



**Florida Department of Environmental Protection
FY 2007-08 INNOVATIVE GRANT APPLICATION FORM**

Project Information (on applicant letterhead)

- 1) **Applicant Name:** Sarasota County Environmental Services
- 2) **Primary contact person:** Larry Alexander, Solid Waste Collections Manager
- 3) **Complete Address:** 2817 Cattlemen Road, Sarasota, FL 34232
- 4) **Telephone Number(s) (including SunCom number):**
(941) 861-6731 (telephone)
(941) 861-6740 (facsimile)
- 5) **E-mail address:** lalexand@scgov.net
- 6) **Project Title:**
Building Blocks to Increase C&D Debris Recovery Through Program Incentives
- 7) **Grant Request Amount:** \$ 220,000
- 8) **Length of project (months):** 24 months

Authorizing Signature

General Manager, Solid Waste – Environmental Services
Title

PROJECT ABSTRACT

(No more than 20 lines. Every word over 20 lines will constitute a one point deduction.)
(do not delete the instructions on this page)

Sarasota County (County) has long been concerned with recovering recyclable materials and established a recycling ordinance that mandates recycling of program recyclables from the residential and commercial sectors. This ordinance also states that all mixed recyclable construction and demolition (C&D) debris dispensed within the unincorporated portion of the County must be delivered to a C&D debris recycling facility. There are currently four C&D processing facilities in the County with an average gate rate of \$49.31. In addition, the County Board approved a program in September 2005 to expedite the processing time for permit, zoning and planning documents for developments, homes, and commercial buildings seeking FL Green Standards or US Green Building LEED certifications. In the summer of 2006, the Board requested that Solid Waste staff research ways to increase C&D debris program participation and recycling. The County recycled 22% of its estimated 114,021 tons of the C&D collected in 2004,¹ but the Board instructed staff to further investigate potential rewards/incentives for contractors to maximize recycling and recovery of C&D.

The County has identified some preliminary incentives and rewards programs and through this proposed innovative grant project will further investigate and identify one or more of these C&D incentives to pilot and implement. These incentives will be integrated within and complement some of the existing County Green sustainable programs. The incentives to be further evaluated and potentially piloted could include one or more of the following applications: financial, regulatory, programmatic, rewards-refunds-credits, recycling/reduction, certifications, and/or performance based. The County seeks to implement these incentives within a C&D Waste Management Plan (WMP) in order to recover much more C&D debris to help meet its waste reduction recovery goals of 60% by 2008, 65% by 2015, 75% by 2025, and a Zero Waste long-term goal.

¹ DEP MSW C&D Report for Sarasota County 2004

PROJECT DESCRIPTION (1 page)

C&D debris accounts for more than an estimated 25% of the municipal solid waste (MSW) in Florida. In 2004 Counties collected and generated approximately 11 million tons of C&D, recycled 1.4 million tons (13%) and disposed of 9.6 million of those tons (87%).² The County still needs to recover 78% of the C&D material disposed in its jurisdiction.³ The explosive growth within the County in the last seven years continues to drive the County's development of sustainable programs like C&D recovery to help meet its long-term Zero Waste reduction goals. The Sarasota County Board of Commissioners is concerned with the local disposal of C&D material within our jurisdiction and has requested staff to prepare and implement a C&D Waste Management Plan (WMP). The information below describes the seven areas of the WMP that will be researched and developed through the grant to significantly increase C&D recovery throughout the County.

(1) Local C&D Debris Generator Assessment: A survey will be performed at the scalehouse to identify the major waste generators delivering debris to the County's C&D processing facility at its Landfill. Staff will also survey the three other C&D processing facilities (WCA-Fruitville, Sun Coast Sanitation, and Recycle America). Staff is currently unaware of what percentage of generators are residential or commercial construction projects.

(2) Program Incentives to Be Investigated and Piloted:⁴ One or more of the preliminary incentive research examples identified will be piloted for implementation for a one-year period to be integrated with existing sustainable programs. 1) existing fast-track permitting links for C&D recycling (projects that commit to recycling 50% or more of C&D debris generated at a job site), 2) differential tipping fees for source separated materials (source separated wood/pallets, carpet padding, or concrete) 3) deposit-refund participation programs (\$500 rebate for C&D recycling program recovering more than 50%), 4) material landfill bans (concrete/asphalt), 5) tax credits and financing opportunities (FL Recycling Loan Program promotion), 6) mandatory ordinances (C&D recycling for construction projects over "x" value or square footage), 7) technical and education support materials (C&D tool kit) 8) builder recognition programs (annual awards program), 9) collection contracts that contain financial rewards for recycling performance (modify existing WCA contract for 75% or more recycling), 10) developer construction recycling demonstration project, and/or 11) certifying C&D recycling facilities meeting diversion goals (certification for 50% or more recovery).

