

National Overview & Q&A



The Past Year has been Challenging



**SWANA
continued to be
the industry
leader**

- Obtained masks for workers
- Partnered with Glad to provide \$ to workers who tested positive
- Educated media, policymakers, and general public on impact of pandemic on waste collection and disposal
- Urged solid waste and recycling collection workers be prioritized for vaccines



SWANA to CDC: We need Vaccines!



November 30, 2020

Dr. Robert Redfield, Director
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
1600 Clifton Road, NE
Atlanta, GA 30333

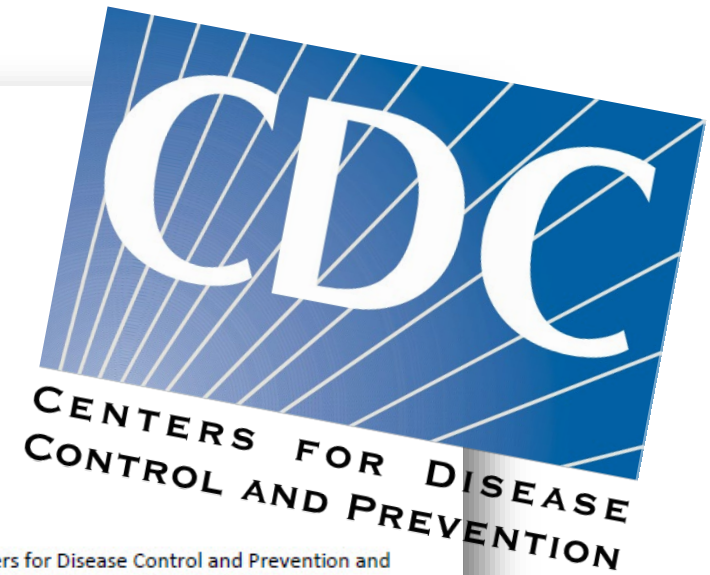
Dear Dr. Redfield:

The Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) urges the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and its Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) to prioritize the solid waste and recycling sector to receive the COVID-19 vaccines immediately after health care workers. The solid waste and recycling sector is comprised of companies and municipal agencies that collectively employ hundreds of thousands of men and women who collect, process, and dispose of municipal solid waste in the United States. The sector was identified in March 2020 as essential by the Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Administration (CISA), and also has been listed as essential in every emergency order issued at the state level in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

A substantial portion of the employees in the solid waste and recycling sector are persons of color which have been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. These essential workers are often unable to socially distance because of the work they perform (e.g., multiple employees frequently ride in a solid waste or recycling collection truck; sorters at recycling facilities).

The importance of the solid waste and recycling sector during the pandemic was underscored by Maryland Governor Larry Hogan in June, when he recognized both SWANA and America's waste management professionals for their "tireless work throughout the ongoing public health crisis." A copy of Governor Hogan's letter is attached. This essential public service has been performed daily during the pandemic for the past nine months, and continues every day, as residents and businesses generate large amounts of solid waste and recyclables that need to be collected, processed, and properly managed.

A similar request was made in a November 24 letter to the CDC by the National Waste & Recycling Association (NW&RA). Although NW&RA represents some of the companies involved in providing solid waste and recycling services, SWANA is the professional association that represents nearly 11,000 individuals employed at both municipal sanitation departments and private companies throughout the United States. Our members, who are located in the field, facilities, and offices in all fifty states, are ensuring that the critical work of solid waste management, including collection, processing, and disposal, is completed properly every day, and the entire sector needs to be prioritized for the vaccine.



Maryland Governor Recognizes SWANA & Industry



LARRY HOGAN
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MARYLAND
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

David Biderman
Executive Director and CEO
Solid Waste Association of North America
1100 Wayne Ave, Suite 650
Silver Spring, MD, 20910

Dear Mr. Biderman,

I write to you on behalf of all Marylanders to thank the Solid Waste Association of North America and our nation's waste management professionals for their tireless efforts throughout the ongoing public health crisis.

Solid waste management and recycling have remained essential services during the COVID-19 pandemic, and your industry has continued to diligently serve communities here in Maryland and across the continent. Dedicated waste collectors, recyclers, drivers, engineers, technicians, and other professionals have reported to work each and every day to ensure our neighborhoods remain safe and healthy, even as new safer-at-home policies have created additional stress on waste management systems. We thank them for their service during this time of great need.

I would also like to recognize the Solid Waste Association of North America for advocating on behalf of your industry and providing critical information and resources to workers, lawmakers, and the media regarding the impact of COVID-19 on waste management and recycling.

Our frontline workers continue to make incredible sacrifices, and the way we go about our lives will be significantly different for a little while longer. But as we look back on this moment in our history, I know that we will remember one another's courage and compassion in the face of unprecedented challenges. Together we are going to defeat this deadly virus, and together we will return stronger and better than ever.

