

Item Title: Approval of Schematic Design for the West Wake Solid Waste Facility in Morrisville, NC

Specific Action Requested:

That the Board of Commissioners approves the Schematic Design for the West Wake Solid Waste Facility Project.

Item Summary:

Purpose: The Board of Commissioners reviews and approves Schematic Design for all new construction projects. This is an important milestone in the development of buildings, renovations, parks, or other major projects.

Background: The 2014 Convenience Center Master Plan recommended the expansion of Convenience Center #3 located at 266 Aviation Parkway in Morrisville. Staff had worked with the Town of Morrisville for several years to coordinate this expansion along with the design of a new Town Public Works Facility. Recently, the Town decided to pursue its public works facility at another location.

Due to population growth and municipal limits expansion, there is a need to reconsider the approach to solid waste services. Staff recommend developing a larger facility with more recycling bays, multi-material recycling, and household hazardous waste drop-off. Creating this facility in Western Wake County would mean a comparable service is being offered in all four “corners” of the County. Staff recommend approval of this schematic design.

Strategic Plan: This action supports routine county operations.

Fiscal Impact: Funding for the design is currently budgeted in the Solid Waste Element of Capital Improvement Program. No additional appropriation of County funds is required for this phase of the project.

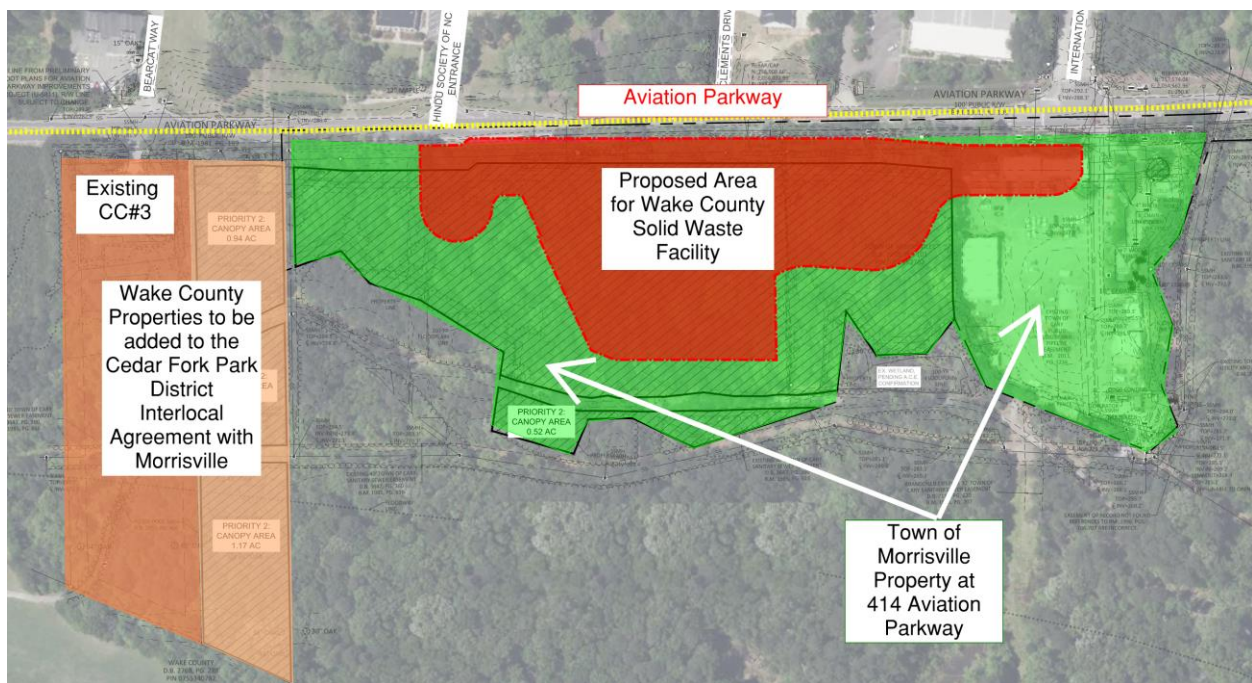
Additional Information:

Wake County initiated the creation of Convenience Centers in the 1980’s to offer disposal services to all Wake County residents living in the unincorporated areas of the County. There are currently 11 Convenience Centers, along with 3 Household Hazardous Waste and 3 Multi-Material Recycling sites throughout Wake County. Due to the County’s population growth and expansions to municipal boundaries, staff determined there was a need to re-investigate the population demands and functionality of the convenience centers.

In April 2014, a County Convenience Center Master Plan was presented to the Wake County Board of Commissioners at a Work Session. The purpose of the Master Plan was to evaluate each existing site and provide a long-range comprehensive convenience center plan to assist in providing necessary waste disposal and recycling services. Wake County has established convenience centers throughout the County to provide recycling and waste disposal services to residents in unincorporated areas. This site is located adjacent to the Town of Morrisville's existing Public Works Facility at 414 Aviation Parkway.

