



To: Zero Waste Advisory Commission

From: Ken Snipes
Director
Austin Resource Recovery

Date: May 12th, 2021

Subject: Director's Monthly Report to the Zero Waste Advisory Commission

2021 Winter Weather Storm

Austin Resource Recovery has completed collection of debris associated with Winter Storm Uri. The department has received over 4900 customer requests to remove debris. Due to the volume of requests and amount of material generated by the winter storm, ARR entered into an emergency contract with DRC Emergency Services to provide debris removal services and Tetra Tech to provide debris removal monitoring services. The contractors completed collection efforts in early May. ARR has also extended brush drop-off services at Hornsby Bend until further notice.

Multifamily Compost Pilot Update - May 2021

Austin Resource Recovery is in the process of conducting a Multifamily Compost Pilot. As part of the pilot, one multifamily property began composting service in late March. Two properties are scheduled to start service in May and August. Two properties withdrew from the project due to competing priorities, namely winter storm damage and change in ownership. Recruitment for additional properties continues. Social media advertising and targeted outreach has resulted in 13 inquiries of interest. Multiple properties are in the process of requesting approval to participate from their leadership teams. The chart below shows properties that showed some interest in participation and their current status. Staff is still interested in Commissioners' assistance recruiting participants. If you know of potential properties, please contact Elizabeth Nelson at Elizabeth.nelson@austintexas.gov.

Property Name	Status	Start Date
West Lynn Quarter	Withdrew	
College Courts	Active	March 23
Nelray Place HOA	No response	
Eight Hundred Banister	Active	TBD
Chambord Condos	Withdrew – open to participating later	
Lakeshore Pearl	Withdrew	
Bexley at Tech Ridge (Weinstein Properties)	Withdrew – open to participating at different location	
Kinney Lofts	Withdrew	
Lakeline Station	Active	May
Flatiron Domain	Withdrew	
St. Edwards Legacy Apartments (Student Housing)	New / Active	August

Circular Plastic Initiatives: Progress Updates

Austin Resource Recovery is working on multiple concurrent initiatives to combat plastic waste at the international, national, and local levels through collaborative action.

New Plastics Economy Global Commitment

In 2018, Mayor Steve Adler signed the New Plastics Economy Global Commitment on behalf of the City of Austin, endorsing a vision of a circular economy for plastics, where plastics never become waste. This year, the New Plastics Economy organizers called on all government signatories to establishing quantitative and qualitative baseline data and tangible targets for its plastic waste actions that will be achieved by 2025. ARR worked to identify measurable, feasible and ambitious actions we can take on this issue and on April 30th, Mayor Adler signed an updated commitment. The City of Austin has now committed to take the following steps to prevent plastic waste by 2025:

1. Develop internal policy in place to limit, restrict, or prohibit the purchase of problematic and unnecessary plastics, and develop ongoing education of City staff regarding plastic purchasing policy.
2. Encourage reuse models through pilots, offer specialized consulting services to businesses interested in transition to a circular business model, and/or develop an incentive program for businesses establishing reuse models.
3. Support research and development on new innovations in reusable, recyclable or compostable plastic packaging.
4. Determine the City's capture rate for plastics by 2022, and set a quantitative target for increasing this capture rate by 2025.
5. Set a quantitative target for replacing the purchase of virgin plastic materials with materials made from at least 30% post-consumer recycled content, and joining the Government Recycling Demand Champions Program.
6. Add plastics pollution education to the City's current Generation Zero program for K-12 education, increase education about plastic film recycling drop-off options, and measure the impact of both public education efforts.

