



# Zero Waste Goals & Programs

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# Purpose of ZWAC

The commission shall act as an advisory body to the City Council and shall review programs and make recommendations regarding:

- The city's waste stream;
- Minimization of environmental impacts due to waste disposal;





## **Purpose of ZWAC** (continued...)

- Implementation of programs that achieve the city's goals and objectives relating to solid waste management, including recycling, composting, alternative methods of waste disposal, garbage collection, and landfill diversion; and
- Zero Waste programs



# Department Core Services

- Curbside Collection Services
  - Weekly trash
  - Every other week recycling
  - Weekly yard trimmings
  - Twice per year bulky item
  - Twice per year large brush
- Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Drop-off
- Street and Boulevard Sweeping
- Litter pick-up/Alley cleaning
- Dead Animal Collection







# Department Additional Services

- Storm Debris Cleanup
- Mulching/Compost Operations/Dillo Dirt
- Downtown Trash Container Collection
- City Landfill Closure
- Cart Delivery and Repair
- Appliance and Electronics Drop-off
- Special Event Diversion Services
- Community Clean Up Assistance
- Illegal Dump Clean up Assistance





# Austin by the Numbers

11TH LARGEST CITY BY US POPULATION



**900,700** POPULATION (2015)



**24,000**

NEW RESIDENTS PER YEAR (TRENDING)



Housing Type	
Single Family Residential	190,000
Multi-Family Residential	180,000
<b>Land Area</b> (square miles)	<b>322</b>



# What is Zero Waste?

**ZERO WASTE  
IS A GOAL** TO GUIDE PEOPLE IN CHANGING THEIR  
LIFESTYLES AND PRACTICES TO EMULATE  
SUSTAINABLE NATURAL CYCLES, WHERE

**ALL DISCARDED MATERIALS ARE DESIGNED TO  
BECOME RESOURCES FOR OTHERS TO USE.**

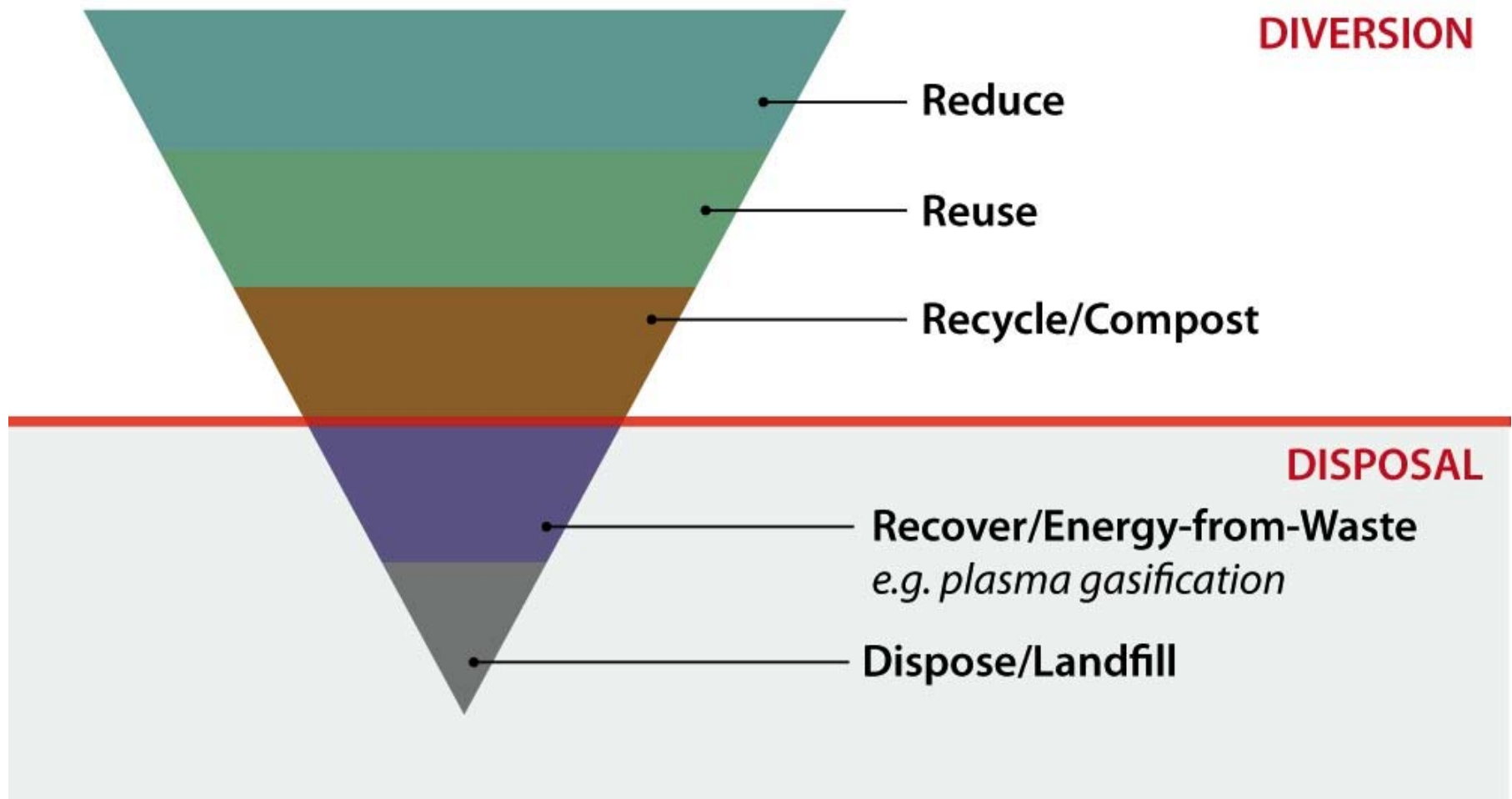
ZERO WASTE MEANS DESIGNING AND MANAGING PRODUCTS AND  
PROCESSES TO SYSTEMATICALLY AVOID AND ELIMINATE THE VOLUME  
AND TOXICITY OF WASTE AND MATERIALS,

