

# Austin Zero Waste Goals and Programs

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Austin Resource Recovery  
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# Austin Resource Recovery

On the Path of  
Resource Recovery

On the Journey  
Toward Zero Waste

New Name:





# New Direction

**Past:**

**Sanitation Waste Collection**

**Recent:**

**Integrated Waste Management**

**New Direction:**

**Materials Management**

**> Zero Waste Goal!**



# Austin Resource Recovery

**Mission:** To achieve Zero Waste by providing excellent customer services that promote waste reduction, increase resource recovery and support the City's sustainability efforts.



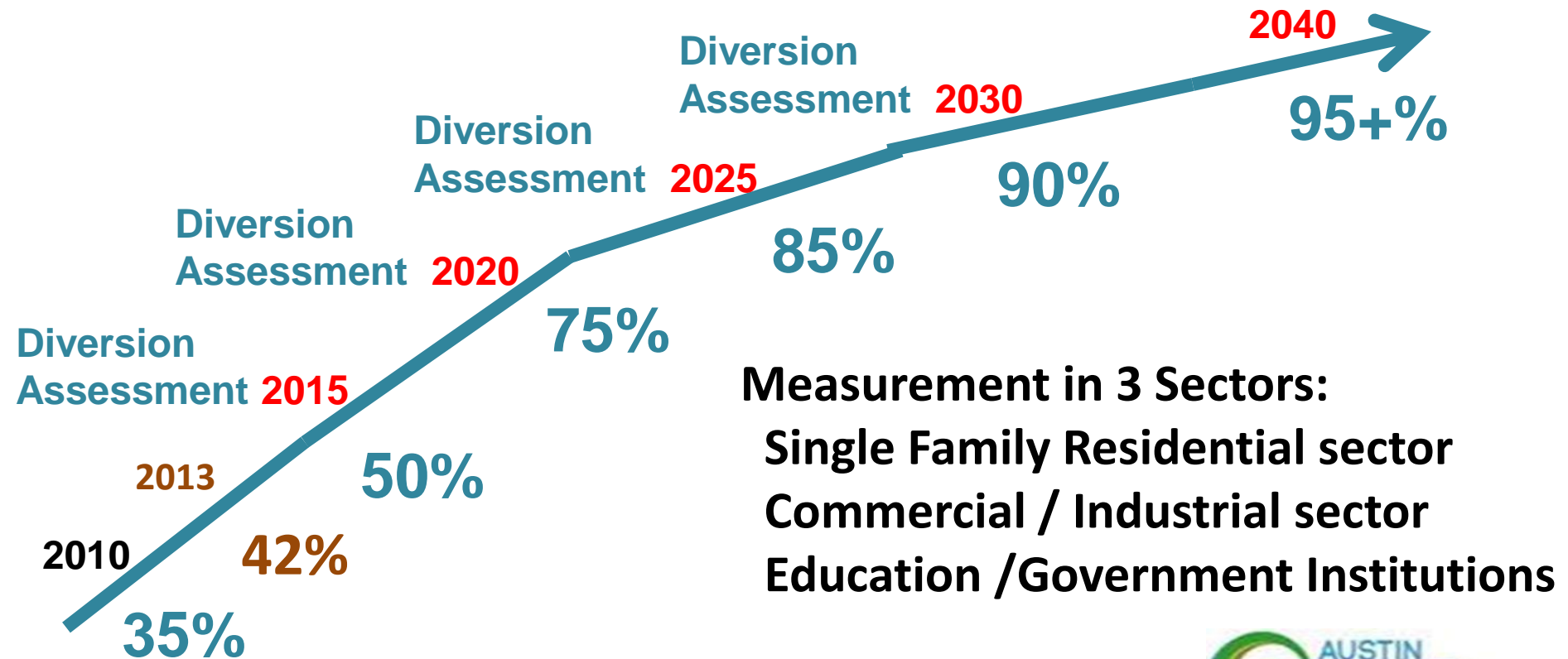
# Definition of Zero Waste

Zero Waste is a goal that is ethical, economical, efficient and visionary, to guide people in changing their lifestyles and practices to emulate sustainable natural cycles, where all discarded materials are designed to become resources for others to use. Zero Waste means designing and managing products and processes to systematically avoid and eliminate the volume and toxicity of waste and materials, conserve and recover all resources, and not burn or bury them. Implementing Zero Waste will eliminate all discharges to land, water or air that are a threat to planetary, human, animal or plant health.