US Plastics Pact

Austin Resource Recovery also joined the US Plastics Pact in 2020, the national effort to collaborate with other stakeholders in the plastics value chain to realize the New Plastics Economy's vision in the United States. The US Plastics Pact has established 4 targets to be reached by 2025:

1. Define a list of plastic packaging to be designated as problematic or unnecessary by 2021, and take measures to eliminate them by 2025.
2. Ensure all plastic packaging will be 100% reusable, recyclable or compostable by 2025
3. Undertake ambitious actions to effectively recycle or compost 50% of plastic packaging by 2025
4. Ensure the average proportion of recycled content or responsibly-sourced bio-based content in plastic packaging reaches 30% by 2025

ARR has been active in Pact leadership since joining as a founding Activator, serving on the Advisory Council, co-leading a workstream on New Business Models, and providing regular feedback on the development of the US Plastics Pact Roadmap. This Roadmap, which will outline how the above four targets will be achieved, is expected to be finalized later this summer. ARR will share a copy of the roadmap with ZWAC once it is available.

Texas Plastics Summit

In addition to these national and global efforts, ARR saw a need for a local and statewide conversation about plastic waste. On May 4th, ARR convened a two-hour virtual workshop with 40+ stakeholders to identify long and short-term collective actions the stakeholders could take to reduce plastic waste in Texas by 2025. The event was co-hosted by the State of Texas Alliance for Recycling. The attendees identified ten potential action items that could make significant progress toward a) reducing plastic in Texas water ways b) supporting reuse models c) increasing use of recycled content plastics and/or d) eliminating problematic and unnecessary plastics. ARR is currently surveying attendees to prioritize among these ten action items and learn how stakeholders would like to be involved. We will then work with STAR to implement the most viable actions, and STAR will host a follow-up event in November 2021.



ARR Solicitations Update
As of April 21, 2021
ZWAC Meeting May 12, 2021

Upcoming Solicitations Under Development (in alphabetical order):

1. Recycling and Solid Waste Consulting Services: RFP – Consultants to provide professional recycling industry consulting services, including delivering industry knowledge, technical advice, and recommendations on recycling industry marketing indexes and definitions on an as needed basis.

Solicitations Expected to be Posted Within the Next 90 Days:

1. Asbestos, Lead, and Mold Abatement Services: RFP – Contractor to provide removal, encapsulation, and disposition of asbestos, lead, particulate, and mold.

Published Solicitations:

1. Post-Disaster Debris Removal Services: – [RFP 1500 SLW3011](#) – This solicitation was posted on March 29, 2021 and closes on May 6, 2021. Contractor to provide emergency debris removal services in accordance with Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) guidelines. No existing contract.
2. Post-Disaster Debris Monitoring Services: [RFP 1500 SLW3010](#) – This solicitation was posted on March 29, 2021 and closes on May 6, 2021. Contractor to provide emergency field debris monitoring services to include management and accounting services for monitoring the recovery efforts of the City's Post Disaster Debris Removal Contractor. No existing contract.

Solicitations in Evaluation or Negotiation:

1. Education, Cleanup, and Beautification Services: [RFP 1500 CRR3008](#) – This solicitation was posted on March 1, 2021 and closed on March 25, 2021. Contractors qualified to provide education, cleanup, and beautification services that benefit the public by improving Austin's environment and aesthetics through a variety of programs and providing resources and education that inspire Austin residents toward effective environmental stewardship. [Link to current contract](#).

Definitions:

CCO (Capital Contracting Office): Administers the procurement of professional and construction services.

CO-OP (Cooperative Contract): A contract that has been competitively bid and issued by another government or purchasing alliance with the intention of sharing it with other governmental entities.

IFB (Invitation for Bid): Formal bidding documents inviting suppliers to submit pricing for goods or services.

RFI (Request for Information): Used to obtain industry input, feedback, or reactions from potential suppliers prior to issuing a solicitation.

RFQ (Request for Quotation): Informal request to suppliers to provide quotes on specific goods or services.

