



Bááháálí Chichiltah Regional Solid Waste Collection and Recycling Center (CRC)

Solid Waste Management and Services:
History, Assessment, and Recommendations

AGENDA

Introduction

Purpose

Challenges of Solid Waste Management

CRC's History, Setting, and Learnings

Recommendations for Local and National Solid Waste Management and Services

INTRODUCTION: MANAGEMENT TEAM

Bááháálí Chichiltah Regional Solid Waste Collection and Recycling Center (CRC)

Gloria M Skeet, Chapter Manager, Bááháálí Chapter

Vacant, Administrative Assistant, Bááháálí Chapter

Roselyn John, Community Services Coordinator, Chichiltah Chapter

Timothy Hannah, CRC Attendant Supervisor

Norman Begay, CRC Attendant

Bááháálí Chapter Officials

Lee C. Jim, President

Gerald Skeets, Sr., Vice President

David M. Emerson, Secretary/ Treasurer



Chichiltah Chapter Officials

Harvey Williams, President

Joe M. Lee, Vice President

Norma Muskett, Secretary/ Treasurer

Honorable Navajo Nation Speaker Seth Damon

25th Navajo Nation Council

PURPOSE



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To show that solid waste *mis*management is hurting our communities' economics, culture, environment, human health, and all living things

To demonstrate that solid waste management is an essential service

To share learnings on the creation of a solid waste management service

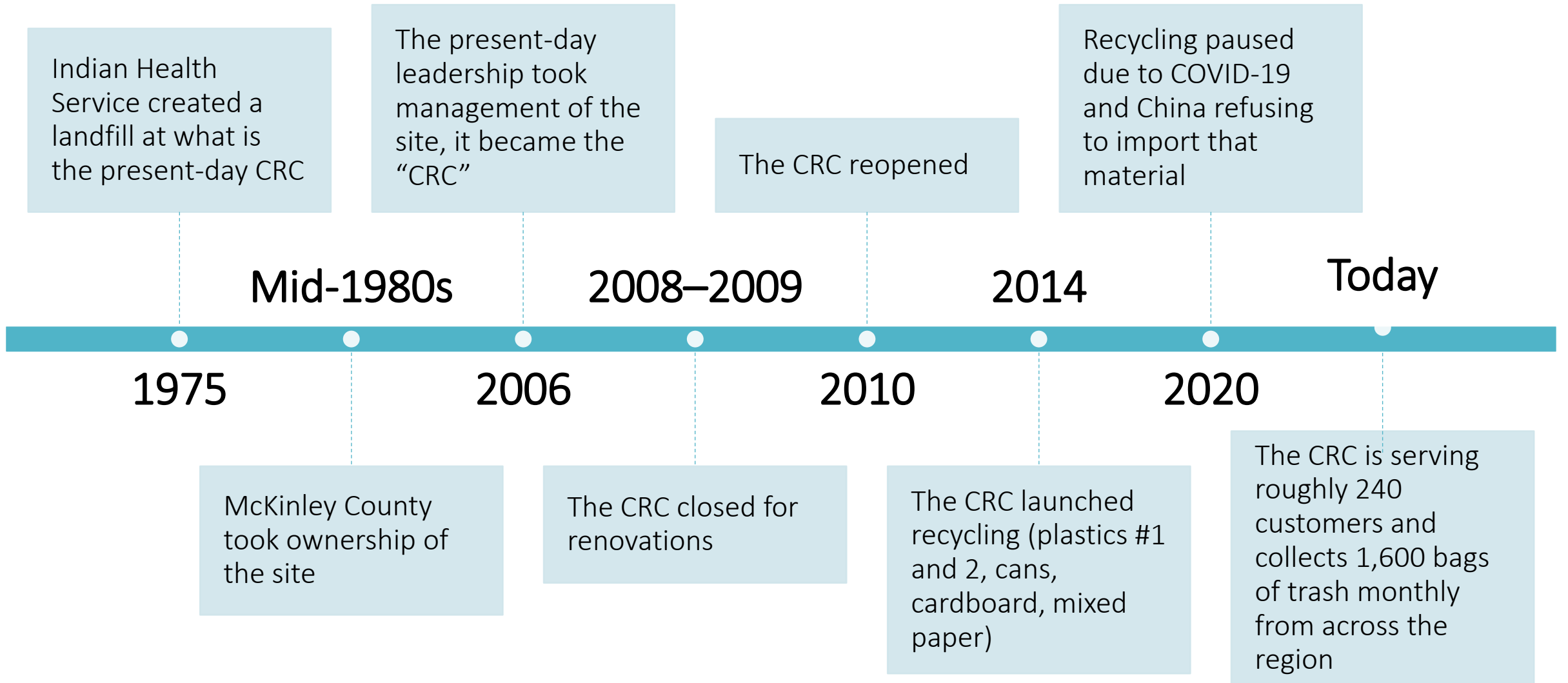
To advocate for financially sustainable solid waste management services at the local chapter government across the Navajo Nation



