of a water quality BMP that addresses E. Coli pollution?		
i. Detention Basin, Wetland Basin, Bioretention, Retention Pond, or Media Filter	Circle one: 5	
ii. Subsurface Flow Wetlands, Permeable Pavement, or Engineered Media for Biofilters	4	
iii. Other (provide supporting data)	3	
1h) Fulfill one or more of the proposed BMPs of an approved Watershed Management Plan?	If YES: 5 points:	
1i) Involve restoration / maintenance of an impaired stream segment?	If YES: 5 points:	
<b>TOTALS:</b>		<b>0</b>
<b>2. PROJECT TEAM (Up to 20 points total)</b>		
2a) Project participants are clearly identified and committed?	0 to 5 points:	
2b) Project elements are well defined and feasible for the project team?	0 to 5 points:	
2c) Plan is in place for future use/maintenance of the project elements?	0 to 5 points:	
2d) Has applicant received a Stormwater Quality Projects Incentive Grant award in the past?	If NO: 5 points:	
<b>TOTALS:</b>		<b>0</b>
<b>3. COST EFFICIENCY (Up to 10 points total)</b>		
3a) Budget project elements are specific, justified, and reasonable?	0 to 10 points:	
<b>TOTALS:</b>		<b>0</b>



**Class A Neighborhood  
Scoring Sheet**

**Points of Emphasis**

**Footprint of  
improvement/contributing  
drainage area.**

**Level of grantee  
involvement/commitment.**

**Cost effectiveness.**





**Class B Education Scoring Sheet**

RANKING CRITERIA		Circle all that apply	Score
<b>1. PROJECT IMPACT (45% weight factor)</b>			
Does the project involve:			
1a) an educational component? (e.g., audience is taught about water quality issues etc.)		0 to 30 points:	
1b) citizens actively participating in tasks that improve water quality, reduce water pollution, etc. (i.e., plantings, installation of stormwater control devices, stream cleanups?)		0 to 30 points:	
1c) both educational and public involvement components?	If YES - circle all three: 1a), 1b), 1c)	10 points:	
1d) Is the project tied to a water quantity BMP project?	If YES:	10 points:	
1e) Is the project tied to a water quality BMP project?	If YES:	10 points:	
1f) Is the project tied to a water quality BMP that reduces <i>E. coli</i> pollution?	If YES:	5 points:	
1g) Does the project fulfill one or more of the proposed BMPs of an approved Watershed Management Plan?	If YES:	5 points:	
1h) Does the project involve educational programming about impaired stream segments?	If YES:	5 points:	
<b>TOTAL CATEGORY 1:</b>		<b>100</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>2. TARGET AUDIENCE (20% weight factor)</b>			
2a) Does the applicant have a well-defined target audience?		0 to 20 points:	
2b) What is the size of the target audience?			
i. > 5,000 people	Circle one:	45	
ii. 1,001 to 5,000 people		40	
iii. 501 to 1,000 people		35	
v. < 500 people		30	
2c) Does the applicant demonstrate a need for the program?		0 to 10 points:	
2d) Does the applicant link the program target audience to the proposed subject material?		0 to 25 points:	
<b>TOTAL CATEGORY 2:</b>		<b>100</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>3. PROJECT SUCCESS MEASURES (10% weight factor)</b>			
3a) Does the applicant demonstrate readiness and ability to create and implement the program?		0 to 25 points:	
3b) Does the applicant demonstrate readiness and ability to fund the cost sharing portion of the program?		0 to 25 points:	
3c) Does the applicant provide appropriate and quantifiable program success measures?		0 to 10 points:	
3d) Does the program result in a permanent improvement in the stormwater conveyance system and/or water quality (e.g., storm drain markers, stream cleaned, pollutant source removed, etc.)?		0 to 40 points:	
<b>TOTAL CATEGORY 3:</b>		<b>100</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>4. PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY (15% weight factor)</b>			
4a) Does the program contain a long-term component for ongoing education?		0 to 40 points:	
4b) Does the applicant have dedicated personnel available to implement the program on a long-term basis?		0 to 30 points:	
4c) Does the applicant document an ongoing source of funding for future program use? (beyond the grant end)		0 to 30 points:	
<b>TOTAL CATEGORY 4:</b>		<b>100</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>5. COST EFFICIENCY (10% weight factor)</b>			
5a) Budget project elements are specific, justified, and reasonable?		0 to 100 points:	
<b>TOTAL CATEGORY 5:</b>		<b>100</b>	<b>0</b>