**CONSERVE AND RECOVER ALL RESOURCES,  
AND NOT BURN OR BURY THEM.**

Excerpts from Zero Waste International Alliance



# Materials Management: Highest and Best Use







# Evolution of Zero Waste in Austin



## LATE 1980S TO EARLY 1990S

- Municipal landfill closes
- City evaluates options to landfilling or incineration
- Solid Waste Task Force discusses recycling, yard waste composting, Pay-As-You-Throw rates, etc.

## EARLY 2000 TO 2005

- Long Term Solid Waste Management Plan developed
- City commits to sustainability, especially:
  - Climate Protection
  - Water Conservation
  - Zero Waste



# City Council Policies Adopting Zero Waste

- **2005**  
**URBAN ENVIRONMENTAL ACCORDS**  
Council Resolution 20050519-44
- **2009**  
**AUSTIN ZERO WASTE STRATEGIC PLAN**  
Council Resolution 20090115-050
- **2011**  
**DEPARTMENT MASTER PLAN**  
Council Resolution 20111215-047



# New Direction



## RECENT

Integrated Solid Waste Management



## PAST

Sanitation Waste Collection



## NEW DIRECTION

Materials Management — Zero Waste!



# New Vision and Mission



## VISION

To be the national Zero Waste leader in the transformation from traditional integrated waste collection to sustainable resource recovery.

## MISSION

To achieve Zero Waste by providing excellent customer services that promote waste education, increase resource recovery, and support the City of Austin's sustainability efforts.