(3) Local Collection and Processing Assessment: A marketing infrastructure assessment will occur to identify the materials that can be recycled locally. Hard to recycle C&D debris identified in the assessment will be further investigated to identify potential markets and future opportunities.

(4) Education and Outreach Program to Support Incentive Program and C&D Recovery: Educational and outreach material will be prepared for the building community. C&D materials to be prepared include: a) program website page, b) reuse and recycling directory, c) program tool kit (cover letter, incentive program flyer and brochure), d) FGBC and USGBC certification tracking for Sarasota County related projects, e) presentations at appropriate builder meetings, f) education and training workshops, and g) recognition/awards.

(6) Labor or Interns for Program Support: Staff will seek to obtain intern staff to train and be actively involved in the education and outreach program to the building community from one of the following local Universities: Manatee Community College/Venice Branch, University of South FL, and New College.

(7) Capital, Equipment and Supplies Assessment and Procurement: Staff will investigate the purchase of equipment, computer hardware and software, and video that will help support any tracking mechanism that might be put into place to help verify and measure program participation and tonnage information from the program objectives.

² DEP MSW C&D Report for the State of Florida, 2004

³ DEP MSW C&D Report for Sarasota County, 2004

⁴ County Board approval will be needed for some of the incentives listed (e.g. differential tipping fees).

Criteria 1: TECHNOLOGIES or PROCESSES

(1 page)

(do not delete the instructions on this page)

(20 points) The range of scoring is between 0 and 20 points, with up to 10 points for meeting one of the following sub-criteria, up to 15 points for meeting two, and up to 20 points for meeting all three. Note: applicant may adjust space used to address each sub-criteria.

Sub-criteria 1 – Not in common use in Florida.

Program incentives are utilized in the State of California, but zero are used in Florida. Some of the preliminary research performed by the County was also gathered from California, Washington, Oregon and North Carolina where C&D recycling rates are higher and show that incentive based programs have a direct correlation to increase recycling. From our research, there appears to be no County in Florida with a comprehensive incentive based C&D Waste Management Plan (WMP). The County will utilize the incentive strategy to increase recycling and reuse of C&D materials to show this correlation.

Sub-criteria 2 – Novel application of an existing technology or process.

The County's approach is novel in that it will utilize program based incentives to motivate the building sector to actively participate in a C&D recycling program. The County requires its contractor at its Knight's Trail (KT) landfill to recycle 50% of the C&D material that it processes at the processing facility. But with the three additional C&D processors in the community, the County's facility does not receive all the C&D generated in the County so a majority of the debris is still not recycled. And most of the local building community is not aware of the recycling activity in the County. The project will promote its existing C&D infrastructure to the local building community. In addition, the County will seek to tie in program incentives (e.g. differential tipping fees for source separated material, processor certification) to the existing collection, processing, and marketing infrastructure. The County will also investigate how the local community may be more readily able to recycle unmarketable C&D debris such as drywall and untreated, clean woody waste.

Sub-criteria 3 – Overcoming obstacles to recycling/waste reduction in new or innovative ways.

The proposed project overcomes obstacles by directly addressing the issues that may be deterring additional C&D diversion in the County. They address the following:

- Expediting construction permitting turn-around-time translates into substantial dollar savings for owners.
- Encourages source separation of C&D recyclable materials through reduced tipping fees.
- Provides financial support information to entrepreneurs or processors interested in expanding the local infrastructure.
- Deposits, rebates and refunds encourage maximum participation and participation completion of program participants.
- Allows for salvaged material to be reused within local government projects.
- Allows for new construction materials to be reused within the community or sold through retail stores.
- Certifying processing facilities ensures generators receive maximum recycling of debris material.
- Awarding and recognizing participants encourages others to want to follow suit.
- Regulatory actions ensure immediate debris generator compliance and helps local government meet its goals.
- Provides incentives for Green Building by assisting owners seeking certification with obtaining credit points for C&D recycling over 50%.

Criteria 2: TARGETS

(1 page)

(do not delete the instructions on this page)

(10 Points) Demonstrate innovative processes to collect and recycle or reduce these targeted materials/sectors: Construction and Demolition Materials, Commercial/Institutional Sectors, Hurricane Debris, Pay-As-You-Throw and Waste Tires. Note: if the proposed project also includes materials/sectors other than those targeted by this criteria, the project will receive less than the maximum 10 points allocated for the criteria.

