



To: Zero Waste Advisory Commission
From: Bob Gedert, Director
Austin Resource Recovery Department
Date: November 18, 2015
Subject: **Director's Monthly Report to the Zero Waste Advisory Commission**

Flood Relief Efforts

Austin Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) staff, Travis County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) staff and other responder personnel activated the Austin/Travis County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) on Friday, October 30, 2015 in response to heavy rains and severe weather that occurred throughout Austin. More than 14 inches of rain fell on Saturday, October 31st, with several reported tornados in the region. The rain storm affected all portions of the City, with the south-eastern portion hardest hit, affecting residents in Onion Creek, Dove Springs, and Del Valle.

Immediate City activities have been the opening and staffing of the Flood Assistance Center at the Dittmar Recreation Center, with on-going relief assistance and overnight shelter for affected residents. Following the storms, debris removal began, as well as a full-scale damage assessment of the affected areas. City Council declared the situation a State of Emergency.

Austin Resource Recovery immediate response was to place 40 cubic yard roll-off dumpsters in the Onion Creek, Dove Springs, and Ross Road neighborhoods on Saturday October 31st, through a previously authorized emergency management contract.

ARR activity to date as of Monday 11/9/15, 8:16 a.m.

- 240 Storm service orders received to date;
- Continuing to monitor over 2 dozen dumpsters and replace as necessary;
- 944 tons of debris collected to date by ARR staff (not including dumpsters);
- 5,550 lbs (2.8 tons) of HHW material;
- 19,620 lbs (9.8 tons) of Appliances/Electronics (includes 15 TVs, 18 refrigerators, 32 tires, 30 other appliances and other scrap metal and miscellaneous electronics);
- ARR staff will continue to collect material from the flooded areas. Other departments will be contacted when needed;

Council District Recycling Challenge: *Austin Recycles Games - In the Bin for the Win*

In response to the results of the recent City-Services Waste Characterization Study, and in an effort to increase residential recycling in Austin, Austin Resource Recovery will launch a competition among the 10 council districts.

This district challenge is designed to increase household recycling and create more awareness of the barriers Austinites face in meeting the Zero Waste goal. By engaging the councilmembers, we can employ more grassroots efforts and target the barriers specific to each unique Austin community.

All ARR curbside customers will participate in the challenge.

There will be two winning categories:

- *Most recycling*: The Council District with the highest pounds per household of recycling will win in this category
- *Most improved in recycling*: The Council District with the highest overall improvement of recycling pounds per household will win in this category

Each winning district will receive a beautification project at a library or public park in that district. Staff worked with the Parks and Recreation Department and the Library Department to identify the facilities in each district that have the greatest need for and ability to maintain improvements.

The winning districts will be determined by calculating the recycling pounds per household per month in each district.

ARR Staff is developing on a comprehensive media and marketing strategy to include: advertising, social media, community events and possibly a spokesperson. ARR Staff is also partnering with Keep Austin Beautiful to continue the challenge in the schools.

Austin Recycles Games will be announced at a press conference on **November 30, 2015**.

Monthly progress updates will be provided for the months of December 2015 through March 2016. The winners will be announced at the annual Earth Day celebration on **April 23, 2016**.

