

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, 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

WHEREAS, currently, 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 155 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 the service area, the commercial collections to an additional 4,700 businesses and organizations, special collections services, and neighborhood and special event cleanups; and

WHEREAS, with the slogan *Keeping You and the Environment Safe*, June 17, 2016 kicks off a week of recognition for the Solid Waste Professionals around our nation, and it offers the opportunity to celebrate our trash collectors, dumpster haulers, and other 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, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Friday, June 17, 2016 as

“SOLID WASTE PROFESSIONALS DAY”

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in recognizing the important role of the dedicated Solid Waste Professionals whose efforts keep our community clean by the collection of the solid waste we generate and safely turn it into valuable energy.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 26th day of May, 2016.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor