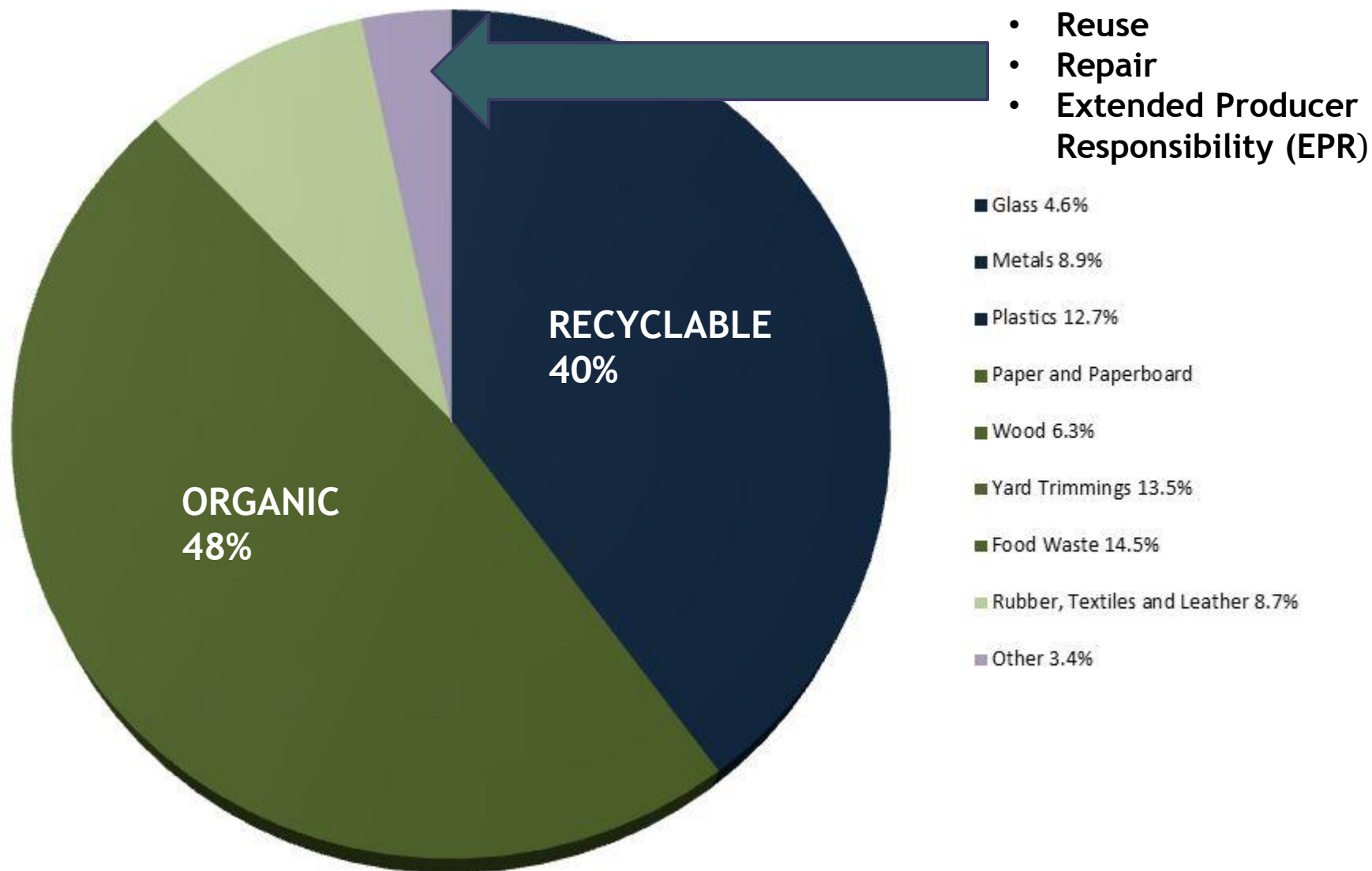


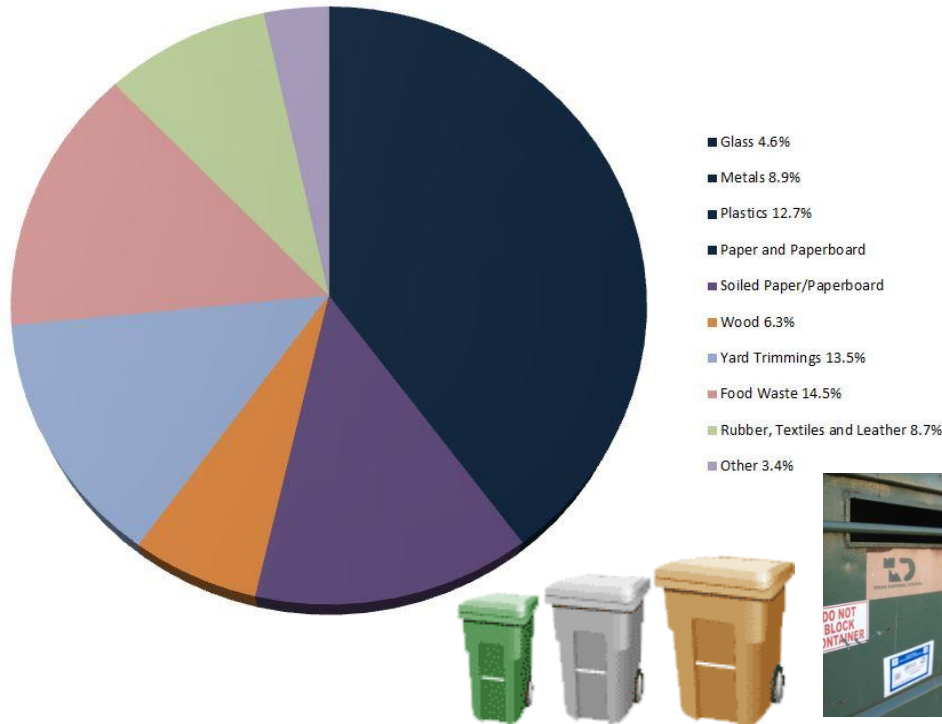
# How Do We Get to Zero Waste?

Presented by Andrew Dobbs  
Texas Campaign for the Environment  
Austin Zero Waste Alliance  
[Dobbs@texasenvironment.org](mailto:Dobbs@texasenvironment.org)  
512-326-5655

# EPA Waste Composition 2012



# Diverting All Recyclables



Pay As You  
Throw