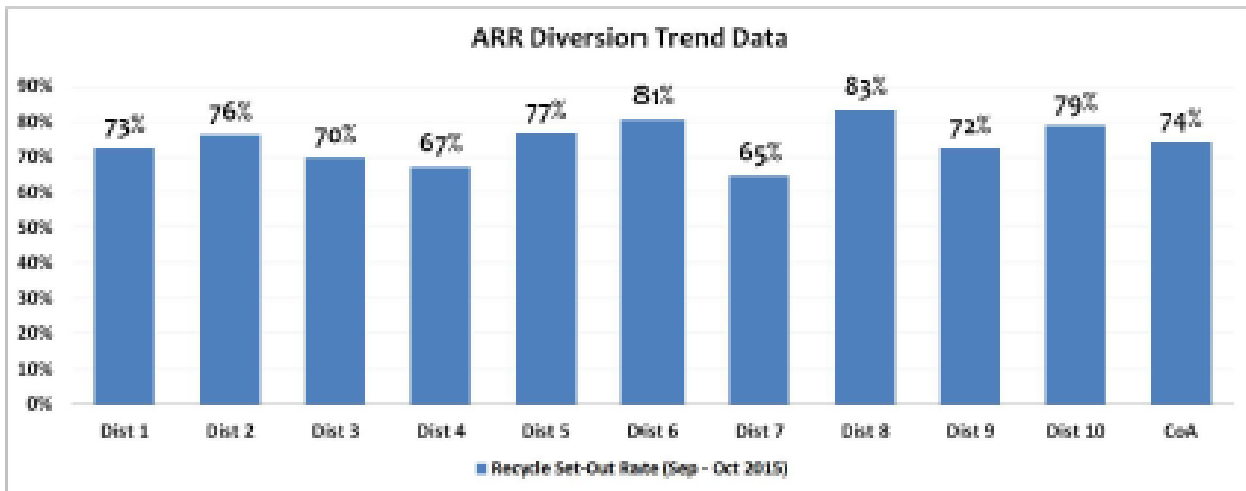
From December through April, ARR staff will be out in the community at events providing Austinites with tools to help them be successful in The Austin Recycles Games. Staff will be at:

- Town hall meetings
- Community events
- Speaking to constituents at a library or recreation center
- Block walking

My staff and I are currently meeting with each Council office to prepare for the *Austin Recycles Games* and seek the support of each Council Member. We are asking council members to be the champion of their district, in friendly competition with their fellow colleagues. We will be asking the Mayor to provide a monthly update at selected Council meetings.

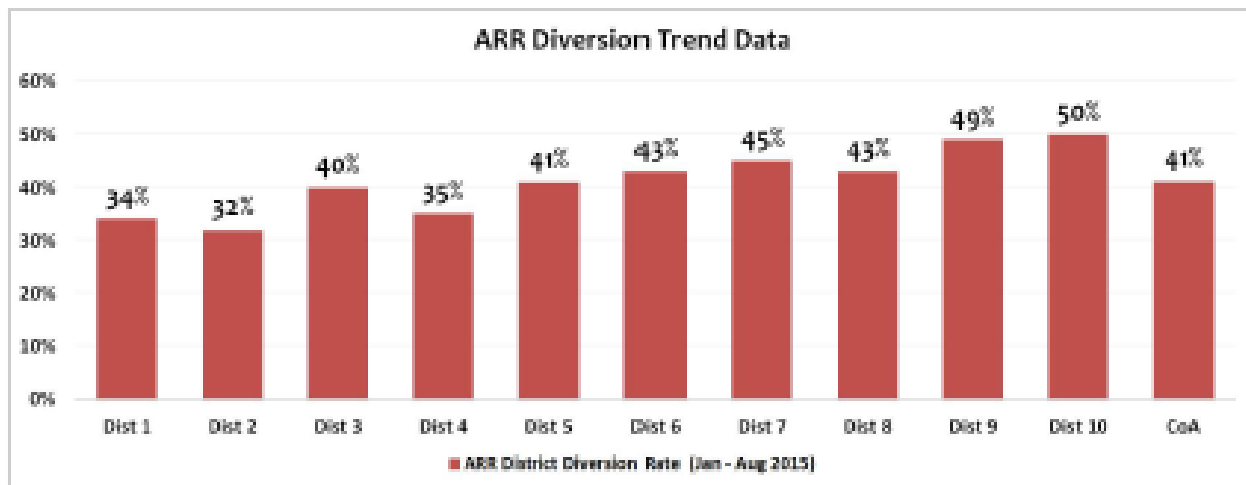
ARR Diversion Trend Data

Recycle Set-Out Rate (Sep - Oct 2015)	Dist 1	Dist 2	Dist 3	Dist 4	Dist 5	Dist 6	Dist 7	Dist 8	Dist 9	Dist 10	CoA
	73%	76%	70%	67%	77%	81%	65%	83%	72%	79%	74%



The analysis shows an overall Recycle Set-Out rate of 74% which is down from the 75% obtained in the study conducted earlier in the year. The data shows that District 7 has the lowest Recycle Set-Out rate at 65% and District 8 has the highest at 83%.

