



**RECYCLING/OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
AGENDA**

May 21, 2025

Time: 4:00 p.m. / Location: 100 Elwood Davis Rd., N. Syracuse NY

*Members: L. Hradil – Chair, D. Daley, N. Jankowski, V. Mangan, J. Wood,
B. Sekarore, D. Quakenbush*

1. Discussion of the WM/RA MRF Audit Results and their Impacts on Future Payments/Revenues Per our Contract
2. Continuation of Discussion and Update of Outage at WTE facility and Impact on Transfer Operations and Bypass and Use of Third Private Hauler - ***Resolution***

MRF November Audit Overview

On Friday, May 2, 2025, OCRRA and WM-RA completed an audit of the material recovery facility (MRF) system.

In the audit, 54 tons of OCRRA curbside material was run through the MRF system and was sorted into specific commodity types.

The audit process was smooth thanks to the audit protocol and good communication with and cooperation of the MRF staff. The results of the audit are in line with our expectations.

The results of the May 2025 audit as well as recent previous audits are shown below. The pie chart shows the composition of the May 2025 audit by commodity percentage.

Per our contract, two audits are done each year. The next audit is tentatively scheduled for October of 2025. The percentages determined in this audit and those from the upcoming fall audit are averaged and used in the monthly payment calculation for next year, per the OCRRA/WM-RA contract.

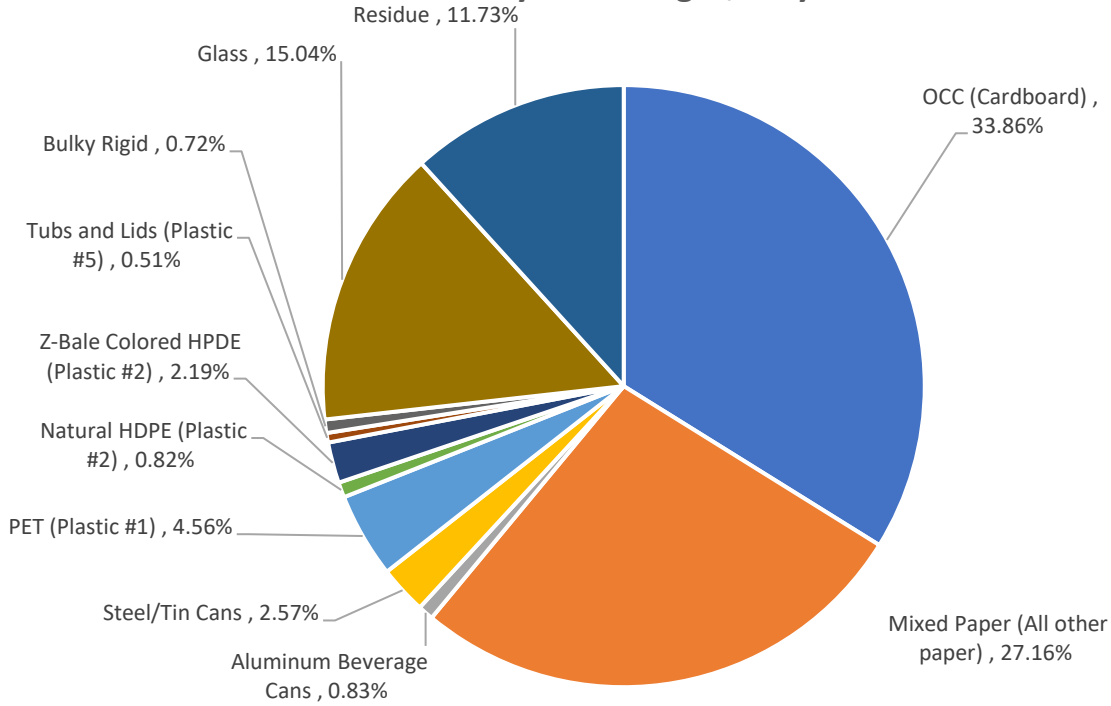


Commodities being baled after running through the conveyor system where optical sorters, screens, and magnets separated them from other materials going to market.

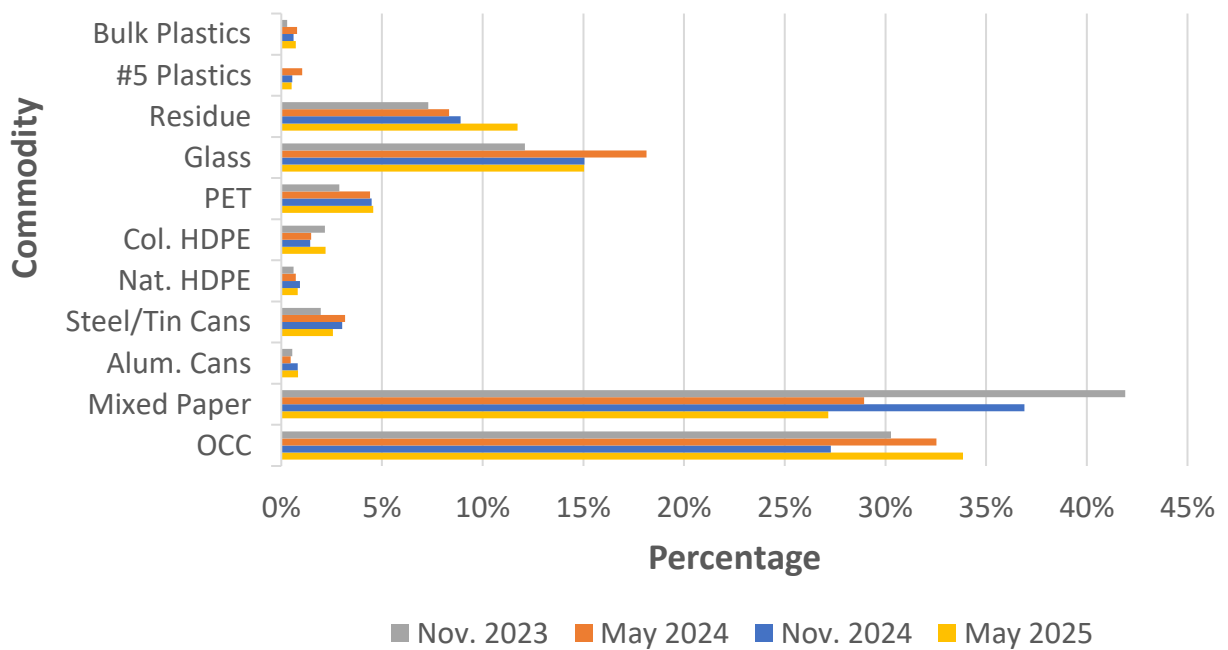


Bales of cardboard being weighed on the scale during the May 2025 audit at WM/RA in Liverpool.

Commodity Percentages, May 2025



Commodity Percentages Over Past Four Audits



Material	Percentage of Material in Audit						
	2025 Audit (1)	2024 Audit (2)	2024 Audit (1)	2023 Audit (2)	2023 Audit (1)	2022 Audit (1)	2021 Audit (2)
	5/2/2025	11/8/2024	5/3/2024	11/17/2023	8/23/2023	11/7/2022	11/29/21
OCC	33.86%	27.29%	32.54%	30.27%	28.31%	32.78%	17.31%
Mixed Paper	27.16%	36.90%	28.94%	41.90%	33.46%	35.14%	48.29%
Alum. Cans	0.83%	0.81%	0.47%	0.55%	0.77%	0.58%	0.14%
Steel/Tin Cans	2.57%	3.03%	3.16%	1.95%	2.89%	2.17%	2.38%
Nat. HDPE	0.82%	0.93%	0.72%	0.60%	0.68%	0.88%	0.34%
Col. HDPE	2.19%	1.43%	1.48%	2.17%	1.26%	1.14%	1.44%
PET	4.56%	4.49%	4.40%	2.88%	3.62%	3.47%	2.89%
Glass	15.04%	15.06%	18.14%	12.09%	16.65%	12.61%	14.12%
Residue	11.73%	8.90%	8.33%	7.30%	11.71%	8.25%	7.14%
#5 Plastics	0.51%	0.55%	1.03%	0.00%	0.23%	0.21%	0.38%
Bulk Plastics	0.72%	0.61%	0.78%	0.28%	0.41%	1.22%	2.71%
Scrap Metal	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.54%	2.87%
Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

