

A G E N D A

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TEL 503 797 1542 | FAX 503 797 1793



METRO

Agenda

MEETING: METRO COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING
DATE: December 7, 2004
DAY: Tuesday
TIME: 2:00 PM
PLACE: Metro Council Chamber

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

- | | | | |
|---------|----|--|-----------------|
| 2:00 PM | 1. | DISCUSSION OF AGENDA FOR COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING, DECEMBER 9, 2004/
ADMINISTRATIVE/CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER
AND CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS | |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Metro Minutes Presentation | |
| 2:15 PM | 2. | REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
(RSWMP) PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT RESULTS | O'Dell |
| 2:45 PM | 3. | RECYCLING EDUCATION CHALLENGES IN THE
REGION | Hoglund |
| 3:15 PM | 4. | BREAK | |
| 3:20 PM | 5. | METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION
IMPROVEMENT PLAN FINAL CUT LIST | Leybold |
| 3:50 PM | 6. | REVIEW FRAMEWORK FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE
HABITAT PROGRAM | Deffebach |
| 4:00 PM | 7. | REVIEW PROPOSED WORK PROGRAM FOR
NATURAL RESOURCE IMPLEMENTATION | Cotugno/Desmond |
| 4:20 PM | 8. | EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD PURSUANT TO
ORS 192.660 (1) (d) FOR THE PURPOSE OF
DELIBERATING WITH PERSONS DESIGNATED
TO CONDUCT LABOR NEGOTIATIONS. | Jordan |
| 4:35 PM | 9. | COUNCIL BRIEFINGS/COMMUNICATION | |

ADJOURN

REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN (RSWMP) PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT RESULTS

Metro Council Work Session
Tuesday, December 7, 2004
Metro Council Chamber

12/07/04

METRO COUNCIL

Work Session Worksheet

Presentation Date: 12/07/04 Time: 2:15 p.m. Length: 30 minutes

Presentation Title: "Let's Talk Trash": Public Input for the RSWMP Update

Department: Solid Waste & Recycling

Presenters: Jan O'Dell, Janet Matthews

ISSUE & BACKGROUND

The Regional Solid Waste Management Plan (RSWMP) is being updated to cover the years 2005-2015. RSWMP provides a framework for coordinating solid waste programs within the region, establishes direction for the solid waste system, identifies roles and responsibilities, and fulfills a state requirement that Metro have a waste reduction plan.

This fall, Metro staff developed the "Let's Talk Trash" discussion guide, which was the basis for a series of public meetings. At a variety of venues, citizens expressed their views about which direction the solid waste system should take in the future. Opportunities for comment also were provided through a survey tool on the Metro web site. Three key planning issues were explored: (1) how well garbage and recycling services meet the public's needs, (2) whether more effort and investment should be put toward reaching our recycling goal, and (3) to what degree sustainability principles should guide the solid waste system. (A fourth key issue, disposal system planning, is being discussed with Metro Council and industry stakeholders.)

The purpose of this work session item is to summarize the viewpoints and preferences expressed during the Let's Talk Trash public meetings and through the online questionnaire, and then to get Council direction on the areas of public comment that are most important to address in the draft Plan.

Highlights of the public comment received on key planning issues is attached to this work sheet. (A complete report will be distributed at the work session on December 7, 2004.)

OPTIONS AVAILABLE

N/A

IMPLICATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Staff will begin drafting a revised RSWMP that reflects input received from the Metro Council, the public and industry stakeholders. (Further discussions with Council and SWAC will precede completion of the draft.) The next round of RSWMP public involvement is expected to take place in early 2005, after the draft RSWMP has been approved for release to the public.

“Let’s Talk Trash” Highlights

The outreach effort in Phase Two brought in a wide array of participants. The first in several rounds of outreach attracted those with a special interest in Metro’s solid waste system, be it professional or personal. The meeting held with the Solid Waste Advisory Committee tapped into a group with expertise in the field of solid waste and recycling. The meetings with neighborhood and civic organizations reached out to individuals active in their neighborhoods, but without a particular interest in solid waste management. Finally, online questionnaires were filled out by interested parties, some without the benefit of a facilitated meeting, but background materials were available online. Despite the wide array of backgrounds in solid waste and recycling systems among participants, there was a high degree of agreement in their responses.

Participants generally show a high degree of satisfaction with solid waste and recycling systems. However, each group also expresses the point of view that recycling services could be improved. Specifically, participants would like to see recycling services expanded to make items such as all plastics, food and organic waste, electronics and households hazardous wastes eligible for curbside pickup. There also is a desire to see recycling made easier by using consistent standards across the region and providing households with larger recycling bins that are covered to protect recyclables from the elements. While all groups state a willingness to pay for these services, it is uncertain how much people are willing to pay.

Questionnaire respondents state their dissatisfaction with current levels of household and business recycling. Participants agree that incentives are preferred to regulations. Some groups encourage paying for recycling services by charging households and businesses that don’t recycle, while other groups are in favor of broadening the scope of the “bottle bill.” Despite this preference to use financial incentives, participants recognize that there is sometimes a need to use regulations to encourage recycling. Parties are generally in favor of requiring businesses to recycle. Other suggested strategies to increase recycling include increasing education in schools and making a larger investment in publicity and informational materials. In particular, resource conservation should be an emphasis of future efforts.

Many participants are unfamiliar with the meaning of terms such as “green,” “sustainable,” and “zero waste.” Those who are aware of these concepts are not satisfied with current household and business sustainability practices, and support making the solid waste system green and adopting zero waste strategies as long-term goals. However, it is unclear how much people would be willing to pay for sustainability-related services. Participants generally feel that manufacturers should be encouraged to reduce packaging and held responsible for the end-life of their products. They also believe that governmental agencies and schools should lead by example when it comes to sustainable practices.

Overall, participants are generally satisfied with solid waste and recycling services, but see room for improvement. Investing in education, recycling services and encouraging corporate responsibility will move the region towards goals of increasing recycling rates, greening the solid waste system and zero waste.

The survey results from the online “Let’s Talk Trash” questionnaire represent, in large part, the opinions and preferences expressed by participants throughout the Phase Two public outreach activities. The following survey provides a snapshot of those results. More detail will be provided at the Council Work Session.

Agenda Item Number 3.0

***RECYCLING EDUCATION CHALLENGES IN THE
REGION***

Metro Council Work Session
Tuesday, December 7, 2004
Metro Council Chamber

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN FINAL CUT LIST

Metro Council Work Session
Tuesday, December 7, 2004
Metro Council Chamber

METRO COUNCIL

Work Session Worksheet

Presentation Date: 12-7-04

Time:

Length: 20 min

Presentation Title: Developing Policy Options for Developing MTIP 100% List.

Department: Planning

Presenters: Ted Leybold, Andy Cotugno

ISSUE & BACKGROUND

The Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) represents a small share of the transportation resources available to the region. Given the scarcity and relative flexibility of these funds, the MTIP policy direction over the past several years has been to focus on projects that are difficult or impossible to fund with other funds. Oregon's state gas tax, in particular, is constitutionally limited to certain roadway improvements, which leaves other transportation needs unmet. The MTIP has been used in many instances to complement this limitation in state funding flexibility. Because the MTIP represents a small source of regional revenue, the program has also placed a strong emphasis on leveraging funds from other sources.

OPTIONS AVAILABLE

The following are policy guidance options that build on these themes, and other major policy initiatives underway in the region that might be used to shape the final 2006-09 Transportation Priorities project selection:

1. Staff should not attempt to base recommendation on funding between modal categories on policy direction – look for natural breaks in technical scores and merit and let JPACT and the Metro Council adjust project recommendations between modal categories to address policy emphasis.
2. Emphasize transit, freight, bicycle, pedestrian, boulevard, travel options (RTO) and transit-oriented development (TOD) investments that strongly support regional planning goals, but that might not otherwise be funded with other regional revenue sources. In addition, fund road capacity, road reconstruction or bridge projects meeting the following regional policy objectives:
 - economic development
 - leverage of development in Tier I or II mixed-use and industrial areas,
 - the potential to leverage large sources of discretionary funding from other sources
 - the project provides new bike, pedestrian, transit or green street elements that would not otherwise be constructed without regional flexible funding
3. Include projects in the road capacity, road reconstruction and bridge modal categories that provide project development in preparation for competitive state or federal funding or a potential regional ballot measure.

4. Emphasize projects that incorporate green street designs and/or wildlife habitat benefits, due to the difficulty of protecting fish and wildlife habitat through regulatory programs.

IMPLICATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

According to the current project schedule, staff will forward a recommendation for a 100% list to TPAC in late January. The purpose of this work session item is to begin a discussion of Council and JPACT direction to help staff narrow the MTIP project list to the 100% level in a manner that best advances regional policies and priorities. JPACT is scheduled to discuss this issue at their December 16, 2004 meeting, and both JPACT and the Council will be asked to provide final policy direction to staff in early January 2005.

QUESTION(S) PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION

Metro continues to fund several ongoing and one-time programs through the MTIP. Staff requests that the Council direction consider priorities among these Metro-sponsored candidates, as well as a broader policy direction for all projects submitted for MTIP funding. This direction should be an extension of the solicitation criteria developed by the Council in early 2004, and provided as a baseline for the technical review of MTIP applications.

LEGISLATION WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR COUNCIL ACTION __ Yes No
DRAFT IS ATTACHED __ Yes No

SCHEDULE FOR WORK SESSION

Department Director/Head Approval _____
Chief Operating Officer Approval _____

Agenda Item Number 6.0

REVIEW FRAMEWORK FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT PROGRAM

Metro Council Work Session
Tuesday, December 7, 2004
Metro Council Chamber

METRO COUNCIL

Work Session Worksheet

Presentation Date: December 7, 2004

Time:

Length: 10 min

Presentation Title: Draft Regional Fish and Wildlife Habitat Protection and Restoration Program Framework

Presenters: Deffebach

ISSUE & BACKGROUND

Metro Council directed staff to develop a program for implementing the fish and wildlife habitat protection and restoration in May 2004, with the adoption of the Resolution on the ESEE (Economic, Social, Environmental and Energy) phase of the program. The attached flow chart illustrates a draft framework that responds to the needs to clarify the vision for the program, clarify goals, policy targets, tools and an ongoing monitoring program. An important part of the framework are the targets that set the overall regional expectations for protection and restoration. Staff anticipates returning to Council in January for additional discussion of the targets. Another important part of the program is the tools that are available for use in protecting and restoring habitat. The attached table illustrates the range of tools that staff has been considering and their relevance in use to avoid, minimize and mitigate impacts to habitat areas. Staff has been developing recommendations for use of tools with the help of the Implementation Work Group. Staff will bring these draft recommendations to Council for discussion when the working group completes their review, anticipated for January, 2005.

The purpose of this presentation is to update the Council on the progress in developing the program and to illustrate the flexibility in adjusting the program to respond to Council direction.

OPTIONS AVAILABLE

At the Informal, Councilors have an opportunity to request changes in the draft program framework and to ask questions that will increase understanding when staff bring additional material on the objectives, targets and tools forward.

IMPLICATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Staff will have the opportunity to bring issues raised by Councilors now back to the Working Group for consideration.

QUESTION(S) PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION

Councilors may have questions about the draft program framework and how it relates to the previous direction they have given.

