

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION RESOLUTION

SOLID WASTE RESOURCE PLAN

February 28, 2013

Whereas, The City of Ann Arbor has demonstrated a history of leadership in promoting recycling and waste reduction, having been recognized by the US EPA in 1999 as one of the top 20 recycling communities in the U.S.;

Whereas, The City of Ann Arbor has a history of strong citizen participation in its recycling program, with over 90 percent of single family households recycling;

Whereas, The City of Ann Arbor has 10 standing City Council approved environmental goals established on July 16, 2007 in Resolution R-330-7-07 that include "Eliminate net greenhouse gas emissions and other destabilizing climate impacts" and "Produce Zero Waste ";

Whereas, The Ann Arbor Environmental Commission, through its established bylaws, created a committee consisting of representatives from the single family and multi-family residential locations, as well as business locations to help develop this Plan;

Whereas, This special subcommittee worked with staff for over one year to develop a plan that has a range of solid waste program suggestions aimed at reducing the City's reliance on solid waste landfills;

Whereas, The format of the Plan follows the City's Sustainability Framework;

Whereas, The Committee presented the draft plan ideas at two public forums in the fall of 2012, as well as through a solid waste survey that involved nearly one thousand responses;

Whereas, Proposals in this plan include:

- Increase single family diversion rates* from 50% to 60% by 2017
- Increase total diversion rates from 31% to 40% by 2017
- Expand food waste composting to include all plate scrapings
- Increase apartment recycling rates
- Re- locate and upgrade the existing Drop- Off Station
- Expand zero waste services at special events
- Implement regulations for construction and demolition waste
- Implement a single use bag fee

Whereas, As with all projects requiring significant city investment, relevant components of this Plan would come before City Council for ultimate authorization;

RESOLVED, That the Environmental Commission recommends that the Ann Arbor City council adopt the Waste Less: Solid Waste Resource Plan to demonstrate continued leadership and guide progress towards reducing, reusing, and recycling.

Submitted by
Commissioner Stead
Commissioner Briere