



To: Zero Waste Advisory Commission

From: Richard McHale, Director, Austin Resource Recovery

Date: May 8, 2024

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

Community Bulk Dropoff

On Saturday April 27th, 2024, Litter Abatement held a community bulk drop-off in the Colony Park neighborhood. The drop-off event gives citizens an opportunity to bring bulk items to predetermined locations for collection by ARR refuse trucks. The materials collected must be in line with the collectable residential bulk items. During the 8-hour event, crews collected 6.25 tons of bulk and .62 tons of tires. The next event will be held on Saturday, July 27th, 2024.

Solar Leasing Contract at FM812 Landfill

ARR is working with Austin Energy (AE) to install solar at the FM812 landfill located at 10108 FM812. AE plans to apply for Inflation Reduction Act incentives to fund part of this project. AE will lease capped surfaces in post-closure care permitted by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). AE selected a vendor, CS Energy, through a competitive Request for Proposal process. AE will take the selection to their Electric Utility Commission in May and City Council in June for approval.

ARR composed a draft lease agreement that is currently in review by the Financial Services Department and AE. AE is reviewing the terms of the agreement, which include paying a monthly rent, providing reimbursement for Watershed Protection's quarterly drainage fees for the added impervious cover and installing a fence around the landfill cells used for solar.

Zero Waste Youth Education Contract

Austin Resource Recovery will present an RCA for a new Zero Waste Youth Education contract at ZWAC on May 8. This contract will provide students from kindergarten through 12th grade an interactive and educational outreach program that focuses on zero waste concepts and sustainability, in support of the City's zero waste goal. Outreach programs such as these are essential in educating students of all ages and, by extension, their families about zero waste. This contract will replace the current contract, which will expire June 16, 2024. The recommended contractor is the current provider of these services. If this contract is not awarded, Austin Resource Recovery will miss the opportunity to provide consistent, engaging programs to young Austinites through their schools and community groups.

Northeast Service Center

Financial Services Department - [Redevelopment Services presented an update to the Austin Public Facility Corporation on May 1, 2024](#), on the Northeast Service Center (NESC) project for ARR and Fleet Mobility Services. Financial Services will be requesting the authority to negotiate the development of the property with Stream Realty and bring the following items to Council on May 30, 2024, on behalf of ARR and Fleet Mobility Services, for the NESC.

- **Item #1 – ILA and Lease**

Authorize negotiation and execution of all documents necessary or desirable to enable the development of the Northeast Service Center by the Austin Public Facilities Corporation (the "APFC"), including a ground lease of City-owned property to the APFC and an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between the City and the APFC.

- **Item #2 – Reimbursement Resolution.**

Approve a resolution declaring the City of Austin’s official intent to reimburse itself from proceeds of tax-exempt obligations issued by the Austin Public Facilities Corporation in the total amount of \$8,500,000.

- **Item # 3 – Budget Amendment.**

Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Financial Service Department Capital Budget to increase appropriations by \$8,500,000.

We won’t have the final project cost until the end of the calendar year when we will return to ZWAC and Council for a favorable recommendation to proceed with construction.

Cart Cleaning

Under Austin Resource Recovery’s (ARR) current processes, any cart needing replacement is exchanged with a clean, fully functional cart. ARR recognizes that situations may require flexibility. Thus, alternative mechanisms are in place through our cart exchange and cart repair programs. These options are designed to cater to the needs of customers in unique circumstances, ensuring that everyone has access to a well-maintained cart. While there is no regular cart cleaning program, ARR does educate customers with tips on how to keep carts clean and well-maintained, such as bagging trash and compost. ARR is committed to continuous improvement and will continue to evaluate programmatic changes, such as cart washing, to enhance our services.

Refuse Truck Rental Contract

Austin Resource Recovery is requesting a favorable recommendation for a Refuse truck rental contract with a total contract amount not to exceed \$596,400.00. The contract will provide equipment rentals and related products on an as-needed basis for the Austin Resource Recovery Department (ARR). An ongoing national shortage of parts, supply chain issues, labor shortages and availability of new equipment has impacted Austin Resource Recovery’s ability to maintain and deploy the required number of collections vehicles to provide the City mandated service levels. To meet the City of Austin’s needs, ARR requires these rentals to supplement the current fleet.