LEGISLATION WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR COUNCIL ACTION Yes X
No

DRAFT IS ATTACHED ___ Yes **X** No

Department Director/Head Approval _____

Chief Operating Officer Approval _____

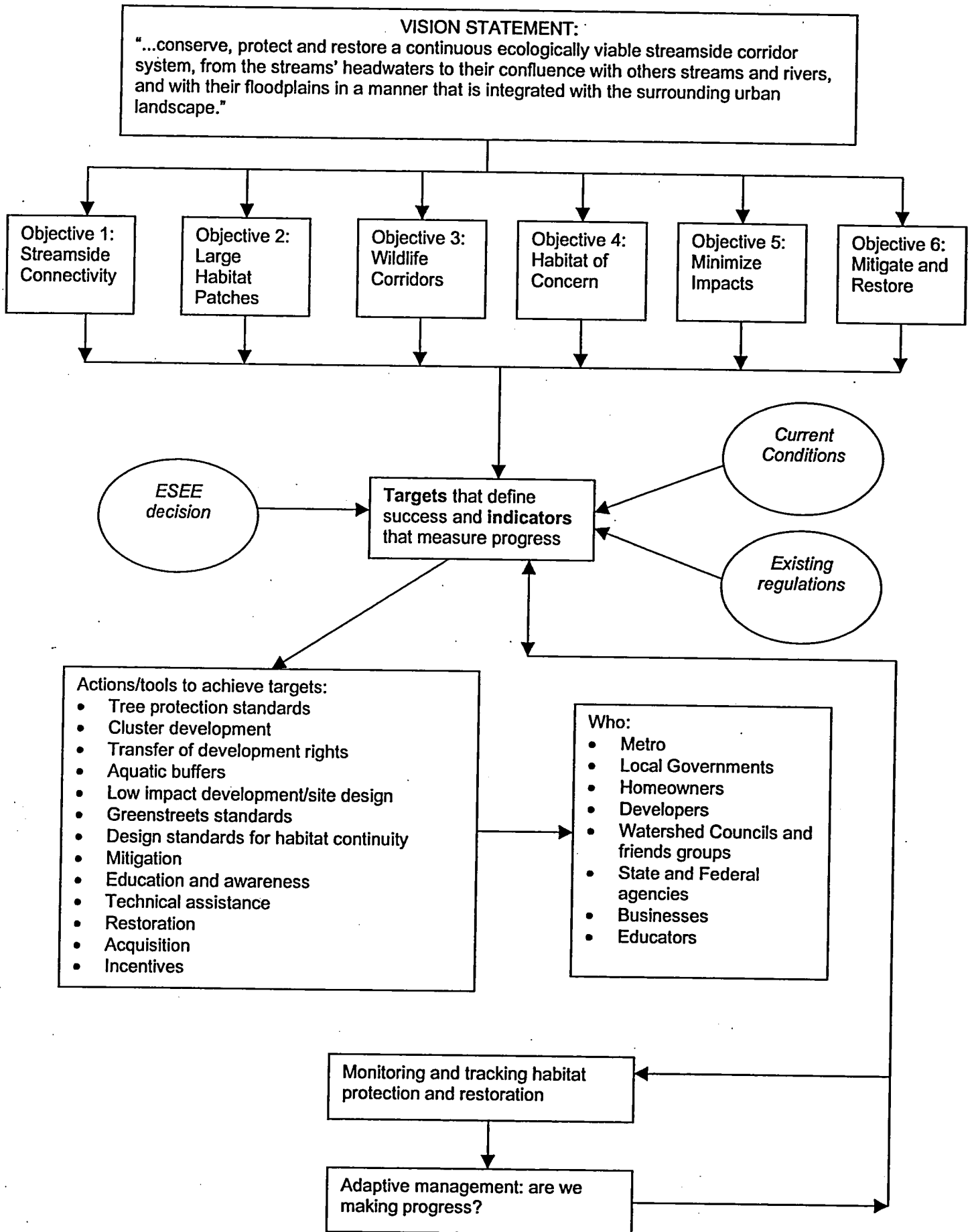
Fish and Wildlife Habitat Protection Tools

Tool Categories (See attached document for summary descriptions)		Program Goals					ESEE Decision*		
		Avoid			Minimize	Mitigate			
		Goal 1: Streamside Connectivity	Goal 2: Large habitat patches	Goal 3: Wildlife Corridors	Goal 4: Habitat of Concern	Goal 5: Minimize Impacts			Goal 6: Mitigate & Restore
AVOID	1) Acquisition	●	●	●	●	○	○	SL	↯
								ML	✓
								LL	
	2) Tree protection standards	●	●	●	●	●	●	SL	↯
								ML	✓
							LL		
	3) Cluster development	●	●	●	●	●	○	SL	↯
								ML	↯
								LL	
	4) Transfer of development rights (TDRs)	●	●	●	●	●	○	SL	↯
								ML	
								LL	
	5) Riparian setbacks	●	○	○	●	○	○	SL	↯
								ML	✓
								LL	
MINIMIZE	6) Flexible site design	○	○	○	○	●	○	SL	↯
								ML	↯
								LL	↯
	7) Impervious surface reduction	○	○	○	○	●	○	SL	↯
								ML	↯
								LL	↯
	8) On-site stormwater management and erosion control	○	○	○	○	●	○	SL	↯
								ML	↯
								LL	↯
	9) Greenstreets standards	○	○	○	○	●	○	SL	✓
								ML	✓
								LL	✓

Tool Categories (See attached document for summary descriptions)		Program Goals					ESEE Decision*		
		Avoid			Minimize	Mitigate			
		Goal 1: Streamside Connectivity	Goal 2: Large habitat patches	Goal 3: Wildlife Corridors	Goal 4: Habitat of Concern	Goal 5: Minimize Impacts			Goal 6: Mitigate & Restore
MINIMIZE (cont.)	10) Education and awareness	○	○	○	○	○	○	SL	√
								ML	√
								LL	√
	11) Technical assistance	○	○	○	○	●	○	SL	√
								ML	√
								LL	√
	12) Incentives	○	○	○	○	○	○	SL	√
								ML	√
								LL	√
MITIGATE	13) Mitigation	○	○	○	○	●	●	SL	√
								ML	√
								LL	
	14) Restoration	●	●	●	●	○	●	SL	√
								ML	√
								LL	√
	15) Ongoing monitoring	○	○	○	○	○	○	SL	√
								ML	√
								LL	√

● = directly supports achieving goal; ○ = indirectly supports achieving goal; √ = area most applicable

The Regional Fish and Wildlife Habitat Protection and Restoration Program:



Agenda Item Number 7.0

REVIEW PROPOSED WORK PROGRAM FOR NATURAL RESOURCE IMPLEMENTATION

Metro Council Work Session
Tuesday, December 7, 2004
Metro Council Chamber

METRO COUNCIL

Work Session Worksheet

Presentation Date: December 7, 2004

Time:

Length: 20 min

Presentation Title: Interdepartmental Natural Resource Implementation Program

Presenters: Cotugno, Desmond, Hogland

ISSUE & BACKGROUND

Anticipating the adoption of a Fish and Wildlife Habitat Protection and Restoration Program in Spring 2005, staff from five departments, have been meeting to consider future needs for implementing the habitat program and how existing resources can be used to meet those needs. As part of these meetings, guest speakers representing non-profit groups, agencies and districts involved in habitat acquisition and restoration have attended. Using this information and information brought forward by staff about existing Metro programs, staff have identified a list of priorities for implementing a natural resource program that crosses departmental boundaries. Some of this has been included in budget presentations to Council at Work Sessions. This is a chance to look at the program areas together, not by department.

OPTIONS AVAILABLE

Options include suggesting changes in priority, emphasis or new elements.

IMPLICATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

This is a preview of issues and opportunities associated with budgeting for natural resource implementation activities. Council will have additional opportunities to review and comment on the budget.

QUESTION(S) PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION

Councilors may have questions about the nature of the possible work activities, Metro role or commitment levels.

LEGISLATION WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR COUNCIL ACTION Yes X

No

DRAFT IS ATTACHED Yes X No

Department Director/Head Approval _____

Chief Operating Officer Approval _____

A G E N D A

600 NORTHEAST GRAND AVENUE | PORTLAND, OREGON 97232 2736
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METRO

Agenda

MEETING: METRO COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
 DATE: December 9, 2004
 DAY: Thursday
 TIME: 2:00 PM
 PLACE: Metro Council Chamber

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

1. INTRODUCTIONS

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

**3. GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION (GFOA)
 ACCOUNTING AWARD**

Stringer

4. CONSENT AGENDA

4.1 Consideration of Minutes for the December 2, 2004 Metro Council Regular Meeting.

5. ORDINANCES - SECOND READING

5.1 **Ordinance No. 04-1064**, For the Purpose of Amending the FY 2004-05 Budget and Appropriations Schedule Recognizing the Transfer of \$504,000 From Metro's General Fund Tourism Opportunity and Competitiveness Account to MERC Pooled Capital Fund, Capital Outlay and Transferring \$150,000 From MERC Pooled Capital Fund Contingency to MERC Pooled Capital Fund, Capital Outlay; and Declaring an Emergency.

Park

5.2 **Ordinance No. 04-1065**, For the Purpose of Amending Chapter 2.04 of the Metro Code Relating to Public Contracting.

Monroe

5.3 **Ordinance No. 04-1066**, For the Purpose of Amending the FY 2004-05 Budget and Appropriations Schedule Transferring \$62,280 from the General Fund Contingency to the Zoo Operating Fund Materials and Services for Completion of Capital Maintenance Projects; and Declaring an Emergency.

Monroe

5.4 **Ordinance No. 04-1067**, For the purpose of Amending the FY 2004-05 Budget And Appropriations Schedule for the purpose of transferring \$92,902 From Contingency to Personal Services in the Planning Fund to Add 1.0 FTE

Burkholder

Regional Planning Director (Program Director II); and Declaring an Emergency.

5.5 **Ordinance No. 04-1068**, For the Purpose of Amending the FY 2004-05 Budget and Appropriations Schedule, Recognizing \$200,000 in Grant Funds and Increasing Capital Outlay in the Zoo Operating Fund, Amending the FY 2004-05 Through FY 2008-09 Capital Improvement Plan for Completion of Storm Water Handling Projects; and Declaring an Emergency. Monroe

6. **RESOLUTIONS**

6.1 **Resolution No. 04-3512**, For the Purpose of Providing Direction to Metro Concerning Bills Before the 2005 Oregon Legislature. Hosticka

6.2 **Resolution No. 04-3514**, For the Purpose of Authorizing the Chief Operating Officer to Issue a Non-System License to AGG Enterprises, Inc. for Delivery Of Source Separated Pre-Consumer Food Waste to the Nature's Needs Facility for Composting. Monroe

6.3 **Resolution No. 04-3518**, For the Purpose of Directing Staff to Facilitate The Completion of Concept Planning For Area 93 by Resolving Outstanding Issues of Governance, Provision of Services and Cooperation Between Affected Parties. Monroe

6.4 **Resolution No. 04-3519**, For the Purpose of Amending an Easement Granted To Miramount Pointe for Non-Park Use through Property Owned by Metro And the North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District on Mt. Talbert. Newman

6.5 **Resolution No. 04-3506**, For the Purpose of Directing the Chief Operating Officer to Develop a Fish and Wildlife Habitat Program that Relies on a Non-regulatory effort to improve habitat prior to any implementation of new regional, performance-based regulations. Park

7. **CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COMMUNICATION**

8. **COUNCILOR COMMUNICATION**

ADJOURN

FAR WEST FIBERS, INC.