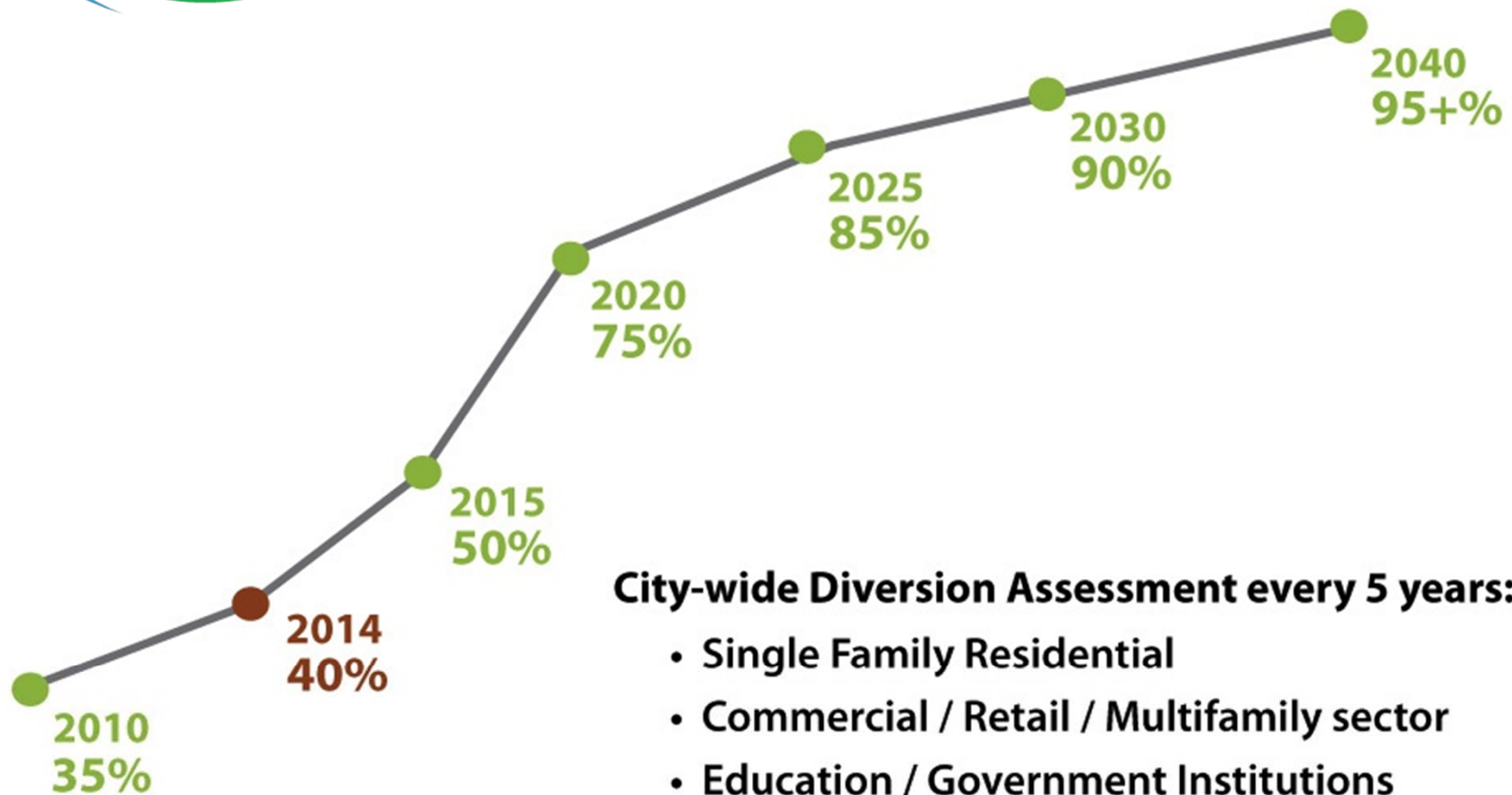


# New Identity



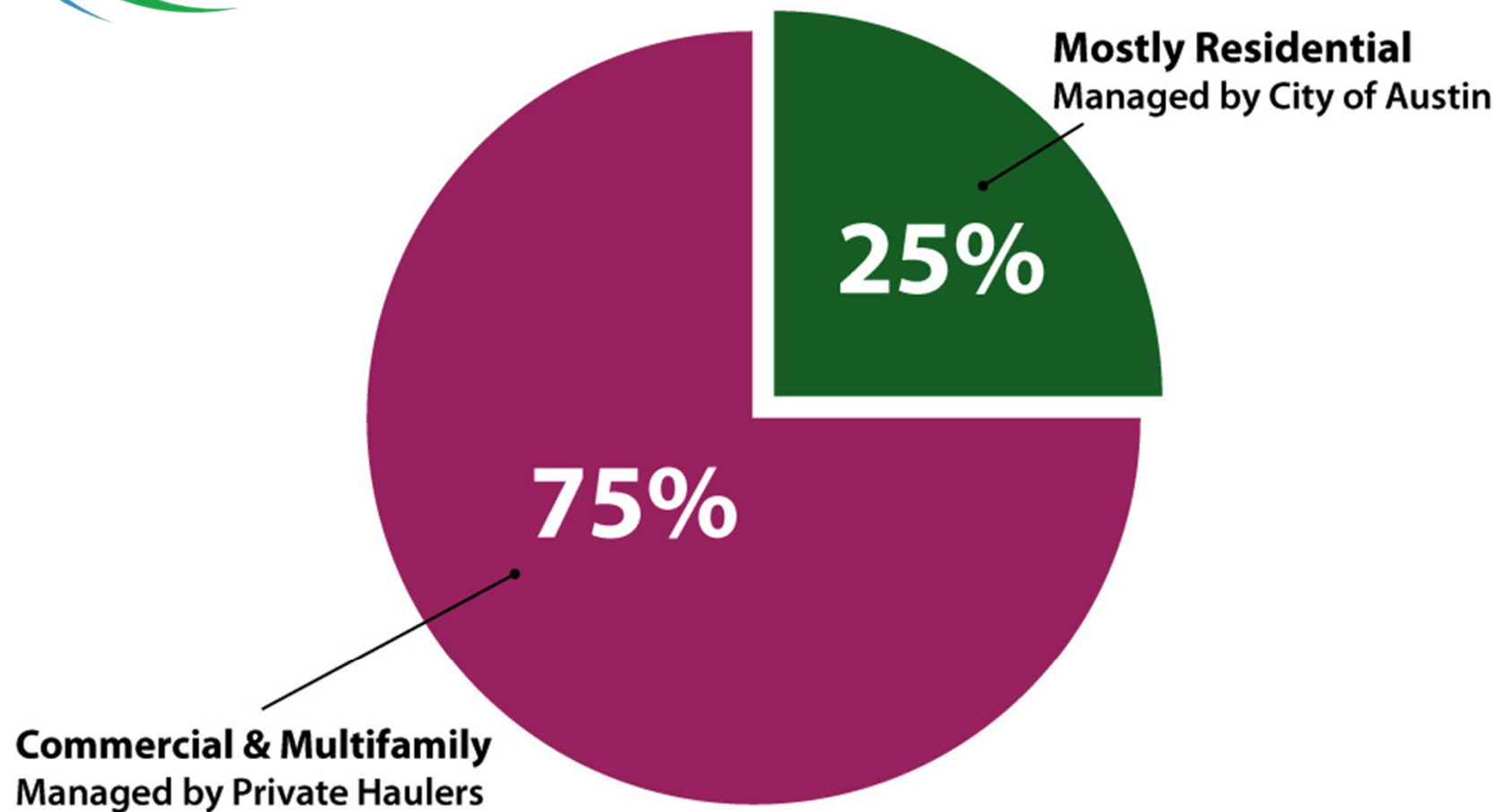


# Master Plan Diversion Goals



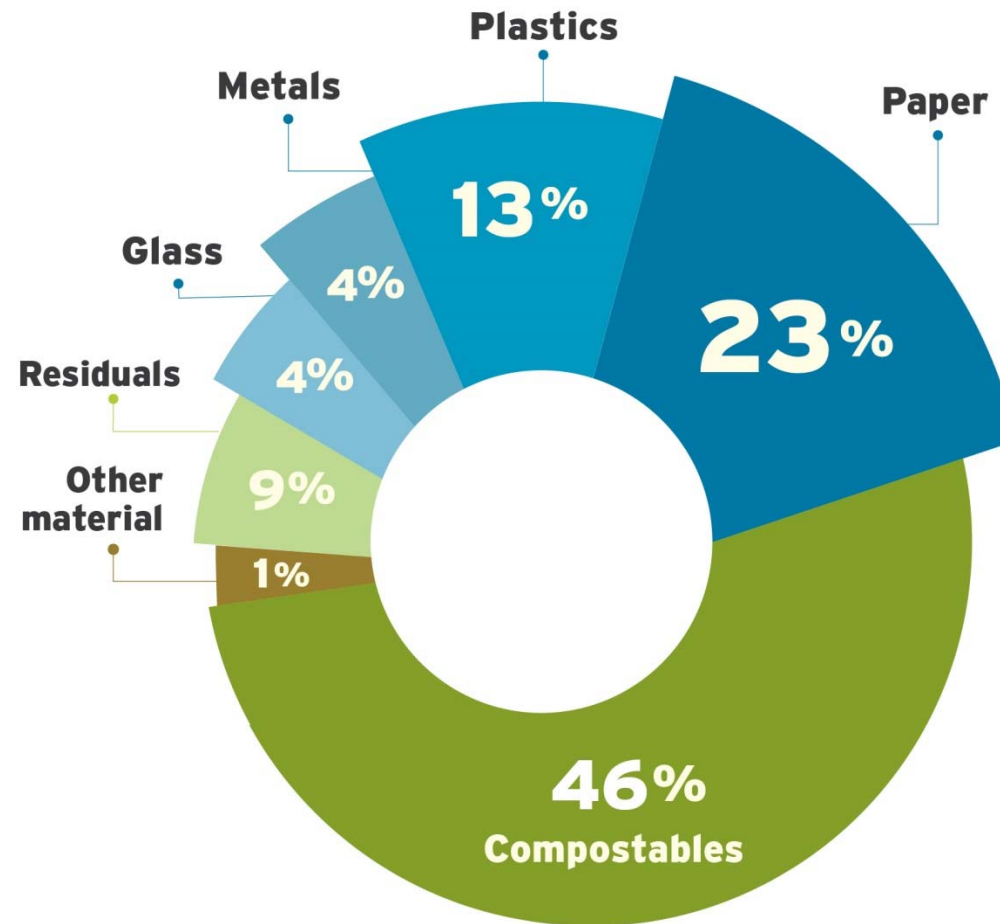


# Span of Influence





# ARR Residential Curbside Waste Stream Composition






Source: CB&I, City-Serviced Residential Waste Characterization Study, March 2015.