**Class B Education  
Scoring Sheet**

**Points of Emphasis**

**Messaging connectivity with  
implementation of a BMP project.**

**Size/composition of target audience.**

**Long term viability of investment.**





# Class B Infrastructure Scoring Sheet

RANKING CRITERIA		Circle all that apply	Score
<b>1. PROJECT IMPACT (45% weight factor)</b>			
1a) Is the project located on a:			
i. Developed Class B parcel	Circle one:	15	
ii. Undeveloped Class B parcel		5	
1b) Will proposed improvements address a documented building or road flooding problem?			
		0 to 5 points:	
1c) Is the project site an LFUCG-designated high-risk commercial or industrial facility and address POCs?			
		0 to 15 points:	
1d) The impervious area (in square feet) to be removed, or retrofitted with a pervious surface AND/OR the proposed tree canopy area (in square feet) to be added multiplied by 1.5 (tree canopy is calculated using Article 26-5(6)(e)2 of the LFUCG Zoning Ordinance with categories of trees found in Section VII of the LFUCG Planting Manual):			
i. > 15,000 SF	Circle one:	15	
ii. 5,001 to 15,000 SF		10	
iii. < 5,000 SF		5	
iv. 0 SF		0	
1e) The drainage area to be treated by the project BMP(s) AND/OR the proposed tree canopy area - not including (1d):			
i. > 40,000 SF	Circle one:	15	
ii. 10,001 to 40,000 SF		10	
iii. < 10,000 SF		5	
iv. 0 SF		0	
Does the project involve:			
1f) installation of a water quality BMP in accordance with LFUCG design standards?		0 to 5 points:	
1g) installation of a water quality BMP that address <del>FC</del> pollution?			
i. Detention Basin, Wetland Basin, Bioretention, Retention Pond, or Media Filter	Circle one:	5	
ii. Subsurface Flow Wetlands, Permeable Pavement, or Engineered Media for Biofilters		4	
iii. Other (provide supporting data)		3	
1h) installation of a water quantity BMP in accordance with LFUCG design standards?		0 to 5 points:	
1i) installation of one or more proposed BMPs from an approved Watershed Management Plan?		If YES: 5 points: If NO: 0 points:	
1j) restoration / maintenance of an impaired stream segment?		If YES: 5 points:	
<b>TOTAL CATEGORY 1:</b>			<b>0</b>
<b>2. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION (10% weight factor)</b>			
2a) Does the applicant provide adequate documentation that the proposed BMP is appropriate for the future site			
		0 to 30 points:	
2b) Does the applicant provide documentation detailing how the proposed project will exceed the regulatory items requirements?			
		0 to 20 points:	
2c) Does the project team demonstrate readiness and ability to implement (i.e. feasibility, design, permit, construct) the proposed project / improvements?			
		0 to 20 points: If NO: 0 points:	
<b>TOTAL CATEGORY 2:</b>			<b>0</b>
<b>3. EDUCATION (15% weight factor)</b>			
3a) Will the project be used for future educational opportunities for personnel or the public?			
		0 to 10 points:	
3b) Is the project tied to a specific water quality / stormwater educational program and/or curriculum?			
		0 to 10 points:	
<b>TOTAL CATEGORY 3:</b>			<b>0</b>
<b>4. PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY (20% weight factor)</b>			
4a) Does the applicant demonstrate readiness and ability to develop and/or follow an industry standard Inspection, Operation, & Maintenance Plan once construction is completed?			
		0 to 25 points:	
4b) Does the applicant and/or owner have dedicated staff / contractor(s) available to perform future maintenance?			
		0 to 25 points:	
4c) Does the applicant document an ongoing source of funding for future maintenance?			
		0 to 25 points:	
4d) Does the applicant's plan allow for reasonable access to the BMP(s) for maintenance and monitoring?			
		0 to 25 points:	
<b>TOTAL CATEGORY 4:</b>			<b>0</b>
<b>5. COST EFFICIENCY (10% weight factor)</b>			
5a) Budget project elements are specific, justified, and reasonable?			
		0 to 10 points:	
<b>TOTAL CATEGORY 5:</b>			<b>0</b>