HILLSBORO FACILITY



6440 S.E. Alexander Street
P.O. Box 1139
Hillsboro, OR 97123
Phone 503-643-9944
Fax 503-646-2975
www.farwestfibers.com

June 21, 2004

To Our Valued Suppliers:

We need your help. The NW paper mills have notified Far West Fibers, Hillsboro and NE Portland facilities that the contamination levels of the sorted curbside newspaper supplied by Far West facilities has reached a point that the paper will no longer be acceptable by the mills unless the mills see an immediate and substantial improvement in the quality.

There are limited markets for contaminated newspaper, and these markets pay substantially lower prices. Most of these markets are overseas and they are very particular about what they purchase from the U.S. For example, the government of China recently announced the establishment of strict specifications for recyclables, including paper purchased from foreign markets that will not allow for the mixing of containers and other contaminants within the paper. Rejected loads will be sent back to the supplier. Suppliers that fail to meet the standards three times in a twelve-month period will not be allowed to ship material into China for at least a year. It is anticipated that other foreign markets may follow China's example.

The facility operators at Far West have identified three changes to the curbside mix, which have occurred during the past four years. These changes have led to new challenges in sorting the mix to mill specification.

1. The amount of acceptable plastic bottles collected at the curb has more than doubled during this time.
2. "Incidental" levels of glass within the mix have increased considerably. We estimate that fifteen to twenty percent of the curbside glass has migrated into the paper, plastic, and metal mix.
3. The volume of unacceptable materials, in particular plastic bags, and other various forms of unacceptable plastics, has increased dramatically as well. These materials come in all sizes, but are generally small, light, and hard to remove from the stream.

A significant amount of the labor on our sort line is now spent removing the materials that are not listed as a part of the mix. The shift of labor from sorting the planned mix of materials to removing contaminants has reduced our ability to sort the desired mix and produce a high quality newspaper for recycling. This issue is not unique to Far West Fibers.

What is Far West Fibers doing to improve the quality of newspaper sent to the mills?

1. Far West management has added additional sorters to pull containers and contaminants from the paper.
2. Far West facility operators are adjusting equipment and labor to better handle the changes in the mix.
3. Far West management and operators are in the process of working with sort-equipment manufacturers to identify additional equipment that can help remove containers and contaminants from the paper.
4. Far West is working with ORRA; individual ORRA members; other processors; end markets; and local, regional and state regulators to develop and finance an on-going campaign to re-educate residents and businesses regarding what is and what is not acceptable at the curb and the proper way to prepare these materials.
5. Far West understands that often times your drivers may not be aware of contaminants that are in the mix they deliver to our facilities. We will work more closely with you, our supplier, to identify problem loads and will give you immediate feedback.

What can you do to help?

Honest and timely communication between all parties is essential. The collection program starts at the curb. Far West would like to work together with you, the collector, to re-educate the public on what recyclables are acceptable at the curb, and how to prepare these materials. Please have your drivers continue to notify individual customers if their curbside recycling contains unacceptable materials or is otherwise not properly prepared.

Far West will provide you with immediate feedback when there are noticeable amounts of unacceptable materials. Far West will continue to work with end markets to improve the quality of the material generated by Far West facilities.

The state of Oregon has one of the most successful curbside recycling programs in the country. Continued efforts and cooperation between curbside customers, government, haulers, processors, and end-markets is what has made our community's program so successful.

Thank you for your continued cooperation, support and partnership.

Sincerely Yours,

Jeff Murray
V.P. Business Development
Far West Fibers, Inc.

Portland Curbsider

City of Portland OFFICE OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

AUGUST 2004

SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING
Dan Saltzman, Commissioner

Build it Green! Home Tour

Twenty homes will demonstrate the latest environmentally-friendly building techniques to save water, energy, resources and money.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Self-guided tour hours are 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. Environmental Building Supplies (819 SE Taylor Street) will host an information fair from 5 pm to 8 pm. Local goods and service providers will be featured with vendor booths, music and free food and drink.

Register online and preview this year's tour homes at www.green-rated.org. You can also purchase tickets in person at Environmental Building Supplies with cash, check or credit card up until the day of the tour. Tickets are \$15 each for adults or purchase a \$10 car-free ticket that comes with a Tri-Met bus pass.

For more information about the tour and fair, call 503-823-7725.

This third annual tour is presented by Office of Sustainable Development, Metro and the Solar Energy Association of Oregon.

New Rates Effective August 1, 2004

Rate Review

Each year the Office of Sustainable Development reviews the average weights of garbage in each container size, the disposal costs, hauler operational costs, and the market value of recyclables. The bill you receive from your garbage hauler is based on the actual cost of providing garbage, recycling and yard debris collection. This is why your garbage bill can change each year, going either up or down — or staying the same as it has for the two previous years.

This year's review shows increases in the costs of collection at the curbside and in the disposal costs of your garbage and yard debris. One reason for the higher cost is the fee increase by Metro at the transfer stations where your garbage is taken prior to being trucked to the landfill. Another reason is the higher cost of fuel used by the trucks picking up material at the curbside.

The review also showed a decrease in hauler costs. This decrease is the result of driver efficiency and the proper preparation of recycling and yard debris by customers. In addition, the forecast for recycling revenues has increased. The revenue received from the sale of the recyclables collected at the curbside is applied against hauler costs.

Results

The new rates for most levels of services have gone down slightly. Rates for the larger containers went up slightly. For those customers who receive a terrain charge on their bill, there is a small increase in that charge due to the higher costs of servicing those areas.

If you have questions about your rate, your service level, or would like a rate card, please call your hauler's office.

To view the rates for all levels of service, visit our website at www.sustainableportland.org



Yard Debris Extras Increase 25¢

On your yard debris day, you can put out one yard debris can, bag, or bundle at no additional cost.

Because of the higher collection and disposal costs for yard debris, effective August 1, each additional can, or bag or bundle will be charged at \$1.75 (up from \$1.50).

Online Help – 24 hours a day

Quickly find answers to your garbage, yard debris and recycling questions by logging onto www.sustainableportland.org and clicking on the Solid Waste & Recycling tab.

You'll find information on how to prepare your recycling, holiday pickup schedules, where to take household hazardous waste, weight limits for garbage and yard debris, what to do with bulky waste, rates, who your hauler is, and much more.

Couldn't find what you were looking for? Email wasteinfo@ci.portland.or.us or call the Curbside Hotline at 503-823-7202.



At the Curb Reminders...

Out by 6 AM

The trucks your hauler uses to pick up your garbage, recycling, and yard debris will arrive at your house anytime between 6 am and 5 pm. It's important to place your materials at the curb by

6 am. While your hauler may arrive at a certain time each day, schedules can be affected by road construction, accidents, and weather.

If you set out your materials later than 6 am and they don't get picked up, call your hauler's office by the following day to ask about your pickup options. If your collection day is on Friday, you must notify them by the following Monday morning.



Stay the Distance

Place your can/rollcart, recycling bins, and yard debris cans, bags and bundles within three feet of the curb or roadway. It's easy for haulers to miss materials if containers are not properly placed or can't be seen by the driver.

Within 24 hours of collection, remove emptied containers from the curb. Leaving containers out can create a hazard when they block the sidewalk, blow into the street, or are knocked over by animals or kids.

Face the Street

When your yard debris can is at the curb, the yellow yard debris sticker must face the street. This lets the driver know that the can contains yard debris and not garbage.

If you need stickers, call your hauler's office or the Curbside Hotline at 503-823-7202.



Don't Hide It

When placing your paper bag of glass bottles and jars in the yellow bin, be sure it is visible to the driver picking up the materials. Placing the paper bag on top of the other materials will keep the bag of glass from being covered up or buried at the bottom of the bin. Do not place the glass loose in the bin.

Plastics – Check the Neck

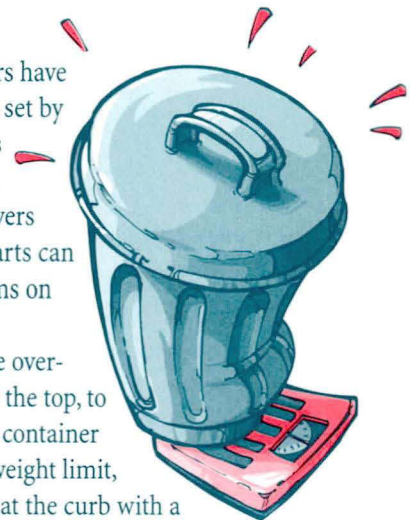
Remember, the only plastic containers recyclable at the curb are those with a neck or screw-on top. If it doesn't have a neck — do not put it in the bin. Call Metro Recycling Information at 503-234-3000 to find out where to take other types of plastic items.

Watch the Weight

Garbage and yard debris containers have maximum allowable weight limits set by the City. Haulers pick up hundreds of cans each day and these weight limits are necessary to protect drivers against injuries. Overweight roll carts can also damage the lifting mechanisms on the trucks.

Containers do not have to be overflowing, or even filled to the top, to be overweight. If your container is over the allowable weight limit, your hauler will leave it at the curb with a notice.

If this happens, you will have to repack the extra material into containers or bags that meet the allowable weight limits. Call your hauler's office as soon as possible about your pickup options.



Make a Difference – Choose Cleaner Electricity

There's an easy way to do your part for the environment. By choosing a renewable energy option from either Portland General Electric (PGE) or Pacific Power you can reduce carbon dioxide emissions (a greenhouse gas) while encouraging the development of new renewable resources in the Northwest.

One person's actions can positively impact the environment. PGE and Pacific Power offer their customers three ways to buy renewable energy.

If you are a PGE or Pacific Power customer, please call or visit their Web sites today for more information or to enroll.

PGE – 503-228-6322

www.PortlandGeneral.com/PowerOptions

Pacific Power – 1-800-221-7070

www.pacificpower.net/bluesky

Won't Fit in Your Can?

Your garbage hauler can provide you with containers for that “big” cleanup project. Following are cleanup container sizes, costs, and the maximum weight limit for each:

1 cubic yard	\$64.80	maximum weight 300 lbs
1.5 cubic yard	\$72.15	maximum weight 450 lbs
2 cubic yard	\$79.50	maximum weight 600 lbs

Containers that are 3 cubic yards and bigger can be provided by your garbage company, a drop box company or any commercial hauler.

The City does not set rates on those larger dumpsters or drop boxes; therefore, prices will vary. Check the yellow pages under “Garbage & Rubbish Collection” to locate companies supplying these larger containers.

There are restrictions about the materials that can be placed in these containers, and each container size has specific weight limits. Be sure to get all information and price quotes before delivery!

Help Stop Contamination

If you mix non-recyclable items with recyclables, it can spoil the rest of the recyclables and they could all end up in the landfill.

Most common non-recyclables at the curbside being mixed in with acceptable items are plastic bags, plastic tubs (yogurt, margarine, etc.) and Styrofoam®. Call 503-234-3000 to find out where you can take them for recycling.

Another problem is dirty recyclables. Rinse all containers to remove food particles and liquids. Also, poorly rinsed cans, bottles, and milk jugs can smell really awful and attract pests — especially bees.

With just a little extra attention we can make recycling work for everyone!

