

Dear Members of the Tamworth Community,

Here is a quick update on the recent work the Transfer Station Improvement Committee (TSIC) has been doing this fall!

In September, the Transfer Station Improvement Committee (TSIC) worked with Tamworth Select Board members to find qualified engineering firms to submit proposals for the design for the Tamworth Transfer Station improvements. Invitations were sent to 61 firms in the state, and four engineering firms responded. These proposals were reviewed by both the Transfer Station Improvement Committee and the Tamworth Selectboard. On December 1st, the Select Board chose Sanborn, Head & Associates to develop a design.

Under the timeline, Sanborn, Head & Associates will now collect data, develop a detailed plan, and present it to the public in April of 2023. The engineers will obtain the necessary permitting and the town should be ready to begin contracting for construction in early 2024.

The Transfer Station Improvement Committee will also seek out and apply for additional grants to reduce the cost of the project. The goal: A recycling facility where Tamworth can collect, bale, store and market source-separated recyclables, thereby reducing costs for the town and reducing the amount of municipal solid waste sent to the landfill.

**For more background:**

- In July, 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 (known as the SWAT team,) to review the conceptual plans for the proposed facility renovation. The group made recommendations for equipment purchases, recycling facility design, and construction sequencing. They also recommended visits to other transfer stations.
- On September 8, TSIC members, Transfer station supervisor Glenn Johnson, Tamworth Recycling Project members, and Tamworth Select Board members toured facilities in Moultonborough and Gilford. The team was also joined by three members of the Department of Environmental Services (DES). This background work has helped TSIC and the Select Board refine their ideas on how to improve the transfer station.
- The renovation of the Transfer Station is made possible thanks to a grant from the US Department of Agriculture which will fund 35% of the project, a generous donation from the Tamworth Foundation, and the support of voters who placed money in a capital reserve fund at Town Meeting.
- 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 by a vote at Town Meeting. 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) grant.
- TSIC continues to research and apply for grants to cover the cost of this project.

Members of the public are welcome to review our minutes and attend 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; Ellen Farnum; Secretary.