CHALLENGES OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT + SERVICES

- Low wages and part-time/temporary employment
- High costs for PPE items and training
- High costs for maintaining and operating the facility
- Illegal dumping: 194 sites in District 6 alone
- Limited education, awareness, and prioritization on solid waste management and recycling

HISTORY OF THE CRC



KEY ASPECTS TO THE CRC'S START + LONGEVITY

Facility: Preexisting facility

Financials: Support and funding from leadership early on

Strategy: Strategic guidance from a consultant, listed project on ICIP

Operations: Trainings and certification

Personnel: Passion and commitment

Community: Strong customer base and community engagement

Collaboration: Partnership between two chapters



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LEARNINGS FROM THE CRC



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Employment: The importance of full-time employment and better wages with benefits to reduce employee turnover

Collaboration: Regionalize services

Safety:

- Update and maintain facilities that meet Navajo Nation OSHA standards and PPE requirements

- Coupons to decrease cash-based transactions

Operations: Manuals for guidance (operation, personnel, business plan, strategic, solid waste management plan)

Community: Education and outreach

Training: Staff training

Funding: The need for multiple and diversified funding

RECOMMENDATIONS

Our methodology to gather recommendations:

-Participatory Action Research (PAR): members of an organization seek to inquire into the working of their own organizational system in order to change something in it

- Hosted two focus groups (July 2021)

- Met with the Pueblo Zuni solid waste manager (July 2021)

- Met with five chapters (January 2022)

- Hosted one focus group (July 2022)

-In total, met with 26 chapters!

-Combined notes, synthesized learnings, reengaged chapters to share and confirm findings



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RECOMMENDATIONS: LOCAL CHAPTERS



Chinle



Ganado

CLUPC: Create or build CLUPC

- Update your land acquisition plan: location is key, especially if regionalized
- Create or update your land use plan to include solid waste disposal facility

Operations: Create or update your strategic plan to include solid waste

Community:

- Have community public hearing(s)
- Conduct education and awareness initiatives (signs, pamphlets, announcement on the radio, work with schools)
- Could use PEP or summer youth employment funds

Collaboration: Regionalize services

Advocate: Talk with delegates and LDAs to advocate for legislation to address solid waste at the local level (become a legislative agent)

RECOMMENDATIONS: NAVAJO NATION

Pass Legislation:

- Reestablish the Solid Waste Department
- Create leverage and authority to prohibit illegal dumping
- Secure permanent funding for solid waste

Taxes:

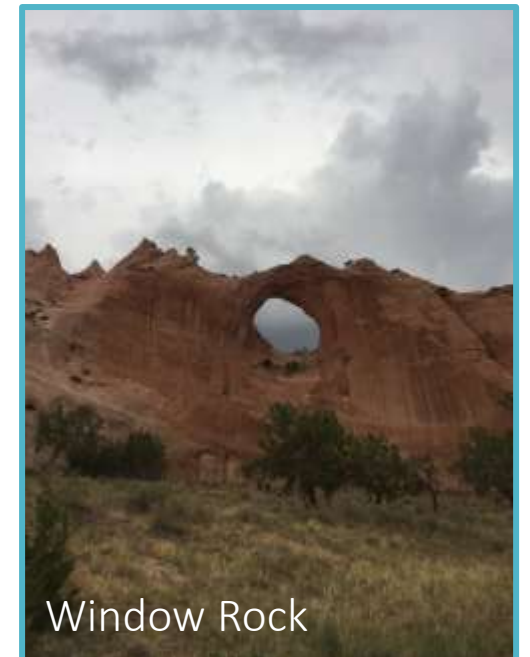
- Increase Navajo Nation tax by \$0.01 (to 7%) for solid waste budget to chapters
- Decrease or eliminate taxation on solid waste services revenue

Collaborate:

- Interdepartmental collaboration to reduce and eliminate illegal dumping (Navajo EPA, Navajo Division of Natural Resources, Division of Economic Development)
- Collaborate with BIA on grazing permit holders to not allow illegal dumping

Enforcement: Enforce illegal dumping citations

Educate: Host an annual solid waste summit with representatives from all chapters



Thank you!



Bááháálí Chichiltah

Gloria M Skeet, Chapter Manager, Bááháálí Chapter

Roselyn John, Community Services Coordinator, Chichiltah Chapter