

ID# 200475E

City of
Gainesville

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Zero Waste Subcommittee
Commercial and Multi-Family Property Recycling Recommendations
January 5, 2021

Ordinance Options to Consider to Increase Commercial Waste Diversion

A, B & C - Definition Clarifications/Additions

D - Better Identification of Commercially Serviced Containers

E - Better Labeling of Commercially Serviced Containers

F - Increase Recycling Access at Multi-Family Properties

G - Increase Recycling Capacity at Multi-Family Properties

Each option/recommendation can be viewed as independent from each other.

Policy / Ordinance Changes to Consider

TIMELINE

- Effective date:
ASAP

A. Define “Designated Recycling Materials” in ordinances

Option 1: Add definition of “Designated recycling materials” to ordinances.

Not current listed under definitions in ordinances

Benefits:

- ✓ Removes any existing ambiguity
- ✓ States our responsibility to post the list of designated recycling materials

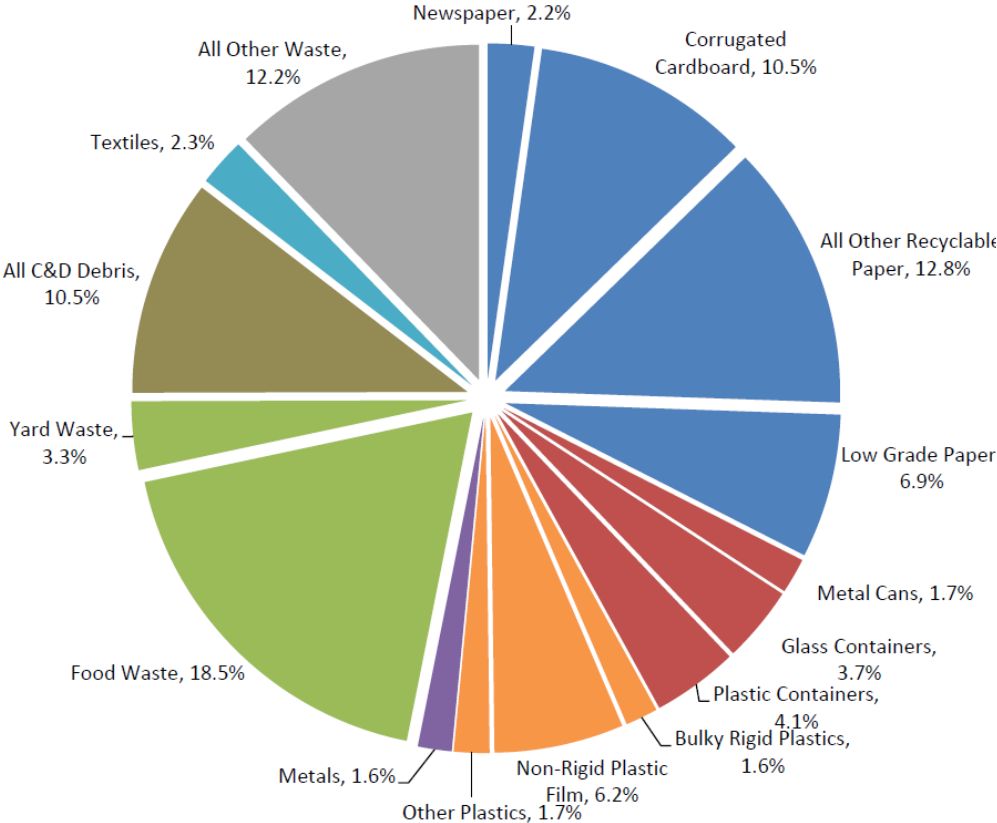
Option 2: Leave undefined.

Negatives:

- Existing ambiguity remains

Policy / Ordinance Changes to Consider

Composition of Commercial Waste Disposed (% by weight)



Source: Pinellas County 2014 Waste Characterization Study

Policy / Ordinance Changes to Consider

B. Clarify ordinance language as it relates to “De minimus quantity” of designated recyclable materials

“De minimus quantity shall mean no more than 15% by volume of designated recyclable materials...”

