



Waste
an event by
Waste

WasteExpo 2022
May 9 – 12
Las Vegas, NV

**Advancing the
Circular Economy
in Western Michigan**

**The Kent County
Sustainable Business Park Story**

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Waste 360

National Waste & Recycling Association
Collect. Recycle. Innovate.

1



Steve Simmons

GBB President

"I believe the creative forces of the market can serve as the most effective pathway in solving the problems of resource depletion and climate change. We need to revise our national policies which encourage linear thinking towards those that will move us forward to a circular economy."

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2

What is the Kent County Sustainable Business Park?

But how did it come about?

Integrated material **recovery & manufacturing** complex



Established by the Kent County Department of Public Works to advance **ambitious goal**



On **250 acres** of landfill purchased to host a new landfill

Project Development agreement in place with joint venture to build, own and operate the **Anchor Tenant Facility**



Anaergia
Fueling a Sustainable World™

Continuous Materials

Groundbreaking anticipated in early 2025



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3



Kent County, Michigan



Economic hub of Western Michigan



Home to the City of Grand Rapids



Second largest city in Michigan



Manufacturing & agriculture-based economy

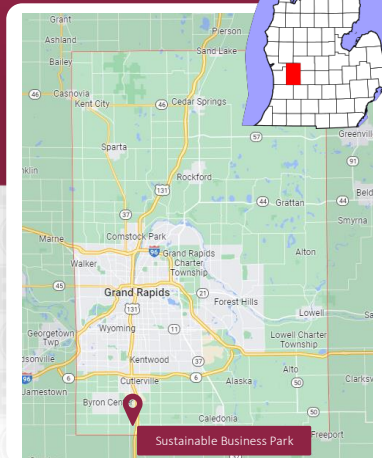


625,000 tons / year of municipal solid waste

Department of Public Works manages public solid waste management infrastructure:

- ✓ Single Stream, 30,000 TPY MRF
- ✓ 600 TPD Waste-to-Energy Facility
- ✓ 1,000 TPD landfill w/LFG-to-electricity facility
- ✓ Ancillary transfer station, HHW & citizen drop off amenities
- ✓ Responsible for two closed legacy landfills
- ✓ Managed as an Enterprise Fund

A 1990's Integrated Solid Waste Management System



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4

What Led to a need to Reimagine Trash?

>10 years	Landfill capacity
30 years old	Waste-to-Energy facility
15 years old	Single stream MRF
2.3% compound growth rate	Waste generation increase
Only 17%	Recycling rate

Changes were needed!

- Citizens asking for more effective recycling services
- Local industry demanding zero waste to landfill options
- Increasing scrutiny → long-term landfill monitoring costs

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5

Enter the Sustainable Business Park

2017 Vision:
Reduce landfill waste by 90% by 2030

Vision's Centerpiece:
Sustainable business park to be located on 250 acres owned by the DPW for future landfill expansion

Master Plan:
DPW selected GBB-led multidisciplinary team to develop a Master Plan

The Master Plan development included:

- ✓ Single Stream, 30,000 TPY MRF
- ✓ Waste evaluation and characterization
- ✓ Processing technology reviews
- ✓ Site suitability investigation
- ✓ Economic modeling
- ✓ Tipping fee impact analysis
- ✓ Public/stakeholder outreach and education

Approved by the DPW Board in August 2018

September 26, 2018

2020
REIMAGINETRASH.ORG
2030

Submitted to:
Darwin Bass
Director
Kent County Department of Public Works
1500 Scribner Ave SW
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504

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6

The Sustainable Business Park Anchor Tenant RFP

Procurement for acceptance of **400,000 tons/year of mixed MSW** to:

- ✓ Recover traditional recyclables
- ✓ Convert organic waste into renewable natural gas & compost
- ✓ Produce proprietary products

- ✓ World-wide procurement
- ✓ Conducted through Kent County Department of Fiscal Services

June 2020

- Issuance of a Request for Proposals for an Anchor Tenant



September 2020

- 7 responses received
- Extensive Review / Evaluation



September 2021

- Joint venture recommended to Board of Public Works as anchor tenant



March 2022

- Project Development Agreement approved by the DPW Board



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7

Next Steps



*Groundbreaking
expected in 2025*



30% facility design effort underway



Permitting and regulatory approvals



Feedstock supply agreement negotiations



County flow control ordinance revised and expanded



Arrange feasibility and Independent Consultant reports to support \$240 million in equity and debt financing



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8

Keys to Success So Far



Visionary leadership in the Public Sector Agency



Acknowledgment that doing the right thing will cost more in the near term than landfilling



A willingness to pay more now for long term benefit



Multidisciplinary project development team



Extensive public outreach and communication



Public control of a suitable site



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9

Questions & Answers



Steve Simmons

GBB President

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We believe in a world where discarded materials are used as resources rather than wasted.

Gershman, Brickner & Bratton, Inc.

www.gbbinc.com



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10

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Thank You!
Please be sure to fill out the session
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National
Waste & Recycling
Association
(CERCLA Superfund Response)

11