OCRRA Blended value		Apr-25	
		Index Rate	Calculated Rate
OCC (Cardboard)	PPI OCC #11	\$80.00	\$80.00
Mixed Paper (All other paper)	PPI Mixed Paper #54	\$40.00	\$40.00
Aluminum Beverage Cans	SMP for Aluminum Cans (Loose/Dropped off at RC)	\$0.7000	\$1,400.00
Steel/Tin Cans	SMP for Steel Cans (Densified)	\$40.00	\$40.00
PET (Plastic #1)	SMP for PET (baled, cents/lb. picked up)	\$0.1900	\$380.00
Natural HDPE (Plastic #2)	SMP for Natural HDPE (baled, cents/lb. picked up)	\$1.0500	\$2,100.00
Colored HDPE (Plastic #2)	SMP for Colored HDPE (baled, cents/lb. picked up)	\$0.1200	\$240.00
Tubs and Lids (Plastic #5)	SMP for Plastics PP Post Consumer (baled, cents/lb. picked up)	\$0.2150	\$430.00
Bulky Rigid	Bulky Rigid Plastic	\$0.0100	\$20.00
Glass	Glass Fee Actual	(\$73.87)	(\$73.87)
Residue	Residue Fee - adj annually	(\$182.63)	(\$182.63)

NOTES:

- GLASS:** As of April 2025, the MRF is charging OCRRA the full cost of glass disposal at their landfill as MSW (~\$78/ton). In previous years, glass was managed as alternative operating cover at their landfill, which garnered it a lower cost of management (~\$28/ton), this also allowed it to be classified as recycling as opposed to trash.

In the 2024 Annual Recycling Report, OCRRA classified glass (4,565 tons) as trash, not recycling as it was intermittently being treated as AOC (recycling) and MSW (trash), per the NYSDEC landfill monitor's direction. Now, it is only being disposed of as MSW and our costs are increasing correspondingly.

This management of glass is at odds with the goals of the NYSDEC's 2023 State Solid Waste Management Plan, the 2012 Onondaga County Source Separation (Recycling) Law, and OCRRA's public messaging as currently items that we instruct residents to place in their recycling bins, for purposes of recycling, are being landfilled as trash.

- **EQUIPMENT:** WM/RA is planning to install a new ballistic screen in September 2025 that will replace an antiquated shaker bed and angle screen.
 - MRF expects this equipment to better separate the 3D material (containers) from the 2D material (paper), generating less contamination in baled materials.
 - Increased up time / avoidance of catastrophic failure due to parts availability; current equipment is so outmoded that repair is not easily accomplished.
 - Equivalent throughput capacity as current equipment.



To see an animated video of a ballistic screen in action, visit:

<https://tinyurl.com/ballisticscreen>

or scan this QR code:



RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO CONTRACT FOR PRIVATE HAULING SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency is in the need for additional hauling services from a private vendor for waste materials from its Rock Cut Road Transfer Stations and ash from the Waste To Energy Facility; and

WHEREAS, the Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency has signed a collective bargaining agreement with Local 158 International Union of Operating Engineers AFL-CIO authorizing the use of these private haulers under certain situations and specific times of the year; and

WHEREAS, the Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency put out a request for bid pursuant to the Agency's Procurement Policy for these hauling services that may arise in 2025 and awarded such services to Riccelli Enterprises by Resolution 2485 of 2025; and

WHEREAS, due to the recent inundation of waste during the most recent maintenance outage at the waste to energy facility, and the lack of throughput at the facility, the Transfer Station has had to stop bringing materials to the Waste to Energy Facility requiring more outside hauling assistance; and

WHEREAS, the Recycling/Operations Committee has reviewed the quote for these additional services and recommends that the Board authorize the Agency's Executive Director to proceed with retaining the services of MBI Trucking based on the price of \$750 per load; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency hereby authorizes the Executive Director to enter into a contract with MBI Trucking of East Syracuse, New York for additional private hauling of waste and ash materials as needed for a price of \$750 per load and a total annual cost not to exceed \$100,000 for the year 2025 in addition to the awards given to Riccelli Enterprises and Colucci Trucking. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Resolution Adopted Date: _____

Vote: Ayes: _____ **Nays:** _____ **Abstentions:** _____

Signature : _____

COMMITTEE BRIEF

Resolution Authorizing Executive Director to Purchase
Emergency Hauling Services from Mr. Bult's Inc, MBI Syracuse, NY
May 21, 2025

Through the week ending May 9th, the agency utilized a combination of in-house fleet resources and contracted external carriers to manage tipping floor capacity at both the RCR and WTE facilities. Using our own equipment, the agency successfully removed 50 loads of municipal solid waste (MSW) from the WTE tipping floor—totaling approximately 1,443 tons of residential MSW. This effort was critical to ensure adequate space remained available for continued operations at WTE.

