

City Council Workshop

Agenda Item #2

November 14, 2016

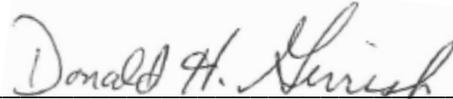
Food Waste Curbside Pilot Program

This item is brought forward at the request of Sustainability Coordinator Julie Rosenbach and Public Works Director Doug Howard.

In an effort to increase the City's recycling rate, staff is proposing a curbside food waste collection pilot program.

Attached is a memo and a PDF presentation from Julie Rosenbach regarding this issue.

Joining Julie Rosenbach and Doug Howard at Monday's meeting will be Kevin Roche, of ecomaine to address any questions the Council may have.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donald H. Gurish". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Interim City Manager



*SUSTAINABILITY
OFFICE*

JULIE A. ROSENBACH
Sustainability Coordinator

To: City Council members; Don Gerrish, Interim City Manager; Josh Reny, Assistant City Manager
From: Julie Rosenbach, Sustainability Coordinator
CC: Doug Howard, Director of Public Works
Date: November 14, 2016
Subject: Curbside Food Waste Collection Pilot

The purpose of this item on this workshop is to discuss a staff proposal to conduct a curbside food waste collection pilot. The pilot program will be used to test the feasibility of adding food waste collection to the City's waste management program.

One of the City's sustainability goals is to increase our recycling rate to 40% by 2020. Food waste is one of the last remaining segments of municipal solid waste to be diverted in order to reach this goal, and bring South Portland more in line with statewide leaders in waste diversion. Therefore, staff are proposing to run a one-year pilot program to gather data on participation, waste diversion, and cost effectiveness to determine the viability of city-wide collection.

In conjunction with the Department of Public Works, the Office of Sustainability met with several local waste haulers, ecomaine staff, and other communities exploring this topic to get input for developing the pilot.

Pilot Summary

The pilot program will include 593 households within the Meetinghouse Hill and Knightville neighborhoods. The City will provide residents in the pilot area with a 6-gallon bin for their weekly food waste, and residents will be expected to set these bins on the curb along with their trash and recycling weekly. The food waste may be kept loose or in clear bags within these bins.

The City will contract with a local hauler to collect the food waste and deliver it to ecomaine for processing. ecomaine will then send the food waste to Agri-Cycle Energy in Exeter, ME for feedstock in their anaerobic digesters.

Costs, Savings & Funding

There are two costs associated with the separate collection of food waste; bins and hauling. Together, these project costs are projected to run between \$44,000 and \$71,000 for the one-year pilot. There will be a minimal cost savings associated with the lower tipping fee for food waste versus trash. The City's solid waste reserve has funds to cover this cost.



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JULIE A. ROSENBACH
Sustainability Coordinator

Conclusion

In this workshop we seek to acquaint the City Council with the pilot program and get feedback about moving forward. City staff will be joined by Kevin Roche, Chief Executive Officer of ecomaine to elaborate on the details and benefits of the pilot. Staff from Agri-Cycle Energy will also be present to answer questions.

If the Council views this as a favorable project to proceed with, staff will move forward to issue an RFP for hauling services and search for any applicable grants that may help offset the cost. Once the RFP is issued, it is anticipated the City will select a hauler starting this winter to consult on program details and community outreach, with collection services commencing on April 1st, 2017.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie Rosenbach".

Julie Rosenbach
Sustainability Coordinator



Curbside Food Waste Collection Pilot Program

Julie Rosenbach, Sustainability Coordinator

Chelsea Malacara, Waste Reduction Intern

Doug Howard, Director of Public Works

November 14, 2016



What We're Proposing

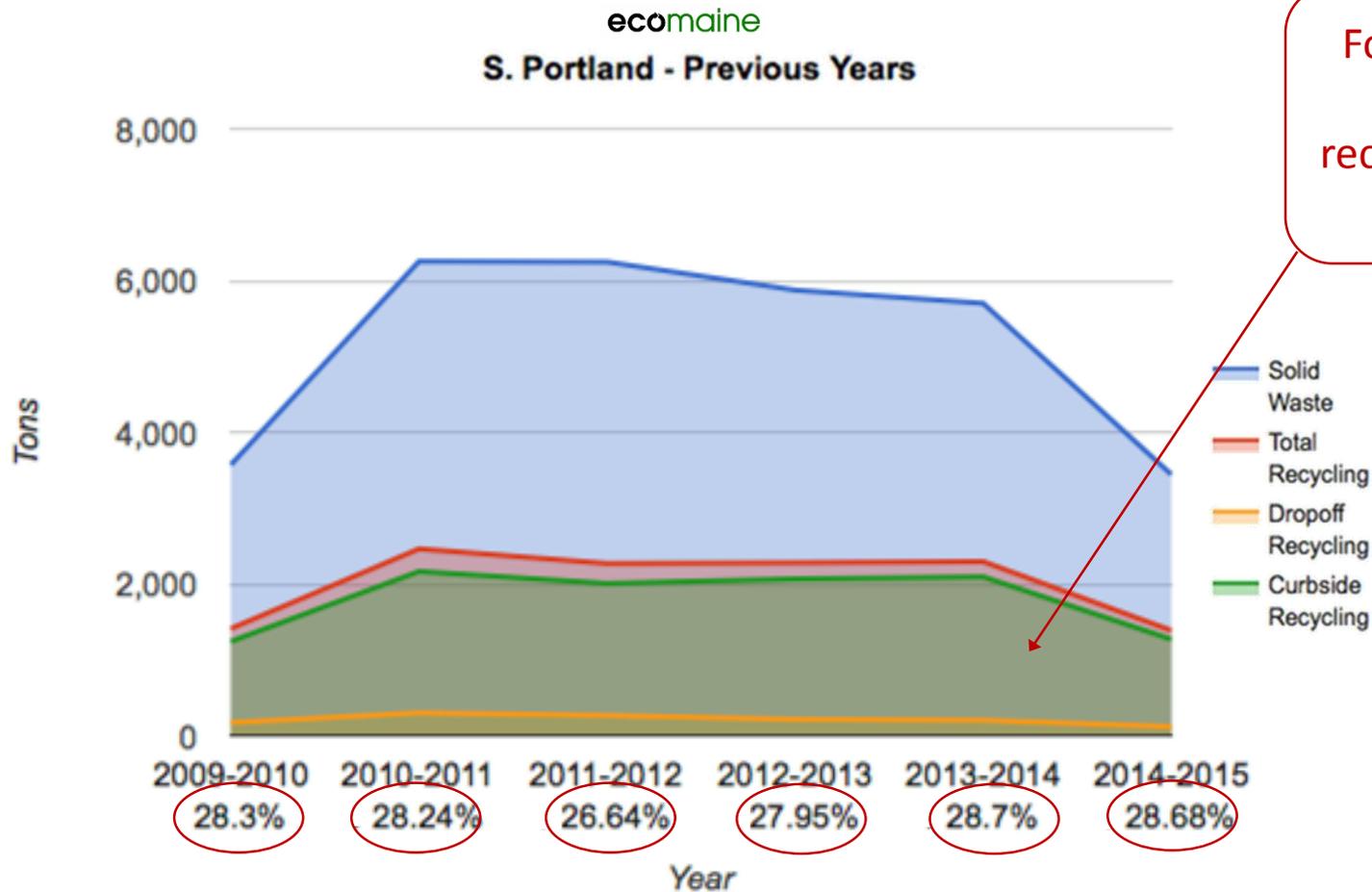


A pilot project to collect food waste curbside from residents in two neighborhoods for one year.

We will use the pilot to gather data on participation, waste diversion, and cost effectiveness to:

