## **OPPORTUNITIES**

- Most simplified fee structure
- Easiest option to administer, manage, and explain
- Includes phased expansion of rural curbside service, increasing recycling and waste reduction rate
- Flexibility in providing services without being constrained by rigid categories is maximized.
  - Example: If a business is located on a residential route (urban or rural) and generates recyclables in quantities similar to a residence, it can be assigned to a residential route without regard to changing categories or fee rates.



## Key Factors

- Rural curbside service is proposed to be phased in to entire unincorporated area over three year period, equalizing services by the fourth year.
  - The program fee will increase incrementally over phasing period.
- All developed properties pay the same amount, although eligibility for services may vary between jurisdictions and sectors.
- Efforts to provide more equitable services among all the program users could be implemented over time by improving service efficiencies and availability of services.
- This option presents a new funding paradigm and new way of viewing solid waste program funding by offering a singular fee. This holistic approach to funding eliminates any division between rural and urban boundaries, creating a truly integrated and comprehensive approach to program funding county-wide.

## **Universal Elements for Both Options**

- Undeveloped properties do not pay a fee.
- All developed properties including tax-exempt properties pay a fee.
- The fee structure is stable and predictable.
- Fee impacts for potential service expansions, improvements, and changes can be easily determined and made available for elected boards to consider.
- Some property owners may consider the proposed fee rates a significant increase because no fee for rural or urban curbside service or multi-family service has been assessed for the past two years.
- Failure of elected boards to approve a funding mechanism for the FY 2015-16 Budget may lead to suspension of services or further debiting of the solid waste landfill closure and post-closure reserves account.
- Orange County will continue to provide financial assistance for qualifying low-income residents who are unable to pay for solid waste program fees. In 2014, approximately 700 parcels were provided assistance through the County's 3R Fee Financial Assistance program.
- Funding option proposals are based on FY 2014-15 budget revenue requirements. For FY 2015-16, minor fee adjustments may be implemented to align with the actual FY 2015-16 budget revenue requirements.