**Class B Infrastructure  
Scoring Sheet**

Points of Emphasis

Footprint of improvement/  
contributing drainage area.

Parcel classification.

Post construction educational  
opportunities.

Level of grantee  
involvement/commitment.

Cost effectiveness.





# Challenges

- Grant Cancellations

	Percentage Canceled of Awarded Amount														
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Class A Neighborhood	0%	0%	0%	38%	0%	35%	0%	0%	60%	0%	0%	3%	0%	3%	0%
Class B Education	0%	6%	0%	0%	4%	24%	0%	5%	0%	6%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Class B Infrastructure	0%	0%	18%	0%	86%	0%	0%	55%	57%	10%	11%	22%	23%	0%	0%

	Grant Amount Award	Canceled Amount	Percentage Cancelled
Class A Neighborhood	\$3,638,636.48	\$ 219,690.00	6%
Class B Education	\$1,365,815.01	\$ 23,687.20	2%
Class B Infrastructure	\$14,621,365.60	\$ 2,348,986.98	16%

- Cost
- Leadership changes with different priorities
- Organization moved and grant was tied to the property
- Lack of experience with the construction industry





## Opportunities

- Incentivize New Applicants
- Prioritize water quality enhancement and water quantity reduction
  - Not funding improvements unrelated to water quality/quantity
  - Not funding new impervious areas adjacent to a BMP
  - Prohibiting pond armoring without water quality enhancement
  - Incentivizing education, maintenance or restoration of impaired stream segments per the Division of Water's Integrated Report
  - Prioritizing projects that effectively treat E. Coli
- Included Research and Monitoring component to quantify BMP effectiveness and further research alternatives to LFUCG BMPs





## Direction

- Results driven implementation
  - Conclusion of the Watershed Focused Monitoring Plan enables future targeting of prioritized areas of Fayette County
  - Supports MS4 permit requirements to reduce pollutants from entering our waterways
- Begin quantifying effectiveness of local BMP installations
  - Determine which BMPs are performing well
  - Adjust where performance standards are not being met





# Discussion





# Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government

## Master

200 E. Main St  
Lexington, KY 40507

**File Number: 1200-24**

**File ID:** 1200-24

**Type:** Committee Item

**Status:** Agenda Ready

**Version:** 1

**Contract #:**

**In Control:** Environmental  
Quality and Public  
Works Committee

**File Created:** 11/21/2024

**File Name:** Waste Contamination Reduction Plan

**Final Action:**

**Title:** Waste Contamination Reduction Plan

**Notes:**

**Sponsors:**

**Enactment Date:**

**Attachments:** Contamination Workgroup EQPW Presentation 2025

**Enactment Number:**

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**Hearing Date:**

**Drafter:**

**Effective Date:**

### History of Legislative File

Ver- sion:	Acting Body:	Date:	Action:	Sent To:	Due Date:	Return Date:	Result:
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### Text of Legislative File 1200-24

Title

Waste Contamination Reduction Plan

# CONTAMINATION REDUCTION WORKGROUP

Antonio Baldon, Director  
Environmental Quality and Public Works Committee  
May 13, 2025



**LEXINGTON**





## Presentation Summary

- Overview
- General approach
- Milestones to date
- Next steps







## Project Overview



The Contamination Reduction Workgroup, made up of representatives from areas of Waste Management and the Department of Environmental Quality and Public Works, was formed out of the Waste Digester Task Force to examine and work towards reducing contamination rates in Lexington's recycling and yard waste streams.