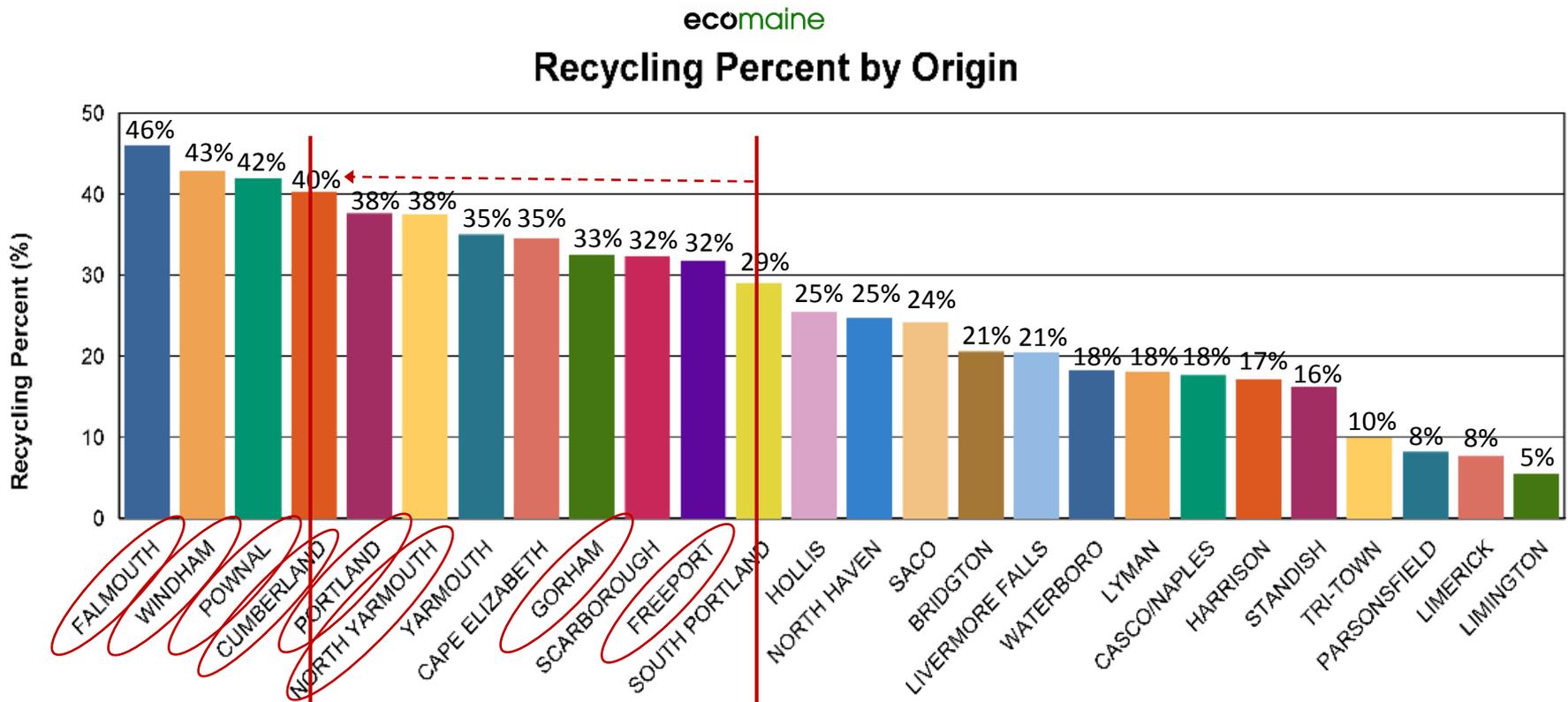
- Determine the viability of a City-wide food waste program
- Evaluate the effect of such a program on our goal of reaching a 40% recycling rate by 2020

SoPo Recycling Rate



SoPo Recycling Rate

Our goal is to increase our recycling rate to 40% by 2020.



Why Target Food Waste?



2011 Maine Residential Waste Characterization Study

Table 6. Organic waste percentages.

Sub-Category	% of Total Waste	% of Organic Waste
Food	27.86	64.38
Remainder/Composite Organic	10.97	25.35
Diapers	2.97	6.86
Leaves & Grass	1.16	2.68
Prunings & Trimmings	0.32	0.74

University of Maine School of Economics Staff Paper #601. By Professor George K. Criner and student Travis Blackmer (April 2012)

Why Target Food Waste?



