

SOLID WASTE

Background:

The City of Newport acquired its present sanitary landfill site in 1964-65. Located just north of Newport's urban growth boundary (UGB), the site covers an area of 53 acres. The operation of the landfill is contracted by the Lincoln County Solid Waste Consortium.

In 1971, the legislature amended ORS 451 by adding 451.555, which allowed county service districts to be formed for the purpose of comprehensive planning of public facilities. Lincoln County, the City of Newport, and four other cities formed a solid waste advisory committee in that year. The committee worked with a consultant, U.M.A. Nortec, Inc., and finished preparing a solid waste management plan for Lincoln County in June of 1974; this was part of a comprehensive water, sewerage, and solid waste management plan. In December of 1974, the plan was essentially approved by the State Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) with certain conditions. The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners then ordered the plan adopted with modifications in April of 1975.

In 1976, the voters of Lincoln County approved a bond measure to fund the adopted plan. The plan called for a refuse processing facility to be located at the existing City of Newport landfill. It was to have a grinding facility, air classification system, and--at some future date--a conveyor belt driven magnetic separator. The combustible fraction was to be sold to Georgia Pacific for boiler fuel, and non-recoverable or non-recyclable materials were to be buried in the landfill. A new site was also to be located for future landfill purposes. This plan, however, was never implemented.

The Environmental Quality Commission ordered the closure of the three main landfill sites in Lincoln County in 1978, and, in January of 1979, the County Commissioners decided to hire a new consulting firm to perform a new study for a landfill site only. R.A. Wright Engineering completed this study,¹ and they also prepared a Preliminary Design and Operational Plan for the finally selected site at Moolack Creek. This site covered approximately 100 acres and was estimated at that time to be sufficient through 1990. The Lincoln County Solid Waste Consortium is currently considering alternatives for solid waste disposal once the facility is full and closed. It appears that trucking the waste to a site that can accept the refuse is the best alternative. The city has and will continue to work closely with Lincoln County to assure adequate and environmentally acceptable disposal of solid waste.

¹ R.A. Wright Engineering, Solid Waste Landfill Site Search, Phase I, for Lincoln County, 1979.

GOALS/POLICIES
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Goal 1: To provide for the solid waste disposal for the City of Newport in an efficient and environmentally sensitive manner.

Policy 1: Lincoln County shall take the lead role in the provision of solid waste disposal. The City of Newport will coordinate on solid waste disposal by continuing to have representation at the Solid Waste Consortium or its successor.

Policy 2: The city shall be in compliance with state and federal solid waste regulations.

Policy 3: The city shall encourage recycling.