

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa Sanitation Department, now known as the **Department of Solid Waste and Environmental Program Management**, was established in 1927 to provide collection and disposal services for all residential and commercial customers within the city of Tampa, Florida, which combatted the unsanitary urban living conditions of the day that contributed to public health threats, including the spread of many diseases; and

WHEREAS, over the years, the Department of Solid Waste and Environmental Program Management consistently made improvements including in 1967, moving from the manual process of refuse collection deposited in landfills to the McKay Bay Refuse to Energy Facility incinerator, and in 1998, the facility received a complete retrofitting to meet environmental air compliance standards mandated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and currently, the City is the second municipality nationwide to own and operate its own refuse to energy facility; and

WHEREAS, the McKay Bay Refuse to Energy Facility manages the city of Tampa's more than 360,000 tons of municipal solid waste generated annually, and the energy created by burning the waste is converted into enough power to supply the electrical needs for up to 15,000 Tampa homes; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Solid Waste and Environmental Program Management is proud of the over 250 Solid Waste Professionals who provide 100 percent of the weekly residential garbage, yard waste, and household recycling collection services to over 78,000 city customers in its service area, and commercial collection to an additional 8,700 businesses and organizations, special collections services, neighborhood and special event cleanups, and the operations of the refuse to energy facility; and

WHEREAS, with the slogan *Keeping You and the Environment Safe*, Sunday, June 14, 2020, kicks off a week of recognition for Solid Waste and Recycling Professionals around our nation, and it offers the opportunity to celebrate the dedicated individuals who work daily to keep our neighborhoods and streets safe and clean, who are committed to ensuring a sustainable, healthy and livable environment for all of us, and who deserve our respect and appreciation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim the week of June 14-20, 2020 as

“NATIONAL WASTE AND RECYCLING WORKERS WEEK”

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in recognizing the important role of the dedicated solid waste and recycling professionals whose dedicated efforts keep our community clean by providing safe and efficient collection services and converting the byproducts into a renewable source of energy.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 10th day of June, 2020.



Jane Castor

Mayor