



**To:** Zero Waste Advisory Commission

**From:** Ken Snipes  
Director  
Austin Resource Recovery

**Date:** February 8, 2023

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

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### **Budget Recommendations/Proposals**

On Tuesday, January 17th, 2023 Boards and Commission members were sent an email from Stephanie Hall, Assistant City Clerk. The email contained a memo from the Budget Officer explaining the FY24 Budget Engagement Process. Any proposed budget recommendations, priorities, or initiatives that the commission would like to support must be voted on no later than the March ZWAC meeting. The department Forecast presentation will also be delivered at the March meeting.

For your information, the proposed calendar for the FY 2023-24 budget is shown below:

- March 31 Board and Commission recommendations due to the Budget Office
- May 5 Department budgets due to the Budget and Performance Division
- July 14 Presentation of the FY 2023-24 Proposed Budget to City Council
- July 26 Community Input Session at 10am
- August 3 Community Input Session at 3pm
- August 16 Budget Adoption

### **Barton Creek Greenbelt Trail Management Work Plan**

Siglo Group will support Austin Parks Foundation (APF) to conduct trail work within the Barton Creek Greenbelt (BCG) with a focus on the trails between Gaines Creek and Hill of Life. Siglo Group's scope of work includes mapping trail issues, general trail maintenance, erosion control, and removal of limbs/trees/branches that are inhibiting trail use or are at risk of falling on the trail. No brush piles are anticipated to be hauled off or chipped. The anticipated start date took place in September 2022.

### **Winter Storm Clean Up**

#### **Winter Weather Storm Update February 2023**

During the week of January 30, the Austin area experienced an arctic air blast that caused freezing temperatures and significant ice accumulation. Due to the weather conditions, Austin Resource Recovery (ARR) was forced to abbreviate route collections on Tuesday (Jan 31), suspend operations on Wednesday (Feb 1), and delay operations on Thursday (Feb 2).

#### **Trash, Recycling, and Compost Collection Operations**

All residential collection programs including garbage, recycling, compost collections, brush, and bulk collections were canceled on February 1. The department also suspended street sweeping, dead animal collection, encampment, and clean creeks collections. Collection services resumed February 2. Crews continued to work through the weekend to finish cart-based collections, brush, and bulk collections that were missed due to the winter weather. Normal cart, bulk, and brush collection services resumed February 6.

#### **Storm Debris Collection**

The department continues to respond to the volume of requests to collect storm debris caused by the winter weather. As of

February 6, the department has received over 8400 service requests. To respond to this high volume, ARR operationalized existing department contracts to support disaster debris removal. These contractor-led crews started work on February 6 and will continue to provide support until all debris has been collected. This could include multiple passes across the city in the coming weeks. ARR is receiving assistance from other City departments including Parks and Recreation, Watershed Protection, and Public Works.

### **Quality Assurance - Mapping and Routing**

The Quality Assurance Geographic Information Systems team developed maps using storm debris service requests reported to 311 and provided routing instructions for crews servicing storm debris. The department is routing based on the volume of service requests in an area but will collect all storm debris placed at the curb on that same street regardless of whether a service request was submitted at a specific address. A public-facing version of this map is in development.

### **Recycling and Reuse Drop-Off Center (RRDOC) and Hornsby Bend Facilities**

The department suspended RRDOC public drop-off activities and residential collection pilots mid-day January 30 - February 2. All appointments were rescheduled at the customers' next convenience. Programs resumed on February 3 were back up to full speed. Hornsby Bend resumed full operations on February 3. On February 3 and 4, Hornsby Bend supported drop-off services for 506 customers. 139 on Friday and 367 on Saturday. The department's previous record for a full month was 1343. Additionally, Hornsby Bend brush processing staff worked after-hours and weekends to support collections staff in bringing material to the facility.

### **Safety and Operations Support**

Prior to the icing event, staff acquired tire cables for vehicles as well as treated the parking areas at the service yard prior to employee arrival. In addition, staff ensured employees had adequate cold weather gear and PPE prior to deploying to the field. Staff also winterized waterlines at the KGSC building to prevent breaks.

Department supervisors, managers, and safety staff drove routes in front of crews deployed to field to identify hazards such as low-hanging wires, fallen trees, and fallen wires. Staff monitored TxDOT and Austin Transportation resources to identify closures. Down limbs and lows were also reported to our dispatch office to help route crews around the area.

