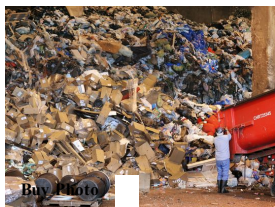


# Mayor Ballard to announce deal for recycling plant

John Tuohy, john.tuohy@indystar.com 12:38 p.m. EDT June 18, 2014



(Photo: Matt Detrich/The Star)

Mayor Greg Ballard today will announce an agreement for a waste disposal firm to build a \$45 million recycling plant on the southwestside. [Full Screen](#)

The deal with Covanta Indianapolis — first discussed by [Covanta recycling](#) means all the trash picked up in the city would first go to a new sorting plant in an effort to identify and increase the amount of trash recycled in the city.

Ballard and Anthony Orlando, chief executive officer of Covanta, will make the announcement at 2:30 p.m. at Covanta, 2320 S. Harding St.

**Environmentalists howling:** [City's new recycling plan trashed by critics \(/story/news/politics/2014/06/10/citys-new-recycling-plan-trashed-critics/10303495/\)](#)

The agreement, which is a 10-year extension of a 10-year deal that expires in 2018, would need the approval of the Board of Public Works.

An existing Covanta plant now burns the garbage, though it recycles some metals. The new plant, to be built next door, would recycle paper, cardboard, plastic and metals — but not glass.

Some environmentalists are concerned the recycling center would discourage residents from participating in the city's curbside recycling program, which they say is a more efficient way to recycle. They also say failure to recycle glass is a major shortcoming.

But city officials said the plant would instantly increase participation in recycling from 10 percent — for curbside — to 100 percent.

Call Star reporter John Tuohy at 444-6418 and follow on Twitter [@john\\_tuohy](#).

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