

CITY OF STEVENSON eRIDE

evaluation of a REGIONALLY INTEGRATED DIVERSION EFFORT

The City of Stevenson, Washington, population 1,575, is currently under an Administrative Order from the Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE) for violating its NPDES permit. The city has exceeded its design criteria for five (5)-Day Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD5) or Total Suspended Solids (TSS) on twenty-one (21) occasions between January 2012 and December 2016 and the violations have continued. The Order outlines a tight timeline to resolve the issue with all wastewater facility upgrades completed and online by December 2021. To reach this goal the city adopted, and DOE approved, an updated Facilities Plan. The cost for the necessary upgrades were unacceptable for our small community. As part of the effort to solve the challenges with the wastewater system in a more affordable manner, the city participated in a value planning workshop on June 6, 2018 to explore alternative strategies to tackle the problem. The workshop was conducted in partnership with the Center for Sustainable Infrastructure and the Economic Development Administration with participation from DOE, the Port of Skamania, Skamania County Economic Development Council, local industries, businesses and residents. One solution that came out of the workshop was to start an organic resource recovery program to prevent the organic material from entering the wastewater system and impacting the plant. The feasibility of a locally-operated facility for anaerobic digestion is being considered under a separate grant funded by the Washington Community and Economic Revitalization Board, however the means to transport the waste resources has not yet been considered. The city requests EPA assistance in an estimated amount of \$20,000 for evaluation of a Regionally Integrated Diversion Effort (RIDE), to investigate potential digester feedstock and to design a collection program to bring feedstock to an anaerobic digester. See below for an overview of the RIDE program.

RIDE OVERVIEW:

- A. Develop **Industrial Side-streaming Collaborative Diversion Program** for industrial beverage and commercial food businesses. Identify possible recipients of food wastes such as farms, compost, fertilizer or bio-digestion for fuels, livestock feed, or other uses.
- B. Create **Incentive Program** to provide match for cost-effective equipment upgrades to reduce organic loadings.
- C. Investigate **Residential Food Waste** diversion program to engage the entire community in reducing BOD loadings to the wastewater treatment plant.
- D. Create **education program** at schools.
- E. Continue and enhance fats, oils, and grease (**FOG**) **source control**.

EXTERNAL PARTNERS:

- Skamania County Economic Development Council – Business liaison
- Port of Skamania – Landlord/Property Owner for potential digester location
- Washington Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Revitalization Board – Funding
- Washington State Department of Ecology, Clean Water State Revolving Fund – Funding
- Center for Sustainable Infrastructure – Sustainability advisor