

City of Ann Arbor

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Legislation Text

File #: 19-1638, Version: 1

RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING PARTIAL APPROVAL OF SOLID WASTE RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN (2019-2023)

Prepared by Chair Brown

WHEREAS, the planning horizon for the City's last Solid Waste Resources Plan expired

in December 2017 and its goals were never realized; and

WHEREAS, the MRF has been closed for 3 years, and its closure has significantly increased the cost of processing the City's recycling; and

WHEREAS, the recycling commodity market has declined, which has meant the City

can generate less revenue to offset the cost of providing recycling services; and

WHEREAS, on April 16, 2018 City Council approved a contract with Aptim

Environmental and Infrastructure, Inc. (APTIM) to develop the City's Solid Waste

Resources Management Plan (2019-2023) (SWRMP) to include funding and program

recommendations, coordinated through the Environmental Commission and engaging

the wider community to serve as a business plan to guide solid waste operations for the

planning period and beyond; and

WHEREAS, the City's Sustainability Framework's Responsible Resource Use goals

include opt imizing the use and reuse of community resources and producing zero

waste; and

WHEREAS businesses in the downtown area have not received acceptable solid waste

services from the City; and

WHEREAS, there are legitimate reasons to be concerned about the long-term health of

the City's Solid Waste Fund; and

WHEREAS, the proposed savings achieved by consolidating residential collection services by the City do not effectively or clearly demonstrate their basis to the satisfaction of the Environmental Commission;

WHEREAS, Though a lot of information has been provided in the report, there must be a prioritization of these recommendations and review of progress toward clear goals using better controlled performance measures; and

WHEREAS, since January 2019, the SWRMP Advisory Committee has expressed several concerns and posed questions about the Plan's recommendations, and neither the concerns nor the questions have been adequately addressed

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Ann Arbor City Council support:

- 1. The Plan's Residential Recommendation #1 to implement a year-round residential compost collection on a monthly basis from December to March, and continue weekly collection from April through November.
- 2. The Plan's Commercial Recommendation #1 to work with the City's Stormwater and Wastewater Departments to develop and implement an ordinance requiring operating standards and reporting by restaurants and grease haulers to improve management of fats, oils, and grease (FOG) generated by restaurants.
- 3. Downtown-Area Service Recommendation D1 to change downtown collection route driver schedules to enable Saturday and Sunday collections on a half-day basis, and to mandate restaurants and bars have Saturday and Sunday collections and a minimum 4-day collection every week.
- 4. Downtown-Area Service Recommendation D3 to establish separate and discrete service arrangements within the DDA boundaries utilizing a single service provider for all waste-related services, including waste, recycling, and organics collection
- 5. City staff rework the plan to recommend priorities and top-level, outcome-based

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performance targets with regular review.