



MEMORANDUM

To: Zero Waste Advisory Commission

From: David Sullivan, ZWAC C&D Committee Chair

Subject: Construction and Demolition Recycling Committee 2013 Annual Report

Date: December 13, 2013

The purpose of this memo is to summarize actions of the Construction and Demolition (C&D) Committee of the Zero Waste Advisory Commission (ZWAC) for calendar year 2013 as required by current bylaws.

Background

ARR estimates that debris from C&D account for approximately 20 percent of city-wide waste. The ARR Master Plan recommends developing a construction debris ordinance, requiring most C&D debris to be collected and processed by private sector service providers. This "Construction, Deconstruction, and Demolition Debris Ordinance" should significantly increase the diversion of C&D debris. This ordinance will be developed based on stakeholder input, including the building industry and private sector service providers. The ARR Master Plan suggests the following components for this ordinance:

- Adopting policies to increase reuse, recycling and composting of products used in remodeling and new construction;
- Requiring larger project building permit holders to provide diversion plans;
- Transitioning to higher rates of diversion requirements; and
- Registering C&D debris facilities and haulers.

The ARR Master Plan also suggests that ARR will provide technical assistance to C&D debris generators in support of the ordinance; including:

- Training in soft demolition, deconstruction, and building materials reuse;
- Promotion of building adaptive reuse;
- Information on recycling and reuse outlets and deconstruction services; and
- Information about rates and services available voluntarily provided by private sector service providers and nonprofits.

Status

The Construction and Demolition (C&D) Committee of the Zero Waste Advisory Commission (ZWAC) held its initial meeting on December 9, 2013. The committee heard a briefing on the background on C&D in Austin, including past C&D forums with stakeholders. The committee also heard a briefing on the Austin Energy Green Building Rating System C&D Recycling Requirement from Austin Energy staff. The AE program may form a basis to begin talking about a city-wide program. The staff also described a proposed C&D ordinance development process and timeline, which was officially adopted by the committee.

The ARR Master Plan calls for the ZWAC to send a C&D ordinance to the City Council in 2014. The proposed schedule proposes achieving this goal by October 2014.

Next Steps

The ARR staff will schedule stakeholder meetings in the January – June 2014 time frame. The C&D Committee will meet in April and July to learn of the progress made in the stakeholder meetings. Individual commissioners may attend stakeholder meetings with no more than one member present at a time to comply with City meeting quorum rules. The Committee will work towards having a draft ordinance available for the ZWAC in September 2014.

Cc: Bob Gedert, ARR Director
Sam Angoori, PE, ARR Deputy Director
Tammie Williamson, AICP, ARR Assistant Director
Jessica King, ARR Strategic Initiatives, Manager