# Austin Resource Recovery Master Plan:

## *Zero Waste Diversion Goals*



**Measurement in 3 Sectors:**  
Single Family Residential sector  
Commercial / Industrial sector  
Education /Government Institutions





# Austin Zero Waste

## Four Keystone Initiatives

- **Materials Management = 4-Rs**
- **Expanded Recycling Opportunities**
- **Organics Collection & Composting**
- **Recycling Economic Development**

The logo consists of three concentric, curved lines in blue, green, and brown, resembling a stylized 'C' or a partial circle.

# Austin Master Plan

- **Zero Waste**
- **Sustainability**
- **Waste Reduction**
- **Reuse**
- **Recycling**
- **Materials Management**
- **Composting Organics**
- **Household Hazardous Waste**
- **Disposal Management**
- **Greening Special Events**



The logo consists of three concentric, curved lines in blue, green, and gold, resembling a stylized 'A' or a series of overlapping arcs.

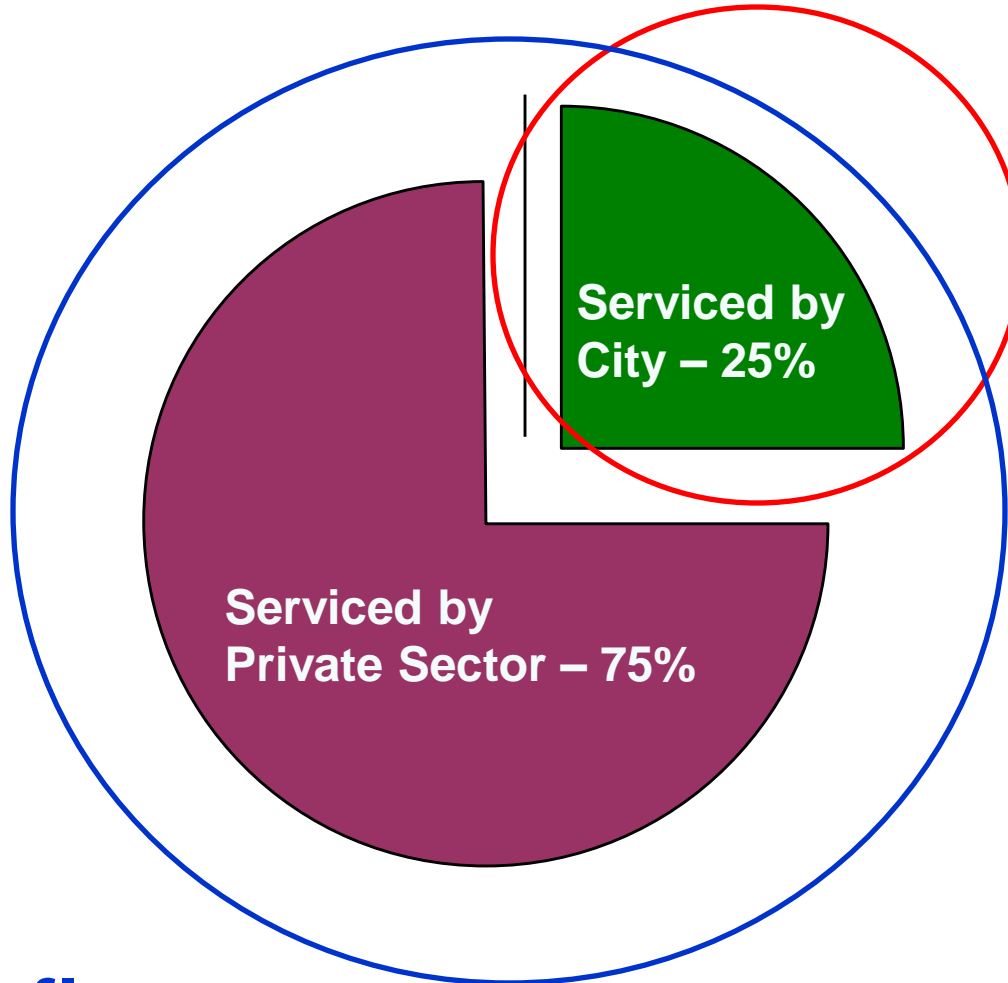
# Austin Master Plan

- **Recycling Economic Development**
- **Citizen and Community Partnerships**
- **Private/Public Partnerships**
- **University Partnerships**
- **City Departmental Partnerships**
- **Pilots and Demonstration Projects**
- **Policies & Ordinances**
- **Metrics and Measurements**
- **Financial Models**