Summer time... Any time

The Smells

Securely bagging your garbage before placing it in your container keeps the container cleaner and reduces bad odors. It also prevents wet or messy garbage from spilling onto the street when the container is being tipped into the truck. Animal waste must always be tightly sealed in a separate bag before placing in the garbage can. During the hot months, you may want to double bag it!

Loose and dusty materials — such as ashes, kitty litter, sawdust, and foam packing peanuts — must always be placed in a separate tightly sealed bag before placing them in your garbage can. Besides helping to avoid a litter problem, it improves driver safety by preventing materials from blowing into the drivers' eyes.

The Breezes

Be sure garbage and yard debris can lids are on tight so contents don't blow into the street or yards. Do not place scrap paper loose in the bin — confine it in a paper bag and secure the top of the bag so material doesn't blow out and litter the neighborhood.



Who to Call

Your Garbage Hauler

- ▶ Changes to, or problems with, rates, billing or service
- ▶ How to prepare your garbage, recycling, and yard debris
- ▶ Special services — tires, bulky items, special pickups
- ▶ Cleanup containers
- ▶ Yard debris calendars, stickers, and rollcart subscriptions
- ▶ Garbage, recycling, or yard debris that didn't get picked up
- ▶ Overweight containers
- ▶ Missing or stolen recycling bins

Phone: _____

(Fill in your garbage hauler's number here; if you don't know the number, you can find it on your bill or call the City of Portland)

City of Portland

- ▶ Assistance in resolving service and/or billing problems with your hauler
- ▶ Get your hauler's name and phone number
- ▶ Receive recycling and yard debris curbside preparation sheets
- ▶ Comment on the curbside program

Curbside Hotline: 503-823-7202

Email:

wasteinfo@ci.portland.or.us

Web:

www.sustainableportland.org

Metro Recycling Information

- ▶ Reuse, waste reduction and recycling of non-curbside items
- ▶ Transfer station locations, rates and hours
- ▶ Home composting, organic gardening and grasscycling
- ▶ Household hazardous chemical use and disposal

Metro Recycling Information:
503-234-3000

Email: mri@metro-region.org

Web: www.metro-region.org

Need a Lot or Just a Little?

MetroPaint now has 15 colors of recycled latex paint available in both one-gallon cans and five gallon pails. Not only is this good for waste reduction, it also makes it easier if you want to experiment with mixing the standard colors together to get custom blends.

Suitable for both interior and exterior applications, MetroPaint prices range from \$3 to \$12 per gallon can, depending on color.

Save money and help the environment by using this high-quality, low-cost recycled paint, and buying just the amount you need.



Call Metro Recycling Information at 503-234-3000 between 8:30 am and 5 pm (Monday through Saturday) for available colors in stock, directions to the paint facility, prices, or for a free color brochure.

Or, visit **MetroPaint's website www.metro-region.org/paint** which includes color samples and the results of health and performance testing.

Portland Curbsider

City of Portland OFFICE OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING
721 NW 9th Avenue, Suite 350
Portland, Oregon 97209

Printed on recycled paper. 

**Rate Changes
Effective August 1**

City of Portland
garbage, recycling,
and yard debris
rates change.

Details Inside

Holiday Schedule



Christmas Day and New Year's Day (when they fall on a weekday) are the only two holidays during the entire year that your collection schedule changes. All other holidays are regular workdays for your hauler.

Since Christmas Day and New Year's Day fall on a Saturday this year, there will be NO holiday schedule changes for the collection of your garbage, recycling or yard debris.

Recycling Guide
Your Curbside

PORTLAND RECYCLES!



Curbside recycling is easy! It begins with a simple idea:

Two Bags. Two Bins.



♻️ Printed on 100% post-consumer recycled-content paper, process chlorine free

QUESTIONS?

Call your garbage hauler or the City of Portland Solid Waste & Recycling at 503-823-7202 or visit www.sustainableportland.org.

6AM

Place your garbage, yard debris and recyclables at the curb by 6AM.

Maximum weight for cans is 55 lbs. and 45 lbs. for bags or bundles. For safety reasons drivers will not pick up containers that are over the weight limits. Please make sure that debris can fall freely from the can.



One 32-gallon can, one kraft paper yard debris bag or one bundle is included in your regular garbage service. Additional cans, bags or bundles are \$1.75 each.

Yard debris is picked up every other week year round. Label cans with a yard debris sticker. Need a yard debris sticker or collection schedule? Call your hauler.

YARD DEBRIS

Not Accepted in Yard Debris
Animal waste, plastic bags, stumps, branches more than 4" thick or 36" long, metal, plastic flower pots, rocks, dirt, ashes, household garbage.



Separate your recycling into the two yellow bins – metal, plastic and glass in one and paper products in the other.

CONTAINERS & METAL



Put glass in its own paper bag.



Only plastic containers with a neck.



Empty aerosol cans.



Remove lids. Rinse containers.

Not Accepted

Plastic bags, light bulbs, flower vases, drinking glasses, window glass, plastic tubs or yogurt containers, petroleum, pesticide or herbicide containers.

PAPER PRODUCTS



Junk mail, paper, egg cartons, cereal, cracker & shoe boxes, coupons, wrapping paper, greeting cards, drink boxes.



Flatten cardboard, place smaller pieces inside bin, larger pieces (up to 36") under bin.

Not Accepted

Paper towels, food-contaminated material, pet food bags, pizza boxes, wax-coated paper or boxes, foil wrapping paper.

Motor Oil

Pour into clean one-gallon clear plastic container with a screw-on lid. Do not mix with other fluids. Place next to bins.



Need recycling bins? Call your hauler.

TWO BAGS. TWO BINS. TOO EASY.

Regional Solid Waste Management Plan Update

Summary Report of Public Outreach

Phase Two



December, 2004

Prepared by Cogan Owens Cogan, LLC

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Executive Summary

Overview

Metro's Phase Two public involvement activities in support of the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan update (RSWMP) took place between August and December 2004. During this phase, Metro hosted and facilitated "Let's Talk Trash" discussions with the public, made several presentations at an area high school, and gathered input from its Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC). The purpose of the outreach was to collect opinions, preferences and ideas related to three key issue areas:

1. Do garbage and recycling services meet your needs?
2. How much can we recycle?
3. How can sustainability principles guide solid waste practices?

Outreach materials included a discussion guide providing background information on the issues; approaches and tradeoffs with a question posed for discussion; and a questionnaire. Both tools were available on Metro's web site.

Overall, 88 people attended Metro's hosted or facilitated discussions and 151 people submitted comments using the on-line or printed questionnaire. During this period, Metro also recorded more than 1,300 "visits" to Metro's "Let's Talk Trash" web pages.

Conclusions

Metro's Phase Two outreach efforts attracted a wide array of participants. The discussion with SWAC tapped into a group with expertise in the field of solid waste, and recycling and sustainability; neighborhood and civic organizations drew individuals active in their neighborhoods and communities who may or may not have any particular interest in solid waste management; respondents to the online questionnaire were anonymous, but were tracked by postal zip code to assess geographic representation. Despite their interest in or knowledge of the issues, there was a high level of agreement reflected in participants' responses.

The current garbage and recycling system is adequate, but recycling rates and services should be improved.

Participants generally express a high degree of satisfaction with solid waste and recycling systems. However, each group also expresses the point of view that recycling services could be improved. Specifically, participants would like to see recycling services expanded to make more items -- such as all plastics, food and organic waste, electronics and households hazardous wastes -- eligible for curbside pickup. There also is a desire to see recycling made easier by using consistent standards (e.g., acceptable materials and preparation instructions) across the region and providing households with larger recycling bins that are covered to protect

recyclables from the elements. While all groups state a willingness to pay for these services, it is uncertain how much people are willing to pay.

Residents and businesses can do more to recycle; more education and incentives should be emphasized over regulation.

Questionnaire respondents express only moderate satisfaction with current levels of household and business recycling. Participants prefer incentives to regulations. Some would encourage covering the costs of additional recycling services by charging households and businesses that don't recycle, while other groups are in favor of broadening the scope of the "bottle bill" to include more types of beverage containers. Despite a preference for financial incentives, participants recognize that there is sometimes a need to use regulations to encourage recycling. Parties are generally in favor of requiring businesses to recycle. Other suggested strategies to increase recycling include increasing education in schools and making a larger investment in publicity and informational materials. In particular, resource conservation should be an emphasis of future efforts.

Home and business sustainability practices should be improved, and government agencies should lead by example.

Many participants are unfamiliar with the meaning of terms such as "green," "sustainable," and "zero waste." Those who are aware of these concepts are not satisfied with current household and business sustainability practices, and support "greening" the solid waste system and adopting zero waste strategies as long-term goals. The majority of questionnaire respondents feel the region should adopt zero-waste strategies, but it is unclear how much people would be willing to pay for sustainability-related services. Participants generally feel that manufacturers should be encouraged to reduce product packaging and be held responsible for the end-of-life of their products. They also believe that governmental agencies and schools should lead by example when it comes to sustainable practices.

Bottom line: The current system is generally good, but improvements in services and recycling are desired, with resource conservation as the guiding principal.

Overall, participants are generally satisfied with solid waste and recycling services, but see room for improvement. Investing in education, expanding recycling services and encouraging corporate responsibility will move the region toward the desired goal of conserving resources through increasing recycling rates, "greening" the solid waste system and zero waste.

Introduction

Phase Two of public involvement activities for the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan (RSWMP) update took place between August and December of 2004. Stakeholder and public input play a large role in shaping the issues and content included in updating Metro's Regional Solid Waste Management Plan for 2005 – 2015. Specific public involvement activities to-date include:

- Phase One – Focus group-style meetings were used to identify and narrow a list of regional issues. The results were reported to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) and Metro Council.
- Phase Two – Metro hosted public and SWAC meetings to collect input on identified issues, approaches and trade-offs identified in Phase One. Outreach materials included a discussion guide and questionnaire. The questionnaire was also available on Metro's web site. Additional public meetings were hosted by neighborhood and civic organizations, and a discussion with high school students also took place.

Subsequent phases of the public involvement process will include stakeholder comments on the draft plan and public hearings with Metro Council on the final draft plan.

Cogan Owens Cogan, LLC (COC) was hired by Metro to advise on incorporating public interests into all phases of the process, facilitate meetings, and provide summaries. The purpose of Phase Two of the RSWMP update is to educate members of the public about some of the key planning issues being considered in the update; evaluate discrete choices that could be made to address these issues; and express preferences for certain approaches.

It should be noted that this report makes no attempt to correct or edit any comments for accuracy. The comments recorded here reflect the participants' opinions and knowledge about the solid waste issues presented in the outreach program.

Public Outreach Efforts

Public outreach efforts began in Phase Two with Metro hosting three two-hour "Let's Talk Trash" discussions intended for the general public: Sept. 23 in Portland, Sept. 28 in Oregon City and Oct. 2 in Hillsboro. The meetings were held at various times and locations in order to reach a wide audience. A fourth meeting was held with the Metro Solid Waste Advisory Committee.

In preparation for the public meetings, a discussion guide was developed to help participants understand key solid waste planning issues, examine various approaches and discuss the implications and tradeoffs. It was intended for use at the facilitated public meetings, but could be used as a stand-alone information piece if necessary. A complete discussion guide is included in Appendix A.

Volunteers from Metro staff were recruited to serve as table discussion leaders and note-takers. A "Discussion Leaders' Guide" was developed to aid them in facilitating their table discussions. A complete copy of the discussion leaders' guide can be found in Appendix B. A one-hour training was held to familiarize discussion leaders and note-takers with the discussion leaders' guide. Tips for both discussion leaders and note-takers were distributed at the training. Additional 15 minute trainings were held before each public meeting.

