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While the stated focus of the plan on the higher levels of the waste hierarchy does move in the right direction, it fails to adequately address the other end of the hierarchy, which we know will continue to be part of our waste management processes during the term of this plan.

The reduction goals are also severely insignificant - focusing on the higher levels of the hierarchy should mean put the greatest emphasis on reduction, and a 5% goal over 20 years is unacceptable. Other cities and local governments have reduction goals as high as 75% based on the recognition that, as the hierarchy is meant to indicate, this also reduces the need to invest and improve in the rest of the levels.

The focus on incineration for disposal also goes far beyond what the hierarchy requires, even including a policy to "assure county commissioners understand the importance of supporting and maintaining WTE (waste-to-energy) facilities." This is completely unacceptable, unscientific and disingenuous, and the plan must be revised to include HERC shutdown.