



CITY OF RAPID CITY

Public Works Department Solid Waste Division

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Public Works Committee & City Council

The Rapid City Solid Waste Department is requesting approval for the creation of a new full-time position of "Solid Waste & Recycling Educator". This position would be responsible for the development of promotional programs and materials to increase public awareness and participation in diversion programs involving schools, public spaces recycling, business and large venue recycling, City clean up events, and internal City department recycling in all areas within the City and landfill service area.

This position would be a non-union position and report directly to the Superintendent of Solid Waste Operations. The City curbside recycling participation rate is only around 30-35%. A significant amount of recyclable are buried in the landfill each day simply because they are not being diverted to the correct waste stream.

This creation of an Educator position was recommended in the 2010 Solid Waste Management Plan, recommended as a priority by the Rapid City Green Sustainable Cities advisory group, and recommended for creation by the Rapid City Recycling/Solid Waste Committee. Funding for this position has been included in the 2012 Solid Waste budget, with the position anticipated to be filled in January 2012.

Karl Merbach
Superintendent- Solid Waste Operations