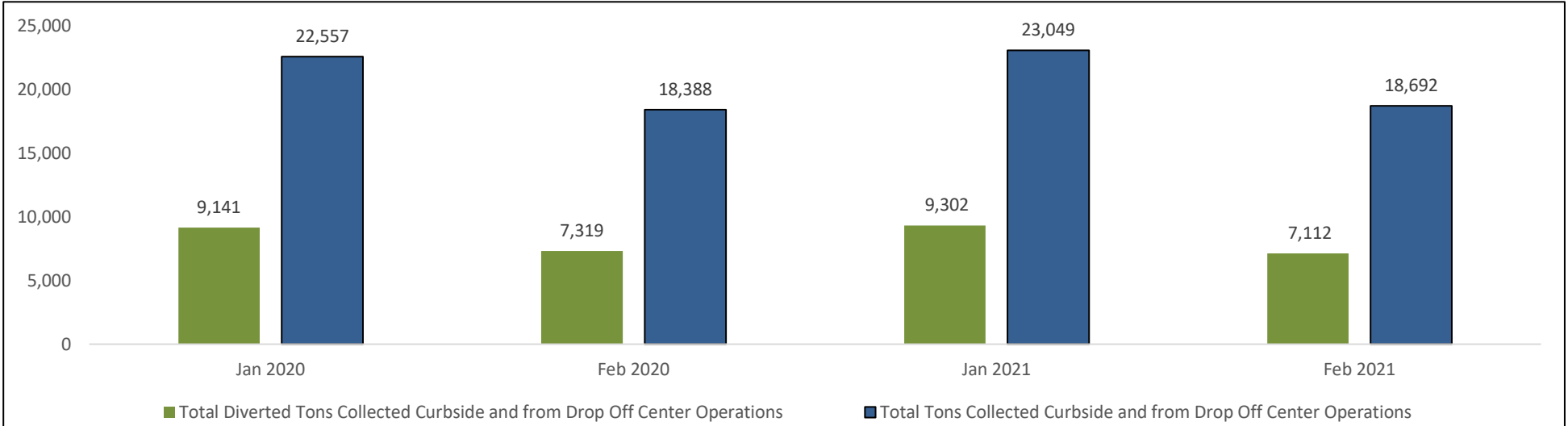
RFQS (Request for Qualifications): Formal solicitation used when qualifications are the main criteria for professional services.

RFP (Request for Proposals): Formal request for a supplier to provide a solution and cost estimate to a complex need.

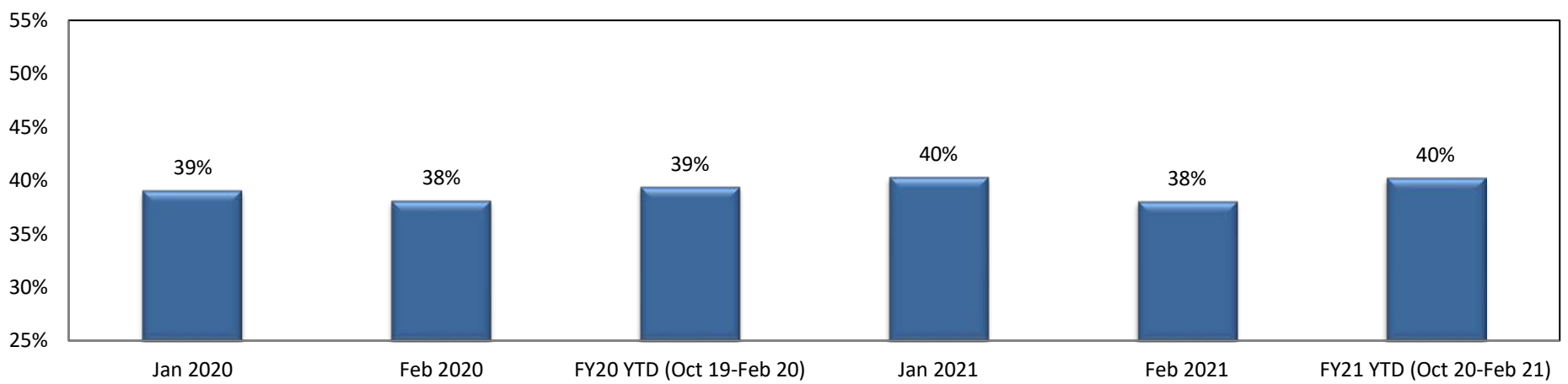
Austin Resource Recovery Curbside Collection and Drop Off Center Operations