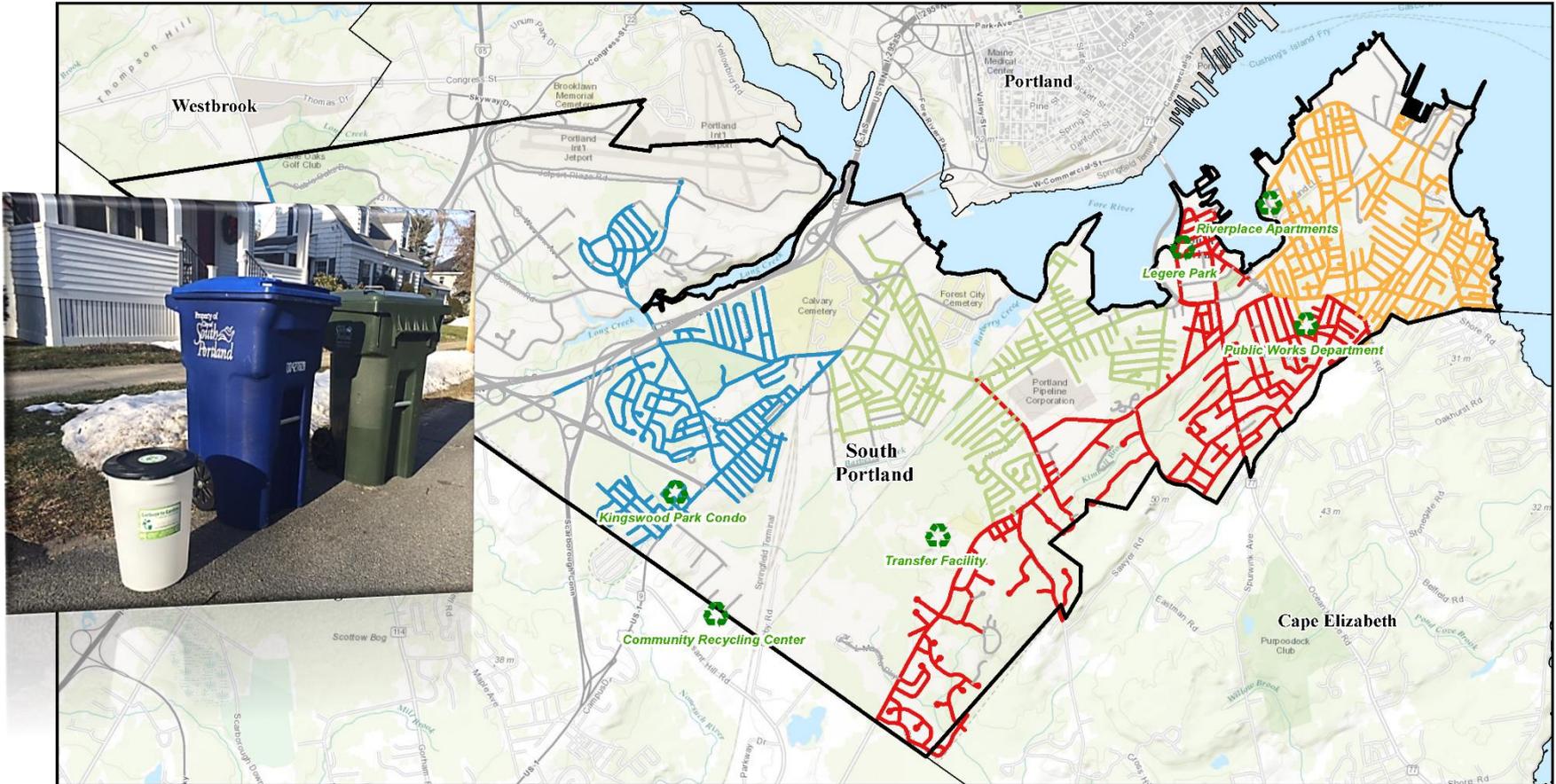
This is the way waste diversion is trending:

Ecomaine started to sort and divert waste from incinerator in early September.

Other communities including Portland, Scarborough, and potentially Falmouth are planning to implement these services

Nationwide the most progressive communities are finding ways to separate and divert food waste

Waste Collection



1 in = 0.5 miles
0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

LEGEND

— Road Not Serviced	58.82 Mi.
— Tuesday Pickup	23.98 Mi.
— Wednesday Pickup	28.05 Mi.
— Thursday Pickup	21.42 Mi.
— Friday Pickup	23.59 Mi.
Trash/Recycling Site	