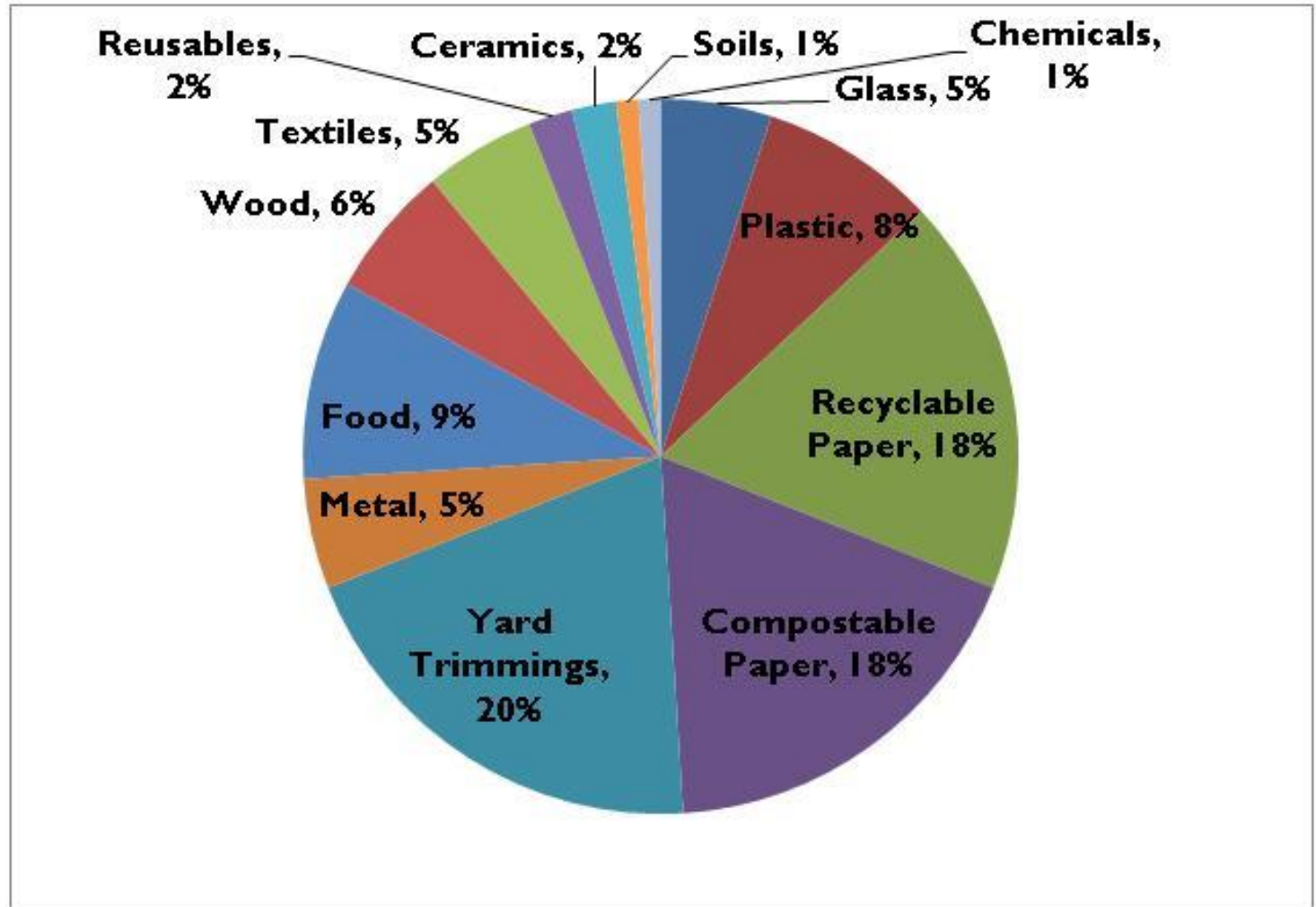
# Distribution of Collection

**Circle of Direct Control**



**Circle of Influence**

# Materials Management



Based on information from CAPCOG, Regional Solid Waste Management Plan 2002- 2022, February 9, 2005, pg. 10, and Austin Zero Waste Strategic Plan, December 4, 2008, pgs. 5-6.