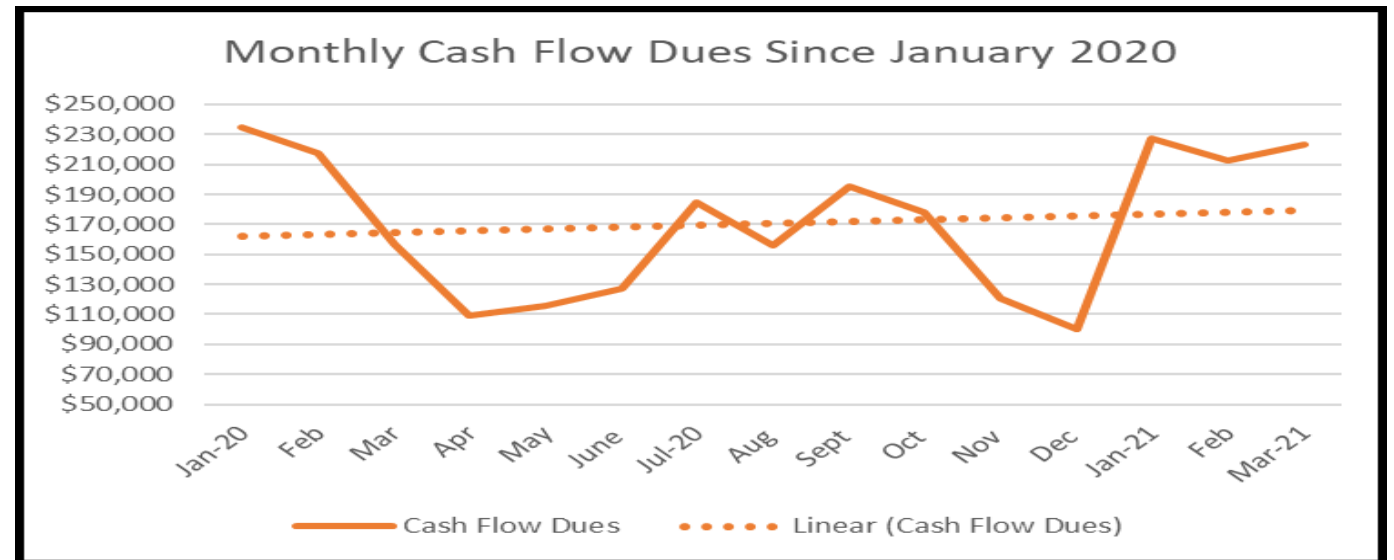
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Larry Hogan".