The contract will serve as a short-term contract while the long-term contract is being prepared by Fleet Mobility Service Department. The prepared contract is scheduled to be presented to SWAC and council in October 2024.

Contract Detail: MULTIPLE CONTRACTS

<u>Contract Term</u>	<u>Length of Term</u>	<u>Contract Authorization</u>
Initial Term	8 mos	\$350,000
Optional Extension 1	4 mos	\$246,400
TOTAL	1 yr.	\$596,400

Note: Contract Authorization amounts are based on the City’s estimated annual usage.



ARR Solicitation Updates

As of May 2, 2024

ZWAC Meeting May 8, 2024

❖ Preparing for Council:

- Zero Waste Youth Education Program (RFP): The Contractor shall provide a program to support the City of Austin's goal to reach zero waste by 2040 by continuing interactive education and outreach focused on zero waste concepts and sustainability for elementary through high school-aged students. [Link to the current contract.](#)
- Rental of Refuse Trucks – Short-Term Bridge Contract: The Contractor shall provide, deliver, and maintain rental refuse trucks, as needed, for emergency refuse, brush, and collection services. [Link to the current contract.](#)

❖ Published:

N/A

❖ Expected to be Published Within 90 days:

- Compost Processing Services: The Contractor shall provide complete processing, sorting, and composting of organics, yard waste, food scraps, and food-/oil-soiled compostable paper, as well as marketing services to include detailed data reporting to support the City's residential curbside compost materials collection services. [Link to the current contract.](#)
- Rigid Plastic Recycling Services: The Contractor shall provide transportation, processing, and recycling of mixed rigid plastics collected at the Recycle and Reuse Drop-Off Center in South Austin. [Link to the current contract.](#)
- Daily Drop-off of Unacceptable Bulk Waste Materials Collected through Dumpster or Roll-Off Service: The Contractor shall receive daily collections of the City's unacceptable bulk waste that is collected via dumpsters or roll-off services and disposed of at their disposal facility or landfill. New contract. [No current contract.](#)
- Curbside Textiles Collection Program: The Contractor shall develop and implement an all-inclusive curbside soft textile recyclable materials collection services program that will not compete with charitable donation centers. [Link to the current contract.](#)
- Recycling Polystyrene and similar materials: The Contractor shall pick up, transport, and recycle densified foams, including expanded polystyrene foam, expanded polystyrene paper, extruded polystyrene foam, expanded polyethylene foam, expanded polypropylene foam, and polyethylene. [Link to the current contract.](#)
- Latex Paint Recycling: The Contractor shall recycle latex paint to increase the City's rate of diversion and shall a create marketable product that can be sold to offset the cost of creating that product. [Link to the current contract.](#)

Definitions:

City of Austin (Contracting Office): Administers the procurement of professional and construction services.

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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.

