



Landfill Info Sessions

June 28 - 30, 2022



Agenda

- Why we're here
 - Ground Rules
 - History of the landfill
 - Town and County things to consider
 - Options to Consider
 - Resident & Property Owner Input
 - Other Input Process Steps
- 

Why we're here

Causewave's role

Facilitate a process to garner resident and property owner input on the future of the landfill

- Nonprofit focused on community improvement across Finger Lakes and WNY
- Partner to Ontario County on Department of Sustainability and Solid Waste Strategic Plan
- Engaged as neutral party for three town sessions

Your role

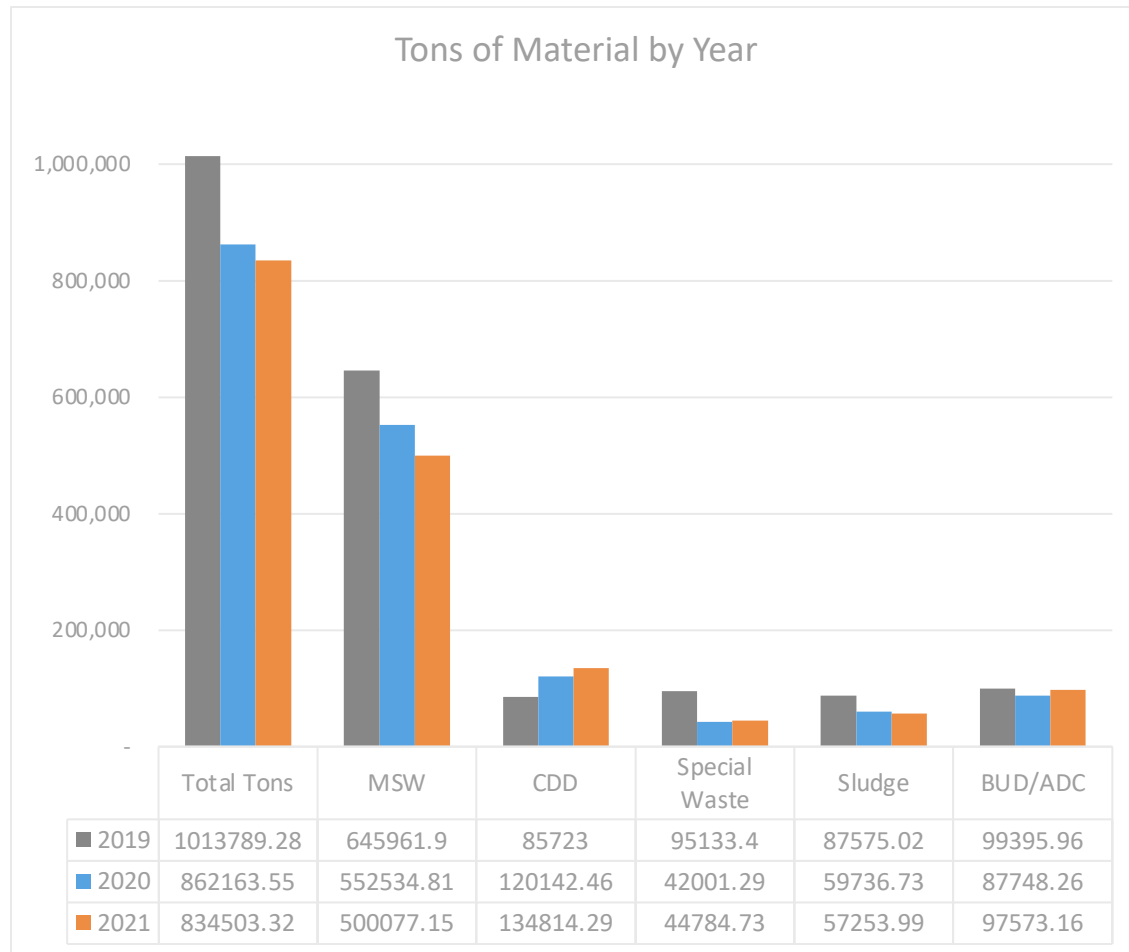
Offer the Town of Seneca Board your thoughts on the future of the landfill