Universal  
Recycling  
Ordinance

Recycling  
Drop Off

Household  
Hazardous  
Waste

**Needed  
Programs:**

- URO Rule Fix
- Education

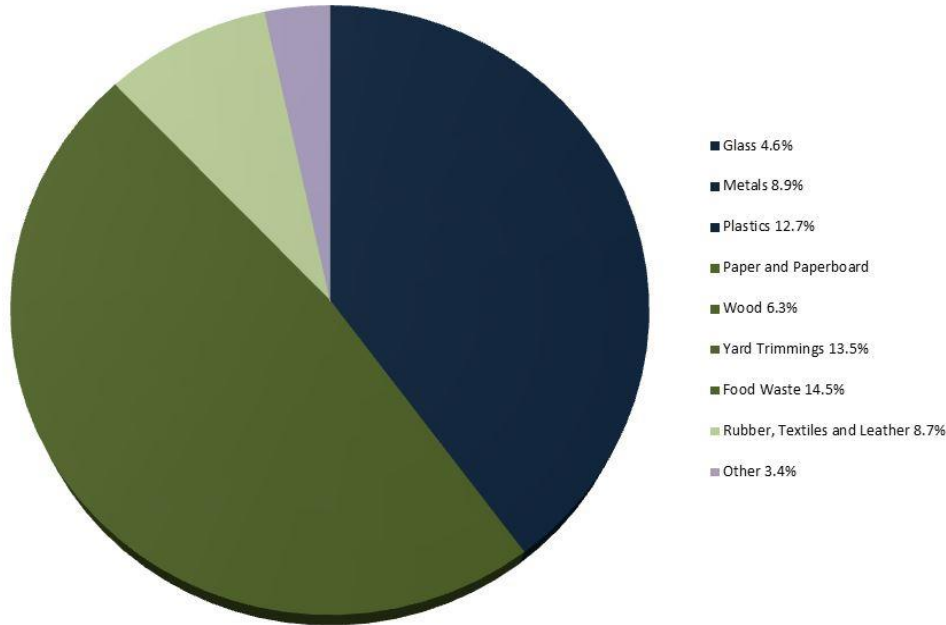
## Existing Programs/Policies



Residential Recycling



# Diverting All Organics



## Needed Programs:

- Comprehensive residential organics
- URO should include organics for multifamily, etc.