The Workgroup has met monthly in 2025 to begin developing a recycling and yard waste contamination reduction plan for implementation by 12/31/2025.



The goal of the comprehensive plan is to reduce inbound contamination rates (currently ~35% for recycling and ~60% for yard waste) to those aligning with or surpassing the national average (17%).



The Workgroup includes members specializing in operations management, collections, enforcement efforts, education and outreach, and recycling and yard waste facility management.





## General Approach

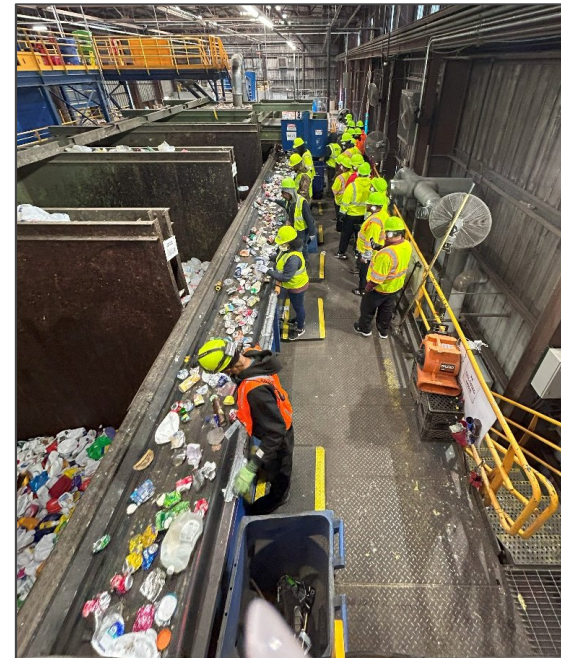
- Staff
  - Inform
  - Empower
  - Celebrate
- Public
  - Inform
  - Enforce
- Processes
  - Carts and dumpsters
  - Audits – facilities, carts/dumpsters
  - Affiliate agreements
  - Cart removal





## Staff Milestone: Inform, Empower, Celebrate

- Tours of the Materials Recovery Facility were given to all LFUCG Recycling Program Supervisors, Resource Recovery Operators and Public Service Workers
- Commissioner's Excellence Awards given out to exemplary employees





## Public Milestones: Inform

- Recycling Postcard mailed to homes first week of May
- Relaunch Recycle Education Plan process for recycle dumpster requests
- Ongoing outreach: mass and social media, tabling, etc.

**mixed recycling** Recycling is local. Please support our recycling program by recycling right.

### Recycle **ONLY** these items in Central Kentucky.



LexingtonKY.gov/Recycle  
LexCall 311 | 859.425.2255



### Recycling DON'Ts

- + A recycle symbol does NOT mean an item is recyclable; recycling is local
- + When in doubt, throw it out -- or ask; email or message Live Green Lexington
- + Do NOT bag recycling or put bags in your recycling cart
- + NO medical waste -- IV tubing, needles, etc.
- + NO hoses, chains, clothes or air pillows
- + NO electronics or batteries; visit LexingtonKY.gov/eWaste for electronic recycling info
- + NO compressed gas tanks like propane or helium; visit LexingtonKY.gov/HHW for hazardous waste disposal info
- + NO cookware, lawn furniture or any metal other than food containers

