

# Council discusses possible green landfill project

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Landfill issues and energy saving policies will be among the topics discussed in the Casper City Council work session today.

The landfill needs a new special waste diversion facility, which houses household waste such as pesticides, poisons, paints, acids, used oil, biomedical waste and propane tanks, according to a memo sent to the council from Public Services Director Gary Clough.

The current facility is 2,000 square feet, roughly one-third of what the city needs, according to Clough.

But, when planning for the new facility, Clough is asking the council to consider building the structure to be LEED certified. The certification is a nationally accepted benchmark for high performance green buildings, Clough wrote.

"It provides the tools needed to have an immediate and measurable impact on the performance of a building in five key areas of environmental health concern including energy efficiency, water efficiency, materials and resources use, sustainable site development and indoor air quality," he wrote.

It's an additional \$70,000 to design the facility to be LEED certified, and construction costs are estimated to be \$300,000 over the cost of the original estimate. But, according to Clough, similar projects in the country show energy savings of 25 to 50 percent, water savings of 20 to 40 percent and separation of construction waste from the landfill of 50 to 90 percent over the normal building construction.

Though Casper currently does not have any LEED certified buildings, Wyoming has three certified and another 25 registered LEED buildings.

The council will also listen to a detailed list of the current energy-saving projects in the city and discuss award guidelines for awards promoting redevelopment projects in the Old Yellowstone District.

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*The Casper City Council work session will be at 4:30 p.m. today in City Hall, 200 N. David St. The meeting is open to the public for viewing but not for participation.*