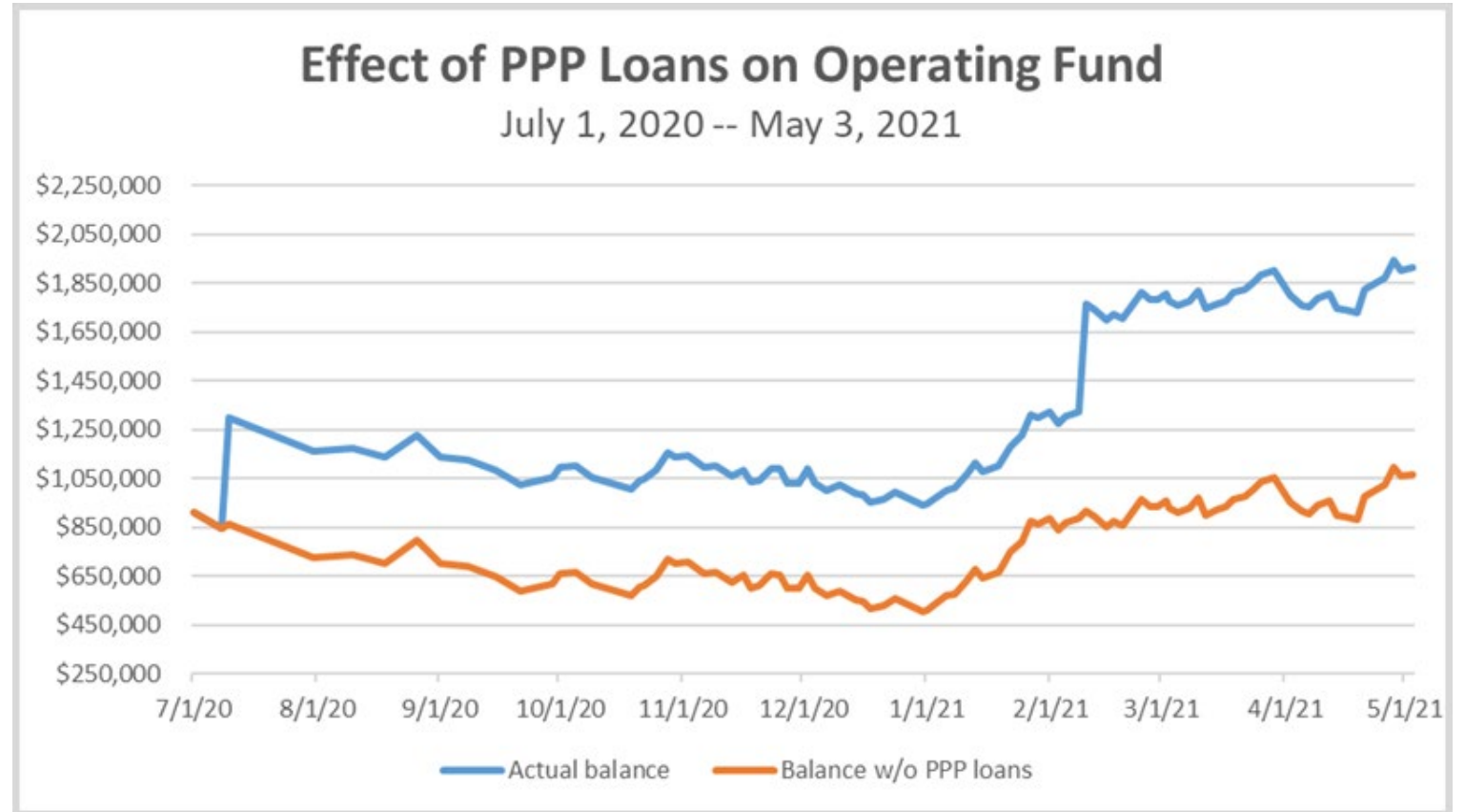
Larry Hogan
Governor



Membership is Coming Back Strong



Financially Solid



**FY 2021 will be
better than
budgeted**

- We expected a loss of nearly (\$320,000) in FY 2021
- We currently project that we will be at least \$200,000 better than budget
- We could approach break-even if membership revenue continues to be stronger than expected and SMM Summit and Landfill Summit revenue in June meet our goals.
- Projected outcome does not include forgiveness of either PPP loan

Proposed FY 2022 Budget

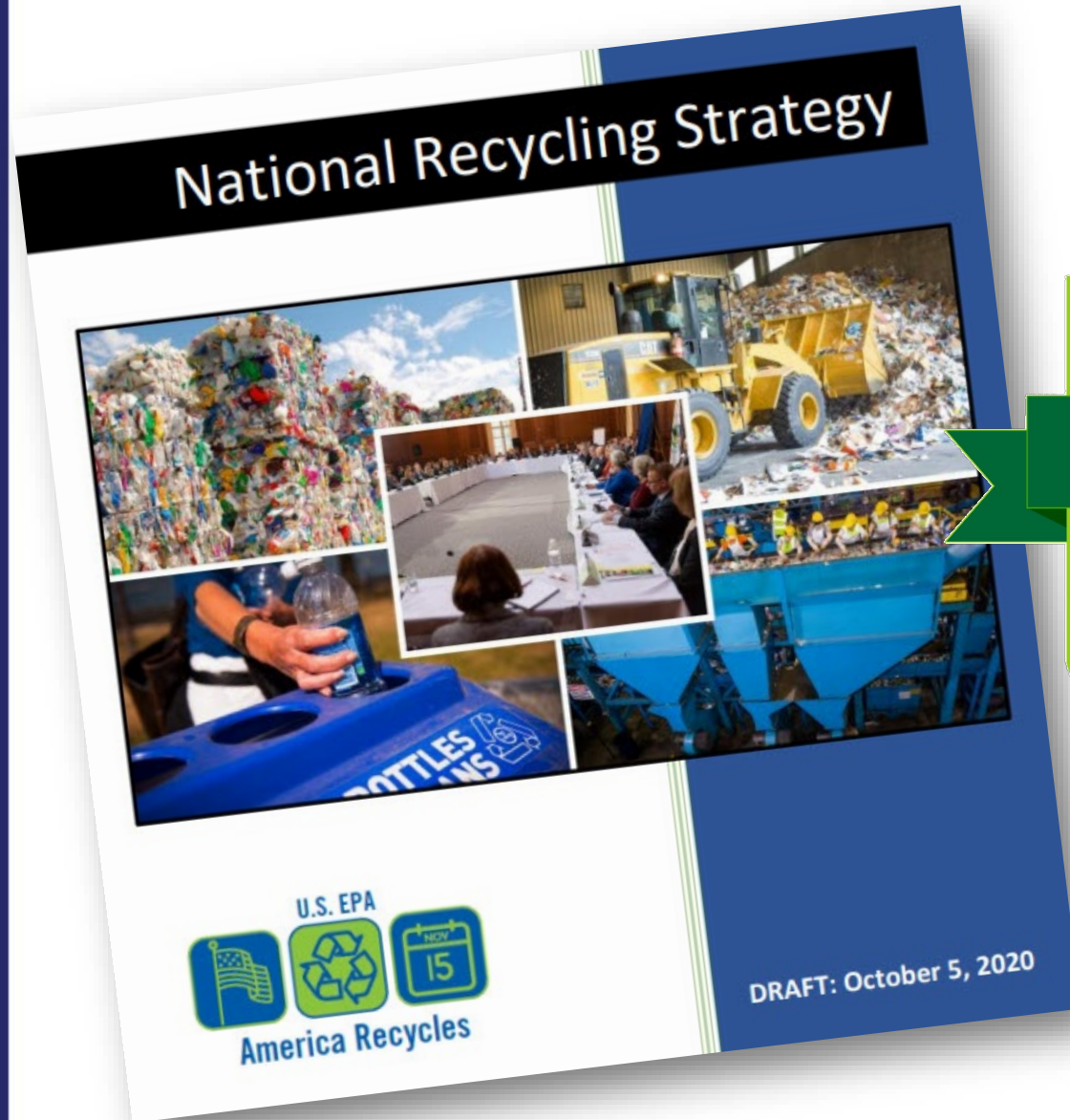
- The Finance Committee met earlier this week and recommended to the Board of Directors that they approve the proposed FY 2022 budget
 - Budget includes Strategic Planning, a DEI initiative, e-business projects, updating certification courses, and hiring staff in 2022
 - FY 2022 envisions WASTECON-2021 in Orlando and SOAR in Kansas City in March 2022
- BOD will meet on June 21 to review the proposed budget