ARR District Diversion Rate (Jan - Aug 2015)	Dist 1	Dist 2	Dist 3	Dist 4	Dist 5	Dist 6	Dist 7	Dist 8	Dist 9	Dist 10	CoA
	34%	32%	40%	35%	41%	43%	45%	43%	49%	50%	41%



The SWTS analysis shows that 41% of the residential materials collected by ARR (trash, recycle & yard trimmings) are being diverted from the landfill. This number is up slightly from the diversion study but it (does not) take into consideration contaminated materials from the recycling centers.

District 10 has the highest Diversion Rate (and is the only District meeting our FY15 goal!) at 50% and District 2 with the lowest Diversion Rate at 32%.

At first glance, there does not seem to be a direct correlation with Diversion and Recycling rate however District 10 trends high in both and District 4 trends low in both.

Items noted in the October ZWAC Report but not discussed:

2015 Texas Environmental Leadership Awards - Generation Zero Award

State of Texas Alliance of Recyclers (STAR) has announced the winners of its 2015 Texas Environmental Leadership Awards. Each year, STAR honors true stewards of environmental change in Texas – individuals, communities, organizations, and businesses developing and maintaining programs involving recycling, composting, sustainable materials management, public education and outreach, special event recycling – and so much more. Award winners will be honored at a special ceremony and reception on Thursday, November 5th from 5pm to 7pm at the Texas State Capitol Building.

Austin Resource Recovery is proud to be the recipients of two awards:

Linda B. Smith Memorial Award for Outstanding Environmental Youth Education and Outreach Program

1st Place: Keep Austin Beautiful/Austin Resource Recovery Generation Zero

Outstanding Environmental Public Education and Outreach Program

1st Place: Austin Resource Recovery, Business Outreach Team

I thank the outstanding staff at ARR for their leadership and innovation, as well as the partnership we have with Keep Austin Beautiful.

Excellence in Economic Development Award – Austin Materials Marketplace

ARR received a Gold *Excellence in Economic Development Award* for the *Austin Materials Marketplace* in the category of Sustainable & Green Development from the International Economic Development Council (IEDC).

The Austin Materials Marketplace (AMM) is an online platform that brings together businesses, non-profits, and entrepreneurs to turn waste into resources. The program connects businesses that have unwanted materials with those who could reuse them through a confidential online database, a dedicated program team's facilitation efforts, and in-person networking events. The AMM is a partnership between local government, national and local non-profits, and large and small businesses to reduce waste going to landfills, increase resource efficiency, maximize local business value creation and forge new circular local supplier relationships based on reuse.

The AMM is an initiative of the Austin Recycling Economic Development Program, a joint effort of the City of Austin's Economic Development Department and Austin Resource Recovery to drive new recycling markets, to create green jobs and generate investment by supporting reuse and recycling businesses.

The implementation of circular economy projects like the AMM throughout the U.S. would have an enormous national economic impact. A 2014 study by the World Economic Forum and the Ellen MacArthur Foundation found that over \$1 trillion could be generated by 2025 and 100,000 new jobs could be created by 2019 if companies focused on creating circular supply chains that support reuse and remanufacturing.

Recipients of IEDC's Excellence in Economic Development Awards demonstrate to an experienced panel of judges that they are at the forefront of the economic development profession. They are recognized as the world's best economic development programs and partnerships, marketing materials, and the year's most influential leaders. These awards honor organizations and individuals for their efforts in creating positive change in urban, suburban, and rural communities.

National Zero Waste Leadership

As Austin is on the journey toward Zero Waste, it is very useful to network with other Zero Waste communities, to share thoughts, program ideas, and conversations regarding funding strategies. As such, I have been elected to the Board of the following national organizations:

January 2015: Re-elected to the Executive Committee of the Municipal Waste Management Association of the US Conference of Mayors. In June, the US Conference of Mayors adopted a support resolution encouraging municipalities to adopt Zero Waste.