Target Introduction⁵

This project targets C&D debris from the commercial and institutional sector. According to the County's Economic Development Council's (EDC) community profile for 2006-2007, thousands of new residents move into the County each year. The County's population had grown to an estimated 358,000 full time residents by 2004. The 2010 estimated population is expected to be just shy of 400,000. Many of these new residents and existing residents build new homes, remodel old homes, start new businesses, build their own business offices, or remodel existing space they lease. The primary sector supporting this new growth is the local building community. For example in the Town of North Port, more than 1 million square feet of commercial real estate, predominately office space, was under construction or permitted in 2005. In 2004, more than 1 million square feet of commercial and industrial warehouse space was added in Sarasota and Manatee counties in 2004 or 22% more than in 2003. Additionally, of the top ten major manufacturing employers in the County, four manufacture products for the construction industry.

Planning for growth requires County staff to make many decisions regarding policy decisions regarding infrastructure, land use, economic development and environmental protection. In order to make decisions to protect the environment and develop sustainable programs, the County will target the following:

Target Audience:

Primary: Commercial and Industrial Sector: Developer and owners of the local building community that constructs residential homes/developments/communities and commercial buildings/office complexes/industrial parks. The County also owns, builds, leases, and remodels property.

Secondary: Commercial Sector: Builders and contractors with the local building community that do business within the local business community.

Target Material:

Primary: Construction and demolition debris entering disposal facilities diverted for recycling.

Secondary: Construction and demolition debris entering disposal facilities diverted for reuse and salvage.

Target Audience Message:

Building Blocks to Successful C&D Recovery - The County is providing its local building sector with innovative processes to collect and recycle or reduce the generation of C&D debris material and divert it from the local landfills through a comprehensive Construction Waste Management Plan (WMP).

⁵ Sarasota County, Florida, Prosperity by Design, Community Profile 2006-2007 Edition.

Criteria 3: BENEFITS/ COST-EFFECTIVENESS

(1 page)

(do not delete the instructions on this page)

(25 points) Demonstrate the potential economic, environmental, and cost-effectiveness of the program's approach. Note: applicant may adjust space used to address each sub-criteria.

Sub-criteria 1 - Environmental Benefits (5 points).

Methodology:

The proposed C&D Waste Management Plan (WMP) will include the items described in detail on the Project Description page, but also include the development of (Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Practices) EPP educational materials that include information about job design and product use efficiencies. Additionally, a partnership and an awareness campaign will be made between the local reuse and salvage center and the building community and residents to promote reuse and salvage to a local center. Lastly, C&D debris material will be targeted for recycling for delivery to local vendors and appropriate material utilized for organic applications in the community.

Toxicity: Builder educational material will be developed to encourage the use of building products/materials that contain recycled content and that also emit none or nominal volatile organic compounds for the following building materials - adhesives/sealants/paints/coatings carpeting/composite wood. These certification programs have a high level of interest in the improvement of indoor environmental air quality of building occupants and the outdoor environment.

Sub-criteria 2 – Economic Benefits (5 Points).

Implementing incentive based programs provide financial rewards, rebates, reductions in tipping fees to builder/owner participants. Solid waste staff will work the County's Economic Development Corporation and the DEP to provide local building industry entrepreneurs with information on financial assistance (incentives) to help foster C&D related business opportunities and employment. The County will seek additional material recovery, receive less material for disposal, dispose less material, and save landfill space by offering economic incentives such as differential tipping fees to its building community.

Sub-criteria 3 – Cost-Effectiveness (15 Points).

Commercial construction generates between 2 and 2.5 pounds (lbs) of solid waste per square foot. Reducing, recycling and diverting C&D in a State that is constantly growing is important to Florida's overall sustainability practices. The project will make the most cost effective use of the County's existing departmental programs as described in detail on the Sustainability page of this proposal. By having this existing foundation established the program has already leveraged its ability to obtain successful results in a shorter time frame than with most programs that do not already have these integrated departmental programs in place. The building community could benefit through program incentives that provide differential tipping fees that could save them anywhere from 25-50% for source separated material or for vendors that provide collection containers and revenue share for metal materials from construction sites. Additionally, if 25% of the County's C&D tons disposed (89,063) was diverted, this could save approximately \$1.1 million dollars in gate/disposal fees.⁶ This diversion saves approximately 178,126 cubic yards of saved landfill space.⁷

⁶ DEP 2004 Sarasota C&D tons disposed 89,063 x 25% x \$49.31 average gate/tip fee.

⁷ Assumes 1,000 lbs./cubic yard density of landfilled wastes.

