

Transfer Station Improvement Committee Update

Dear members of the Tamworth Community,

Here is a quick update on some of the work that the Transfer Station Improvement Committee (TSIC) has been doing!



On July 14, 2022, members of the Tamworth Transfer Station staff, Select Board and TSIC members met with a group of transfer station experts and experienced operators from peer communities to review the plans for the proposed facility renovation. This was a wonderful opportunity made possible through our town membership with Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRRA), a nonprofit that helps communities manage their recycling programs.

NRRRA assembled a Strategic Waste Advisory Team (SWAT) to visit the Tamworth facility and review both the existing facility and the proposed plans. Transfer Station Managers from Lancaster, Moultonborough, Wilton and Gilford attended, as well as staff from NRRRA. The group discussed the pros and cons of the design and made recommendations for equipment purchases, recycling facility design, and construction sequencing.

TSIC members asked questions that had been raised by community members during our public hearings on the project last year, such as how to do composting, the feasibility of a “swap shop,” and how to reduce costs of the project. The SWAT team’s guidance will be summarized in a report on the visit to be prepared by NRRRA. We plan to present that report to the Select Board once it is available.

The renovation of the Transfer Station is possible thanks to a USDA grant, a generous donation from the Tamworth Foundation, and the support of voters who placed money in a capital reserve fund.

The next steps will be to seek qualified engineers, finalize the design, and apply for additional grants to reduce the cost covered by residents. The aim is to begin construction of the recycling center in the spring of 2023.

To date, expenditures to explore the recycling center project have included \$11,750.50 for the preliminary conceptual design, paid for by a generous donation from the Tamworth Foundation, and \$6,750 for an environmental review required by the USDA grant proposal process, paid for from the Capital Reserve Fund for Transfer Station Improvements established in 2021. A separate project to build a bathroom with septic and water service to the site is being funded by an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

We want to again thank the voters for their support and invite the public to review our minutes and find our scheduled meetings on the Town of Tamworth Website. Our meetings are open to the public, and your questions are always welcome!

Transfer Station Improvement Committee Members:

Willie Farnum, Chair; Gabrielle Watson, Vice Chair; Maud Anderson; Richard Doucette; Ian Haskell; Kelly Goodson; Sue Stowbridge, alternate; Emery Roberts, Select Board alternate; Ellen Farnum, Secretary.