@LiveGreenLex  
LiveGreen@LexingtonKY.gov

200 E. Main St.  
Lexington, KY 40507  
LexCall 311 | 859.425.2255

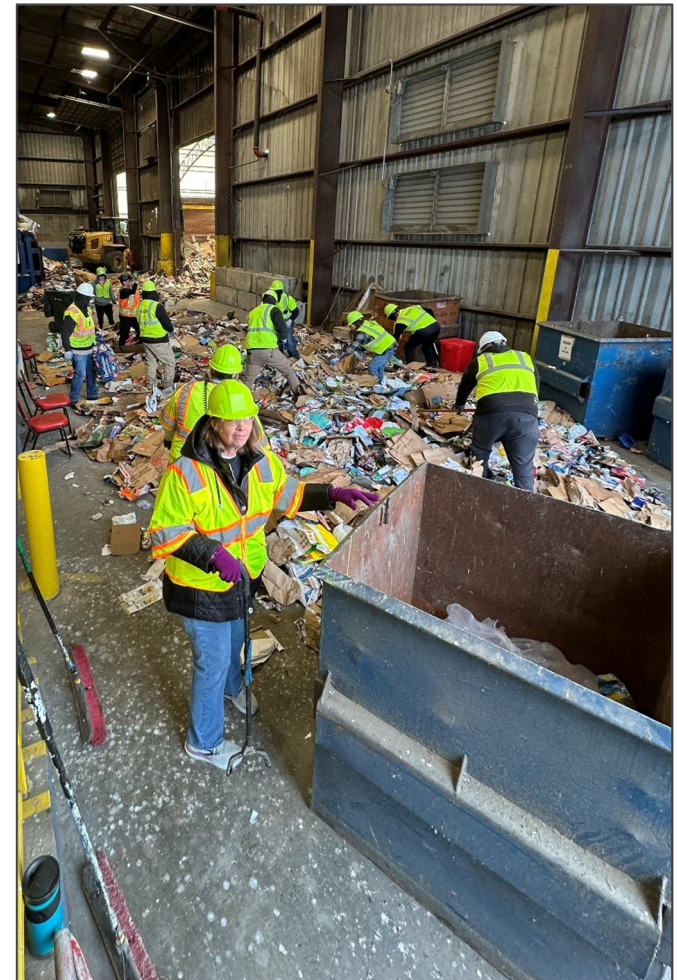
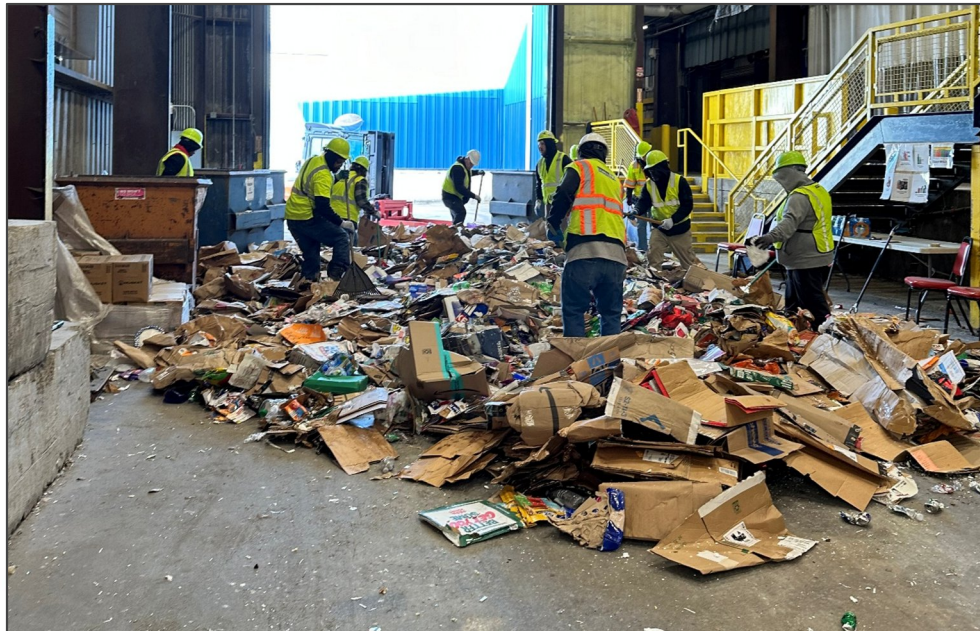




