



Points to be discussed and utilized with the Area Solid Waste Management Plan – Five Year Update Years 2023-2027

1. We have 50 years plus of landfill life that service the Louisville market. Plus, changes in packaging will help reduce the weight/volume in the future—for example, 8% less waste was generated per person in 2013 vs. 2000. The trend continues. Landfill tons remained the same in 2013 vs. 1980 per the USEPA. Lighter packaging and growth in recycling and organics supported this trend. The change will continue as packaging becomes lighter.
2. The industry will support a Metro Council requirement to OFFER larger recycling curbside carts including 64 and 96 gallons to customers.
3. The cost of services in our market versus the peer communities noted on pages 6-1, 6-2, 6-3, 6-5, 6-6 of the Louisville Metro Government Solid Waste Management System Evaluation Final Report published February 2017 are not only price competitive, but considerably less expensive.
4. Furthermore, NWRA private sector industry members have made a commitment voluntarily to upsize the recycling container capacities. The 96-gallon cans provide five times more capacity than the 18-gallon bins that are prevalent in the market. This transition is already taking place, generally somewhere each month.
5. It is well known that the cost of disposal in our market is very economical, fortunately. As a result, there is some tendency to resist recycling because of the additional service cost.
6. The Solid Waste Industry maintains that all our services are organized well. We recommend the term “Organized” be eliminated and the word “Contracted” replace organized. We also recommend the term “Unorganized” be replaced with the description “Open Market” or “Subscription Services.”





7. Industry currently provides a variety of recycling services to commercial customers and the apartment communities. Standardization of educational tools will help considerably to increase participation in these market segments.
8. Multiple recycling resources for processing are currently available in Jefferson County including Rumpke, West Rock, and RMR. Many markets are devoid of the quality available locally.
9. The current waste diversion rate in the city 10-year study is listed at 54%. The Study also indicated that 38% of materials currently being landfilled are not recoverable. Therefore, the current 54% diversion is 65% of recoverable materials. The goal by 2026 is 70%.
10. We strongly encourage that the Metro's District money resources be utilized for a continuous educational process. Education was identified as the key component for the next 5 years in the ten-year study
11. Standardization of available educational documents is a priority of industry. Discussions have already begun and there is agreement that this must be accomplished.
12. Confirming life and volumes at Vogt/Ralph Avenue are essential for correct County measurements in our recycling efforts.
13. The existing Yard Waste Ban has been a major factor in diverting materials from landfills.
14. Metro provides manned and unmanned recycling sites. These are in geographical areas where curbside recycling is available. Therefore, the percentages of residents recycling are higher. The statistic we have used for home recycling is 19 pounds per week so we can utilize this factor in determining how many homeowners have chosen to use the free metro sites. It will be helpful to determine what the recycling participation rate is.