Public participation opportunities were announced and sent by e-mail to approximately 7,000 individuals representing neighborhood associations, environmental advocacy groups, interested parties lists and local government list serves. Notices were distributed at Metro transfer stations and hazardous waste facilities. News releases were sent to reporters and calendar editors at *The Oregonian* and community newspapers; print advertisements were purchased with these same media outlets.

Thirty-eight people attended the three public meetings. At the meetings, group facilitators led participants through an agenda organized by four key questions:

1. Do garbage and recycling services meet your needs?
2. How much can we recycle?
3. How can sustainability principles guide solid waste practices?
4. What is the bottom line?

A similar format was used to obtain feedback at the September 27, 2004 SWAC meeting.

Following each of the public meetings, participants were asked to fill out a questionnaire. The questionnaire asked questions similar to those posed in group discussions, but provided an opportunity for individuals to express their opinions in greater detail. The questionnaire was also offered to the general public online at Metro's web site (www.metro-region.org), and nearly 100 questionnaires were submitted on-line.

Metro staff and elected officials continued public outreach efforts by making presentations and facilitating discussions with neighborhood associations, community planning organizations, and civic organizations around the region. Fifty people attended four meetings: Nov. 3 at the Gresham Environmental Services Council Advisory Committee, Nov. 3 at the Raleigh West

Neighborhood Association Committee meeting, Nov. 9 at the Five Oaks/Triple Creek Neighborhood Association meeting, and Nov. 11 at the Park Place Neighborhood Association meeting. Different organizations had varying amounts of time available for discussion. When time allowed, a format similar to that of the public meetings hosted by Metro was followed.

Finally, in order to gain a youth perspective, "Let's Talk Trash" was presented to two freshman political science classes at Franklin High School over three class periods on October 28, 29 and November 3. Approximately 65 students explored several topics to gain a deeper understanding of waste management issues and 37 students completed questionnaires.

While not part of the official "Let's Talk Trash" public outreach program, Metro also conducted a number of meetings to gather input that will help shape the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan for 2005-2015. Metro conducted meetings with chambers of commerce and other business groups around the region in order to learn what strategies they would prefer to increase recycling in the business sector. In addition, local governments hosted discussions with businesses in their jurisdictions, and provided summaries of that input to Metro. A report to summarize businesses' input is being compiled outside the scope of this report. Lastly, Metro hosted two meetings seeking input on the hazardous waste portion of the RSWMP – one with a group of technical advisors, and one with citizens.

Summary of Public Meetings Hosted by Metro

A summary of comments made at the three public meetings is organized by topic. After each summary, specific comments are grouped by similarity. If a comment appeared more than once, numbers in parenthesis indicate the number of times each comment was made. In addition to comments made at the public meetings, nineteen questionnaires were returned by discussion participants.

Topic 1 – Do garbage and recycling services meet your needs?

This question was designed to elicit feedback from residents about whether solid waste management practices and the regional system meet their needs in a convenient and cost-effective way while conserving natural resources and protecting the environment. Specific questions asked include:

1. Does the current system meet your needs?
2. What changes would you recommend to the system?
3. What aspect of the system should be emphasized for the future?

Discussion Summary

In general, public participants feel that the current system is adequate, but should be improved in the future.

- More materials should be recycled and more recyclables should be collected curbside. People are generally willing to pay more for increased services.
- Curbside pickup should include plastics, food and organic material, hazardous waste, Styrofoam and electronics.
- Recycling should be more convenient and less costly than garbage disposal.
- Recycling should be made easier by standardizing the program region-wide and providing the public with large, inexpensive recycling bins with covers.
- Education and publicity should be emphasized to get more people recycling.
- In the future, Metro should emphasize resource conservation as a system priority.

Specific Comments

- Not enough materials are recycled at curbside. (6)
Additional materials should include:
 - o Plastics (3)
 - o Food/organics (3)
 - o Yard debris (2)
 - o Hazardous waste (2)
 - o Electronics (2)
- Residents and businesses should receive larger incentives for recycling. Garbage disposal should be more expensive. Recycling should be subsidized with higher landfill disposal rates. There should be special rates for those on fixed incomes. Haulers should not accept recyclable materials from businesses or residents and should charge more for larger garbage cans. Curbside garbage service is too expensive. Self-hauling of garbage

and recyclables is currently easier and cheaper. Reducing waste is not cost-effective. We pay the same rate for a garbage bin no matter how much we put in it. (6)

- Local governments, haulers, and/or consultants need to educate residents, businesses and youth about recycling. Especially about paper and plastics recycling. (5)
- The current system is adequate, but needs to be improved for the future. It is good that metals and aerosols are accepted. (5)
- Recycling bins should be standardized to save money. Bins should be uniform and inexpensive. They should have lids to keep recyclables dry. Roll carts are preferred. (4)
- The collection system should be standardized for the region to ensure consistent separation of recyclables at work and home. There should be increased education efforts because recycling practices are inconsistent across municipalities. (4)
- Styrofoam packaging is an expensive problem. There should be more research & development done for new uses of recycled plastics and Styrofoam. Food-related Styrofoam should not be created because it causes a health risk. Styrofoam manufacturers should be responsible for the recycling/disposal of their products. (3)
- The cost of recycling is secondary to convenience and conservation values. (3)
- Garbage and recycling facilities are convenient in terms of locations and hours of operation. (3)
- The current recycling system does not meet our needs. (3)
- There should be more hazardous waste depots and events. Pickup for special, bulky materials should be publicized. (3)
- There should be more plastics recycling, including materials without necks and plastic bags. (3)
- Citizens and businesses should be recognized for good recycling practices. (2)
- Junk mail creates a confidentiality concern when recycling. Metro should subsidize home paper shredders like they do for home compost bins.
- More products should be made with recycled goods and packaged with less waste.
- The region should use locally-owned haulers.
- Metro should let public know where waste disposal rates are headed in the long term.
- Commingling is costly to society in tax dollars and in the labor to separate materials. It sends the wrong message to the public.

Rural areas would like to be able to co-mingle.

Participant Questionnaires

In addition to comments made at the public meetings, the following comments were collected from participant questionnaires:

1. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = not satisfied and 5 = very satisfied, indicate your satisfaction with the current garbage and recycling services you use. For example, are services convenient, are facilities easy for you to access and are costs reasonable?

Rank	# Responses	% Responses
1	5	29.4
2	0	0.0
3	4	23.5
4	6	35.3
5	2	11.8
Average score = 3.0		

While approximately 30% of respondents are not satisfied with the current garbage and recycling services, the remaining 70% of respondents showed an average or above average satisfaction with those same services.

Comments:

- Service is good but needs to be expanded (plastics, Styrofoam, hazardous waste, etc.). (4)
- Rural Washington County services are lacking and commingling is not available. Rate structures cause rural areas to put waste into landfills rather than recycle. (3)
- Recyclable materials are being mixed. The result is poor quality and land-filled residuals.
- Recently discontinued service.
- Costs are too high.
- More publicity of recycling availability to businesses; especially in Washington County.
- Hardship rates for poor families.
- Need more education and information from Metro and haulers.
- Good variety.

2. Are there services you want added, expanded or changed in the future? What are they?

- Recycle more plastics. (5)
- Focus on prevention and education in all sectors. Introductory brochure for new residents. (3)
- Yard debris pickup. (2)
- Larger, covered recycling bins. Roll carts. (2)
- Food collection. (2)
- Incentives for reducing solid waste such as reduced fees for reduced waste and recycling more.
- Increase services for multi-family developments.
- Would like to recycle plastic bags and tubs curbside.
- Clear and consistent recycling rules.
- Expand hazardous waste recovery.
- Remove rural disincentive to recycle.
- Eliminate curbside yard debris collection. People should compost on-site.
- Collect electronics, clothing.
- Convenient collection sites.

3. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = nothing more and 5 = a lot more, indicate how much more you would be willing to pay for any new service, if it were to cost more to provide.

Rank	# Responses	% Responses
1	3	18.8
2	2	12.5
3	4	25.0
4	4	25.0
5	3	18.8
Average score = 3.13		

Approximately 20% of respondents are not willing to pay more for new services. The remaining 80% are willing to pay more, but the amount they are willing to pay varies.

Comments:

- Willing to pay more. (5)
 - o Five to seven dollars more.
 - o Twenty to twenty five dollars more.
- Paying too much right now. Added expense should not fall upon recyclers. (2)
- Need to demonstrate the benefits.
- Balance costs with an incentive to recycle.
- Solid waste should not fund programs like parks and healthcare.

4. What is most important to you about services in the future? Cost, convenience, resource conservation or other? If other, explain:

Rank	# Responses	% Responses
Cost	2	12.5
Convenience	3	18.8
Resource Conservation	10	62.5
Other (All of the Above)	1	6.3

Approximately two-thirds of respondents said that resource conservation is most important for future services.

Comments:

- Apply sustainability concept to solid waste program.
- Convenience is most important, but cost follows closely.
- Find a way to integrate concepts into a mission statement.
- Convenience. If it is not easy, people won't do it.
- Currently recycling is not convenient (plastic bottles).
- There should be more variety in curbside pickups.
- Need consistent, region-wide and enforced regulations.
- Do not like adding to landfills.
- Conservation and sustainability.
- Resource reclamation and repurposing.

- Encourage waste reduction and re-use rather than recycling.

The following comments were made by participants who submitted written comments in addition to the questionnaire.

- There is a need for standardization of collection. There is great confusion in the region about what is collected and how it should be sorted. Householders don't sort correctly and put out non-recyclable items. Local governments give them separation directions, but householders see the haulers mixing items on the truck. Workplace employees say their hauler won't pick up certain items. In order to impart clear messages to the public, local governments should require haulers to collect recyclables in at least three streams (paper, plastic & metal, and glass) and to keep these items separate in the truck. Then Metro can publicize the system.
- There is a need for food collection from commercial and residential customers. Without this it will be impossible to reach recycling goals.

Topic 2 – How much can we recycle?

This question focused on how much the region can recycle and the level of effort and investment that residents are willing to make to reach or increase the current goal of 62 percent. Questions asked include:

1. Are you satisfied with the current level of effort?
2. Do you want to make a larger investment in educational programs and recycling options?
3. What level of regulation would you support in order to increase recycling?

Discussion Summary

Public participants are generally satisfied with the current level of recycling, but see room for improvement.

- Incentives are the best way to entice people to recycle, but reasonable regulations should be used where incentives fail.
- Education efforts should focus on school-age children and increasing the participation in paper and plastics recycling. A larger investment should be made in public information and recycling programs.
- Recycling needs to be cheaper and more convenient than trash disposal. This can be accomplished by maintaining high tipping fees, imposing disposal bans on some recyclable materials, improving recycling services in rural areas and increasing the number of items that are collected curbside.
- Metro should model recycling practices for the region.
- People are generally willing to pay more and support further government regulation in order to increase recycling.