September 2015: Re-elected to the Board of Directors of the National Recycling Coalition. In May 2015, I participated with the NRC and the USEPA in a joint forum on Sustainable Materials Management.

September 2015: Elected to the Board of Directors to the newly formed National Stewardship Action Council. This organization serves as a national front-line toward implementation of product stewardship and advocating for policies and projects where producers share in the responsibility for funding and managing problem products at end of life.

Managing and Transforming Waste Streams – A Tool for Communities

This new USEPA website features a sortable, filterable table of 100 policies and programs that local governments can implement to shift their community's waste stream away from disposal and towards waste reduction and increased materials reuse, recycling, and composting.

This tool is ideal for cities and counties that are updating their solid waste management plans and wish to consider additional measures, as well as those adopting a zero waste plan or working on sustainability or climate action plans. By using the sorting and filtering features, planners can generate a list of measures for consideration tailored to their communities' priorities. The website also features over 240 examples of policies and programs implemented in communities across the country, along with relevant online resources. Woody Raines and Natalie Betts provided feedback in the Beta test run.

<http://www2.epa.gov/managing-and-transforming-waste-streams-tool-communities>

Actions Taken by City Council since the last ZWAC Meeting

August 20: Council approved an ordinance amending City Code Section 2-1-206 relating to the Joint Sustainability Committee.

August 20: Council authorized execution of a change order to the construction contract with RANGER EXCAVATING, LP, for the FM 812 Landfill Final Closure and Erosion Control Improvements Project.

September 8-10: Council conducted a public hearing to receive public comment on Austin Resource Recovery's proposed rate and fee changes for the Fiscal Year 2015-16 Proposed Budget, and approved an ordinance adopting the Budget. Council adopted the ARR submitted budget without change.

C&D Recycling Ordinance: On October 28, ARR briefed the Council Committee on Open Space, Environment, and Sustainability on the draft C&D Recycling, which was amended to reflect recommendations by ZWAC and the Planning Commission. The amended draft ordinance set the effective date for commercial demolition projects as 10/1/2019, removed the greater diversion requirements that would become effective in 2020 and 2030, and added requirements that staff report to Council on the impact of the ordinance on household affordability and recycling markets. The Council Committee voted to recommend the draft ordinance to the full Council, which will conduct a public hearing on November 19.

Positions we are looking to fill in October 2015:

Position	# open	Contact Manager	Posting Status
Contract Compliance Specialist Sr	1	Jessica Frazier	Position posted
Munipro, Finance/Billing	2	Jessica Frazier	Position to be posted
Financial Consultant	1	Jessica Frazier	Position posted
Business Process Consultant	1	Jessica Frazier	Position being reclassified
Utility Account Specialist	1	Jessica Frazier	Position posted
Business Process Specialist	1	Jessica Frazier	HM working on posting addendum
Munipro, Admin Asst.	1	Blanche Quarterman	Interviews scheduled
Planner III or Sr	1	Jessica King	Interviews scheduled
Business Process Consultant Sr	1	Mike Turner	HM working on addendum
Waste Diversion Planner	1	Jessica King	To be posted
Marketing Rep B	1	Jessica King	Screening applications
Administrative Specialist	2	Jessica King	Position to be Posted
Community Engagement Consultant	1	Jessica King	Position to be Posted
Austin Rsc Recovery Operator	8	Ron Romero	Top candidates selected
ARR Operator Sr	1	Ron Romero	Position posted
ARR Crew Leader	2	Ron Romero	Interviews scheduled
ARR Operator (Bulk)	1	Richard McHale	Top candidate selected
ARR Operator (Brush)	1	Richard McHale	Top candidate selected
Austin Rsc Recovery Oper (YT)	5	Richard McHale	Top candidates selected
Austin Rsc Recovery Assoc (LC)	2	Richard McHale	Position posted