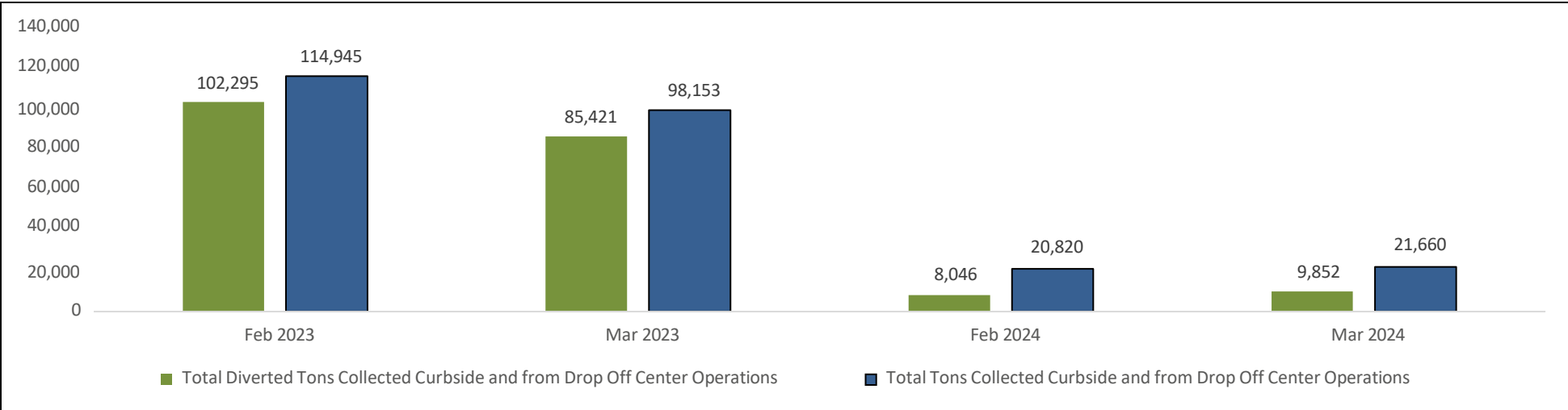
RFI (Request for Information): Used to obtain industry input, feedback, or reactions from potential suppliers prior to issuing a solicitation. RFQ (Request for Quotation): Informal request to suppliers to provide quotes on specific goods or services.

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.

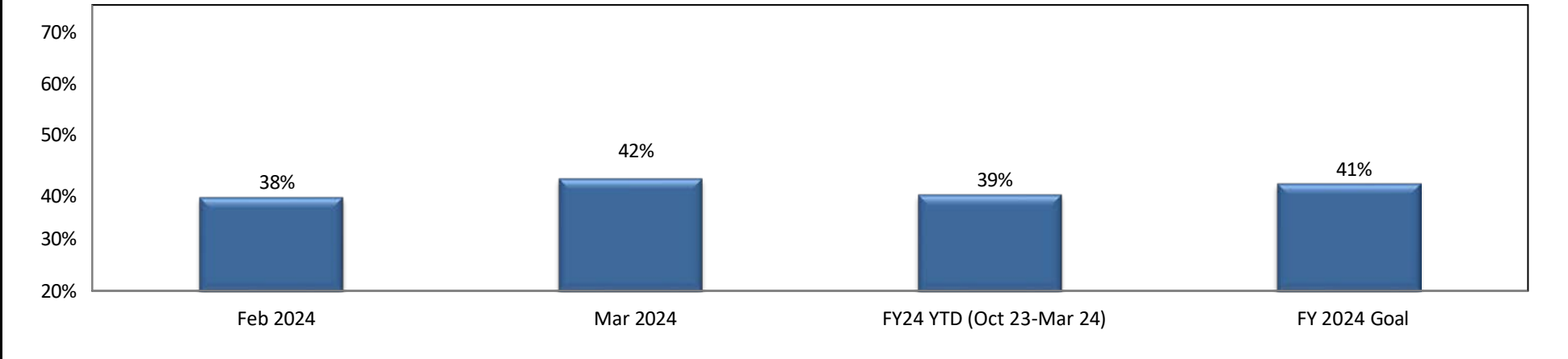
Austin Resource Recovery Curbside Collection and Drop Off Center Operations