Specific Comments

- Regulatory efforts should be a last resort. Recycling programs with incentives such as tax cuts, a levy system on products in landfills and procurement taxes are important. Education and incentives are better than regulation. People are generally unreceptive to governmental intervention or regulation. (6)

- Increase education and funding for education in schools (K-12 and beyond) - they are doing a good job of training children to recycle. (6)
- Recycling should be cheaper and more convenient than disposal. Tipping fees should be high as an incentive to recycle. We need to make recycling more affordable and charge more for garbage disposal. Demonstrate the cost-effectiveness of recycling in the long-term. Correlate recycling rate and disposal costs. Roll carts should be used instead of the current bins. (5)
- Local government should be held accountable for implementing local programs. Metro and local governments should model progressive recycling practices and standards (e.g. rainwater toilets). (4)
- Education: People need to know these services are available and free. Recycling should be better promoted. Send out periodic brochures. Educate citizens about plastics and paper recycling. Recycling education should be coordinated with water, air, wastewater, storm water and solid waste education efforts to avoid confusing and conflicting messages. Recycling information should be included on the back of garbage bills. (4)
- The recycling goal should be 75%. The 62% level can be exceeded via sustainability measures. Generally satisfied with level of effort, but could improve. (4)
- There should be curbside collection of hazardous waste such as anti-freeze, batteries and paint. (3)
- Disposal bans are one solution to limit the disposal of items that can be recycled. (3)
- Financial incentives may be a way to involve more businesses. Recycling saves businesses money. (3)
- Strategies such as building recycling depots should make it easier to recycle in multi-family dwellings. There should be model design programs and an ordinance/permit process. Rental and commercial property management companies should share in the cost of recycling. Recycling bins should be part of kitchen design. (3)
- Need to educate private sector businesses. Businesses need more recycling information and instruction. (2)
- There should be a full lifecycle analysis of recyclables. (2)
- We need to increase the number of items that can be recycled (e.g. construction and demolition, organics, etc.). (2)
- Recycling services need to be improved in unincorporated areas. (2)
- An auditing system should be used to track resident and business recycling. They should get feedback based on the audit. (2)
- Master Recyclers should be used as an educational resource. (2)
- Current regulations are not adequate. More regulations should be placed on businesses to recycle. Hauling practices need to be monitored and regulations enforced. (2)
- The inability to reach current recycling goals shows system insufficiencies.
- Evaluate success of recycling rates by weight rather than material types. Metro should increase analysis of environmental impacts by material content.
- A high recovery rate of energy resources and environmental benefits are not mutually exclusive.

- All environmental impacts should be considered when making decisions about recycling and sustainability (e.g. water pollution, deforestation, etc.).
- Food waste should be separated from its packaging for recycling purposes.
- Source separation would save the economy money.
- The "bottle bill" should be expanded to cover all containers.
- Waste prevention and reuse is preferable to waste diversion and recycling.
- There is a need to develop markets for recycled and recyclable products.

Participant Questionnaires

In addition to comments made at the public meetings, the following comments were collected from participant questionnaires:

5. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = not satisfied and 5 = very satisfied, rate your satisfaction with the current level of effort by residents and businesses on recycling.

Rank	# Responses	% Responses
1	3	17.6
2	5	29.4
3	5	29.4
4	3	17.6
5	1	5.9
Average Score = 2.65		

Nearly 50% of respondents stated that they were unsatisfied with the current efforts by residents and businesses to recycle. Only 23% were more than satisfied with the current level of effort.

Comments:

- So much more to be accomplished. Let's get to 62% first. (2)
- More effort is needed for construction waste.
- Multi-family development recycling is poor.
- Need more incentives.
- Businesses are not recycling enough especially in Tualatin and Wilsonville.
- Need to increase education for businesses.
- Need more publicity/promotion of current programs.
- We could go to 75% if not for plastic packaging and fabric scraps.
- Need to make it clear and easy for people to recycle.
- Recycling services are available but not well-advertised.
- People recycle too much instead of preventing waste.
- Not nearly enough is being done to educate about reducing and recycling.

6. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = not important and 5 = very important, rate the importance to you of making a larger investment in public information and recycling programs.

Rank	# Responses	% Responses
1	1	5.9
2	1	5.9
3	1	5.9
4	1	5.9
5	13	76.5
Average score = 4.41		

Over 75% of respondents stated that making a larger investment in public information and recycling programs is very important.

Comments:

- Not more investment, but better leadership is consistency of basic information. (2)
- Education should be reducing, reusing, recycling and restoring. (2)
- Need enforcement to support education efforts. (2)
- Coordination is needed between solid waste and water pollution agency education efforts.
- Information – yes. Education – no.
- An educational component is necessary to assist meeting the goal.
- Invest in waste prevention, not recycling.

7. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = no further government regulation and 5 = high level of government regulation, what level of government regulation would you support in order to increase recycling?

Rank	# Responses	% Responses
1	4	25.0
2	0	0.0
3	3	18.8
4	4	25.0
5	5	31.3
Average score = 3.38		

Over 70% of respondents felt that there should be a moderate to high level of government regulation, while 25% felt that there should be no further government regulation.

Comments:

- Regulation is the only way to standardize the system so that the average person knows what to do. Reasonable regulation to achieve attainable results. (3)
- Balance regulation with incentive and education/prevention. (2)
- Provide financial incentives and disincentives before regulations.
- Promote and enforce existing state laws. Most people will recycle if they know it's available.
- Try public information first.

- Uncertain how this should be done. Ban non-recyclable packaging? Tax on plastic bags?
- Need incentives for businesses to recycle.
- There should be no containers or packaging or products that cannot be recycled.
- Do not regulate.
- Need better leadership to educate and motivate the public.

8. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = nothing more and 5 = a lot more, indicate how much more you would be willing to pay for any new service that would increase recycling if it were to cost more to provide.

Rank	# Responses	% Responses
1	2	13.3
2	2	13.3
3	3	20.0
4	5	33.3
5	3	20.0
Average Score = 3.33		

Responses to this question were fairly evenly distributed. Only 13% are not willing to pay any more for new recycling services.

Comments:

- Will pay more. Will pay more for consistently mandated and funded K-12 school education and information. Would pay 25% more if guaranteed to reach the 62% goal. (3)
- Rely on the private sector and capitalism. Nothing. (2)
- Define recycle and how it brings us to zero waste.
- Increase costs at the point-of-purchase.
- Direct funding from recycling and solid waste to these programs.
- If it costs to recycle, the public will not buy into it.
- It should be more expensive for trash and less expensive to recycle.
- Costs should be shared.

The following comments were made by participants who submitted written comments in addition to the questionnaire.

- Increase recovery goal to 75% by 2015.
- Make each local government responsible. Calculate tonnage reduction needed to meet goals. Pro-rate tonnage reduction that each local government must achieve by a certain date.
- Metro should have an intergovernmental agreement with each local government stating the local jurisdiction's commitment to meet goals.
- Give incentives. Metro could give money to each local jurisdiction based on its success in keeping recyclables out of the landfill. Metro can estimate the proportion of recyclables in the road at the transfer station.

- Have disposal bans for office paper, cardboard, glass, aluminum, plastic bottles, yard debris, and wood.
- Include in RSWMP, an automatic trigger for disposal bans on mandatory separation if goals aren't met by a certain date.
- RSWMP should include a policy of keeping the tip fee high enough to encourage recycling.
- RSWMP should be a functional plan that can be enforced

Topic 3 – How can sustainability principles guide solid waste practices?

This question looks at what the region can do beyond recycling to reduce the amount of resources that are consumed and thrown away.

Questions asked include:

1. Are you satisfied with current sustainability practices?
2. Should government set sustainability standards for the solid waste system?
3. Should we go further and adopt zero-waste strategies?

Discussion Summary

In general, discussion participants feel that zero waste is a good long-term goal, but is not realistic in the short-term. They are generally unsatisfied with current sustainability efforts.

- Financial incentives, rather than regulations, should be put in place to encourage sustainable practices.
- Government should lead by example when it comes to sustainability.
- Metro should educate the public on the meaning of terms such as “sustainability” and “zero waste.”
- The solid waste system should be made more “green” in terms of emphasizing broader environmental protection and resource conservation practices.
- There should be positive publicity about residents and businesses employing sustainable practices and negative publicity for companies that use wasteful packaging.
- Participants saw two ways to deal with the cost of sustainable practices.
 1. Similar to the current “bottle bill,” consumers should pay for the end-of-life disposal of products at the point-of-purchase.
 2. State and national standards should be created to reduce product packaging and/or make manufacturers responsible for the end life of their products.

Specific Comments

- Government needs to be the model for new and progressive recycling practices. Schools should set an example by using recyclable lunch packaging. Community and institutional based change is necessary. Government should eliminate “least cost” purchasing practices. Metro needs to be a model for the region. Agencies should require double-sided documents and recycled content paper for contracts. Create a market for sustainable materials. Metro should develop a mission statement with roles for government, businesses, manufacturers and residents. (6)

- A deposit system, like the "bottle bill" and reusable containers should be encouraged. Charge for disposal at point-of-purchase. (4)
- There should be state or national standards to decrease packaging (computers, cell phones, electronics, appliances, cans). There should be environmental performance standards. Zero waste practices make manufacturers responsible for their products. Target companies (Whirlpool and GE) that ship their packaging and products. (4)
- Government recommendations and incentives are preferred to regulations. Consumer advocacy, media coverage or boycotts would increase corporate accountability. Consumer complaints are most effective. There should be incentives for zero waste such as tax credits for businesses that provide recycled products. There should be incentives for packaging alternatives. There should be credits and incentives for haulers with greener operations over regulations (i.e. constructing a sorting facility with natural lighting). (3)
- Companies that use wasteful packaging should be called out on a web site. It would be like the Business for an Environmentally Sustainable Tomorrow (BEST) and the Business Recycling Awards Group (BRAG) for bad practices. (2)
- Zero waste should be the primary focus of Metro's efforts. There should be zero waste pilot programs. Zero waste products should receive more publicity. Zero waste is a good long-term goal. There should be intermediate steps including education and "greening." (3)
- Single-use products should be biodegradable. Manufacturers should be responsible for single-use products such as disposable diapers. (3)
- There should be disincentives for purchasing products that create hazardous waste. (3)
- Educate residents to keep waste out of the system. Communication strategies are important. Publicize and give awards for business and residents employing sustainable practices. Publicize those with bad practices in a negative light. Promote and define sustainability. (2)
- Zero waste policies would be too difficult for the government to implement. Zero waste is a utopian and unrealistic ideal. (2)
- Change habits and behavior by making recycling programs mandatory (e.g. make people pay for grocery bags). Use fees and enforcement. (2)
- More money should be put into the research and development of recycled and recyclable products. (2)
- Encourage "freecycling" and other electronics reuse and recycling programs.
- Hauling trucks should pollute less. Fuel emissions should be reduced within the waste management system. Any strategy needs to involve haulers in the effort.
- All plant-based products should be composted.
- Enforcement measures should be sensitive to small business and of cultural practices.
- The real estate market should educate new residents about sustainability and recycling.
- Metro should develop a sustainability management system and brand Portland as a sustainable city.
- Include manufacturers in the process without driving up their costs and driving them out of Portland.

- Sustainability needs to be measured versus cost. Demonstrate economic savings of greening the system (bio vs. regular diesel).
- Funds should come from garbage bills and tipping fees, not the government.
- Do not expand transfer stations.
- Do not sacrifice public safety and sanitation by reducing packaging.
- Sustainability great, but not at the cost of losing recycling.

Participant Questionnaires

In addition to comments made at the public meetings, the following comments were collected from participant questionnaires:

9. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = not satisfied and 5 = very satisfied, how satisfied are you with the current level and type of home and business sustainability practices?

