LAKE COUNTY
Investing in People
and Our Communities

SWALCO Presentation to Lake County's Energy & Environment Committee

Walter Willis, February 6, 2019

SWALCO's Role in Implementing the Strategic Plan and Related Plans

- Municipal Joint Action Agency uniting 43 municipalities and Lake County in collaborative sustainability programs
- Provides year round collection of HCW and textiles (Strategy 2, Actions B and C)
- Works with County on public awareness and education (Strategy 2, Action D)
- Implements programs to reach 60% diversion goal (Strategy 3, Actions A and B)
- Assists Lake County with food scrap program at Adult Corrections facility (Strategy 3, Action C) and recycling at County facilities (Strategy 3, Action D)

2018 Highlights and Achievements

- Adult Corrections food scrap diversion program, reduced waste by over 50% and minimized costs
- Destroyed 12,780 lbs. of pharmaceuticals and $645K worth of controlled substances (joint effort with Lake County Sheriff's office)
- Diverted 3M lbs. of electronics and 600K lbs. of HCW
- Recycled over 325K lbs. of shoes and textiles
- Increased food scrap diversion programs to 19 towns, and 6 restaurants in Grayslake & Highland Park
- Revised recycling guidelines, co-chairing statewide Task Force

Plans for 2019

- Prepare 2019 Plan Update for Co. Bd. approval
  - Hired consultant to prepare circular economy and greenhouse gases components of Plan Update
  - Forming public-private stakeholder group to further research and implement circular economy initiatives
- Continue efforts to reduce recycling & composting contamination, pursue statewide campaign
- Assist 3 townships implement collection franchises
- Assist up to 3 SWALCO members implement commercial franchises (7 already have)
- Enact plastic bag fee and carpet EPR legislation
- Negotiate new host agreements with Zion Landfill

QUESTIONS?