### **Public Information**

The public Information team has been actively engaged in outreach and engagement since January 30. The department has coordinated with traditional media outlets by participating in multiple press conferences, developing press releases, and responding to media request for information. The department website has been updated and social media has been used extensively (Facebook, Nextdoor). The team is responding to resident questions on e-mail and social media. The department also utilizes a mobile app and phone text messaging to inform residents. Messaging is currently focusing on 3 types 1) service and collection updates 2) facility availability and 3) instructional graphics and videos on topics such as proper limb curb layout.

### **Department Support of the City Emergency Operations Center**

ARR had ten drivers on February 1 and two drivers on February 2 support Emergency Operations Center by transporting people in large passenger vans to various locations throughout the city such as warming shelters, hotels, etc.

### **Support for Residents with Physical Limitations or Financial Needs**

Residents with physical limitations or financial needs requiring help cleaning up winter storm debris can request volunteer assistance through the Austin Disaster Relief Network. Complete the form at [austinrecycles.com](http://austinrecycles.com).

**For more information on storm debris collection and proper setout, guidelines visit [AustinTexas.gov/StormDebris](http://AustinTexas.gov/StormDebris)**



ARR Solicitations Update  
As of February 3, 2023  
ZWAC Meeting February 8, 2023

❖ **Solicitations in Evaluation or Negotiation:**

- **Sale of Used Collection Carts and Materials for Recycling (IFB):** The Contractor shall purchase, transport, and recycle trash carts and materials including carts, lids, and wheels that the City of Austin deems no longer usable. [Link to the current contract.](#)
- **Fleet System Enhancement (CO-OP):** The Contractor shall provide the fleet of solid waste collection vehicles with a fully integrated data management system to include software, hardware, installation, interface, integration, implementation, and maintenance and repair of all the components. [Link to the current contract.](#)
- **Sustainable Vehicle Wraps and Installation Services (IFB):** The Contractor shall provide high-performance non-PVC polymer vehicle wraps with lower environmental impact than PVC-based materials and installation services on various vehicles. New Contract.
- **AFS Lead Remediation (IFB):** The Contractor shall provide lead remediation services to address lead-based paint and/or lead-containing paint from a property located at 2001 East 51<sup>st</sup> Street, Austin, Texas 78723 which is owned by the City. New Contract.

❖ **Upcoming Solicitations and Agreements Under Development (in alphabetical order):**

- **Refuse and Recycling Collection Carts (CO-OP):** This contract is for the purchase and delivery of residential refuse, recycling, and organics carts with lid graphics and radio-frequency identification tags. These carts are crucial for the collection of residential garbage, recycling, and organic waste. [Link to the current contract.](#)

❖ **Solicitations Expected to be Posted Within the Next 90 Days & Published Solicitations:**

- N/A.

**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.

ILA (Interlocal Agreement): A collaborative contract between local government entities (for example, ARR and a county, state, or school district) to provide more efficient and less costly services, where any payments are made from current revenues.

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.

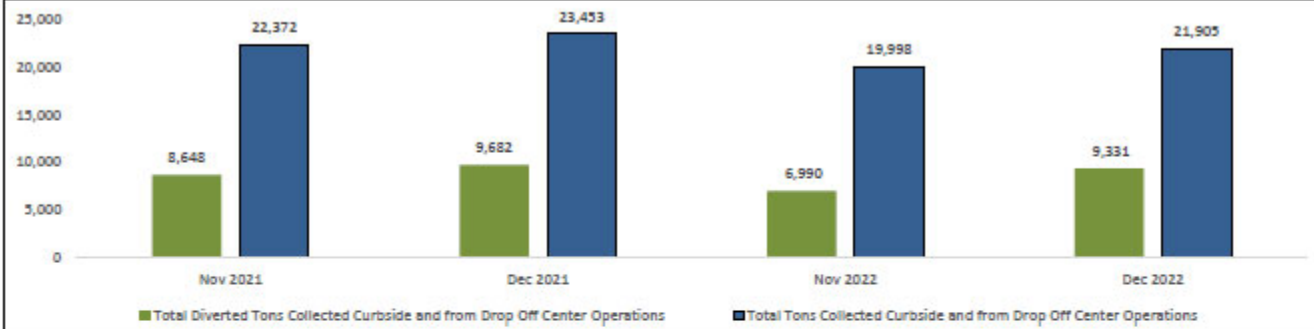
RFP (Request for Proposals): Formal request for a supplier to provide a solution and cost estimate to a complex need.