Rank	# Responses	% Responses
1	4	26.7
2	6	40.0
3	4	26.7
4	1	6.7
5	0	0.0
Average score = 2.13		

Over 65% of respondents are less than satisfied with the current level and type of home and business sustainability practices.

Comments:

- This is a new area and more can be done with time. People do not yet operate in this way. (4)
- Not very happy. Many homes have poor practices. Businesses consider revenue over waste requirements. (4)
- What does "sustainability" mean? Need a mission and goals statement that defines roles for all participants. Must be defined and educated by Metro. (4)
- Metro needs to be a leader.

10. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = not "green" and 5 = very "green," how "green" should we make the solid waste system in terms of emphasizing broader environmental protection and resource conservation practices?

Rank	# Responses	% Responses
1	1	6.7
2	0	0.0
3	4	26.7
4	3	20.0
5	7	46.7
Average score = 4.0		

Only 7% of respondents feel that we should not make the solid waste system "green." More than 45% of responses stated that we should make the solid waste system very "green."

Comments:

- Metro should look at the system holistically. Consider a broad view of waste or pollutants and their interaction in the environment. (2)
- I worry that "green" practice would be what the haulers want.
- Need to do better.
- Educate the public on what "green" means.
- I think we have a good system in place.
- Convenience for masses is vital, with greening next.
- Reward and recognize successful sustainable companies.
- Trash should cost more than recycling.
- Start talking about life cycle implications of the products we use daily.
- Need to eliminate waste at the source.

11. The region should go beyond the "greening" approach to adopt zero waste strategies. Indicate your agreement on a scale of 1 = strongly disagree; 5 = strongly agree.

Rank	# Responses	% Responses
1	3	18.8
2	1	6.3
3	1	6.3
4	4	25.0
5	7	43.8
Average score = 3.68		

Approximately 69% of respondents mostly or strongly agree with adopting zero waste strategies. Nearly 20% strongly disagree with zero waste strategies.

Comments:

- Need to know more about zero waste strategies. What does it mean? (2)
- We are not there yet as a culture. (2)
- Zero waste strategy is too costly. It will never happen. (2)
- We need to focus on current programs. (2)
- Educate to make this another to implement in the future. Zero waste cannot be achieved but it should be the goal. (2)
- Multiple strategies / tiered approach to reach an ultimate goal.

12. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = nothing more and 5 = a lot more, indicate how much more you would be willing to pay for any new practice that would increase the sustainability of our solid waste system.

Rank	# Responses	% Responses
1	3	20.0
2	2	13.3
3	3	20.0
4	6	40.0
5	1	6.7
Average score = 3.0		

Twenty percent of respondents said that they are not willing to pay more for new practices that would increase the sustainability of our solid waste system. The average response shows that participants are willing to pay more for new sustainability practices.

Comments:

- Will pay for increased sustainability. (2)
- Portland is becoming a very expensive place to live. This is a way to improve livability.
- Cost should be applied in some equitable manner with equitable criteria in home and business.
- You need to make a case to the public for higher rates.
- Metro should invest by helping to protect valuable resources.
- Need to see the cost-benefit ratio.
- Shift the money from recycling education to the goal of zero waste.

The following comments were made by participants who submitted written comments in addition to the questionnaire.

- RSWMP's long-term goal should be zero waste. This is the only goal that will save enough resources and avoid enough pollution to keep our planet healthy in the long-term. The time seems right to be heading in this direction.

Topic 4 – What is the bottom line?

The intent of this question was to have participants reflect on all they had talked about and come up with a list of the issues, strategies and objectives that are most important to them.

Questions asked include:

1. What are the most important strategies or directions the region should focus on?
2. Is there any information missing or incomplete?

Discussion Summary

Participants generally are in favor of making improvements to the current system, but would support several new programs as well.

- Improvements can be made by increasing recycling education and publicity, increasing the number of materials that can be recycled and by making recycling more convenient and less expensive than garbage disposal.

- Sustainability and zero waste should be long term goals. Metro should put funding into the research and development of sustainable products and markets.

Specific Comments

The following comments were made at the three public meetings:

- Educate to increase recycling rate. (4)
- Continue and improve the existing system. (2)
- Make recycling more convenient and less expensive. Make garbage disposal more expensive and less convenient. (2)
- Increase publicity efforts to promote recycling, sustainable practices and residents and businesses that employ recycling and sustainable practices. (2)
- Increase funding for the research and development of recyclable products, uses for recycled materials, non-toxic materials and zero waste products and practices. (2)
- Do not sacrifice safety and sanitation for less packaging.
- Focus efforts on reducing waste, then reusing products and finally on recycling.
- Increase the number of products that can be recycled.
- Correct the way we measure success.
- Use incentives to encourage recycling and green practices.
- Pay the cost of product disposal up front.
- Increase the recycling goal.
- Make zero waste the long term goal.
- Conduct audits for residents and businesses. Give feedback on how recycling practices can improve. Fine repeat offenders.

Other comments

Participant Questionnaires

In addition to comments made at the public meetings, the following comments were collected from participant questionnaires:

13. Is there anything else you would like to share with us? Use additional sheets if needed.

- Increase "bottle bill" deposits and expand the program to include all containers. (3)
- The government should provide markets for recycled products. (2)
- Small businesses need education and enforcement of regulations.
- The entire system needs a basic, consistent message.
- Metro should fund education to change people's habits.
- Tap land fills for methane.
- Use hybrid garbage trucks.
- Conduct waste hauler evaluations and publicize results.
- Use master recyclers for education.
- Require manufacturers to be responsible for their products.

- Base disposal rates on audits of residential and business waste.
- Provide more publicity for green companies.
- Help people get off junk mail lists.
- Decrease environmental impacts (noise and air) of collection trucks.
- Improve household hazardous waste recycling.

Summary of SWAC Meeting

The Solid Waste Advisory Committee is a group of recycling and disposal facility owners, recycling advocates, haulers, local government solid waste staff, business owners and citizen ratepayers formed to advise Metro. SWAC has a role in reviewing the development of RSWMP and to ensure that the interests of all affected parties are considered. The Sept. 2004 SWAC meeting followed a format similar to that of the public meetings. SWAC members were not asked to answer questions about Topic 1 – “Do garbage and recycling services meet your needs?” This question was intended for feedback from system users and was omitted due to time constraints.

Topic 2 – How much can we recycle?

While respondents were somewhat mixed over their satisfaction with current recycling levels, many expressed interest in additional analysis and information about perceived obstacles. A variety of ideas were offered about ways to increase recycling participation in the future.

Discussion Summary

- The current level of recycling can be improved. This can be accomplished using financial incentives and continuing educational efforts.
- Metro needs to collect more diverse and accurate data about waste and recycling. New measures, such as the toxicity of what is put into landfills, should be used to supplement current measures when gauging regional success.
- Recycling is susceptible to changing markets for recyclable materials. Metro should investigate ways to ensure that there is a consistent market for these products.

Specific Comments

- Not satisfied with the current level; too much can still be recycled. (3)
- Educate businesses about how recycling can lower waste disposal costs. The current amount of recycling is low due to a lack of education. Give the public better access to recycling information. (3)
- Satisfied with the current level, but would like to improve. (2)
- The market is an obstacle to increasing recycling. Need to ensure that there are markets. Where will recyclables be shipped if overseas markets go away? Need financial assistance to ensure a consistent and sustainable market for recyclables. (2)
- Recycling goals are currently weight-based. Should it be toxicity-based? (2)
- Continue school-age education. (2)
- Incentives work better than regulations. (2)
- Conduct more research in outlying areas of the region. Collect new, better and more accurate data. (2)
- Require businesses to recycle. Need to enforce current recycling regulations. (2)
- Conduct a cost-benefit analysis to demonstrate that the cost of recycling is an issue. (2)
- Increase recycling education for non-English speaking residents.
- Simplify the system and make it consistent throughout the region.
- Research who is not recycling and why.

- Focus on multi-family dwellings.
- Recycling is a public good.
- There should be more places to take non-curbside items such as TVs and computers.
- Landfills cannot absorb or control government regulations/disposal bans. Imposer regulations on waste generators, not disposal sites.
- Costs for product disposal should be put in the base cost.
- Need to make it easy for businesses to recycle. Let waste generators put waste in one container and ensure that waste goes into a non-vertically integrated facility.
- Treat business and residential education differently.

Topic 3 – How can sustainability principles guide solid waste practices?

In general, respondents expressed support for and interest in sustainability principles. Participants offered a mix of comments, concerns and ideas about how such principles might be used to guide solid waste practices.

Discussion Summary

- All sectors of society need to be involved in developing a sustainable approach to solid waste.
- Manufacturers need to work to develop products with less packaging.
- Government needs to lead by example as well as put policies in place that address the costs of disposal.
- Money should be put into researching how the solid waste system can be “greened.”

Specific Comments

- Encourage manufacturers to use recyclable packaging with less toxic products. Work with local businesses and large companies with headquarters in the metro area to use less packaging. (3)
- All sectors must be involved in the sustainability approach (government, manufacturers, retail, haulers, etc.). (2)
- Need a federal approach. Products that come back into the state do not meet local standards. (2)
- Examine “up-stream” impacts more thoroughly. Obtain better data on the state of sustainability. (2)
- More businesses should be responsible for the packaging of their products. (2)
- Metro should take a larger role in promoting sustainability. Government should lead by example. (2)
- Metro and local governments need to lead a drive for particulate traps on garbage trucks. The collection/disposal system should look into putting cleaner fuel in vehicles. There should be emission controls on hauling trucks. Metro could centralize fueling stations. (2)
- Sustainability hedges against a flux in the recycling market.
- The home composting program was discontinued too soon.
- Determine what measurements for success are best (e.g. weight vs. toxicity).

- Level the playing field region-wide so businesses can go "green" but stay competitive.
- Make sure that recycling programs don't cause more environmental harm than good (e.g. more recycling trucks lead to more air pollution).
- Do not sacrifice other environmental issues in the name of "zero waste." Some recyclable packaging is less environmentally favorable because it uses more fossil fuels to produce.
- Governmental incentives should be put in place to support market development.
- Zero waste is a good goal.
- Educate residents about the importance of a zero waste mind frame.
- There should be tax relief for zero waste houses and facilities.
- There should be standards for recycled content paper.
- There should be local standards but not regional standards.

Topic 4 – What is the bottom line?

As a group, SWAC members tend to believe more education should be used as a strategy to improve current participation before starting new programs.

Specific Comments

- Build on the success of residential recycling with more education. (3)
- Continue improving current programs before starting new ones. (2)
- Conduct better outreach and obtain better data about who is not recycling and why?
- Make better environmental decisions (quality results over quantity).
- Make greener products. Clean up manufacturing processes.
- Have incentives for research and development of zero waste achievers.
- There should be an economic development framework.

No questionnaires from SWAC members were received at the SWAC meeting, although they could have been submitted online or anonymously.

Summary of Meetings Hosted by Neighborhood Associations, Civic Organizations and Area Schools

A summary of comments made at four meetings with neighborhood associations, community planning organizations and civic organizations is organized by topic. After each summary, specific comments are grouped by similarity. If a comment appeared more than once, numbers in parenthesis indicate the number of times each comment was made. Questionnaire results from meeting participants are included with online questionnaire results in the following section.

Topic 1 – Do garbage and recycling services meet your needs?

Discussion Summary

In general, participants feel that the current system curbside system did not meet all of their needs and that recycling should be made easier and made more consistent across the region.