## Process Milestone: Audits

### Identifying sources of contamination

Audits performed in March & April 2025 to identify contamination types and hot spots for LFUCG residential recycling routes





## Process Milestones: Audits

- Residential Recycling Route Audits:
  - Total weight audited: over **2,400,000** pounds across **64** routes
  - Identified different types of contamination
    - Worst offenders: **car parts, medical waste, food waste**
  - Workgroup has linked highest contamination sources to specific recycling routes and residential areas to focus on in next phase





## Proposed Next Steps

- Additional Route Audits (MRF-based)
  - **Commercial and Multifamily** units
  - **Business** routes
  - **Private Haulers** utilizing the Lexington MRF
  - **Downtown** route (twice daily pickup)
- Cart changes
  - Color (cart and/or lid) – national standards and color contrast
  - RFID tags to track carts (pilot in Downtown route area soon)
  - Imprint on lids with acceptable materials (replace stickers)





## Proposed Next Steps

- Develop processes for city-service curbside audits
  - **Standards** for levels of contamination: (**green**=pass, **yellow**=needs work, **red**=fail)
  - **Training** for auditors to ensure consistency
  - **Notification** to customers
    - Postcards
    - Yard signs
    - “Oops tags”
  - Determine **consequence** for ongoing contamination







## Draft curbside process

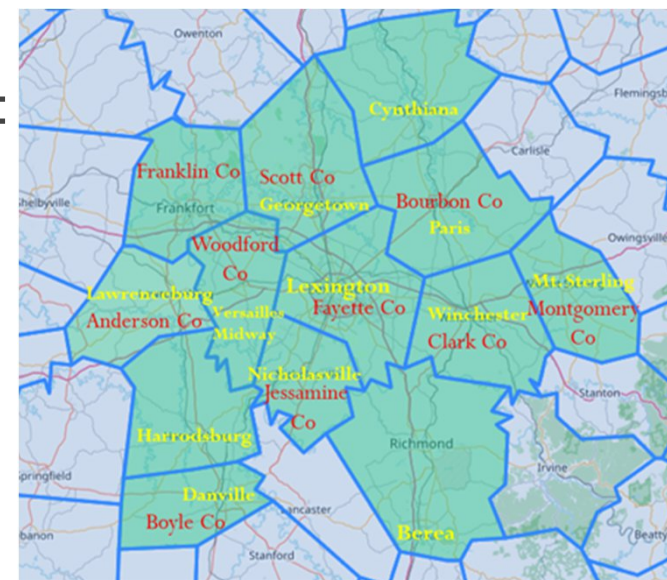
- All routes are audited regularly
- Routes with high contamination identified at the MRF will be audited
- Focus on removal after three serious violations
  - #1 red oops tag
    - Cart contents landfilled
    - General information on recycling provided
    - Specific feedback on mistakes provided
    - Encouraged to call 311 with questions
    - Automatic follow-up triggered
  - #2 red oops tag
    - Cart contents landfilled
    - General information on recycling provided
    - Specific feedback on mistakes provided
    - Contact information for a specific staff person provided, home visit offered
    - Automatic follow-up triggered
  - #3 red oops tag
    - Cart contents landfilled and cart removed
    - Information left on why
- Red strikes fall off after 12 months
- Provisions for carts to be reissued after a certain number of years or proof of new resident





## Proposed Next Steps

- Develop processes for Fayette Co. recycling dumpsters
- Develop process to identify and address contamination from affiliates
  - Update MRF Affiliate Agreement
  - Get affiliates to use correct outreach information
- Proposed timeline for contamination rate reduction:
  - 3-5% decrease by end of 4<sup>th</sup> quarter FY25
  - Additional 5-10% decrease by end of 1<sup>st</sup> quarter FY26
  - Additional 6-10% decrease by end of 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter FY26
  - By end of FY27, goal of 10-20% overall decrease in contamination, or 15-25% overall contamination rate