## Existing Programs/Policies



Home  
composting  
rebate



Curbside pilot  
(16,000  
homes)



Yard waste  
collection



Next year: URO  
covers food  
permitted  
businesses



# Also...



## Construction and Demolition (C&D)

Existing: Green Building Program

Needed: Construction Materials

Management Ordinance (CMMO)



## Institutional

Existing: Travis County

Inter-Local Agreement  
(ILA)

Needed: Improved ILA

# URO Rule Fix



## 2012 Affected Properties: Not Meeting Requirements (as of 4/1/14)

Requirement	Commercial		Multifamily		TOTAL	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Insufficient Service Capacity	40	23%	141	27%	181	26%
More than 25' Rule (Waiver Requested)	32	18%	92	18%	124	18%
No Annual Education	2	1%	4	1%	6	1%
Not Bilingual Signs	48	27%	42	8%	90	13%
No Recycling Plan*	14	8%	104	20%	118	17%
Out of compliance with one or more requirements	112	63%	315	60%	427	61%
<b>Total Currently Affected</b>	177	---	524	---	701	---

\*Reporting dates include multiple years

Reduce the number of site visits, reduce enforcement costs, improve compliance without spending more money



## 2013 Affected Properties: Not Meeting Requirements (as of 4/1/14)

Requirement	Commercial		Multifamily		TOTAL	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Insufficient Service Capacity	13	20%	34	13%	47	14%
More than 25' Rule (Waiver Requested)	11	17%	12	4%	23	7%
No Annual Education	0	0%	2	1%	2	1%
Not Bilingual Signs	13	20%	6	2%	19	6%
No Recycling Plan**	31	47%	138	52%	169	51%
Out of compliance with one or more requirements	41	62%	181	68%	222	67%
<b>Total Currently Affected</b>	66		267		333	

\*\*Reporting includes YTD from Oct. 1, 2013



# Organics Collection



## Upfront investment

Trucks

Carts

Personnel

## Long-term Savings

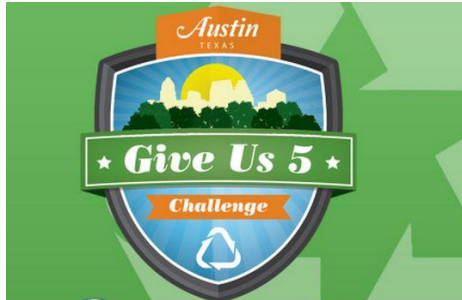
Switch to smaller trash

50% cut in trash collection

Water consumption

**\$7 million a year**

# Improving Education



**To:** Zero Waste Advisory Commission  
**From:** Bob Gedert, Director  
Austin Resource Recovery Department  
**Date:** February 11, 2015  
**Subject:** Director's Report to ZWAC

## Yale / USBCSD Intern Report

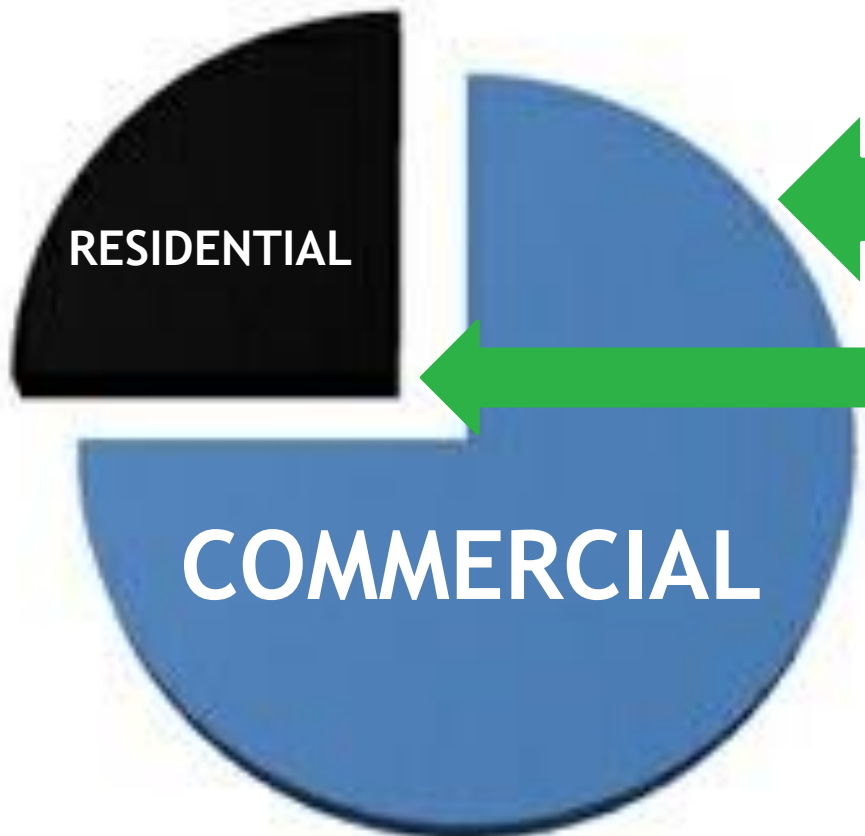
Over a 10 week period, Yale graduate students Snigdha Garg and Ben Morelli from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies interned at ARR and developed recommendations aimed at assisting the department achieve the Austin Zero Waste goals. Three broad recommendations are presented in their report, which includes:

