

Memorandum

REPORT TO: Sustainability Board

FROM: Nicholas Ross - Director of Transportation and Engineering

SUBJECT: Solid Waste Organics Management Program Update

MEETING DATE: February 12, 2025

AGENDA ITEM TYPE: Citizen Advisory Board/Commission

RECOMMENDATION: Receive update on the city's Solid Waste Organics Management Program and participate in discussion.

STRATEGIC PLAN: 1.1 Outreach: Continue to strengthen and innovate in how we deliver information to the community and our partners.

BACKGROUND: The city of Bozeman Solid Waste Division has received direction from City Commission to begin citywide, year-round collection of organics as a service offering to our customers.

The Division met with the Sustainability Board for a work session on the proposed program in August of 2023 and received excellent input. Following the work session, the Division acted upon a Board recommendation to conduct a customer survey and received very good feedback as a result.

The Division's organics collection program will now be offered as an "opt-in" choice similar to how the city's successful recycling program was launched. The Division intends to begin organics collection this spring ahead of when customers typically begin producing yard waste. The next step will be to notify customers and begin accepting signups. The city has partnered with The Nest on an education and outreach campaign with a scope of work for a for a phased approach over the 2-yr period of EPA SWIFR grant funding received to launch our service. The initial focus will be on existing customers with encouragement to add food scraps to their yard waste service. The education and outreach campaign will evolve as sign-ups progress and eventually target new customers within the city as well. Draft education and outreach material is expected to be available for viewing by the Board during this special presentation.

The Division is completing the hiring process for truck operators, procurement of two collection trucks, and procurement of totes for service. The Division intends to provide a typical 35-100 gallon tote for curbside collection as well as a kitchen-sized receptacle for food scraps.

The Division is also finalizing a contract with Happy Trash Can to continue and expand our partnership with them providing processing of our organics collections into compost.

This special presentation will expand on the background provided in this item, provide for viewing draft outreach material, and opportunity to participate in discussion.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES: None

ALTERNATIVES: As suggested by the board.

FISCAL EFFECTS: None.

Report compiled on: January 28, 2025