

materials are collected to the users)

- Lower oil prices have had an impact on recycled plastic commodity prices but may ease the need for recyclable revenues needed to offset high fuel prices for recyclable collection.

Effective Local Government Responses

- Don't overreact! Just like the financial markets, now is not the time to sell. Need to stay in the "market" for the long-haul. Markets are cyclical - the cost to restart versus maintaining a recycling collection program during a sluggish recyclable market is significant and should be considered carefully.

- Minimize collection costs. The collection and transportation of recyclables are a major cost of recycling. Single-stream collection programs will minimize collection costs and as market values drop, single stream collection programs will continue to off-set time, labor and cost intensive manual source

- Recycling is a strong component of any sustainable community index
- The cost to process recyclables is typically less expensive than disposal costs

- Consider contracts that include or add a provision to share in commodity processing costs and/or revenues depending upon the

modifying a recycling collection program. (8)

For more information on recycling in Pennsylvania, visit the Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania web site at www.prorecycles.org or the Department of Environmental Protection web site at www.dep.state.pa.us, keyword: recycling.

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