



April 22, 2008

ECUA Board of Directors:

It is with great enthusiasm and educated consideration that I write to you today to formally express the Pensacola Young Professionals' support of creating a curbside recycling program in Escambia County.

The Pensacola Young Professionals are dedicated and committed to positioning our community as a great place to live, work and play for young professionals. This, in turn, will attract and retain young talent that will serve as our community's next generation of innovative and forward-thinking leadership.

Quality of life is very important to our generation. A component of Quality of Life is a sound, healthy environment. Understanding this need and to meet member interests in making our community a "greener" place, a PYP environmental sub-committee was formed. In an effort to educate the membership on environmental issues and to determine their interests and needs as it pertains to cultivating an environment-conscious organization, PYP sent out a survey focused on recycling to its members.

One of the areas of interest on the survey examined curbside recycling. The support for this type of program was astounding—**98 percent of survey respondents indicated they were in favor of curbside recycling**. The survey also asked for comments in reference to this particular question and here is a sampling of the feedback:

"If the area wants to have an efficient and successful program, you will have to make it easy for the residents. Without a curbside program, people will be hesitant to participate."

"Recycling would see a huge increase as most people are not proactive enough to recycle on their own. If it's provided, people will do it. If people have to go out of their way they will not."

"I don't think people (including myself) are aware of where you can take certain items, and it's a lot easier to have it picked up in front of your home than trying to find the time to drop it off."

"I think it would make a big difference in the amount of waste we currently expend. I grew up with curbside recycling in central NY, and think it makes it so much easier for people to participate in a recycling program. A lot of people, especially those with no private transportation, will not recycle if there's no curbside pickup."

"Would need to look at cost for benefits, funding, etc. However, on the surface I would generally support curbside recycling for the simple fact it is the right thing to do in order to protect our environment."

As you can see, the Pensacola Young Professionals agree that some type of curbside recycling is a step in the right direction in helping protect our environment and to generate increased social responsibility. I do not feel the need to go into the reasons why we should recycle as this board is very aware of why it's important we protect our environment. We do understand that there are several parties of interest in this project including the City and County, but we hope ECUA will do what's right and lead the way in making this endeavor come to fruition.

Sincerely,

James Hosman
Chairman
Pensacola Young Professionals