- Hear the background of the landfill and overview of options
- Provide resident and property owner input through listening and sharing at tonight's session
- Complete the input survey following the session (or in the online survey)

Session Ground Rules

- Input sharing will be limited to Town of Seneca residents and property owners
- Comments will be held for public input portion of the meeting after the presentation has completed
- We will go row by row starting in the front of the room
- If you would like to speak, raise your hand and you will be called on in the order you are sitting in each row
- One person will be allowed to speak at a time
- Each guest will be given one minute to speak with additional time at the end if available
- Please keep your remarks brief and on the topic of the landfill
- Avoid using inappropriate language
- Please refrain from verbal abuse towards other participants
- Any participant in violation of any of these ground rules may be asked to leave

Landfill History



- From 1974 to 2003 Ontario County ran the landfill with limited outside assistance
- In November of 2003 the county entered a 25 year lease with Casella Waste Services

CURRENT STATE OF THE LANDFILL

- Lease with Casella Waste until 2028.
- County holds all landfill permits.
- Annual waste material has decreased over the last three years
- Nearing capacity in current footprint
- Accepts up to 2,999 tons of waste daily.

Costs of Hosting the Landfill

- Traffic increase and road wear
- Litter over the roads in town
- Odors to surrounding areas, and those driving by the landfill
- Unattractive view of the Finger Lakes for visitors
- Impact on farming
- Long lasting implication of the landfill after closure
- Unknown issues yet to be identified

Financial Implications of the Landfill

COUNTY

- \$2 - 2.5 million annually
- Two annual hosted household hazardous waste collection events
- Scholarship fund for local students: \$22,000 annually.
- No tipping fee for residentially generated in-county recycling
- 2016 Expansion Permit payment: \$1,307,559 annually
- Full environmental liability coverage

TOWN OF SENECA

- Host fees between \$1.7 and 2 million annually are used to pay town taxes and buy down county taxes
- Free waste disposal for residents at transfer station
- Property Protection Plan
- Recreation Area: development of a recreation area with \$10,000 annual payment for operation and maintenance
- Fire protection fee - \$15,000 annually to be distributed to the fire districts within the town
- Septic system upgrades along 5&20

Options to Consider

- Plan to close the landfill and identify alternative options for waste disposal
- Negotiate a new contract to expand the horizontal and/or vertical footprint of the landfill in order to continue operations

What Expansion Could Look Like

- Opportunity to negotiate based on past experiences.
- Reduce daily tonnage to pre-Casella levels (2,000 tons daily).
- Limit waste intake to a specific regional area, i.e. no downstate waste
- Limit types of waste accepted, i.e. no out of county sludge.
- Special waste collection site: open weekly for residents to drop off the harder to get rid of items (electronics, paint, batteries, HHW). Could happen without expansion.
- Continued Materials Recovery Facility (MRF - Recycling Facility) operations

Town Tax Implications of Closure

- \$500,000 of landfill revenue is used to buy down county taxes each year
 - Property owner tax implications equates to approximately \$2.00 per thousand of assessed property value
- Additional \$1.5 million in revenue, if lost would need to be replaced with property owner tax implications of approximately \$7.00 per thousand of assessed property value
- A total of \$9.00 per thousand of assessed property value would need to be levied without landfill revenue
- For the average home in the town that is worth \$150,000 that would be a \$1,350 increase in taxes
- Town has been saving money in a tax stabilization fund that will be used to ease a rise in taxes over several years, rather than one large increase
- Town could reduce some spending to lower the tax rate

What Could the Site Be Used For

- Transfer station: central location for local haulers and municipalities to utilize versus hauling directly to other landfills
- Special waste collection site: open weekly for residents to drop off the harder to get rid of items (electronics, paint, batteries, HHW).
- Continued Materials Recovery Facility (MRF - Recycling Facility) operations
- Organics management facility



**Resident
and Property Owner
Input**

Other Input Process Steps

- Three town sessions (6/28-6/30)
- Survey
 - Two ways to access
 - Paper survey at tonight's session and at the town hall
 - Online survey link will be shared via email and on the Town's website
 - Deadline for completing the survey is July 15th
 - Survey and input will be summarized and shared in August



**Thank
You**