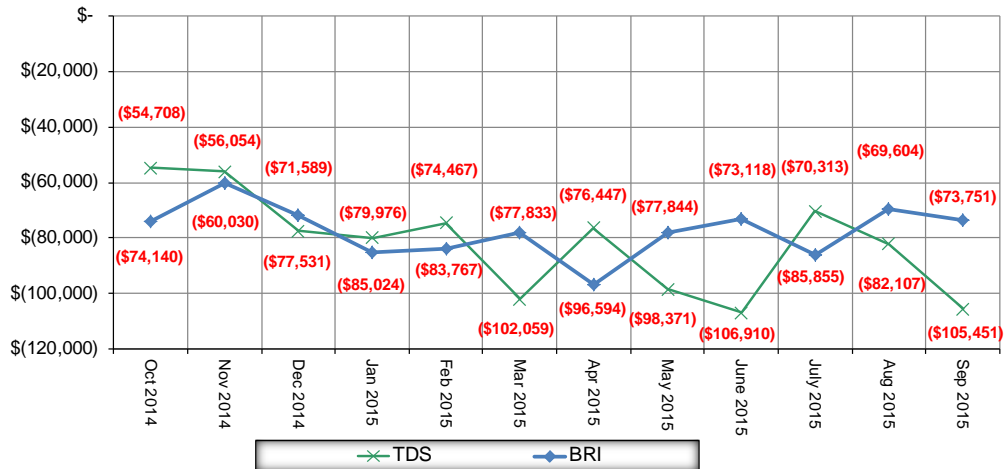
Personnel Changes September 2015

New employee	Temp to Regular	Transfers	Promotions	Title
Henry Mackey				Austin Rsc Recovery Oper Asc
Ruby Fuentes				Austin Rsc Recovery Oper Asc
Robert Tijerina				Austin Rsc Recovery Oper Asc
Frank Calderon				MuniProg, ARR Associate
Irodele Edmonds				MuniProg, Service/Maint
	Sarah Hoover			Waste Diversion Planner
	Madelyn Morgan			Waste Diversion Planner
		Joshua Sermons		Austin Rsc Recovery Opr Sp Sr
		Javier Vazquez		Environmental Prgm Technician
			Jo Gutierrez	Contract Compliance Spec Sr
			Thomas Gleason	Waste Diversion Planner Sr
			Eli Cubano	Austin Rsc Recovery Opr Sp Sr
			Brandon Schultz	Austin Rsc Recovery Opr Sp Sr