# Austin Resource Recovery Curbside Collection and Drop Off Center Operations

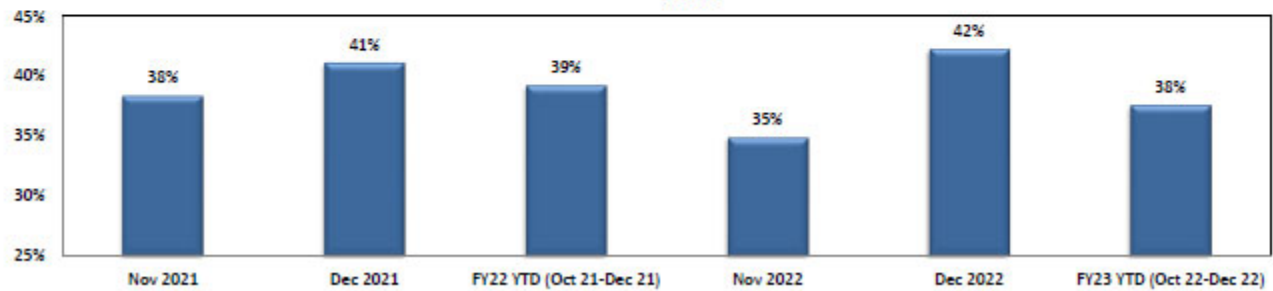
		LAST FISCAL YEAR				CURRENT FISCAL YEAR				
Description of Services		FY 2021	FY 2022	Nov 2021	Dec 2021	FY22 YTD (Oct 21-Dec 21)	Nov 2022	Dec 2022	FY23 YTD (Oct 22-Dec 22)	FY 2023 Goal
Tons Disposed	Tons of curbside Trash	138,955	134,125	11,951	12,073	34,670	11,578	11,285	33,174	137,000
	Tons of Curbside Bulk Disposed	11,651	8,197	722	564	2,181	590	431	1,690	11,444
	HHW Operations Tons Disposed	765	613	47	57	149	38	42	122	580
	Estimated Tons of Curbside Recycling Residuals*	11,321	11,474	1,003	1,077	2,938	802	815	2,567	10,803
	Total Disposed Tons Collected Curbside and from Drop Off Center Operations	162,693	154,409	13,723	13,770	39,937	13,008	12,574	37,552	159,827
*Estimated tons of curbside recycling processed by vendors as residual - based on bi-annual sample route audit										
Tons Diverted	Tons of curbside recycling	51,709	45,974	4,084	4,329	12,347	3,926	4,039	11,460	51,197
	RRC Tons Recycled/Reused	1,323	1,607	147	113	382	51	161	324	1,500
	RRC Tons of Brush Collected	563	8	4	0	8	0	0	0	0
	HHW Operations Tons recycled/reused	222	341	15	31	63	23	30	80	470
	Tons of Drop Off Center Collections Recycled/Reused	1,784	1,788	148	135	415	55	180	360	1,715
	Tons of Curbside Compost Collected	56,481	43,548	3,827	4,696	11,557	2,693	4,824	9,975	51,000
	Tons of Curbside Bulk Recycled	323	168	18	8	38	19	11	44	255
	Tons of Curbside Brush Collected	8,339	5,636	550	485	1,614	293	253	947	7,009
	Tons of Curbside Textiles Collected	42	47	3	3	8	4	8	16	40
	Tons of Carts Recycled	163	172	18	26	62	0	17	25	200
Total Diverted Tons Collected Curbside and from Drop Off Center Operations		118,841	97,333	8,648	9,682	26,041	6,990	9,331	22,828	111,416
Total Tons Collected Curbside and from Drop Off Center Operations		281,534	251,742	22,372	23,453	65,978	19,998	21,905	60,380	271,243
Estimated Percent of Curbside Collected Materials Diverted from Landfills by ARR		41.96%	38.32%	38.33%	41.04%	39.18%	34.84%	42.21%	37.51%	40.62%
Pounds of Trash collected per customer per pickup		25.52	24.32	26.14	26.38	25.27	25.02	24.36	23.91	24.58
Number of Trash and Recycling Customers		209,419	212,139	211,019	211,210	211,087	213,606	213,955	213,471	214,346
Pounds of Recycled materials collected per customer per pickup (every other week)		19.10	16.77	17.97	19.03	18.10	17.07	17.55	16.62	18.48
Pounds of Curbside Compost collected per customer per week		10.43	7.94	8.42	10.32	8.47	5.85	10.48	7.23	9.20
Number of Curbside Compost Customers		208,209	210,876	209,775	209,973	209,846	212,311	212,640	212,175	213,130
Total tons of Dead Animals Collected from COA rights-of-way and the animal shelter		31	51	3	5	11	6	6	18	30



