



MEMORANDUM

To: Zero Waste Advisory Commission

From: Josh Blaine, ZWAC Construction and Demolition Recycling Committee Chair and Sam Angoori, P.E., Interim Director, Austin Resource Recovery (ARR)

Subject: Construction and Demolition Recycling Committee 2017 Summary

Date: February 14, 2018

The purpose of this memo is to summarize actions of the Construction and Demolition (C&D) Recycling Committee of the Zero Waste Advisory Commission (ZWAC) for calendar year 2017, as required by current bylaws.

Background

The Construction and Demolition Recycling Ordinance adopted by the Austin City Council on November 19, 2015 took effect on October 1, 2016, requiring contractors for building permits of more than 5,000 square feet of new, added, or remodeled floor area to divert at least 50% of the construction debris from the project. In addition, contractors for affected permits report the disposition of the materials at the conclusion of the project.

Status

In the first year since it became effective, the Construction and Demolition Recycling Ordinance has affected nearly 550 projects covering more than 22 million square feet. Contractors submitted reports for 62 completed projects, all of which were for commercial remodeling. Reports from 47 of those projects that had tonnage data indicated an overall diversion rate of 63% with 89% meeting one or both of the waste reduction options for compliance.

The **C&D Recycling Committee** met once in 2017:

February 28, 2017: The committee was briefed and conducted a facilitated discussion on ARR storm debris management, policies in other communities that support deconstruction, policies and programs in other municipalities that do or do not credit wood fuel use as diversion, mandatory concrete recycling, and construction recycling ordinance metrics. No action was taken by the committee.

In addition, the **C&D Working Group** meet two (2) times in 2017:

May 31, 2017: The working group participated in a facilitated discussion on licensed hauler reports, historical perspective on commingled C&D processing in Austin, independent C&D

haulers perspectives, and ordinance impact on other stakeholders. No action was taken by the working group.

July 20, 2017: The working group participated in a facilitated discussion on the impact of the ordinance on contractors. No action was taken by the working group.

The C&D Committee will continue to monitor and provide recommendations regarding construction debris diversion consistent with the Zero Waste Master Plan.