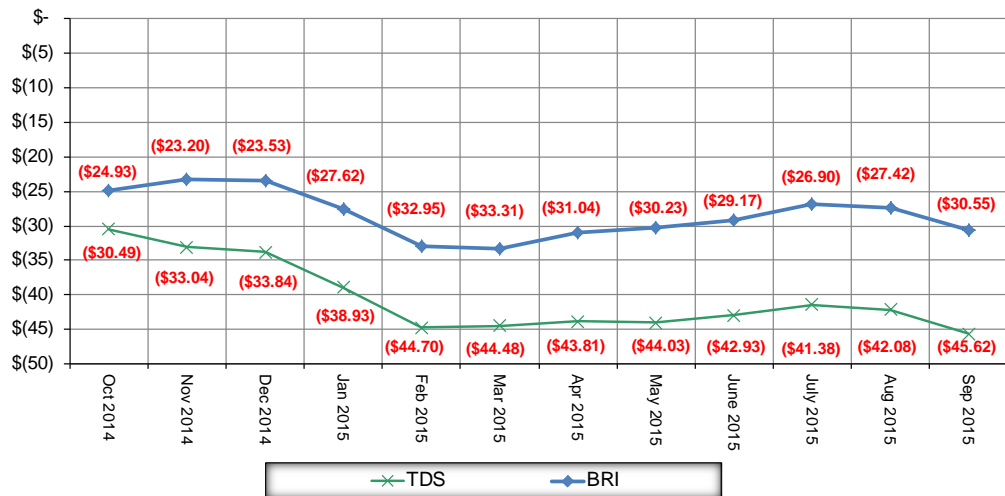
Zero Waste Advisory Commission - November 18, 2015								
Single Stream Recycling Statistical Report								
FY 2014-15: October, 2014 - September, 2015								
Texas Disposal Systems (TDS) and Balcones Resources, Inc. (BRI)								
Month and Year	Contractor	Tons Delivered	Contractor Payments			Net Value to the City \$ per ton value	Landfill Cost Avoidance	
			Revenue	Processing Cost	Net Amount Due/(Owed)		Cost Per Ton	Total
October 2014	TDS	1,794.16	\$109,458	\$164,166	(\$54,708)	(\$30.49)	\$21.49	\$38,556
	BRI	2,973.81	\$161,505	\$235,645	(\$74,140)	(\$24.93)	\$21.49	\$63,907
	Total	4,767.97	\$270,963	\$399,811	(\$128,848)			\$102,464
November 2014	TDS	1,696.79	\$99,202	\$155,256	(\$56,054)	(\$33.04)	\$21.49	\$36,464
	BRI	2,587.55	\$146,047	\$206,077	(\$60,030)	(\$23.20)	\$21.49	\$55,606
	Total	4,284.34	\$245,249	\$361,333	(\$116,085)			\$92,070
December 2014	TDS	2,291.38	\$132,131	\$209,661	(\$77,531)	(\$33.84)	\$21.49	\$49,242
	BRI	3,042.85	\$169,341	\$240,930	(\$71,589)	(\$23.53)	\$21.49	\$65,391
	Total	5,334.23	\$301,472	\$450,592	(\$149,120)			\$114,633
January 2015	TDS	2,054.29	\$107,991	\$187,968	(\$79,976)	(\$38.93)	\$21.49	\$44,147
	BRI	3,078.17	\$158,610	\$243,634	(\$85,024)	(\$27.62)	\$21.49	\$66,150
	Total	5,132.46	\$266,601	\$431,601	(\$165,000)			\$110,297
February 2015	TDS	1,665.75	\$77,949	\$152,416	(\$74,467)	(\$44.70)	\$21.49	\$35,797
	BRI	2,542.52	\$118,863	\$202,630	(\$83,767)	(\$32.95)	\$21.49	\$54,639
	Total	4,208.27	\$196,812	\$355,046	(\$158,234)			\$90,436
March 2015	TDS	2,294.45	\$107,883	\$209,942	(\$102,059)	(\$44.48)	\$21.49	\$49,308
	BRI	2,336.33	\$109,013	\$186,846	(\$77,833)	(\$33.31)	\$21.49	\$50,208
	Total	4,630.78	\$216,896	\$396,788	(\$179,892)			\$99,515
April 2015	TDS	1,744.78	\$83,199	\$159,646	(\$76,447)	(\$43.81)	\$21.49	\$37,495
	BRI	3,111.61	\$149,599	\$246,193	(\$96,594)	(\$31.04)	\$21.49	\$66,868
	Total	4,856.39	\$232,799	\$405,840	(\$173,041)			\$104,364
May 2015	TDS	2,234.12	\$106,051	\$204,422	(\$98,371)	(\$44.03)	\$21.49	\$48,011
	BRI	2,575.35	\$127,299	\$205,143	(\$77,844)	(\$30.23)	\$21.49	\$55,344
	Total	4,809.47	\$233,350	\$409,565	(\$176,215)			\$103,356
June 2015	TDS	2,490.47	\$120,968	\$227,878	(\$106,910)	(\$42.93)	\$21.36	\$53,196
	BRI	2,506.61	\$126,763	\$199,881	(\$73,118)	(\$29.17)	\$21.36	\$53,541
	Total	4,997.08	\$247,730	\$427,759	(\$180,029)			\$106,738
July 2015	TDS	1,699.01	\$85,147	\$155,459	(\$70,313)	(\$41.38)	\$21.36	\$36,291
	BRI	3,192.05	\$166,496	\$252,351	(\$85,855)	(\$26.90)	\$21.36	\$68,182
	Total	4,891.06	\$251,643	\$407,811	(\$156,167)			\$104,473
August 2015	TDS	1,951.27	\$96,434	\$178,541	(\$82,107)	(\$42.08)	\$21.36	\$41,679
	BRI	2,538.02	\$132,682	\$202,286	(\$69,604)	(\$27.42)	\$21.36	\$54,212
	Total	4,489.29	\$229,116	\$380,827	(\$151,711)			\$95,891
September 2015	TDS	2,311.48	\$106,050	\$211,500	(\$105,451)	(\$45.62)	\$21.36	\$49,373
	BRI	2,413.76	\$119,023	\$192,774	(\$73,751)	(\$30.55)	\$21.36	\$51,558
	Total	4,725.24	\$225,072	\$404,274	(\$179,202)			\$100,931
FY 2014-15 Totals		57,126.58	\$2,917,703	\$4,831,247	(\$1,913,544)			\$1,225,167