1. *Establish a continuous baseline education campaign with a compelling argument for resource recovery.*

The first recommendation proposes a shift in outreach and education efforts asking ARR to refocus on answering the basic questions: How and Why to recycle? This recommendation is designed to address the current lack of ongoing, baseline education. Numerous indicators such as the annual customer surveys, low participation rates, and high contamination rates highlight the existing gap between the current waste diversion situation and the progressive goals of Zero Waste. The recommendation also suggests development of a more comprehensive and compelling justification for recycling that looks beyond environmental benefits to employment effects and economic opportunities.



# 2018 Scenario

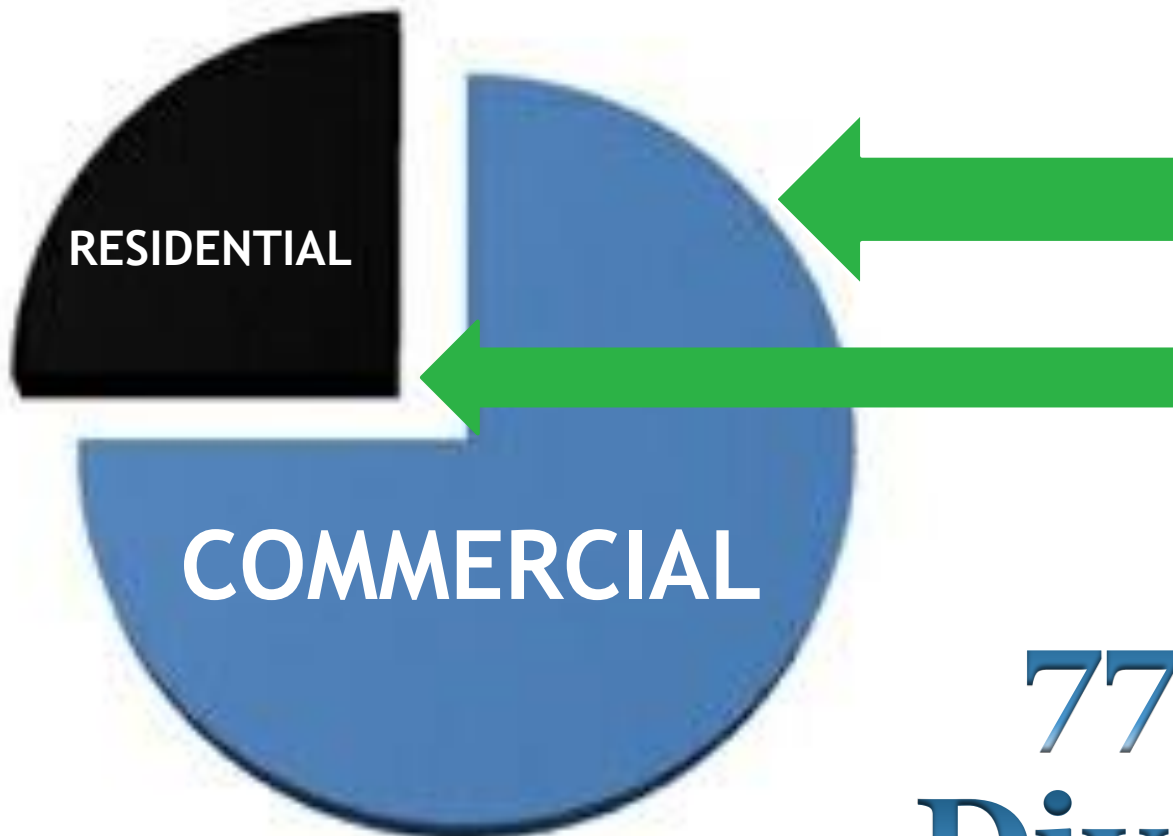


URO & CMMO:  
60% Diversion

Organics and  
Education: 77%  
Diversion

**64.25%**  
**Diversion**

# 2020 Scenario



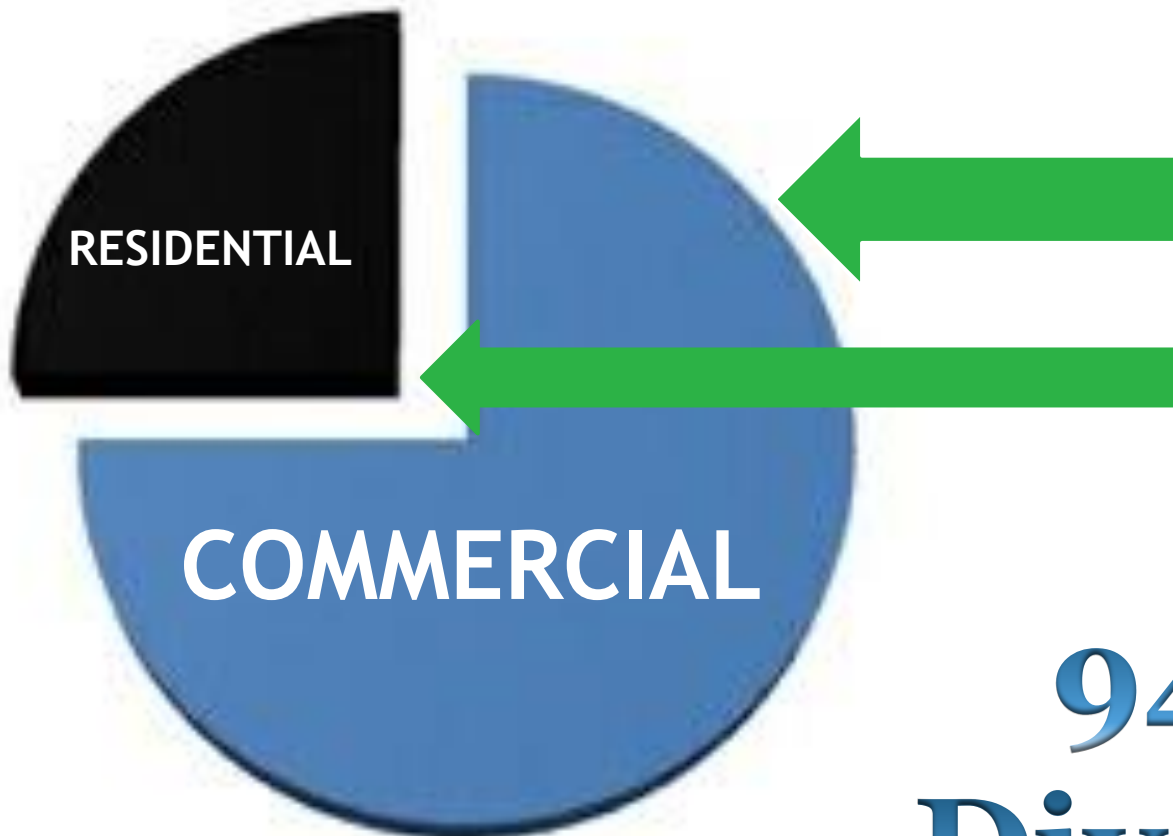
URO & CMMO:  
75% Diversion

Organics and  
Education: 84%  
Diversion

**(Save \$3 Million in  
landfill fees)**

**77.25%**  
**Diversion**

# 2030 Scenario



URO & CMMO:  
95% Diversion

Organics,  
Education and  
Reuse/EPR: 92.3%  
Diversion **(Save \$3.5 Million  
in landfill fees)**

**94.3%**  
**Diversion**