COLORADO
Department of Public Health & Environment

Dedicated to protecting and improving the health and environment of the people of Colorado

July 8, 2016

Dear Colorado Resident,

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment is pleased to announce the completion of the 2016 Integrated Solid Waste & Materials Management Plan for Colorado. This Plan was prepared by well qualified consultants to the department and is the result of extensive research, on-the-ground assessments, and feedback from many within the solid waste industry including waste management companies, local governments, recycling companies, non-profits, and other members of the public. The Plan includes a detailed evaluation of existing solid waste management and recycling services statewide and makes a series of recommendations to improve solid waste and materials management throughout Colorado over the next twenty years.

The Plan includes goals and action items at both the state and local levels to improve waste management and to improve waste diversion through recycling, composting and other materials management methods. The Plan also includes a list of recommendations and steps to encourage and stimulate a shift in Colorado from solid waste disposal to sustainable materials management.

In addition, the Plan is intended to provide guidance to local communities for improvement in waste management and waste diversion operations. The department is confident that the cost analysis information within the Plan will be particularly beneficial for local governments that are struggling with the financial aspects of solid waste disposal and landfill operations. The Plan provides strategies and recommendations for local governments to use in their decision-making.

CDPHE greatly appreciates the valuable input we received at the stakeholder meetings. We look forward to partnering with you while implementing the department's mission of protecting human health and the environment.

As we announce completion of this 2016 Integrated Solid Waste & Materials Management Plan, we are also opening a 60-day public comment period on the Plan. Any comments received will be considered as we implement the Plan over the coming years. To facilitate additional input, we have prepared a short survey that will give us some specific information. However, if you have additional comments, please submit them. To read the Plan, complete the survey, or provide additional comments, please visit our website at https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/integrated-solid-waste-management-plan .

Sincerely,

Joe Schieffelin, Program Manager
Solid Waste & Materials Management Program
Hazardous Materials & Waste Management Division