In response to operational downtime at the WTE facility, contingency plans were activated to increase reliance on external hauling services. Between April 28 and May 9, approximately 150 loads were removed from the RCR transfer station by three contracted carriers. These additional resources were essential to maintaining uninterrupted operation at the RCR transfer station.

The RCR transfer station halted significant deliveries to WTE as of April 7. Beginning April 8, almost all outbound materials from RCR were redirected to landfills. Between April 8 and May 8, RCR received a total of 11,391.62 tons of MSW—virtually all of which was bypassed to landfill disposal.

To bypass such a large volume of material requires significant equipment resources. Prior to this outage, the agency's hauling commitment was exclusively with Riccelli. During preparation, it became clear that relying solely on this provider would not be sufficient for a successful operation, given the agency's limited equipment capacity.

To address this, I contacted Colucci and was able to secure an additional hauler. Their involvement enabled the agency to continue diverting materials from RCR without causing major disruptions to customers.

Recognizing the growing impact WTE was having on both RCR and its own customer base, it became evident that further contingency planning was necessary. I then reached out to MBI, adding a third hauler to our available resources. When WTE experienced further downtime and operational challenges, MBI was able to step in with additional drivers and equipment, providing the agency with the steady support needed to maintain continuous material removal from RCR.

Outstanding balances through 4/25

Riccelli	\$103,840	Price per pull \$1,050
Colucci	\$35,000	Price per pull \$1,000
MBI	\$0	Price per pull \$750

As of May 9, approximately 150 loads will have been hauled by contracted third-party carriers, including ash removal, which became necessary again as the WTE facility resumed operations. The cumulative outstanding balance for services rendered by the three carriers is projected to be approximately \$317,840. The agency anticipates continued reliance on external hauling services until tipping floor capacity at the WTE plant becomes available—currently projected for the week of May 19.

Given the ongoing operational pressures, it is important to discuss the use of outside haulers for the remainder of the year. Looking ahead, I recommend continuing use of Riccelli for ash transport when necessary, and Colucci and MBI for bypass hauling. These carriers have consistently demonstrated reliability, possessed the appropriate equipment, and provided high-quality customer service.

As we enter the summer months, RCR is expected to experience increased tonnage volumes. Compounding this challenge is the uncertainty surrounding the WTE facility's operational stability. It is critical that we closely monitor WTE's tipping floor conditions and establish clear criteria for when to intervene and divert materials to preserve service quality for our customers.

Proactive intervention will depend heavily on our relationships with outside haulers. Notably, both Colucci and MBI have expressed interest in a more defined service commitment from OCRRA—such as a baseline of two loads per day. Establishing these minimum commitments would help ensure their capacity to scale up support during periods of high demand, including potential surges requiring ten or more loads per day.

The inclusion of MBI Trucking will strengthen the Agency's ability to manage waste buildup during outages and serve as a reliable secondary hauling option when the primary hauler is unavailable. Management recommends authorizing up to \$75,000 for the utilization of MBI services for the transportation of municipal solid waste.

COMMITTEE BRIEF

ROCK CUT Tonnage Inbound and Outbound

DATE	RCR Tonnage Inbound	RCR Outbound to Covanta	Difference
4/7/25	467.64	172.69	294.95
4/8/25	401.31	8.22	393.09
4/9/25	382.34	3.78	378.56
4/10/25	422.99	3.48	419.51
4/11/25	424.43	24.44	399.99
4/12/25	48.14	9.28	38.86
4/14/25	413.53	6.75	406.78
4/15/25	436.01	10.02	425.99
4/16/25	478.73	3.93	474.80
4/17/25	378.55	10.90	365.65
4/18/25	552.36	21.46	530.90
4/19/25	56.97	3.97	53.00
4/21/25	453.70	3.09	450.61
4/22/25	487.00	8.28	478.72
4/23/25	435.48	8.58	426.90
4/24/25	494.14	11.44	482.70
4/25/25	447.51	9.13	438.38
4/26/25	72.41	2.20	70.21
4/28/25	468.57	4.40	464.17
4/29/25	12.86	0.00	12.86
4/30/25	868.95	0.00	868.95
April 2025	8201.62	328.04	7875.58
5/1/25	645.51	9.07	636.44
5/2/25	819.79	10.43	809.36
5/3/25	73.01	1.31	71.70
5/4/25	0.00	0.00	0.00
5/5/25	514.83	2.05	512.78
5/6/25	472.15	6.96	465.19
5/7/25	481.70	7.74	473.96
5/8/25	183.02	1.07	181.95
May 2025	3190.00	38.63	3151.37