Zero Waste Advisory Commission - November 18, 2015
Single Stream Recycling Statistical Report
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Revenue Less Processing Costs



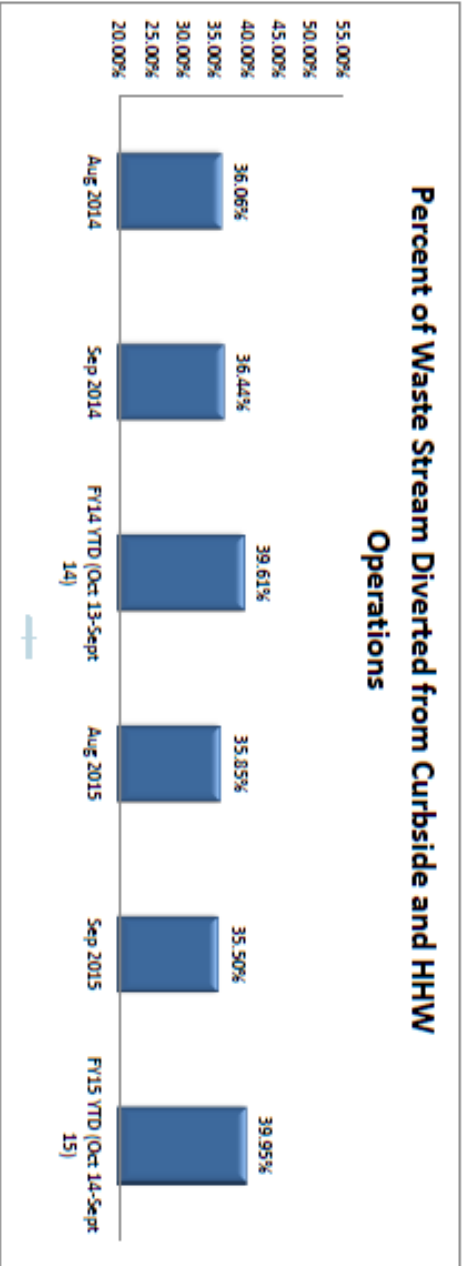
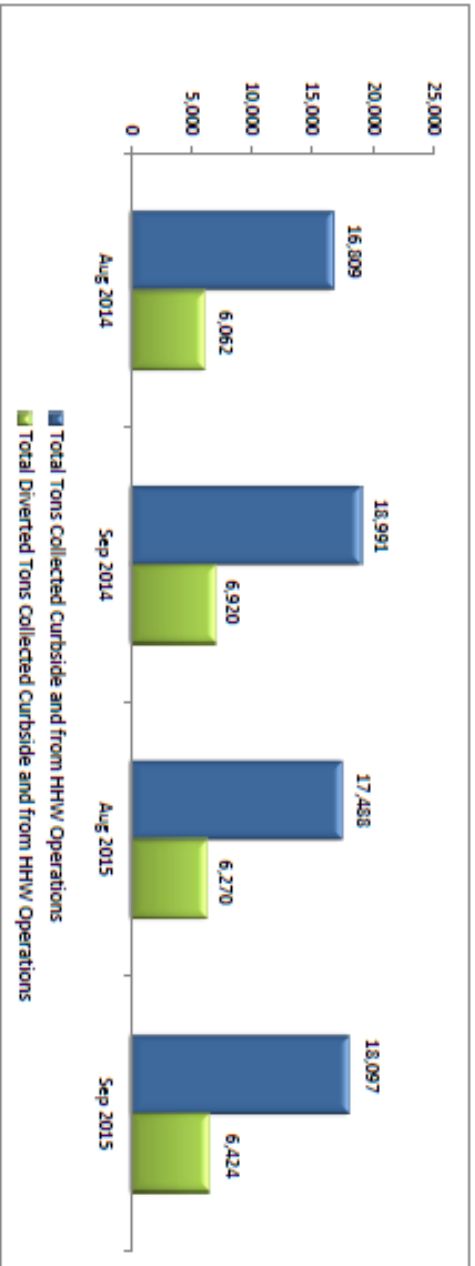
Net Value Per Ton to the City