Description of Services		LAST FISCAL YEAR				CURRENT FISCAL YEAR				
		FY 2019	FY 2020	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	FY20 YTD (Oct 19-Feb 20)	Jan 2021	Feb 2021	FY21 YTD (Oct 20-Feb 21)	FY 2021 Goal
Tons Disposed	Tons of curbside Trash	130,307	136,709	11,505	9,444	52,297	11,585	10,010	56,780	133,005
	Tons of Curbside Bulk Disposed	11,040	5,379	862	810	4,050	1,151	916	4,532	11,000
	HHW Operations Tons Disposed	517	347	53	43	199	17	12	170	600
	Estimated Tons of Curbside Recycling Residuals*	11,761	11,302	997	771	4,378	994	642	4,552	10,386
	Total Disposed Tons Collected Curbside and from Drop Off Center Operations	153,625	153,737	13,417	11,069	60,924	13,747	11,580	66,034	154,991
*Estimated tons of curbside recycling processed by vendors as residual - based on bi-annual sample route audit										
Tons Diverted	Tons of curbside recycling	47,528	52,122	4,582	3,557	20,177	4,686	3,005	21,164	52,604
	RRC Tons Recycled/Reused	2,259	1,218	205	198	936	33	23	413	2,400
	RRC Tons of Brush Collected	2,595	1,722	351	301	1,383	9	0	158	2,000
	HHW Operations Tons recycled/reused	477	247	36	40	171	1	2	56	550
	Tons of Drop Off Center Collections Recycled/Reused	5,073	3,060	570	528	2,399	28	12	493	4,700
	Tons of Curbside Yard Trimmings	37,265	48,105	3,562	2,682	16,979	3,901	3,232	20,103	45,864
	Tons of Curbside Bulk Recycled	257	127	22	11	92	16	13	134	250
	Tons of Curbside Brush Collected	6,447	3,323	372	526	2,125	652	848	2,892	6,700
	Tons of Curbside Textiles Collected	77	25	0	0	0	3	2	14	180
	Tons of Carts Recycled	166	193	33	16	99	16	0	50	150
	Total Diverted Tons Collected Curbside and from Drop Off Center Operations	96,813	106,955	9,141	7,319	41,870	9,302	7,112	44,850	110,448
Tons of Curbside Compost Collected**	22,040	38,711	3,017	1,612	13,674	3,231	3,123	17,081	45,864	
**"Tons of Curbside Compost Collected" is included in the "Tons of Yard Trimmings Collected"										
Total Tons Collected Curbside and from Drop Off Center Operations		250,438	260,692	22,557	18,388	102,794	23,049	18,692	110,884	265,439
Estimated Percent of Curbside Collected Materials Diverted from Landfills by ARR		37.47%	40.38%	39.07%	38.12%	39.39%	40.31%	38.03%	40.24%	40.65%
Pounds of Trash collected per customer per pickup		24.78	25.57	25.91	21.28	23.62	25.67	22.16	25.19	24.62
Number of Trash and Recycling Customers		202,292	205,670	204,919	204,874	204,417	208,314	208,479	208,076	207,760
Pounds of Recycled materials collected per customer per pickup (every other week)		18.17	19.61	20.76	16.12	18.32	20.88	13.38	18.89	19.58
Pounds of Yard Trimmings collected per customer per week		7.12	9.05	8.07	6.08	7.71	8.69	7.20	8.97	8.53
Number of Yard Trimmings/Organics Customers		201,174	204,506	203,753	203,676	203,270	207,125	207,250	206,869	206,707
Total tons of Dead Animals Collected from COA rights-of-way and the animal shelter		30	34	3	2	14	2	1	13	30

