

# News Release



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## Groundbreaking Ceremony Held for Materials Recovery Facility

*Charleston County officials attend ceremony on May 15 to kick-off construction*

On Monday, May 15 Charleston County officials attended a ceremony to begin construction of Charleston County's new Materials Recovery Facility (MRF). Located in North Charleston on Palmetto Commerce Parkway, the County's new recycling center is the culmination of a multi-year development process. Designed to meet future regional recycling needs, the building size is 57,000 square feet and will include a multi-media education center, modern recycling equipment, and administrative offices.

Components of the new MRF include:

- state-of-the-art processing equipment, such as optical sorting equipment, which will produce high quality material and reduce labor costs.
- a fully automated scale, the first of its kind for recycling facilities in South Carolina.
- capacity to process all of Charleston County recyclables, 25 tons of recyclables per hour, operating one shift, five days per week.

"Building this new recycling facility is a necessary investment in order serve the needs of our community for many years to come," said Charleston County Councilmember Brantley Moody. The plan to build the MRF was first formally approved by Charleston County Council on April 23, 2013. A local Mount Pleasant firm, Mashburn Construction, will build the facility, and Machinex will provide the processing equipment.

This \$30 million project is funded solely from the annual solid waste user fee generated from residential and commercial properties county-wide. The approved capital improvement project budget includes property acquisition, infrastructure improvements, and turn-key design-build construction costs. The building is estimated to be completed by June 2018. The project is being managed by Charleston County Facilities Management Department.

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*Prepared by the Public Information Office*