

## **Zero Waste Advisory Commission 2011-2012 Work Plan**

Monitor the following ongoing programs/projects and make recommendations to City Council as needed:

- A. Master Plan Implementation – With the passing of the plan in December 2011, the Commission will collaborate with staff by making recommendations to the Austin Resource Recovery Director regarding project implementation.
- B. Revised Hauler Fee Ordinance – The Commission developed a committee to solicit the input of stakeholders regarding the ordinance. Multiple meetings were held and several ideas were given to the SWAC Subcommittee. The staff will come back to SWAC in early 2012 with an action plan.
- C. Department Efficiency Report –The Commission recommended Austin Resource Recovery Director to identify potential cost savings and efficiencies in day to day operations and report findings in April 2012.
- D. Rate Structure – The Commission will collaborate with staff by making recommendations to the Austin Resource Recovery Director regarding the restructuring of ARR rates in order to promote Zero Waste while maintaining an adequate income stream that reflects the needs of Austinites.
- E. Composting Program – This on going program is a part of the Master Plan. The operational impacts are being planned in order to ramp up for the implementation of this important program.
- F. Commercial/Multi Family Reform/Recycling Ordinance – The Commission developed a committee to address the City's Ordinance. They held multiple meetings with multiple stakeholders representing constituencies to present Phase II recommendations to Council. The Commission will continue to hold meetings with stakeholders as they develop Phase II of recommendations to Council.
- G. Producer Responsibility – This on going program is a part of the Master Plan. The Commission will collaborate with staff by making recommendations to the Austin Resource Recovery Director regarding collaborations with its regional partners to target non-recyclable, non-compostable materials or hard to-handle materials across the region.
- H. Green Building/C & D Recycling – This on going program is a part of the Master Plan. The item will be presented to Council from staff with preliminary findings in the fall of 2012. The program will be a collaborative effort from Austin Energy's Green Building Program, Austin, Planning and Development Review and Public Works.

- I. Conversion Technologies – This on going program is a part of the Master Plan. The Department is a participant in a life-cycle analysis study through the Department of Civil Engineering, Center for Sustainable Infrastructure Systems at the University of Colorado Denver. This study will provide an environmental and economic comparison of conventional landfilling with alternative conversion technologies. The major measuring stick is GHG reductions. The study will also offer additional means to measure environmental impacts through a systems analysis of each disposal method. The University study is expected to be completed by the spring of 2012.
- J. Mobile Vending Recycling – The Commission will collaborate with staff by making recommendations to the Austin Resource Recovery Director regarding potential actions to insure mobile vendors the ability recycle.