Austin Resource Recovery Curbside Collection and Drop Off Center Operations



Estimated Percent of Curbside Collected Materials Diverted from Landfills by ARR

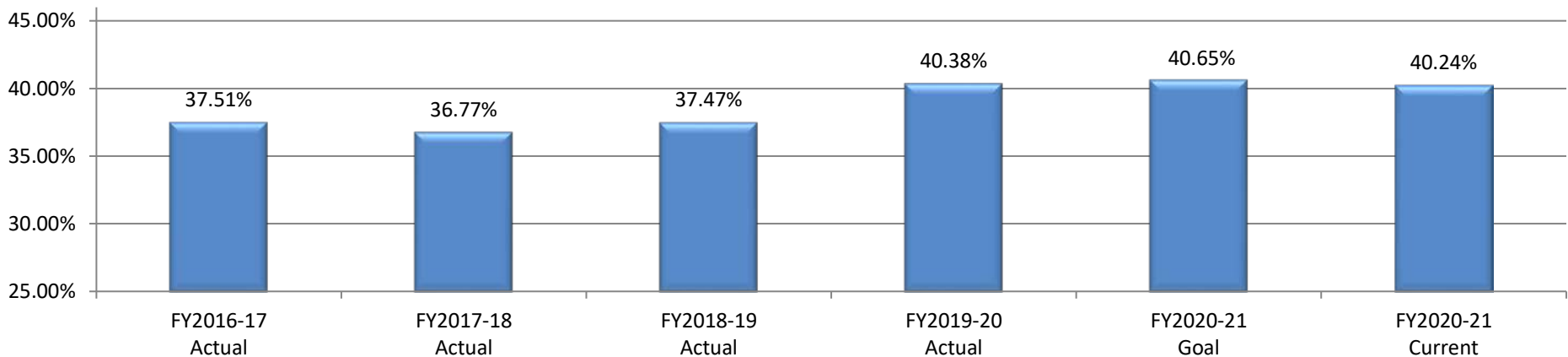


Reporting Status and Diversion Results for All Categories of Waste Generation

Category of Waste Generation	FY2016-17 Actual	FY2017-18 Actual	FY2018-19 Actual	FY2019-20 Actual	FY2020-21 Goal	FY2020-21 Current
Residential Waste Diversion (city serviced accounts)	37.51%	36.77%	37.47%	40.38%	40.65%	40.24%
Community Diversion Rate	*	*	*	*	*	*

*As prescribed in the Austin Resource Recovery Master Plan, the Department will conduct a detailed waste assessment study every five years to determine progress toward our Zero Waste goal. The first such study was published in 2015 and is titled Austin's 2015 Community Diversion Study. The study focused on estimating diversion from both ARR-serviced properties and commercial properties. Commercial properties include retail businesses, food service establishments, professional offices, industrial properties, institutional facilities, government facilities, and multifamily properties five units and larger. According to Austin's 2015 Community Diversion Study, Residential Waste Diversion Rate (city serviced accounts) represents approximately 15% and the Community Diversion Rate (accounts serviced by private waste haulers) represents approximately 85% of the total citywide wastage.

Residential Waste Diversion (city serviced accounts)



Category of Waste Generation	CY 2017	CY 2018	CY 2019
Commercial Tons Landfilled**	1,708,484	1,079,312	1,401,619
Commercial Tons Recycled**	722,573	402,292	470,786
Commercial Organics Tons**	97,173	80,906	102,215

** Numbers reported here are compiled from self-reported data submitted by licensed private waste haulers via semi-annual tonnage reports required under Section 15-6-3 of the City Code on a calendar year basis and as such, ARR does not attest to the accuracy of these amounts. These numbers reflect data from 100-200 licensed haulers (number of haulers varies over time), and include haulers servicing dumpsters, roll-offs, construction and demolition debris, landscaping debris, and metal scrap. These numbers do not reflect all data sources included in Austin's 2015 Community Diversion Study.

