

OFFICE OF OF PUBLIC WORKS  
K. MICHAEL NORRIS  
DIRECTOR



DIVISION OF WASTE AND RECYCLING  
WYNNE COPLEA  
DIVISION MANAGER

CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

June 15, 2011

To Whom It Concerns:

I recently met Buddy Boyd at a national recycling leaders' retreat here in Springfield, Illinois, which featured a discussion and planning focus on Zero Waste and Extended Producer Responsibility. As a participant in the retreat, Buddy was actively engaged in the discussion and often was able to answer questions or issues from his own base of personal experience. Of all the 25 retreat participants, Buddy was one of only two that actually own or manage a zero waste recovery center... his viewpoint and information were invaluable to our process!

Buddy consistently has taken recycling to the next step, no matter the challenge in recycling a particular material. The due diligence and research that Buddy dedicated to such materials as Styrofoam and glass have resulted in viable, high end uses for these sometimes difficult-to-recycle materials. The time and expertise it took to delve into the research for these two materials alone is significant, and the fact that Buddy so willingly shares the results of his work with others is just outstanding in an industry that too often misses recycling/reuse opportunities due to lack of communication.

Our world and culture are changing; what was acceptable practice even just 3 or 4 years ago is no longer acceptable as folks seek new ways to reduce their environmental impact and as businesses seek to improve their bottom line to stay afloat in this tough economic atmosphere. Gibson's Recycling Depot under Buddy Boyd's leadership has provided a convenient and common sense outlet for a wide variety of materials we used to consider "waste". Buddy's dedication to the sustainability cause was most recently demonstrated in his taking time away from his small business and also from Vancouver, B.C. Zero Waste activities, in order to participate in our retreat and IL Recycling Association statewide conference. Buddy's contribution to both events was valuable and timely, and his enthusiasm is contagious! I recommend that Buddy Boyd be included at the leadership level for any and all zero waste and sustainability planning for your community – to the benefit of all.

Sincerely,

Wynne E. Coplea  
Manager, Waste & Recycling Division  
City of Springfield, Illinois, USA