Integrated Approach to Food Scraps Policy

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Using garbage as a resource

Total garbage: 1.3 MILLION TONS

Separate food: UP TO 18%

Recycle more: UP TO 5%

Convert to energy: UP TO 16%

Remaining waste to Transfer stations:
- Metro South Station
- Other Transfer Stations

Remaining waste to Landfills
Lots of Food

![Bar chart showing Metro Region Disposed Recoverables]

- **Food** contributes 18% to the metro region disposed recoverables.
- **Paper** contributes 6%.
- **Wood** contributes 4%.
- **Metal** contributes 2%.
- **Plastic** contributes 2%.
- **Yard Debris** contributes 1%.
- **Glass** contributes 0.5%.

5,000 long-haul trucks per year full of just food.
Commercial focus

These food scraps

Not these
Our work isn’t new

- 1993: Metro workshop to develop strategies for Organic Waste
- 1994: Metro conference follow up to 1993 workshop
- 1995: RFP for Phase I Food Waste Collection & Processing
- 1996: RFP for Phase 2 Food Waste Collection & Processing
- 1999: AOR Organics Forum: Portland discusses mandatory
- 2000: Metro & Portland convene processing roundtable, Metro RFP
- 2001: City of Portland issues RFP
- 2002: Metro matching grant program & site search
- 2003: Metro Organic Waste Infrastructure Development Grant
- 2004: RFP for combined transportation & processing services
- 2004-present: Metro provides funding to support local program development
- 2005: Food scraps collection program begins in Portland
- 2010: SWAC engagements specific to Food System
- 2009: PRC begins accepting food scraps
- 2010: Recology takes over contract for processing
- 2010: Nature’s Needs begins accepting food scraps
- 2011: SWAC recommends move to required separation if benchmarks not met
- 2012: Roadmap Food Scraps Project begins
- 2013: Nature’s Needs closes to commercial food scraps
- 2013: JC Biomethane begins processing the region’s food scraps
The Integration Equation.....

Mandatory Policy
+Transfer System
+Processing Capacity

Stable & Sustainable System
Add in a complex solid waste system

- Cities and Counties (27)
- Metro (1)
- State DEQ (1)
- Private haulers (59)
- Public and private solid waste facilities (~80)

= Lots of coordination and cooperation (i.e., *excitement*)
Policy elements

• Local Governments implement requirements and meet performance standards:
  – Send notice to affected businesses
  – Require businesses to separate food from other waste
  – Provide educational materials and program setup assistance
  – Ensure collection service is provided
  – Enforcement, grant waivers, reporting

• Metro will continue to provide funding support.
Exemptions and Waivers

For Governments:
• Outside the Metro boundary exemption
• Business quantity minimum threshold waiver

For Businesses:
• Temporary compliance waivers
Policy implementation phases

- Local Government policy adoption (late 2018)
- Phase 1 begins (mid-2019)
- Phase 2 begins (mid-2020)
- Phase 3 begins (late-2021)
- Disposal ban (2023)
Processing Capacity Development

• Request for Qualifications
  – Proven technologies and experienced teams only
  – Financially viable

• Request for Proposals
  – Pre-qualified vendors only
  – Preference for in or near the region
  – Range of ownership options
  – Strong emphasis on sustainability and equity
What have stakeholders told us?

• On-site assistance is key, as is reliable collection service.
• Very few are opposed to a required program.
• 45% are in favor.
• 30% were in favor but had some concerns.
• Phase-in & flexibility is critical.
Process Timeline

• Fall and Winter 2017: continued stakeholder outreach & public comment period.
• 2018: Metro Council decision.
• Late-2018: Local government adoption date.
• Mid-2019: Phase 1 implementation begins.
• Mid-2020: Phase 2 implementation begins.
• Late-2021: Phase 3 implementation begins.
• 2023 consider disposal ban.
Thank you

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