# ARR Master Plan

## Zero Waste Synergy with Sustainability Efforts

- 
- City Green Purchasing
  - Routing Efficiencies – 10% reduction miles
  - CNG, Bio-Diesel, Hybrids & Alternative Fuels

## Waste Reduction – First Priority

- Waste Reduction – Catalog Choice
- Waste Reduction Assistance Program
- “Highest and Best Use”



## Reuse and Repair Businesses

- Creative Arts / Teacher Resource Center
- Reuse Austin Drop-off sites for reusables



# ARR Master Plan

## Single-Stream Recycling Collection



- Long-Term Processing Contracts
- Add materials to Single Stream Program
- Provide 96 gal and 64 gal blue containers
- Transition from biweekly to weekly (2017?)

## Single-Stream Organics Collection



- Promote Residential Backyard Composting
- Collect yard trimmings in 96 & 64 gal carts
- Adding food scraps and compostable paper
- Universal Recycling and Composting Ord.



# ARR Master Plan

## Household Hazardous Waste



- Expanded Saturday and Daily Hours
- Battery Retail take-back program
- Enlarged door-to-door collection
- Pharmaceutical Take-back program
- Adding North HHW Service Site

## Closed Landfill Management



- Post-Closure Care of City Landfill
- Expanded Gas Capture - LFGTE
- Solar Farm – 150 acres
- Eco-Industrial Park – 100 acres



# ARR Master Plan

## Recycling Economic Development

- 
- Support By-Product Synergies – Waste Pairings
  - Business Waste Reduction Assistance Program
  - Eco-Industrial Park (at closed city landfill)
  - Brownfield Redevelopment Program
  - Hired Recycling Economic Development Liaison

## Partnerships


- 
- Community & Non-Profit Partnerships
  - Regional Cooperation & Inter-local Agreements
  - Public / Private Partnerships
  - Education Institution Partnerships

**Support Research and Development**



# ARR Master Plan

## Policies & Ordinances

- 
- Universal Recycling and Composting Ord.
    - Phase 1 multifamily complexes, offices
    - Phase 2 retail, restaurants and industrial
  - Special Event Recycling Ordinance
  - Construction, Demolition, and Deconstruction
  - Single Use Disposable Products / Packaging
  - Support Extended Producer Responsibility

## Incentives and Rewards

- Business Assistance and Recognition
- Composting Workshops & Rebate Program
- City Sponsored Events Rebate Program
- Rate Structure Incentives





# Residential Diversion

assumes average 2.0% population growth per year

Diversion Initiatives – City Hauled (tons)	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030
Total Residential Diversion - Reuse, Recycling, Composting	82,000	125,000	205,000	277,250	332,000
Residential Waste Disposal	150,000	125,000	68,000	49,000	37,000
Residential Waste Generation (with population growth)	232,000	250,000	273,000	326,250	369,000
Residential Diversion Rate	35%	50%	75%	85%	90%



Resources Recovered

Waste Disposal



# Commercial Diversion

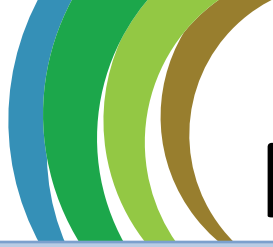
assumes average 3.0% business growth per year

Diversion Initiatives – Private Sector Hauled (tons)	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030
<b>Total Commercial Diversion - Reuse, Recycling, Composting</b>	<b>350,000</b>	<b>600,000</b>	<b>1,050,000</b>	<b>1,360,000</b>	<b>1,620,000</b>
<b>Commercial Waste Disposal</b>	<b>700,000</b>	<b>600,000</b>	<b>350,000</b>	<b>240,000</b>	<b>180,000</b>
Commercial Waste Generation (with population growth)	1,050,000	1,200,000	1,400,000	1,600,000	1,800,000
Commercial Diversion Rate	33%	50%	75%	85%	90%