In October 2017, the Board of Commissioners approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Town of Morrisville for a Joint Use Master Plan and Feasibility Study for the expansion of the Wake County Convenience Center #3 and the development of a new Town of Morrisville Public Works Facility. Since that time, four amendments have been executed between the parties. During Spring 2025, the Town informed the County of their intent to withdraw from the Joint Master Plan, to instead purchase an existing warehouse and renovate that facility to relocate their Public Works Department.

The Town agreed to allow the County to proceed with the design and construction of a new Solid Waste Facility on a portion of the Town owned property located at 414 Aviation Parkway. In return, the County agreed to allow the Town to use 6.93 acres of County-owned property located at 262 and 266 Aviation Parkway by adding these two properties to the existing Cedar Fork Park District Interlocal Agreement. See map below for reference:

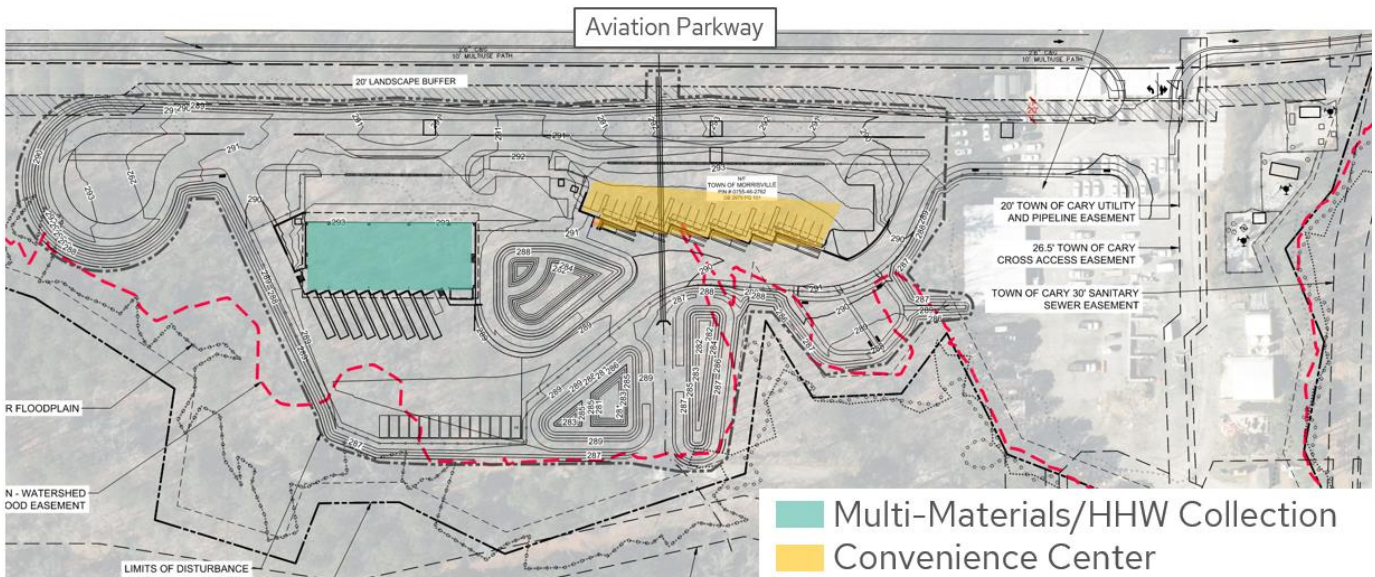


A Fifth Amendment was approved on September 2, 2025, that set forth the conditions that must occur for Wake County to proceed on its own with a plan to design and construct a new West Wake Solid Waste Facility (WWSWF). A Sixth Amendment is being brought forward to the Board in a separate but parallel agenda item to amend the

payment terms of the original MOU.

The new West Wake Solid Waste Facility will consist of a new small office building, a new 6 bay Convenience Center and a new combined Multi-Material Recycling and Household Hazardous Waste Canopy Structure. Associated site work will include an internal roadway, landscape and storm management structures. This facility will expand the services currently provided in Convenience Center #3, in addition to diverting solid waste traffic from Aviation Parkway.

The new WWSWF in Morrisville will align with the County's goal to locate a facility of this kind within 8 miles of any county resident. The expanded services will allow Wake County to continue to protect the public health and safety of Wake County citizens by providing solid waste services that are efficient, cost effective and environmentally responsible. Promoting litter reduction, improving recycling and discouraging illegal dumping.



The current schedule anticipates that the project will be bid later in 2026. At the conclusion of the bid phase, staff will present to the Board of Commissioners the Construction Contract for award recommendation. At that time, a ground lease agreement and the amendment to the original 2007 Interlocal Agreement (ILA) will be also prepared and presented to the respective boards for approval. Upon approval from the respective elected boards, and upon execution of a ground lease, the County will begin construction, which is projected to be in second quarter of 2027.

Attachments:

1. Presentation
2. Schematic Design Site Plan