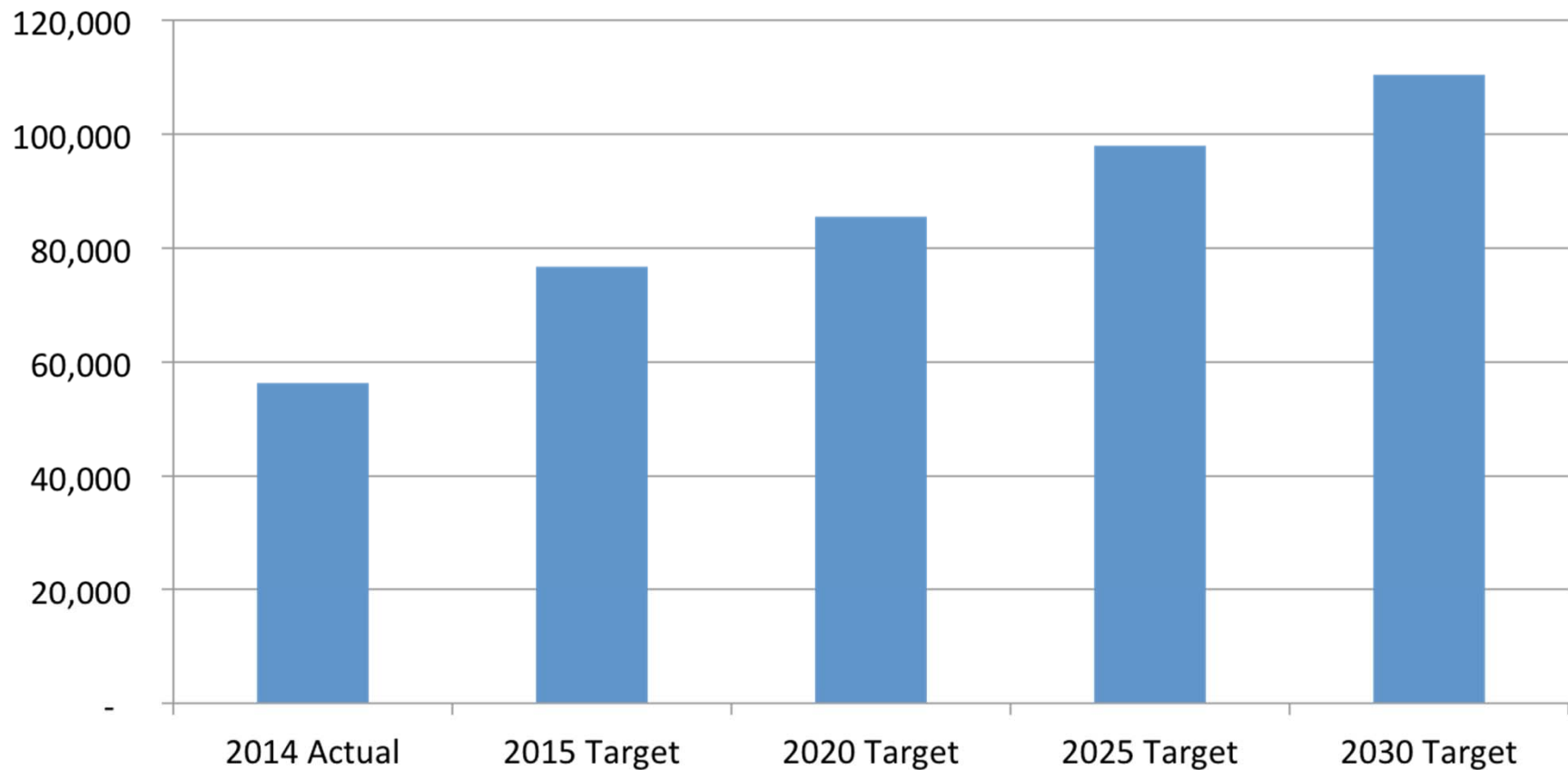
# Residential Diversion Calculations

	2014 ACTUAL	2020 PROJECTED
 LANDFILL	<b>137,258</b> TONS	<b>60,000</b> TONS
 RECYCLING	<b>55,966</b> TONS	<b>101,000</b> TONS
 COMPOSTING	<b>34,049</b> TONS	<b>79,000</b> TONS
<b>= TOTAL</b>	<b>227,273</b> TONS	<b>240,000</b> TONS

<b>Diversion Rate</b>	<b>39.6%</b>	<b>75%</b>
Landfilled per household	27.9 lbs/week	11.0 lbs/week
Diversion per household	18.3 lbs/week	33.0 lbs/week