		LAST FISCAL YEAR				CURRENT FISCAL YEAR				
Description of Services		FY 2022	FY 2023	Feb 2023	Mar 2023	FY23 YTD (Oct 22-Mar 23)	Feb 2024	Mar 2024	FY24 YTD (Oct 23-Mar 24)	FY 2024 Goal
Tons Disposed	Tons of Curbside Trash	134,125	132,867	11,249	11,722	67,496	11,071	10,833	68,109	137,000
	Tons of Curbside Bulk Disposed	8,197	8,383	619	150	3,189	821	96	3,598	11,444
	HHW Operations Tons Disposed	613	540	32	61	266	45	42	221	580
	Estimated Tons of Curbside Recycling Residuals*	11,474	10,553	750	798	4,952	837	837	5,410	11,269
	Total Disposed Tons Collected Curbside and from Drop Off Center Operations	154,409	152,343	12,649	12,731	75,904	12,774	11,808	77,338	160,293
*Estimated tons of curbside recycling processed by vendors as residual - based on bi-annual sample route audit										
Tons Diverted	Tons of Curbside Recycling	45,974	53,839	3,579	3,951	22,988	3,465	3,385	21,775	50,731
	RRC Tons Recycled/Reused	1,607	1,528	98	114	677	145	134	836	1,500
	RRC Tons of Brush Collected	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	HHW Operations Tons Recycled/Reused	341	384	19	34	172	34	19	165	470
	Tons of Drop Off Center Collections Recycled/Reused	1,788	1,691	102	142	759	163	150	917	1,715
	Tons of Curbside Compost Collected	43,548	44,445	4,776	7,315	26,257	3,896	6,129	23,259	51,000
	Tons of Curbside Bulk Recycled	168	221	14	7	90	16	3	84	255
	Tons of Curbside Brush Collected	5,636	175,089	93,820	73,990	169,083	485	166	3,082	7,009
	Tons of Curbside Textiles Collected	47	58	3	3	27	5	5	18	40
	Tons of Carts Recycled	172	124	0	15	56	16	16	71	200
Total Diverted Tons Collected Curbside and from Drop Off Center Operations		97,333	275,466	102,295	85,421	219,260	8,046	9,852	49,206	110,950
Total Tons Collected Curbside and from Drop Off Center Operations		251,742	427,809	114,945	98,153	295,163	20,820	21,660	126,544	271,243
Estimated Percent of Curbside Collected Materials Diverted from Landfills by ARR		38.32%	63.42%	89.01%	87.06%	74.29%	37.97%	41.59%	38.51%	40.62%
Pounds of Trash Collected per Customer per Pickup		24.32	23.76	24.20	25.22	24.26	23.69	23.09	24.49	24.58
Number of Trash and Recycling Customers		212,139	215,063	214,732	214,708	213,975	215,864	216,742	214,024	214,346
Pounds of Recycled Materials Collected per Customer per Pickup (every other week)		16.77	19.37	15.49	17.10	16.63	14.92	14.52	15.76	18.31
Pounds of Curbside Compost Collected per Customer per Week		7.94	8.00	10.34	15.83	9.50	8.39	13.14	8.42	9.20
Number of Curbside Compost Customers		210,876	213,758	213,449	213,414	212,691	214,505	215,388	212,659	213,130
Total Tons of Dead Animals Collected from COA		51	71	6	7	39	5	5	33	30

Austin Resource Recovery Curbside Collection and Drop Off Center Operations



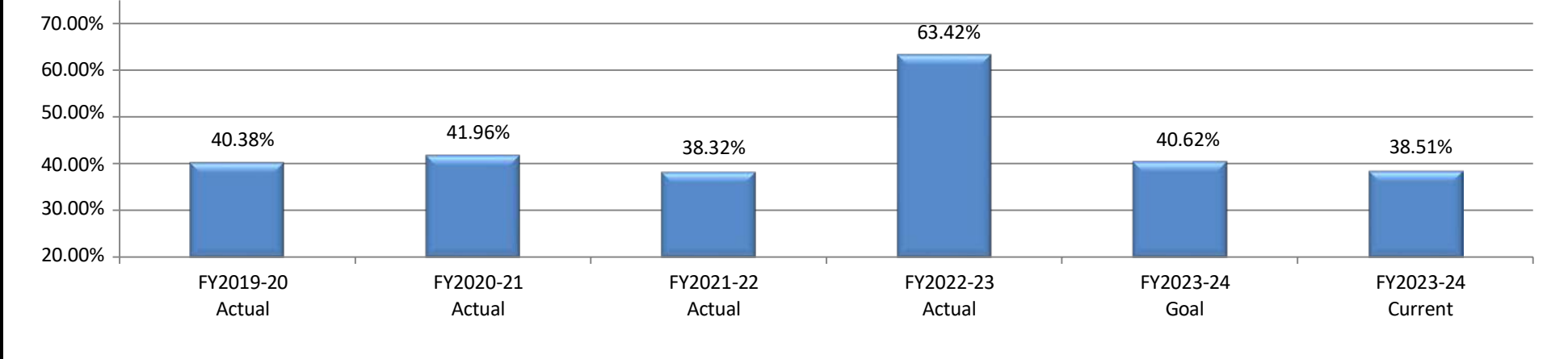
Estimated Percent of Curbside Collected Materials Diverted from Landfills by ARR