Zero Waste Advisory Commission - May 12, 2021
Single Stream Recycling Statistical Report
FY21: October-March 2021

Texas Disposal Systems (TDS) and Balcones Resources, Inc. (BRI)

Month and Year	Contractor	Tons Delivered	Contractor Payments			Net Value to the City	Landfill Cost Avoidance	
			Revenue	Processing Cost	Net Amount Due/(Owed)	\$ per ton value	Cost Per Ton	Total
October 2020	TDS	2,094.01	\$81,991	\$189,508	(\$107,517)	(\$51.35)	\$22.87	\$47,890
	BRI	3,176.88	\$72,809	\$226,728	(\$153,919)	(\$48.45)	\$22.87	\$72,655
	Total	5,270.89	\$154,800	\$416,236	(\$261,437)			\$120,545
November 2020	TDS	2,451.34	\$102,134	\$221,846	(\$119,712)	(\$48.84)	\$22.87	\$56,062
	BRI	2,785.82	\$61,805	\$204,363	(\$142,558)	(\$51.17)	\$22.87	\$63,712
	Total	5,237.16	\$163,940	\$426,209	(\$262,269)			\$119,774
December 2020	TDS	2,487.24	\$113,935	\$225,095	(\$111,160)	(\$44.69)	\$22.87	\$56,883
	BRI	3,393.25	\$81,618	\$238,629	(\$157,010)	(\$46.27)	\$22.87	\$77,604
	Total	5,880.49	\$195,554	\$463,724	(\$268,170)			\$134,487
January 2021	TDS	2,349.30	\$114,152	\$212,612	(\$98,459)	(\$41.91)	\$22.87	\$53,728
	BRI	3,300.43	\$84,935	\$235,173	(\$150,238)	(\$45.52)	\$22.87	\$75,481
	Total	5,649.73	\$199,088	\$447,785	(\$248,697)			\$129,209
February 2021	TDS	1,594.73	\$79,885	\$144,323	(\$64,438)	(\$40.41)	\$22.87	\$36,471
	BRI	2,052.78	\$56,531	\$161,114	(\$104,582)	(\$50.95)	\$22.87	\$46,947
	Total	3,647.51	\$136,417	\$305,437	(\$169,020)			\$83,419
March 2021	TDS	3,043.48	\$161,486	\$275,435	(\$113,949)	(\$37.44)	\$22.87	\$69,604
	BRI	3,432.67	\$94,230	\$240,797	(\$146,566)	(\$42.70)	\$22.87	\$78,505
	Total	6,476.15	\$255,716	\$516,232	(\$260,516)			\$148,110
FY21 Totals		32,161.93	\$1,105,514	\$2,575,623	(\$1,470,109)			\$735,543

Posting Language

Authorize award of a multi-term contract with Lewis Clark Trucking LLC, to provide trucking and hauling services for City materials, for up to five years for a total contract amount not to exceed \$2,940,000.

(Note: This solicitation was reviewed for subcontracting opportunities in accordance with City Code Chapter 2-9 C Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program. For the services required for this solicitation, there were no subcontracting opportunities; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established).

Lead Department

Purchasing Office.

Client Department(s)

Public Works; Watershed Protection Department; Austin Resource Recovery.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$334,476 is available in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Operating Budget of Public Works. Funding the amount of \$30,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Operating Budget of the Watershed Protection Department. Funding in the amount of \$124,800 is available in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Operating Budget of Austin Resource Recovery. Funding for the remaining contract term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

Purchasing Language:

The Purchasing Office issued an Invitation for Bids (IFB) 6200 JTH1001 for these services. The solicitation issued on February 2, 2021 and it closed on March 4, 2021. Of the three of offers received, the recommended contractor submitted the lowest responsive offer. A complete solicitation package, including a tabulation of the bids received, is available for viewing on the City's Financial Services website, Austin Finance Online. Link: [Solicitation Documents](#).

Prior Council Action:

For More Information:

Inquiries should be directed to the City Manager's Agenda Office, at 512-974-2991 or AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov

NOTE: Respondents to this solicitation, and their representatives, shall continue to direct inquiries to the solicitation's Authorized Contact Person: Jim Howard, at 512-974-2031 or jim.howard@austintexas.gov.

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

May 12, 2021 – To be reviewed by the Zero Waste Advisory Commission.

Additional Backup Information:

The contract will provide trucking and hauling support to supplement the City's existing fleet of trucks. The service will be utilized on street repaving, rehabilitation, and reconstruction projects to haul hot mix asphalt concrete, construction materials, and/or asphalt millings produced within the city limits.