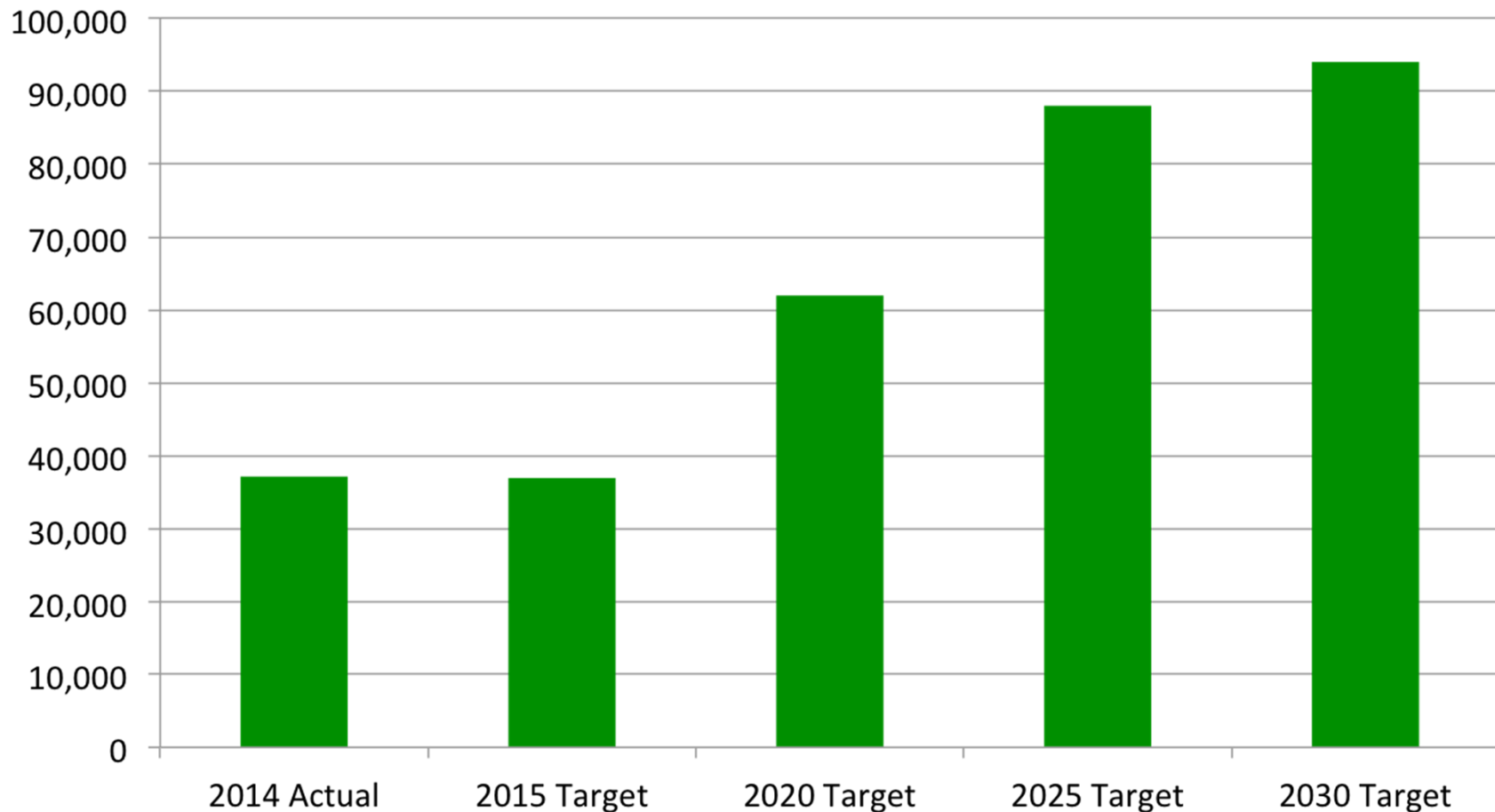


# Residential Recycling Projected Diversion (in tons)





# Residential Organics Projected Diversion (in tons)

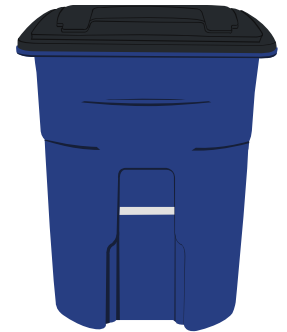




# Key Initiatives

## **Expanded Recycling Opportunities (Ch. 8)**

- More recyclables accepted in blue cart
- Weekly curbside recycling collection
- Public recycling opportunities (Recycle on the Go)



## **Organics Collection and Composting (Ch. 10)**

- Residential organics curbside collection program
- Backyard composting rebate
- Community-based composting opportunities





# Key Initiatives



## Materials Management (Ch. 9)

- Highest and Best Use Philosophy
- Resource Recovery Center
- Household Hazardous Waste

## Recycling Economic Development (Ch. 15)

- Remanufacturing Hub
- Materials Market Exchange
- Reuse Entrepreneur Opportunities
- Shop Zero Waste Website





# Other Master Plan Initiatives



## Landfill Closure and Long-term Care (Ch. 12)

- Landfill Gas to Energy
- Landfill Solar Field

## Operational Efficiencies (Ch. 4 and Ch. 5)

- North Service Center
- Routing improvements
- Hybrid and biodiesel fueled trucks
- Carbon Footprint Reductions





# Other Master Plan Initiatives



## Quality Customer Service (Ch. 5)

- New Quality Assurance Division
- Cart inventory/revenue analysis
- Customer Service Standards

## Ordinance Development (Ch. 21)

- Universal Recycling Ordinance (URO), includes organics diversion by food permit holders