Reporting Status and Diversion Results for All Categories of Waste Generation						
Category of Waste Generation	FY2019-20 Actual	FY2020-21 Actual	FY2021-22 Actual	FY2022-23 Actual	FY2023-24 Goal	FY2023-24 Current
Residential Waste Diversion (city serviced accounts)	40.38%	41.96%	38.32%	63.42%	40.62%	38.51%
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 - February 2024
Single Stream Recycling Statistical Report
FY24: October thru March
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 2023	TDS	1,594.08	\$16,460	\$79,704	(\$63,244)	(\$63,244)	(\$39.67)	\$27.43	\$43,726
	BRI	2,841.29	\$160,521	\$278,446	(\$117,925)	(\$117,925)	(\$41.50)	\$27.43	\$77,937
	Total	4,435.37	\$176,981	\$358,150	(\$181,169)	(\$181,169)			\$121,662
November 2023	TDS	1,439.59	\$14,760	\$71,980	(\$57,219)	(\$57,219)	(\$39.75)	\$27.43	\$39,488
	BRI	3,288.63	\$179,414	\$322,285	(\$142,872)	(\$142,872)	(\$43.44)	\$27.43	\$90,207
	Total	4,728.22	\$194,174	\$394,265	(\$200,091)	(\$200,091)			\$129,695
December 2023	TDS	1,033.19	\$10,266	\$51,660	(\$41,394)	(\$41,394)	(\$40.06)	\$27.43	\$28,340
	BRI	3,821.65	\$220,505	\$374,521	(\$154,016)	(\$154,016)	(\$40.30)	\$27.43	\$104,828
	Total	4,854.84	\$230,770	\$426,181	(\$195,410)	(\$195,410)			\$133,168
January 2024	TDS	2,480.15	\$37,993	\$124,008	(\$86,014)	(\$86,014)	(\$34.68)	\$27.43	\$68,031
	BRI	2,604.89	\$247,561	\$255,279	(\$7,718)	(\$7,718)	(\$2.96)	\$27.43	\$71,452
	Total	5,085.04	\$285,555	\$379,287	(\$93,732)	(\$93,732)			\$139,483
February 2024	TDS	1,985.79	\$33,184	\$99,290	(\$66,106)	(\$66,106)	(\$33.29)	\$27.43	\$54,470
	BRI	2,342.12	\$235,492	\$229,527	\$5,965	\$4,473	\$1.91	\$27.43	\$64,244
	Total	4,327.91	\$268,676	\$328,817	(\$60,141)	(\$61,632)			\$118,715
March 2024	TDS	1,697.17	\$30,339	\$84,859	(\$54,519)	(\$54,519)	(\$32.12)	\$27.43	\$46,553
	BRI	2,524.55	\$271,346	\$247,406	\$23,940	\$17,955	\$7.11	\$27.43	\$69,248
	Total	4,221.72	\$301,685	\$332,264	(\$30,579)	(\$36,564)			\$115,802
April 2024	TDS				\$0	\$0			\$0
	BRI				\$0	\$0			\$0
	Total	0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0
May 2024	TDS				\$0	\$0			\$0
	BRI				\$0	\$0			\$0
	Total	0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0
June 2024	TDS				\$0	\$0			\$0
	BRI				\$0	\$0			\$0
	Total	0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0
July 2024	TDS				\$0	\$0			\$0
	BRI				\$0	\$0			\$0
	Total	0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0
August 2024	TDS				\$0	\$0			\$0
	BRI				\$0	\$0			\$0
	Total	0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0
September 2024	TDS				\$0	\$0			\$0
	BRI				\$0	\$0			\$0
	Total	0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0
	FY24 Totals	27,653.10	\$1,457,840	\$2,218,963	(\$761,123)	(\$768,599)			\$758,525

