

Small, Multi-unit Variance Recommendation

Contracted Residential Waste
Collection Program

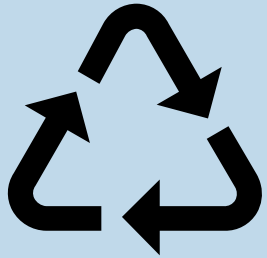
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City Council Regular Session

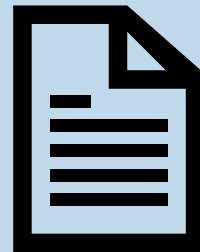


- Staff recommend adoption of Ordinance No. 056, 2026 to amend Sections 12-32 and 15-413 of City Code to modify waste programs.
- Staff recommends adoption of Ordinance No. 057, 2026 to amend Section 12-30 of City Code to modify the City's Contracted Residential Waste Collection Program.



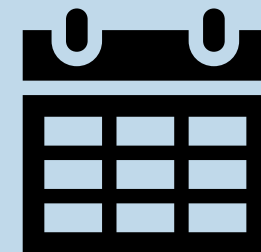
What It Is

- Producers fund recycling services statewide
- Establish statewide guidelines for minimum accepted materials
- Increase recycling from 25% to 55% by 2035



Why We're Updating Code

- Resolves conflict between code and EPR requirements
- Allows haulers to list recycling as \$0 line item on bills



Next Steps

- Staff to negotiate agreement for reimbursements to the City
- Return to Council to appropriate funds

History of Contracted Service

In 2023, Council voted to adopt a single-hauler contracted program for trash, recycling, and yard trimmings collection.

Who

- Residential properties with 7 or fewer units
- Exempt: 8+ unit residential, business, commercial, construction/demolition and dumpster serviced properties

What

- Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) trash sizes, weekly recycling, seasonal yard trimmings, two free bulk items per year
- Opt-out fees charged to any unit not enrolled in City-contracted service

When

- Republic Services began contracted service September 30, 2024



Program Goals

Year 1 Highlights



Move towards Zero Waste

35% residential diversion (up from 25%)



Reduce trash trucks on residential streets

Fewer collection vehicles on streets citywide have resulted in quieter neighborhoods, feelings of increased safety and emissions reductions.



Equitable and consistent pricing

93% service participation
3.2% price increase 2024-2025

Units with unique situations may apply for a variance from the program and associated opt-out fees.

Shared Service

For units that produce **exceptionally low amounts of trash**

Excess Waste

For units that produce **exceptionally large amounts of trash**

Remote Dumpster

For units that **pay for a dumpster** somewhere else within City limits

Habitability

For units **not safe to occupy**

Before the Program

Multi-unit buildings shared service

- Low unit occupancy = low waste production
- Space savings
- Affordability
- Owners manage service



In the Program

Multi-unit buildings still share service

- Opt-out fees charged to unenrolled units
- Prices increased for property owners



Effects

Inequitable service costs

- PAYT misalignment
- Diluted program benefits

Staff committed to finding a solution

Small, Multi-family Variance Proposal




Allow multi-units to share carts without paying opt-out fees when:

- Owners apply on behalf of their building
- Units share in groups of 2, 3, or 4
- Trash cart size is S, M or L



Variance is designed to:

- Respond directly to community feedback
- Account for current behavior
- Right-size available service
- Address unintended program dynamics

Program Goals	Impact from Variance
 Move towards Zero Waste	None
 Reduce trash trucks On residential streets	None
 Equitable and consistent pricing	Improved <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Costs align with behavior and PAYT



Participation

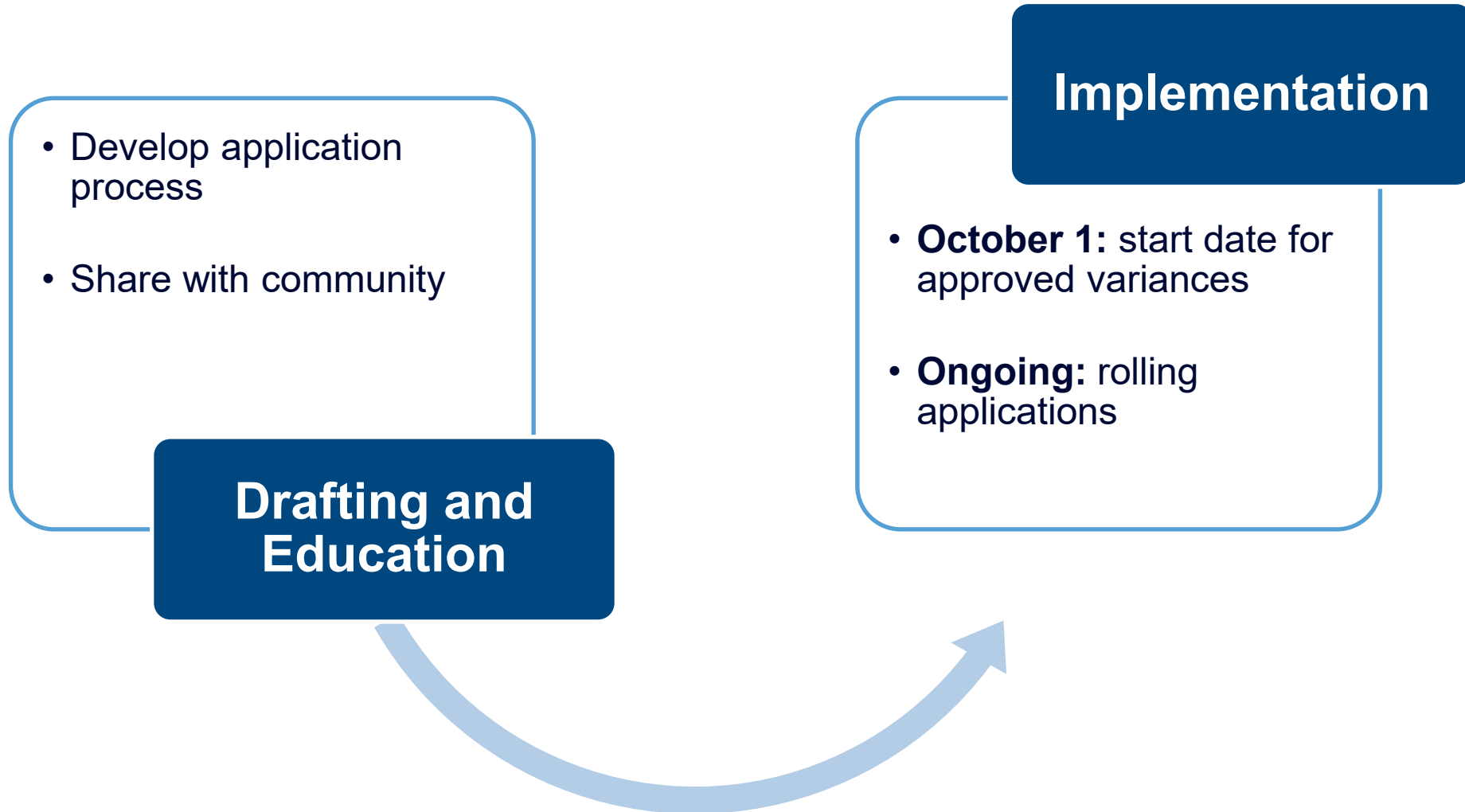
- < 316 buildings, < 1.7% qualifying units

City Revenue Reduction

- < 1%, from administrative fee

Operations

- Administration of variance can be incorporated into current staffing responsibilities



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