

For Immediate Release:  
January 31, 2008

For More information contact:  
Rep. Sue Schoemehl at (573) 751-9804

### **Schoemehl Opposes St. Louis County Trash Plan**

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – I am against the county trash plan as it is now. I am not comfortable with the details of the county plan. I would like to slow down the process and figure out what is right for everyone involved.

I have been listening to citizens for sometime about trash collection. The county lacks citizen input in their plan. I agree with the St. Louis Post Dispatch when they suggested a pilot project and monitoring the results.

I believe that everyone in South County wants to increase their recycling efforts.

I also believe they would limit the number of new landfills but not at the expense of personal choice.

My constituents want savings on their costs, but choice of trash companies, a simplified way to recycle, reduction of truck traffic and safe streets. There must be a compromise to move forward. What citizens want must be thought through. We need more time to work out a plan that fits different situations and circumstances.

Legislation that was introduced last week HB 1789 unfortunately could be a problem.

My concern is HB 1789 as written could prevent St. Louis County from debris pick up after storms like the last four and being reimbursed by FEMA for the pick up.

I am confident a good compromise will be made. There are smart people on both sides.

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For more information contact:  
Joan Barry (314) 368-7772

**Former State Representative Joan Barry Calls for  
Immediate Halt to Trash Districting Plan**

*“Any trash plan should be put to a vote of the people!”*

South St. Louis County, MO – *Today, State Senate candidate Joan Barry released a statement on the trash controversy in South St. Louis County:*

As a lifetime resident of South St. Louis County and a former State Legislator, I am opposed to the present trash districting plan presented by the County.

The County Council has acknowledged our challenges concerning waste removal, but the new trash plan has generated a lot of anger, confusion, and apprehension. We need to resolve these issues, but at the lowest price and optimal service level for everyone.

My concerns with the current status of waste removal in South County are the following: the prevalence of illegal dumping, the lack of recycling options, illegal burning and dumping of yard waste, and lack of bulk waste removal.

I believe that the majority of people in South County want real solutions to these problems, and the revised trash-collection plan tried to offer solutions for them.

However, the plan has failed due to a lack of citizen input and the narrow constraints of the opt-out provision. I am also concerned with how the plan might negatively affect small businesses and our freedom of choice.

With these issues in mind, I believe that this entire process should be put to a vote of the people.

First, we must immediately halt the current process. Second, form a committee of concerned citizens to study solutions to these problems. And finally, have the committee decisions endorsed by a vote of the people in South County.

If the people reject trash districting, the committee should be available to help consult with the County to address any lingering waste management issues.

If the people believe that we need trash districting. Then the committee should oversee the bidding process, serve as a judge for the level of service, and possibly oversee a pilot project to set benchmarks for future contracts.

For Immediate Release

**Ann Pluemer**  
**Oakville Democratic Committeewoman**

**Earl Blase**  
**Oakville Democratic Committeeman**

Joan Barry in her press release dated January 31, 2008, has called for a referendum vote on St. Louis County's trash proposal.

As the Democratic Committeewoman and Committeeman of Oakville, we agree that a non-binding referendum should be submitted.

Representative Jim Lembke continues to make headlines with his various proposals for trash. We also know that Representative Lembke has a long record of proposing legislation that never goes anywhere.

Long term solutions to our trash and recycling problems, is not a partisan issue. Trash should not be used to garner votes.

Working together, we can find solutions for the long term.

Ann Pluemer  
Oakville Democratic Committeewoman

Earl Blase  
Oakville Democratic Committeeman

**St. Louis County Trash Policy Update From Barbara Fraser's Newsletter 2/7/2008 10:15 AM**

The Department of Health will be providing a recycling cart to all residents of unincorporated St. Louis County in order to encourage recycling. Carts will be delivered beginning in February and ending around the first of April.

St. Louis County has decided to establish a trash collection district in an unincorporated area of west St. Louis County as a pilot project. The county will go out for bid in early March and plans to begin operations in August. Plans remain to establish the remaining seven districts but implementation will be delayed. The date of implementation will depend largely on what is learned from the pilot district.