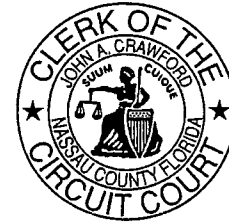




John A. Crawford  
Clerk of the Circuit Court  
Nassau County



October 19, 2007

The Honorable Jim B. Higginbotham, Chairman  
Nassau County Board of County Commissioners  
Post Office Box 1010  
Fernandina Beach, FL 32035

Dear Mr. Chairman and Commissioners:

One year ago, you began the journey of incrementally solving the complex fiscal mess at the Nassau County Landfill. Last fall, the Board voted to not create a commercial assessment, which if passed, threatened to potentially wreck local businesses unable to absorb the burden of yet another government fee. This past spring, the Board paid off the approximate \$13 million of landfill debt, dramatically reducing the county's overall outstanding debt. Then, in preparing your '07/'08 budget, the Board voted to revoke the residential assessments on the approximately 27,000 households across Nassau County. Those actions demonstrate that government can reduce the financial burden on taxpayers when elected leaders focus on creating solutions. Government can be more fiscally efficient.

As the Clerk's office continues to assess which recommendations best serve the needs of the taxpayers, I am drawn by common sense to one inescapable fact. The existing landfill fiscal model budgeted at \$8 million is a dismal failure and necessitates that the Nassau County Landfill cease operations as soon as possible. The purpose of my letter to you is to illustrate why the Board must act boldly to finish the job of solving the landfill fiscal mess. The bottom line to the taxpayers is this:

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-Nassau County taxpayers are paying at least \$7 million too much per year for the mere privilege of placing their trash in a hole.

-Residential trash can be accepted by surrounding landfills for approximately \$20 to \$23 per ton. Each household produces approximately 1.2 tons per year. The cost per household per year, therefore, should be approximately \$27.60.

-27,000 households times \$27.60 per year equals \$745,200, not \$8 million.

I know that you share my enthusiasm for continuing to work together to remove this \$8 million albatross off the backs of the taxpayers once and for all. I look forward to meeting with you soon to continue this important journey to make government more efficient for the taxpayers we were elected to serve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John A. Crawford". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

John A. Crawford