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Downtown Businesses Encouraged to Recycle Cardboard through City and County Collaboration

New curbside pickup effort aims to divert cardboard boxes from disposal and support the County's 40% recycling goal

On Monday, March 4, <u>Charleston County Government</u> and the <u>City of Charleston</u> will officially begin a collaborative effort to recycle more cardboard generated by downtown Charleston businesses.

The joint effort to make cardboard recycling easier for downtown businesses began when the City of Charleston approached Charleston County to assist the City in their goal.

"This opportunity for our commercial district gives the merchants the ability to recycle their cardboard instead of this resource being destroyed," said Mayor Joseph P. Riley, Jr. "We appreciate the County's assistance, and their efforts with this initiative have been a sterling example of collaboration between area government agencies. This program is one more step in keeping Charleston the most livable city in the world while preserving valuable resources."

At the request of the City, <u>Charleston County's Environmental Management Department</u> will now collect cardboard at the curb from businesses in commercial areas of downtown.

"We are excited about this coordinated effort with the City of Charleston that encourages downtown businesses to be good stewards of the environment. We are glad to offer our collection services for this material that is currently disposed in order to have it turned into other paper products or boxes through recycling," said <u>Charleston County's Solid Waste Committee</u> Chair and County Councilmember Anna Johnson.

Charleston County Government is committed to providing educational resources, recycling and processing services as a part of the collaborative effort with the City of Charleston.

"Our recent actions in conjunction with the City of Charleston's Green Plan will ultimately lead to a reduction in the amount of garbage generated, and will also support County Council's goal of a 40% recycling rate Countywide," Johnson said.