

# Universal Recycling Ordinance

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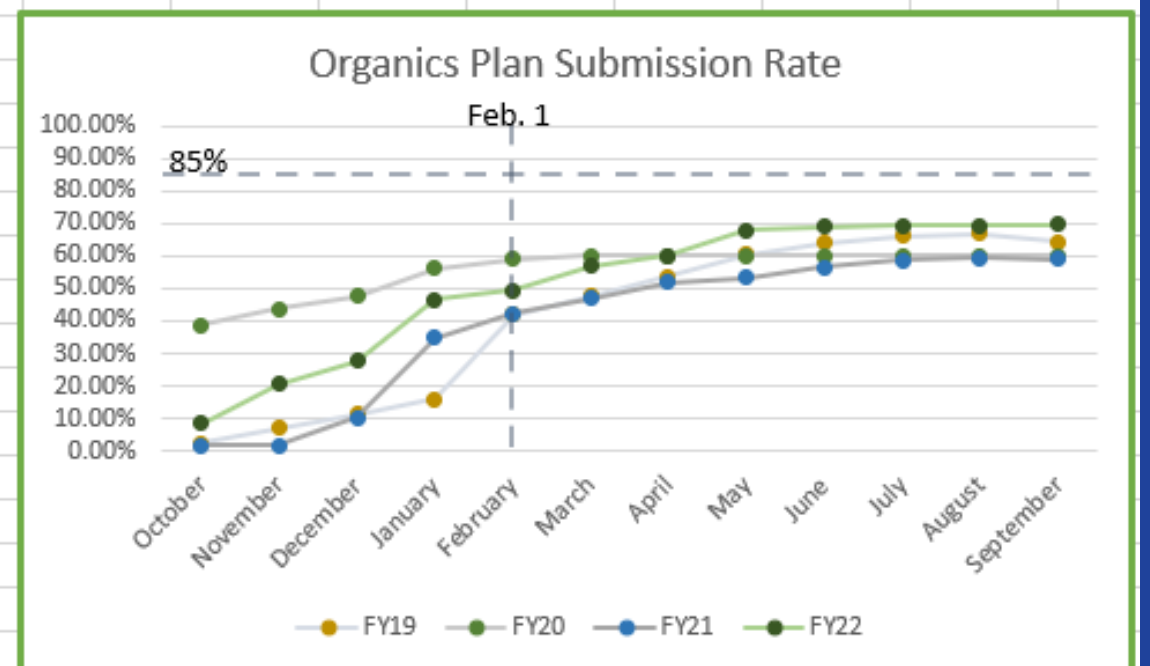
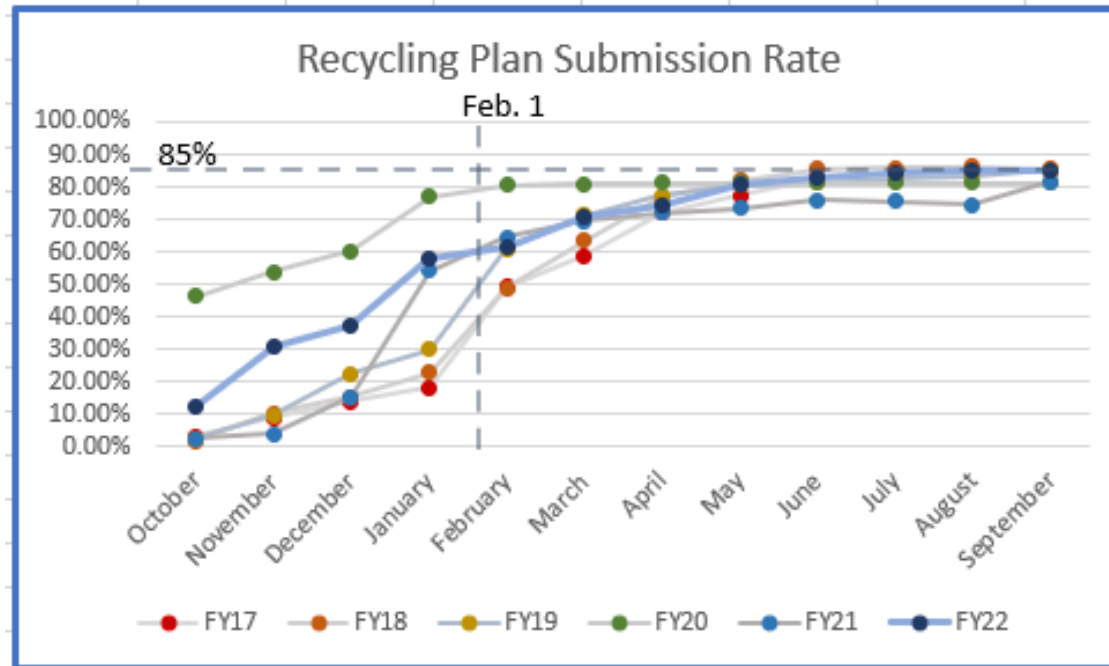
FY22 Year In Review  
November 2022



# Universal Recycling Ordinance FY22 Key Performance Indicators

Recycling Plan Submission Rate 85%

Organics Plan Submission Rate 70%



# FY22 URO Year In Review

## Recycling

- FY22 85% plan submission rate rebounded from pandemic levels (in the 80% range)
- Recycling plan submission rate in the eastern crescent was 84.47%, the rest of Austin 87.21%

## Organics

- The 70% organic plans submission rate represents the highest rate in program history
- Organic plan submission rate in the eastern crescent was 67.33%, the rest of Austin 73.07%

## Compliance

- Approximately 10K properties and 5K food permit holders are affected by the ordinance
- Property owner response to a deficiency letter increased by 15% with the new Code Compliance team
- Identifying and contacting mobile food vendors continues to be a challenge
  - Brick and Mortar Submission Rate 75%      Mobile Food Vendor Submission Rate 28%
- 66% of businesses who submit recycling plans reported not meeting all ordinance requirements. 90% met dumpster size and placement requirements (but were missing other items such as signs or education)

Learn more about the ordinance at: [austintexas.gov/uro](https://austintexas.gov/uro)

# Looking Ahead to 2023

## **Department Administrative or Operational Action related to the ordinance**

- New software build for public facing online recycling and organic plans
- New software database build to support online submissions
- New software database and case filing system for compliance
- Implement 3-1-1 call in-process for public ordinance questions
- Implement strategies to reduce the 25% of organic submissions reporting source reduction and no food donation or composting
- Proactive outreach to properties that reported no education and signage

## **Active Potential Policy Revisions to the ordinance**

- Austin Travis County Food Policy Board - Working Group - food donation
- ZWAC - URO Committee City Council resolution discussion related to multifamily composting

# Zero Waste Business Rebate FY22

- 11** businesses received \$18k in rebates in FY22
- 6** organizations purchased five refrigerators/freezers to expand food rescue
- 3** businesses switched from single use plastic or foam to reusable or compostable items
- 2** businesses started composting services



Learn more at: [austintexas.gov/zwbizrebate](https://austintexas.gov/zwbizrebate)