Trash/Recycling Pickup Areas & Sites

City of South Portland
Cumberland County, Maine



The Pilot

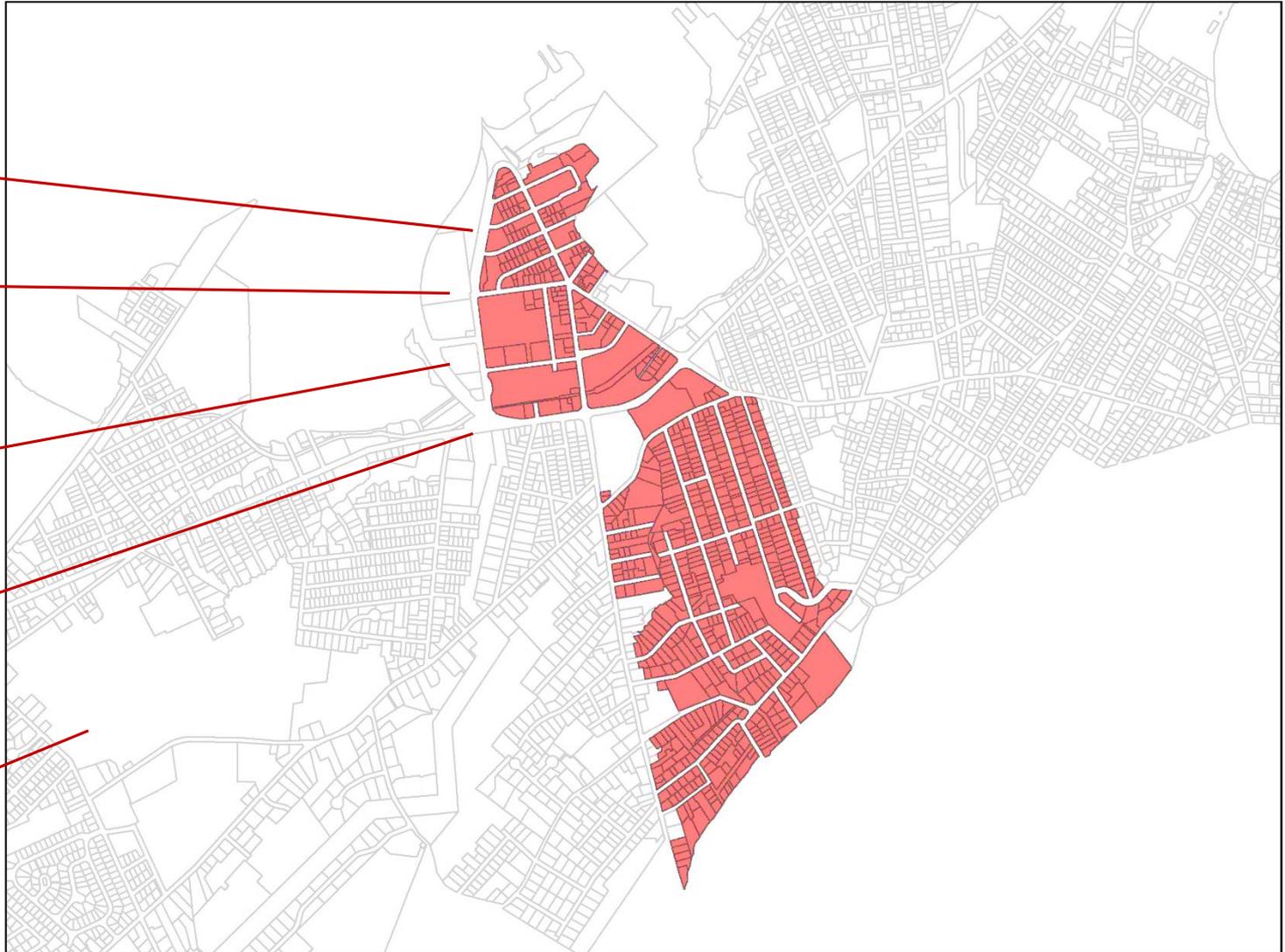
593 households
(6% of total route)

Knightville &
Meetinghouse
Hill

6 gallon buckets
with lids

April 1, 2017
start date

Bins at transfer
station



Costs, Savings & Funding



Food waste curbside collection pilot

Costs

	<i>Number</i>	<i>Unit cost</i>	<i>Total cost</i>	<i>Shipping</i>	Total
Bins	643	\$ 8	\$ 5,144	\$ 300	\$ 5,444

	<i>Stops</i>	<i>Month</i>	<i>Year</i>	
Collection	545	\$ 6	\$ 39,240	\$ 44,684
		\$ 10	\$ 65,400	\$ 70,844

Savings

Tipping fees	\$ 1,195
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Impact



CURRENT

5,699

trash

71%

2,293

recycling

29%

7,992

PROJECTED (CITY-WIDE)

4,529

trash

57%

3,463

recycling

43%

7,992