## Austin Resource Recovery Curbside Collection and Drop Off Center Operations



## Estimated Percent of Curbside Collected Materials Diverted from Landfills by ARR

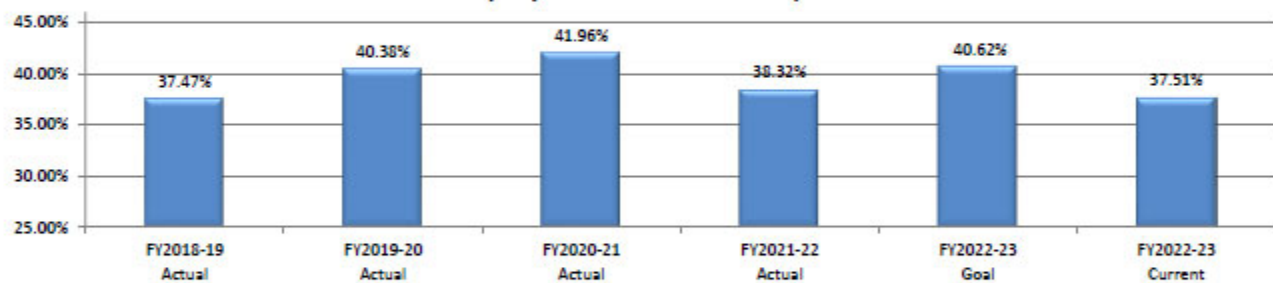


### Reporting Status and Diversion Results for All Categories of Waste Generation

Category of Waste Generation	FY2018-19 Actual	FY2019-20 Actual	FY2020-21 Actual	FY2021-22 Actual	FY2022-23 Goal	FY2022-23 Current
Residential Waste Diversion (city serviced accounts)	37.47%	40.38%	41.96%	38.32%	40.62%	37.51%
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 2018	CY 2019	CY 2020
Commercial Tons Landfilled**	1,079,312	1,401,619	1,359,207
Commercial Tons Recycled**	402,292	470,786	435,875
Commercial Organics Tons**	80,906	102,215	81,436

\*\* 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 Meeting - December 2022**  
**Single Stream Recycling Statistical Report**  
FY23: October thru December  
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 Value	Net Amount Due/(Owed)*	\$ per ton value	Cost Per Ton	Total
October 2022	TDS	1,594.08	\$16,460	\$79,704	(\$63,244)	(\$63,244)	(\$39.67)	\$23.89	\$38,083
	BRI	2,841.29	\$160,521	\$278,446	(\$117,925)	(\$117,925)	(\$41.50)	\$23.89	\$67,878
	Total	4,435.37	\$176,981	\$358,150	(\$181,169)	(\$181,169)			\$105,961
November 2022	TDS	1,439.59	\$14,760	\$71,980	(\$57,219)	(\$57,219)	(\$39.75)	\$23.89	\$34,392
	BRI	3,288.63	\$179,414	\$322,285	(\$142,872)	(\$142,872)	(\$43.44)	\$23.89	\$78,565
	Total	4,728.22	\$194,174	\$394,265	(\$200,091)	(\$200,091)			\$112,957
December 2022	TDS	1,033.19	\$10,266	\$51,660	(\$41,394)	(\$41,394)	(\$40.06)	\$23.89	\$24,683
	BRI	3,821.65	\$220,505	\$374,521	(\$154,016)	(\$154,016)	(\$40.30)	\$23.89	\$91,299
	Total	4,854.84	\$230,770	\$426,181	(\$195,410)	(\$195,410)			\$115,982
January 2023	TDS				\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!	\$23.89	\$0
	BRI				\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!	\$23.89	\$0
	Total	0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0
February 2023	TDS				\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!	\$23.89	\$0
	BRI				\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!	\$23.89	\$0
	Total	0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0
March 2023	TDS				\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!	\$23.89	\$0
	BRI				\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!	\$23.89	\$0
	Total	0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0
April 2023	TDS				\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!	\$23.89	\$0
	BRI				\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!	\$23.89	\$0
	Total	0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0
May 2023	TDS				\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!	\$23.89	\$0
	BRI				\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!	\$23.89	\$0
	Total	0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0
June 2023	TDS				\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!	\$23.89	\$0
	BRI				\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!	\$23.89	\$0
	Total	0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0
July 2023	TDS				\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!	\$23.89	\$0
	BRI				\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!	\$23.89	\$0
	Total	0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0
August 2023	TDS				\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!	\$23.89	\$0
	BRI				\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!	\$23.89	\$0
	Total	0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0
September 2023	TDS				\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!	\$23.89	\$0
	BRI				\$0	\$0	#DIV/0!	\$23.89	\$0
	Total	0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0
FY23 Totals		14,018.43	\$601,925	\$1,178,595	(\$576,670)	(\$576,670)			\$334,900