Option 1: Adjust “15% de minimus” level to 10% or 5%

Benefits:

- ✓ Provides the opportunity to capture a greater quantity recyclable materials from waste stream

Negatives:

- Continues to place burden of proof on City Staff/Inspectors to show waste generator exceeding “de minimus” levels
- Case by case enforcement of Mandatory Commercial Recycling Ordinance

TIMELINE

- Effective date:
ASAP

Policy / Ordinance Changes to Consider

TIMELINE

- Effective date:
ASAP

B. Clarify ordinance language as it relates to “De minimus quantity” of designated recyclable materials

Option 2: Add the words “cumulative total” after 15%

“De minimus quantity shall mean no more than 15% cumulative total by volume of designated recyclable materials...”

Would also add ordinance language that would allow commercial generators to apply for an exemption to the separation of recyclables out of trash if they can show their volume of recyclables generated is under 15% (i.e., “de minimus”)

Benefits:

- ✓ Simplifies the application of Mandatory Commercial Recycling Ordinance
- ✓ Provides the opportunity to capture a greater quantity recyclable materials from waste stream
- ✓ Burden of proof to show “de minimus” quantity shifts from City Staff/Inspectors to commercial generators

Policy / Ordinance Changes to Consider

C. Add definition of “*Organic materials*” and “*Designated organic materials*” to ordinances

Not current listed under definitions

Organic materials shall mean yard trash, vegetative waste, food waste, non-recyclable paper, or other materials that have known compostable potential, can be feasibly composted and have been diverted and source separated or removed from the solid waste stream, whether or not the materials require subsequent processing or separation, but does not include materials destined for any use that constitutes disposal. Organic materials as described above are not solid waste.

Benefits:

- ✓ Brings ordinances up to current standard practices and definitions
- ✓ Allows for future opportunities to capture organic materials from waste stream
- ✓ Coincides with Mandatory Commercial Compost Ordinance

TIMELINE

- Effective date:
ASAP

Which is one is for trash and which one is for recycling?



Policy / Ordinance Changes to Consider

TIMELINE

- Effective date:
Jan. 1, 2022

D. **Better Identification of Commercially Serviced Containers**

Option 1: Mandate that Commercially Serviced Containers for Garbage and Recycling “must be different” in color from one another.

Benefits:

- ✓ Decrease in accidental contamination of recycling/organics
- ✓ Likely little opposition from commercial haulers

Negatives:

- Still inconsistency between different haulers and at different locations
- Limits opportunity for city-wide commercial education messaging
- Commercial color schemes different than residential containers

Policy / Ordinance Changes to Consider

TIMELINE

- Effective date:
Jan. 1, 2022

D. Better Identification of Commercially Serviced Containers

Option 2: Mandate Commercial Containers for Garbage and Recycling follow a specific color scheme

For example:

- Gray for garbage/trash
- Blue for recycling
- Green for organics (food waste/yard waste)

Benefits:

- ✓ Decrease in accidental contamination of recycling/organics
- ✓ Provides the opportunity for city-wide commercial educational messaging
- ✓ Consistency in programs with different haulers and at different locations => Increase in recycling participation
- ✓ Potential to continue color scheme and educational messaging with residential containers and public venue containers in the future

Negatives:

- Commercial haulers tend to prefer their own company colors on their own containers

Example: Educational Messaging Color Scheme, Seattle, WA



COMPOST
堆肥 Compost Chất thải thực phẩm và sân vườn

All Food Waste Food Soiled Paper Compostable Packaging Yard Waste & Unpainted Wood

No Plastic. No Garbage. No Recyclables.

RECYCLE
回收 Recycle Tái chế

Empty Bottles & Cans Empty Cups & Containers Clean Cardboard Paper & Cardboard

No Food. No Garbage.