**Resources Recovered**

**Waste Disposal**



# New Programs = New Costs

New Diversion Programs	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
Reuse Austin – Eco-Depots & Teacher Resource Center	\$0	\$400,000	\$410,000	\$415,000	\$420,000	\$425,000	\$430,000	\$435,000
Recycling – Multi-Family expansion, Central Business District, & C&D Recycling	\$400,000	\$500,000	\$520,000	\$540,000	\$560,000	\$580,000	\$600,000	\$620,000
Composting Organics – Food Waste Collection, Storm Ready Austin, & compost incentives	\$400,000	\$800,000	2,000,000	3,000,000	3,250,000	3,500,000	3,750,000	4,000,000
Household Hazardous Waste North Site	\$0	\$0	\$875,000	\$900,000	\$925,000	\$950,000	\$975,000	\$1,000,000
New Ordinances – Added Staffing & Resources	\$85,000	\$90,000	\$95,000	\$100,000	\$105,000	\$110,000	\$115,000	\$120,000
Special Events Diversion – new ordinance & services	\$70,000	\$75,000	\$80,000	\$85,000	\$90,000	\$95,000	\$100,000	\$105,000
Economic Development – Re-Made in Austin & Eco-Industrial Park	\$100,000	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$350,000	\$100,000
Communications – Public Education & Marketing	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000
<b>Total Additional Expenses</b>	<b>\$4,555,000</b>	<b>\$5,965,000</b>	<b>\$8,080,000</b>	<b>\$9,140,000</b>	<b>\$9,450,000</b>	<b>\$9,760,000</b>	<b>\$9,820,000</b>	<b>\$9,880,000</b>

Expenses offset by Annual Disposal Savings, Cost Efficiencies, Routing Efficiencies, CNG Fuel Conversion, and rate increases



# Pay As you Throw Rate Structure

The Evolution of the  
Waste Can



- Unit Pricing Per Gal of Trash Service
- Conservation Rewarded
- Wasters Pay More per Month
- Finance new programs through rates
- PAYT encourages waste reduction
- City Council supports stratified rates



# 2013 Rates

## Pay-As-You-Throw Rate Structure

FY13 Residential Rates	Cents Per Gallon Trash Cart Size	Monthly Trash Fee	Monthly Recycling Fee	Monthly Organics Fee	Total Monthly Fee	Customer Selection
Trash Cart Size						
24 gallon	\$0.16 x 24	\$3.85	\$4.75	\$4.75	\$13.35	5%
32 gallon	\$0.16 x 32	\$5.10	\$4.75	\$4.75	\$14.60	20%
64 gallon	\$0.16 x 64	\$10.25	\$4.75	\$4.75	\$19.75	65%
96 gallon	\$0.25 x 96	\$24.00	\$4.75	\$4.75	\$33.50	10%



# Customer Satisfaction

- **60% “Standard” Government Service**
  - **70% “Acceptable” Customer Service**
  - **80% “High Quality” Customer Service**
  - **90%+ “Gold Standard” Customer Service**
- 
- **Austin – recent customer survey = 86%**
  - **Focused on improvements**
  - **Routing can affect service delivery**
  - **Color coded trucks offer customer security**



# Other Core Services

- **Bulky Item Pickup – Semi-Annual**
- **Large Brush Pickup – Semi-Annual**
- **Dead Animal Collection**
- **Mulching / Compost Operations / Dillo Dirt**
- **Street and Boulevard Sweeping**
- **Litter Pickup / Alley Cleaning**
- **Community Clean ups & Illegal Dumps Cleanup**
- **Storm Debris Cleanup**
- **Downtown Trash Can Collection**
- **Household Hazardous Waste Collection**
- **Landfill Closure**
- **Cart Delivery and Repair**
- **Resource Recovery Drop-off**
- **Special Event Recycling Services**
- **Brownfield Redevelopment**



## Bob Gedert, ARR Director



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**[http://austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/Trash\\_and\\_Recycling/MasterPlan\\_Final\\_12.30.pdf](http://austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/Trash_and_Recycling/MasterPlan_Final_12.30.pdf)**