- Construction and Demolition Ordinance
- Special Events Ordinance, includes recycling



# Other Master Plan Initiatives



## Pilots and Incentives (Ch. 20)

- Restaurant composting pilot
- Zero Waste Business Rebate
- Zero Waste Event Rebate
- Home Composting Rebate

## Outreach and Education (Ch. 24)

- ARR Customers

ARR mobile app, direct interaction

- Citywide outreach

Insights, I Want to Be Recycled

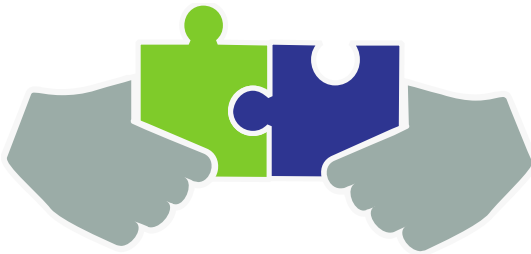






# Other Master Plan Initiatives

## Community Partnerships (Ch. 16 – Ch. 19)



- University Research Partnerships
- Keep Austin Beautiful
- City Departments
- Recycling Processors
- Stakeholders via community input
- Public/Private Partnerships



# Revenue Sources

- **Enterprise Fund Department (Ch. 25)**
  - Rates charged for curbside services
  - Pay-As-You-Throw Rate Structure
- **Clean Community Fee (Ch. 25)**
  - Shared with Austin Code Department
  - Charged to all customers for shared clean up (illegal dumps, street cleaning, dead animal, etc)



# September ZWAC Meeting

- New Initiatives
- Program Expansions
- Program Improvements
- Organics Roll-Out
- Financial Summary
- Cost of Service Report
- Customer Service Standards

How much waste are you for?  
I'm for ZERO WASTE!

# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

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