GARBAGE
**NO RECYCLABLES
NO FOOD & YARD WASTE
NO HAZARDOUS WASTE**

垃圾 Basura Rác

Items Prohibited per SMC 21.36.002-003

Policy / Ordinance Changes to Consider

TIMELINE

- Effective date:
June 30, 2021

E. Better Labeling of Commercially Serviced Containers

Option 1: General mandate requiring the proper labeling of material collected on commercially serviced containers (trash, recycle, organics)

Benefits:

- ✓ Easier identification of container type
- ✓ Decrease in accidental contamination
- ✓ Increase in recycling participation

Negatives:

- Variations in labeling type, size and design between hauling companies

Policy / Ordinance Changes to Consider

TIMELINE

- Effective date:
June 30, 2021

E. Better Labeling of Commercially Serviced Containers

Option 2: Specify exact size, design and placement of labels on commercially serviced containers (trash, recycle, organics)

Benefits:

- ✓ Easier identification of container type
- ✓ Decrease in accidental contamination
- ✓ Increase in recycling participation

Negatives:

- Settling on an agreed upon size and design could be problematic
- Could restrict size and/or placement of hauler's company label

Policy / Ordinance Changes to Consider

TIMELINE

- Effective date:
June 30, 2021
or
January 1, 2022

F. Increase Recycling Access at Multi-Family Properties:

Option 1: Add ordinance language establishing that recyclable containers are to be as convenient and accessible as trash containers at commercial collected residential properties

Benefits:

- ✓ Increase accessibility to recycling services for MFP residents
- ✓ Increase recycling rates at MFPs

Negatives:

- Increase in collection service costs for some MFPs
- Space limitations at some MFPs

Policy / Ordinance Changes to Consider

TIMELINE

- Effective date:
June 30, 2021
or
January 1, 2022

F. Increase Recycling Access at Multi-Family Properties:

Option 2: Placement of recycling containers as determined by the City Manager or designee

Benefits:

- ✓ Increase accessibility to recycling services to MFP residents
- ✓ Increase recycling rates at MFPs
- ✓ More flexibility in recycling programs (best fit for property)

Negatives:

- Added city staff/inspection time to evaluation and enforce at MFPs

Policy / Ordinance Changes to Consider

TIMELINE

- Effective date:
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or
January 1, 2022

G. Increase Recycling Capacity at Multi-Family Properties:

Option 1: Add ordinance language establishing an adequate level of service and capacity of trash and recyclable collection containers based on the trash volume at a commercial collected property.

Ex: 20% of trash volume/week
 90 unit MFP with 50 cubic yards trash/week
 => 10 cubic yards recycling/week

Benefits:

- ✓ Increase accessibility to recycling services to MFP residents
- ✓ Increase recycling rates at MFPs
- ✓ Established a fixed minimum standard level of service using more familiar collection terms

Negatives:

- Most MFPs are currently over-serviced for trash
- Might be counterproductive because as recycling volume increases, trash would decrease, which would mean trash volume could decrease, which would mean recycling capacity could decrease

Policy / Ordinance Changes to Consider

TIMELINE

- Effective date:
June 30, 2021
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January 1, 2022

G. Increase Recycling Capacity at Multi-Family Properties:

Option 2: Add ordinance language establishing an adequate level of service and capacity of trash and recyclable collection containers based on the number of units at a commercial collected property.

Ex: 18 gal./unit/week
 90 unit MFP => 8 cubic yards/week

Benefits:

- ✓ Increase accessibility to recycling services to MFP residents
- ✓ Increase recycling rates at MFPs
- ✓ Established a fixed minimum standard level of service based on a fixed item (number of units)

Negatives:

- Doesn't fully account for the number of residents per unit

Options to Consider to Increase Diversion



Reminder: Benefits of an Exclusive Solid Waste Franchise

Specifications placed in terms of service of contract:

- Uniformed Container Identification & Labeling
- Increased Recycling Access & Capacity at Multi-Family Properties

PLUS:

- Clear and consistent educational messaging city-wide
- Even and consistent pricing for customers (e.g., billed per unit at Multi-Family Properties)
- The City would have greater input on the type of recycle programs, location & type of service containers, and number of service locations

Thank You.