Criteria 4: SUSTAINABILITY: (1 page)

(do not delete instructions on this page) - (25 points) -- Demonstrate the sustainability of the proposed program.

Sarasota County has already made a sustainability investment and commitment through its progressive waste reduction goals and long-term goal of Zero Waste which are incorporated and supported in its 20 year Solid Waste Management Plan (WMP). Additionally, the County has in place a number of ordinances and resolutions, recycling programs, inspection programs, processor contractual obligations, permit incentives and, most importantly, a sustainability department that fosters sustainability and environmental stewardship targeting the local construction and demolition industry. These six existing commitments by the County all help to support the proposed C&D debris incentive program and WMP. They are described below.

(1) Ordinances: These ordinances include mandating that all businesses in the unincorporated areas of the County recycle. And designates that all mixed recyclable C&D debris dispensed within the unincorporated County must be delivered to a C&D Debris Recycling Facility (CDRF).

(2) Demolition and Renovation Inspections: County staff offers and performs free on site solid and hazardous waste demolition and renovation inspections at job sites to ensure all hazardous components have been removed or disposed of properly.

(3) C&D Contractor Processing Recycling Requirement: The County has a contract with the vendor that operates its C&D processing facility at its Knights Trail Landfill. The contract requires the processor to recycle 50% of debris material received. The material recovered and recycled include: clean concrete, untreated wood pallets, carpet padding, land clearing debris/vegetation, ferrous and non-ferrous metals, and latex paint.

(4) Permit Incentives: The County currently has in place a Green Building permit application procedure or fast track and refund program for commercial buildings or residential homes that are certified under US Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) or Florida Green Building Coalition Green Standards.

(5) Sustainable Sarasota: The County initiated its Green Building program in 1999 and is a recognized leader in green building and has established a number of green design projects in the County. The County just doesn't "talk the talk" but it "walks the walk" when it comes to being a local community example to its residents and businesses with the intention that all future government building construction meet high performance building standards. It created a department called Sustainable Sarasota to spearhead this initiative.

(6) Green Business Partnership Program (GBPP): The GBPP is a newly established and ongoing program that encourages resource conservation and recognizes businesses that operate in an environmentally responsible manner. This program offers free waste assessments and certification for Green efforts. Buildings are constructed in many shapes and sizes and the type of building dictates the function of its occupants and the waste generated. These buildings generate on a daily basis the following amount of waste per square footage (warehouses – 1.5 lbs, office buildings 1 lb, department stores – 1 lb, restaurants 2 lbs, supermarkets – 7 lbs, schools – 6 lbs/room, hospitals – 20 lbs/bed, and clubs – 1.5 lbs).⁸

The County's goal as the most progressive in Florida is committed to expanding our progressive program by targeting the remaining 78% of our non-recycled C&D. These tons represent the growth in our community and we want to recover them through our proposed project. These are the county's building blocks to foster sustainable development as well as Green Building.

⁸ Lbs/SF/Day - USGBC LEED 2.2 NC Reference Guide, page 188.

Criteria 5: TRANSFERABILITY

(1 page)

(do not delete the instructions on this page)

(10 Points) Demonstrate transferability of technology and processes and specify how the project will promote transferability. Note: applicant may adjust space used to address each sub-criteria.

Sub-criteria 1 – Transferability of technology and processes (5 points).

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) estimates that C&D debris accounts for approximately 25% of the State's municipal solid waste stream. In 2004 Counties collected and generated approximately 11 million tons of C&D, recycled 1.4 million tons (13%) and disposed of 9.6 million of those tons (87%).⁹ C&D debris is generated in every County and City in Florida and every jurisdiction is concerned with managing its C&D debris material. The entire State continues to grow each year with new residents, seasonal population residents, and tourists entering Florida. There is tremendous opportunity to increase the recovery of C&D debris and to divert this material from disposal facilities. The program incentive research gathered by the County and the incentives identified to be piloted can be utilized by other local governments in developing a comprehensive C&D Waste Management Plan (WMP) similar to that of Sarasota County. The direct benefits include the following materials to be distributed to and shared with other local governments.

1. Sample C&D WMP detailing the comprehensive and innovative approach taken by the County.
2. C&D incentives research report with varying incentives that have application to all types of demographically diverse populations.
3. C&D pilot report information regarding the incentive(s) chosen and project results.
4. C&D educational and outreach material for business owner/developer and contractors
5. C&D recycling and reuse directory.
6. "How To" guide on linking C&D programs across various local government departments (e.g., permitting, sustainability, inspections)
7. "How To" guide linking C&D programs with other Recycling/Green Building certification programs.

Sub-criteria 2 – How project will promote transferability (5 points).