Updating Certification Courses

- We are in the final stages of updating MOLO and expect to release it over the Summer
- We intend to update Canadian MOLO and release it in early 2022
- We intend to update the Recycling course and release it in Summer 2022

These capital projects use money from the Training Fund

Federal: EPA's National Recycling Goal & Strategy



We are engaging with the Biden Administration EPA and Congress

- The Biden Administration EPA will be much more aggressive on the regulatory front
- Most environmental issues are viewed through two lenses:
 - Climate Change
 - Environmental Justice
- Solid waste and recycling rules, policies, and facilities are connected to both issues
- We are already involved on recycling and PFAS, and expect to engage on other issues as they arise (methane from LFs?)
 - 2 ARF reports on PFAS coming out soon
- Congress – lots of bills re recycling (again)

Much Higher Media Profile

- The combination of increased residential waste, staffing shortages due to COVID, and budget cuts caused collection delays in 2020 in many locations



- This has continued in early 2021, especially in Florida
- SWANA issuing a report



Media Outlets Look to SWANA for Industry Perspective

SWANA IN THE NEWS

- The Solid Waste Association of North America is recognized by government and news outlets as a thought leader in a wide variety of waste industry issues, including safety, recycling, marine litter, and technological and regulatory trends
- [SWANA Honors Industry Workers that Have Lost Their Lives](#) – Apr 28, 2021, *WasteAdvantage Magazine*
- [Not every piece of plastic is recyclable – here's what you need to know](#) – Apr 26, 2021, *NBC TODAY*
- [How Local Governments Can Deal with Recycling Scofflaws](#) – Mar 29, 2021, *Route Fifty*
- ['Garbage Freaking Everywhere' as Americans Venture Outdoors After a Year of Lockdowns](#) – Mar 26, 2021, *TIME Magazine*
- ['We can and must do better': Report analyzes sanitation worker deaths](#) – Mar 24, 2021, *Safety & Health*

Good Morning America

Image courtesy of GMA/ABC



Safety – Nothing We Do is More Important



- The pandemic has increased our focus on health and safety
 - SWANA started its own Safety Matters newsletter in Feb 2021
- In 2019, waste collection had the 6th highest fatality rate in the U.S.
- SWANA data suggests 2020 was a little better than 2019
- We urge chapters to hold Hauler Safety Outreach events to help educate collection crews about best practices
- Take the [Safety Pledge](#), buy [SDTGA](#) stickers, apply for a [Safety Award](#) – engage!

Upcoming Events

Please register for:

- [June 15 SMM Summit](#) – Recycling, Composting, Food Waste and more
- [June 17 Landfill Challenges Summit](#) – PFAS, methane control, stability and more
- EPA leaders are speaking at both events
- **SWANA IS COMING TO FLORIDA!!!!!!!**
 - The “SWANA family reunion” will be Nov 1-4 at WASTECON in Orlando
 - Members and staff are VERY EXCITED to meet in person

Requests

- What can the Florida chapter do to help SWANA?
 - Contact the 166 new members and engage with them
 - Contact the 44 YPs in the chapter and get them involved
 - Encourage members, co-workers, and others to participate in the June 2021 Summits and WASTECON
 - Help us put on the best WASTECON ever in November!

Thank you!

Let's do some
Q&A!