

Addendum to City of San Antonio Solid Waste Management Department 10-Year Recycling and Resource Recovery Plan: Creating a Pathway to Zero Waste

On January 31, 2013, the San Antonio City Council will vote to amend the 10-Year Recycling and Resource Recovery Plan (the Plan). The City Council approved and adopted the original Plan on June 24, 2010. This addendum describes the major proposed revisions to the Plan, which include an amendment to the single-family residential recycling rate goal and a new timeline for achieving this goal.

As originally adopted, the Plan provides the Solid Waste Management Department (the Department) direction for implementing community-wide residential and commercial recycling services to achieve the following goals:

- Ensure all single-family and multi-family residents have access to convenient recycling programs
- Improve recycling opportunities for the business sector
- Achieve a 60% single-family residential recycling rate by 2020

Following a “B” Session held on December 5, 2012, City Council evaluated the goals and strategies approved in the 2010 Plan and reviewed the impact of alternative recycling rate goals.

Upon reviewing the alternative scenarios, the City Council discussed amending the 60% recycling rate by 2020 goal to a 60% recycling rate by 2025 goal. As a result, the Department has prepared this addendum to the Plan to reflect the new proposed priorities and goal for single-family recycling programs as discussed by the City Council. Goals and strategies within the Plan related to multi-family recycling and business recycling will not change because of the revisions within this addendum.

Proposed Changes to the Original 10-Year Recycling and Resource Recovery Plan

Content within the following table describes the current goals of the Plan and key changes to reflect discussion during the City Council “B” Session on December 5, 2012. The Department will continue to update the Plan based on data gathered from performance measures and policy changes adopted by City Council.

Plan Component	Current Plan: 60% Recycling Rate by 2020	Revised Plan: 60% Recycling Rate by 2025
Timeline	Achieve plan goals by 2020	Achieve plan goals by 2025 (5 year extension)
Title	10-Year Recycling and Resource Recovery Plan: Creating a Pathway to Zero Waste	City of San Antonio’s Recycling and Resource Recovery Plan: Creating a Pathway to Zero Waste
Review by City Council	Update provided to City Council every three years	Annual review of Plan goals and strategies by City’s Infrastructure and Growth Committee prior to the annual budget process
Organic Recycling (Green Cart)	Mandatory (assumes 95% participation by 2020) with incentive programs for backyard composting and grass mulching	Subscription-based at an additional fee (assumes 85% participation by 2025) with incentive programs for backyard composting and grass mulching The Department will also research the feasibility of yard waste drop-off centers and proper waste compliance
Variable Rate Pricing for Garbage Collection Fee (Brown Cart)	Program starting in FY 2016 to achieve an aggressive monthly rate differential between the smallest and largest cart by 2020	Program starting in FY 2017 and gradually transitioning from a moderate to an aggressive monthly rate differential between the smallest and largest cart by 2025
Program Maturation	Implement major recycling programs by 2018 to allow two years for program maturation	Provides seven years to allow for program maturation
Recycling Rate Measurement	Based on the percent of residential waste collected by city crews that is recycled	Current recycling rate metric supplemented by results of annual community waste profile