Austin Resource Recovery Curbside Collection and HHW Operations

Description of Services	LAST FISCAL YEAR					CURRENT FISCAL YEAR				
	FY 2013	FY 2014	Aug 2014	Sep 2014	FY14 YTD (Oct 13-Sep 14)	Aug 2015	Sep 2015	FY15 YTD (Oct 14-Sep 15)	FY 2016 Goal	
Tons of curbside Garbage	134,183	127,524	9,961	10,569	127,524	10,189	10,339	130,784	123,000	
Tons of Curbside Bulk Disposed	8,500	8,892	716	1,075	8,892	889	1,299	9,525	8,459	
HHW Operations Tons Disposed	381	442	70	28	442	40	35	432	330	
Total Disposed Tons Collected Curbside and from HHW Operations	133,064	137,258	10,747	12,072	137,258	11,218	11,673	140,741	131,789	
Tons of curbside recycling	53,702	55,494	4,291	4,695	55,494	4,497	4,735	57,324	60,000	
HHW Operations Tons recycled/reused	240	295	30	19	295	30	33	311	200	
Tons of Curbside Yard Trimmings	25,888	27,357	1,218	1,403	27,357	1,215	815	28,036	29,037	
Tons of Curbside Bulk Recycled	181	175	10	20	175	9	14	171	180	
Tons of Curbside Brush Collected	7,359	6,652	513	783	6,652	519	836	7,775	8,065	
Total Diverted Tons Collected Curbside and from HHW Operations	87,280	90,016	6,062	6,820	90,016	6,270	6,424	68,818	67,563	
Total Tons Collected Curbside and from HHW Operations	220,444	227,273	18,808	18,891	227,273	17,458	18,097	234,359	228,292	
Percent of Waste Stream Diverted by Curbside and HHW Operations	38.84%	38.81%	38.08%	38.44%	38.81%	35.85%	35.60%	38.86%	40%	
Pounds of Garbage collected per customer per pickup	26.53	26.86	24.07	26.62	26.86	24.61	24.62	26.28	24.64	
Number of Garbage customers	187,105	189,543	191,141	190,505	189,543	191,978	191,982	191,580	193,800	
Pounds of Reusable materials collected per customer per pickup (every other week)	22.26	22.78	20.81	22.88	22.77	21.80	22.88	23.20	25.84	
Pounds of Yard Trimmings collected per customer per week	6.37	6.82	2.87	3.42	6.81	2.84	1.87	6.87	8.21	
Number of Recycling and Yard Trimmings customers	185,658	187,286	189,590	189,147	187,456	190,597	190,547	190,088	193,800	
Number of PAYT pickups	52	52	4.33	4.34	52	4.33	4.34	52	52	
Total tons of Dead Animals Collected from COA rights-of-way and the animal shelter	50	61	4	5	61	4	3	62	58	

Austin Resource Recovery Curbside Collection and HHW Operations



Austin Resource Recovery Curbside Collection and HHW Operations

Reporting Status and Diversion Results for All Categories of Waste Generation							
Category of Waste Generation	FY2009-10 actual	FY2010-11 actual	FY2011-12 actual	FY2012-13 actual	FY2013-14 actual	FY2014-15 Goal	FY2014-15 Current
Residential Waste Diversion (city serviced accounts)	37.32%	38.57%	37.86%	39.64%	39.61%	44.00%	39.95%
Commercial / Industrial Waste Diversion	information not available*						
Institutional Waste Diversion	information not available*						
*Non-residential waste diversion to be inventoried in 2015							