## Council Support

- Support for “oops tag” and cart removal process
- Assistance with communication
- Approval of new cart contract
- Approval of new affiliate agreement



# Questions?



**LEXINGTON**





# Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government

## Master

200 E. Main St  
Lexington, KY 40507

**File Number: 0390-25**

**File ID:** 0390-25

**Type:** Committee Item

**Status:** Agenda Ready

**Version:** 1

**Contract #:**

**In Control:** Environmental  
Quality and Public  
Works Committee

**File Created:** 04/16/2025

**File Name:** Items Referred to Committee

**Final Action:**

**Title:** Items Referred to Committee

**Notes:**

**Sponsors:**

**Enactment Date:**

**Attachments:** eqpw referral list\_05.13.25

**Enactment Number:**

**Deed #:**

**Hearing Date:**

**Drafter:**

**Effective Date:**

### History of Legislative File

Ver- sion:	Acting Body:	Date:	Action:	Sent To:	Due Date:	Return Date:	Result:
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### Text of Legislative File 0390-25

Title

Items Referred to Committee

COMMITTEE ITEMS REFERRED

Environmental Quality & Public Works (EQPW)

Referral Item	Current Sponsor	Date Referred	Last Presentation	Status	Legistar File ID
1 Odor Control Program Update	J. Reynolds	2023-10-31	2025-02-11		<a href="#">0140-24</a>
2 Coordination of ongoing maintenance for projects (infrastructure, beautification, etc.)	J. Reynolds	2024-08-20			
3 Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP)	L. Sheehan	2024-08-20	2025-02-11		<a href="#">0151-25</a>
4 Traffic Calming with Public Art and Quick Installations	L. Sheehan	2024-08-20			
5 Lextran Services and Environmental Impacts	H. LeGris	2025-02-11	2025-04-22		<a href="#">0389-25</a>
6 Haley Pike Solar Study	H. LeGris	2025-02-25	2025-03-11		<a href="#">0249-25</a>
7 Review of Water Quality Management Fee Incentive Grants Program	D. Sevigny	2025-02-25		2025-05-13	<a href="#">0486-25</a>
8 HB443 Related to Environmental Quality & Public Works	H. LeGris	2025-04-15			
9 Parking Citation Issuance During Winter Weather Emergencies	E. Curtis	2025-04-22			
Annual / Periodic Updates					
10 Live Green Lexington Update (Public Information and Engagement)	H. LeGris	2021-02-02	2024-10-22		<a href="#">0500-21</a>
11 Urban Forestry / Street Trees Update [Lex Grow Trees ]	H. LeGris	2019-09-17	2025-04-22		<a href="#">0501-21</a>
12 Capacity Assurance Program (CAP) Audit Update	H. LeGris	2018-08-30	2023-04-18		<a href="#">0964-20</a>
13 Energy Initiatives Update	H. LeGris	2017-01-10	2025-03-11		<a href="#">0572-22</a>
14 Snow & Ice Removal Plan	H. LeGris	2014-02-15	2024-10-22		<a href="#">1034-22</a>
15 Pavement Management Plan	H. LeGris	2020-05-26	2025-03-11		<a href="#">0440-22</a>
16 Stormwater Projects Update	H. LeGris	2018-02-20	2024-08-20		<a href="#">0922-22</a>
17 Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Update	H. LeGris	2018-02-20	2024-10-22		<a href="#">1122-22</a>
18 Consent Decree and Remedial Measures Plan Update	H. LeGris	2019-01-22	2024-12-03		<a href="#">0222-22</a>
19 Contamination Reduction and ASP Composting Biannual Update	D. Sevigny	2023-11-14	2024-12-03	2025-05-13	<a href="#">1200-24</a>

Updated 04.22.25, KJT