The seven documents and results listed in sub-criteria 1 of this page will be transmitted to other local governments and the building community throughout Florida, through the following organizations and avenues.

- 1) Presentation request and press release to the building related associations and publications in Florida
- 2) Press release and conference presentation submittal to the Florida Green Building Coalition
- 3) United States Green Building Council's Florida Chapters
- 4) Press release, issues forum workshop, and conference presentation submittal to the Recycle Florida Today
- 5) Press release and conference presentation submittal to the SWANA Florida Sunshine Chapter
- 6) Notification to all county recycling coordinators of an I-grant program page on the Sarasota County website
- 7) Include C&D Education Component in any future "Green" education local government/community workshops and events hosted by the County's Sustainable Sarasota Department
- 8) Press release to the local media (newspapers and TV stations)

⁹ DEP MSW C&D Report for the State of Florida, 2004

Criteria 6: LOCAL SUPPORT

(1 page) -- (do not delete the instructions on this page)

(10 Points) Demonstrate local support for the proposed project in commitment of cash or in-kind matching funds. Please provide the name, address and phone number of ALL contributors. (Points will be allocated for only those contributors located within the jurisdiction of the applicant.)

- **00 points** **0% up to and including 1% of total project cost**
- **01 points** **Greater than 1% up to and including 10% of total project cost**
- **02 points** **Greater than 10% up to and including 20% of total project cost**
- **03 points** **Greater than 20% up to and including 30% of total project cost**
- **04 points** **Greater than 30% up to and including 40% of total project cost**
- **05 points** **Greater than 40% up to and including 50% of total project cost**
- **06 points** **Greater than 50% up to and including 60% of total project cost**
- **07 points** **Greater than 60% up to and including 70% of total project cost**
- **08 points** **Greater than 70% up to and including 80% of total project cost**
- **09 points** **Greater than 80% up to and including 90% of total project cost**
- **10 points** **Greater than 90% up to and including 100% of total project cost**

Listed below are the local support partners with their **in-kind** contribution that **total: \$ 47,500**

1. Large and Small Commercial Construction Material Retailers and Suppliers - (\$5,000)

a) There are numerous Home Depots and one Lowe's in the County. Contact has been made with their corporate offices regarding participation.

b) Kimal Lumber, Craig Bernsten, 484-9721, 400 Riverview Drive, Nokomis, FL 34275

2. Reuse/Salvage (e.g., Habitat for Humanity- HFH and Architectural Salvage) - (\$7,500)

a) HFH, Cas Azera, 941-363-0777, 1757 N. East Avenue, Sarasota, FL 34234

b) Architectural Salvage, Jessie White, 941-362-0803, 1093 Central Avenue, Sarasota, FL

3. C&D Recycling Facilities in the County - (\$7,500)

a) WCA, Jim Larson, 941-486-1352, 8001 Fruitville, Sarasota, FL 34240

b) SunCoast Sanitation, Mike Frost, 941-359-8803, 3971 Carmichael Avenue, Sarasota, FL 34234

4. Sarasota Home Builder's Association (Private) - (\$2,500)

Home Builders Association of Sarasota County, Ellie Gibeau, 941-412-9696, 395 Commercial Court, Ste A-E, Venice, FL 34292

5. Sarasota County Development Service Advisory Committee (SCDSAC) (Public) - (\$2,500)

The SCDSAC is a committee put together by the County of the local representatives from the major building community. Environmental Services staff has the ability to present to this group. Larry Alexander, Sarasota County, 941-861-6731, 2817 Cattlemen Road, Sarasota, FL

6. Sarasota County Departments, (Public) - (\$20,000)

a) Jodi John, *Sustainability*, 941-861-6734, 2817 Cattlemen Road, Sarasota, FL 34232

b) Paul Radauskas, *Permitting and Inspection Services*, 941-861-6637, 1301 Cattlemen Road, Sarasota, FL 34232

c) Tom Franklin, *Solid Waste*, 941-861-1572, 4000 Knight's Trail Road, Nokomis, FL 34275

7. Keep Sarasota County Beautiful (Non-Profit) - (\$2,500)

Sandra Washington, 941-861-6733, 2817 Cattlemen Road, Sarasota, FL 34232

BUDGET

(1 page using Budget Table Template)
(do not delete the instructions on this page)

Describe the project's budget allocated by task and budget categories per the Budget Table Template available from DEP's Innovative Grants web site in Microsoft Excel digital format
www.dep.state.fl.us/waste/categories/recycling/pages/InnovativeGrants2007-08.htm).

SEE ATTACHED EXCEL DOCUMENT.