- People need more recycling bins that are bigger and covered.
- More materials should be recycled and more recyclables should be collected curbside.
- Transfer stations services should provide better customer service and improve opportunities for recovery and recycling.

Specific Comments

- The current services do not meet my needs. Some cities have large recycling bins for everything commingled and someone else separates wastes. Products are not used in a segregated manner so separation of recyclables is inconvenient. Need for more bins because only has one recycling bin and end up putting stuff in boxes and bags. Want more, larger and covered bins. (8)
- Curbside pickup should include yard debris, batteries and all kinds of plastics. (3)
- I've used the facility many times, but transfer station staff doesn't know what to do with some recyclables. It also can be inconvenient to wait in line 25 minutes just to drop off recyclables. Want to get in a quick line. (2)
- The transfer station should have a scavenger place for items such as paint. Someone could pull out usable items at transfer station. (2)
- Recycling services should emphasize plastic recycling, polystyrene, packaging, computers and electronics.
- Far West Fibers – hours are a problem. Not open on weekends. Like to use them, but can't on weekends.
- Metro Paint facility. Why moving? Homes are being built here. We need access to paint.
- Home garbage service and transfer station service is good, although the recycling sorts keep changing. It's confusing.
- Cynical about Waste Management trash services because they are charging premium rates for garbage disposal and recycling in order to optimize profit and not because of a sense of civic duty. Recycles because of legal and moral values and says that the companies are making money off of "what we have to do."
- Levels in Beaverton seem average or lower than in close-in Portland. Bins are never full.

- The general population is committed to recycling, but this breaks down when it becomes inconvenient, particularly for larger families with more kids that create large volumes of garbage.
- Want more accurate time pick up for trash. Not consistent. One time one week, another time another week.
- Choice and cost are important issues.
- Transfer station used to really smell bad. Okay now.
- Would like to get a certificate to recognize efforts and motivate recyclers.

Topic 2 – How much can we recycle?

Discussion Summary

Participants believe that a number of steps must be taken in order to increase recycling rates.

- Recycling should be made easier by providing necessary information and educational materials and by broadening programs.
- Benefits and incentives are preferred to regulations. However, sometimes regulations are needed.
- In order to increase business recycling, there is a need for commitment from businesses' leadership, a change in workplace culture, and to putting recycling systems in place.
- Corporations should be held responsible for the end-life of their products and should be encouraged to reduce packaging.
- Education is an important component and should focus on school-aged children.

Specific Comments

- Make recycling easier. Dissatisfied with how slow the aluminum can recycling machines are; the 5-cent refund is not worth the time. It's easier to skip the deposit and dump recyclables into the recycling bin. Machines don't accept every size/variety of can and bottle or different bar codes. Oregonian's idealism exemplified by the bottle bill is frayed. They want to "do the right thing", but recycling should be made simpler and more convenient. Large retailers and distributors put up consumer roadblocks including slow machines and only recycling store specific brands. (8)
- People need to understand the rules of recycling and all of the materials that can be recycled (paper, plastics, food, cardboard, paint, etc). This should include information about the costs and benefits of recycling and how recycling processes work. (6)
- Recyclers need to benefit. A voluntary incentive is a great idea. State should give tax credit to residents and businesses reusing recycled materials to encourage recyclables to remain in the region instead of sending them to out-of-state markets. The bottle return refund is no longer an incentive. (5)
- There's opportunity to do more at businesses, especially with paper and plastic and in cafeterias. Businesses are a challenge and require more work. What is needed includes:
 - internal culture for change (regulations and thought processes) (2)
 - commitment to change (top management, leadership) (3)
 - ability to put systems in place (5)
 - dedicated people to make it work

- o help to see opportunities, technical assistance
- Work with corporations to ensure that materials are recyclable and less packaging is used. McDonalds only has trash cans. Why not recycling containers too? (4)
- Business and residential developments often have only a tiny area for recycling. Would like to see some legislation for new development that space has to be designed for businesses to recycle. (3)
- Easy kinds of recycling are happening, especially residential. (3)
- Education should take place at schools (middle school) because it is most effective at changing the behavior of children's who then influence their parents. (2)
- Monitoring is not effective for commercial facilities or residences.
- Businesses may have materials that expire (paint or other chemicals) that might be able to be used for a non-manufacturing use. Do assessment. Need to check internal rules.
- There should be a 24 hour source of recycling information (e.g. Metro web site).
- Outreach efforts should target apartments.
- Would pay more for recycling services if knew money would help businesses recycle more.
- There should be no cost for recycling certain items.
- One citizen is forced to dispose of bulky Styrofoam in his trash can and is charged the same rate as household garbage.
- Commingled residential recycling is preferred. It's simpler.
- It is difficult to regulate when Waste Management is often out-sourced to other companies, although neighborhood cleanups could be mandated.
- Would be willing to separate and donate refundable bottles to people in need.
- Resident would be willing to pay more to separate recyclables, but would not pay more for additional recycling service.
- Concern about contaminating the system with plastics that cannot be recycled (e.g., cottage cheese cartons).
- How will new technology for tracking products (i.e., radio frequency identification) affect recycling efforts (e.g., product containers will have transmitters affixed to them)?
- Why don't we have more recycling options, end-use markets locally, instead of shipping stuff far away?
- Emphasize composting.
- Why do we still allow things made with plastics that aren't recyclable?
- Less waste makes for a nicer place to live, especially on trails.

Topic 3 – How can sustainability principles guide solid waste practices?

Discussion Summary

In general, participants feel that sustainability principles are an important guide to solid waste practices and that a combination of strategies is needed.

- Manufacturers must be involved for sustainability principles to be successful. If necessary, regulations should be used to impose higher standards (e.g. less packaging) on manufacturers.
- Government agencies should hold themselves to higher standards and lead by example when it comes to sustainability.
- Education is a key component to promoting sustainable practices.

Specific Comments

- Education about chemicals in the garden. How to get to new homeowners? You don't need to have a green, green lawn. We should not be spraying instead of mowing along Hwy 213. (4)
- Might require regulations to equalize market impacts – no manufacturer will do the right thing first because of initial start-up costs. (4)
- Product packaging should be recyclable or reusable. Would be willing to pay more for products if packaging was more environmentally friendly. Use less packaging! (3)
- Government standards are not as high as they could be; Norm Thompson, Nike and Intel may have higher standards. Government should purchase energy efficient fleet cars and paper with recycled content. (2)
- Have manufacturer tell you what you can recycle (like a note with your tennis shoes that you can recycle them). Manufacturer involvement critical to make it work. (2)
- Easier to start a sustainable business, but harder with existing facility, culture. (2)
- Look at lifecycle of a product. Focus on long term, look at big picture. (2)
- Barriers to sustainability: Cost and culture. If you can save money and you might be able to change culture. (2)
- Consensus on improving the bottle bill to include all types of bottles, wine, juice, milk, Sobe. (2)
- Recycled products should cost less, not more. Recycled-content paper costs more.
- Education.
- Takes a whole combination of strategies.
- Would like to see less garbage, but don't want government regulations.
- Washington is recycling more than Oregon.
- In California, returnable items are priced by weight and not per piece.
- Power companies don't offer options that consumers want. They don't have sufficient knowledge to set appropriate standards, and are motivated by corporate interests.
- It costs more on the front end to think sustainably.
- Waste prevention should be a priority.
- Purchasing items with higher organic cotton content is one example of how collective purchasing power can drive higher standards.
- Higher standards usually cost more. A cost benefit ratio applied to gasoline means that as the price of gas goes down, more driving yields additional environmental residues and health care costs.

- A public trash summit that converts Metro's complex analysis into layman's terms and real choices would add a sense of urgency to citizens in the community. Avoid academic terms.
- Increasing grant opportunities and available funds would increase participation.
- Concern about the potential increase in taxes for implementing sustainable practices to the solid waste system.
- What will costs look like immediately and how much will it cost on a long-term basis?
- Concerned about air emissions from school buses and trucks. Need to take care of what comes out of our cars. A Federal mandate will soon require trucks to be fitted with new filters.
- Hosted Japanese visitors here, they recycle everything! How do they do it? We can learn from them.
- Too many plastics get thrown away.
- Why is there a charge when you bring wood in a truck, but not when you have some of it separate out from your garbage, and they take it for free?
- More should be done to improve water quality.
- Everything that's manufactured could have a stamp on it "Oregon Recyclable" to make it easy to know what's recyclable. All of it could go in another recycling bin at the curb.

Topic 4 – What is the bottom line?

Discussion Summary

- Education and incentives should be used to encourage recycling and sustainable practices.
- Corporations should be responsible for the end life of their products and their packaging.
- Recycling should be made as easy as possible.

Specific Comments

- Education! For residents and for Metro to listen to our comments!
- Product stewardship – make manufacturers responsible for their own products.
- Go into corporations and help them see how they can reduce packaging.
- Monetary incentives. The more you recycle the cheaper your trash bill.
- Will-call trash service is cheap! Do people know you can get trash picked up for just \$6.30? I only call every six weeks.
- Make it simple and easy.
- Advertise paint more.

Franklin High School Meetings

Listed below are common themes from questionnaires filled out by 37 students from Franklin High School. A more complete account of questionnaire data can be found in Appendix F.

Questionnaire Summary

1. Recycling services are good but could be improved. Recycling should be easier and cheaper. More products should be recyclable.

2. More items should be recyclable and there should be containers that have separate sections for paper, plastic, yard debris, clothes, etc.
3. Students would pay a little more for better garbage and recycling services.
4. Resource conservation is the most important aspect of the system for the future.
5. People are doing a good job to recycle, but a lot more could be done. In particular, businesses could do more to recycle.
6. There should be some increased spending on recycling education, because some people do not know about recycling.
7. There should be some regulations to increase recycling, but they shouldn't be too strict. Regulations are needed to encourage businesses to recycle.
8. Students would pay more for recycling services if it would increase recycling rates.
9. Sustainability practices are not bad, but not great. Businesses should do more to reduce packaging.
10. The solid waste system should be made as green as possible.
11. Zero waste strategies should be adopted if the cost is reasonable.
12. Students are willing to pay more for increased sustainability practices, but it is uncertain how much more.

Summary of Questionnaires

The following comments were collected from the 114 questionnaires filled out online or mailed to Metro. The questionnaires filled out by participants in the three Metro-hosted meetings are recorded in the "Summary of Public Meetings Hosted by Metro" section of this report. Each question is followed by a summary of responses. Quantitative questions are followed by a summary table.

Topic 1 – Do garbage and recycling services meet your needs?

1. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = not satisfied and 5 = very satisfied, indicate your satisfaction with the current garbage and recycling services you use. For example, are services convenient, are facilities easy for you to access and are costs reasonable?

Rank	# Responses	% Responses
1	4	3.6
2	7	6.4
3	24	21.8
4	56	50.9
5	19	17.3
Average score = 3.72		

Only 3.6% of respondents are not satisfied with current garbage and recycling services.

Summary of Comments

Despite their satisfaction with current services, people generally feel that the system should be improved.

- The pricing system is inefficient and does not reward people for recycling.
- More items should be recyclable and picked up curbside, such as plastics, yard debris, household hazardous waste, furniture, building materials, Styrofoam, batteries, and fluorescent bulbs.
- Households should be able to place all recyclables into one roll cart.

2. Are there services you want added, expanded or changed in the future? What are they?

Summary of Comments

- There should be pricing incentives for those who waste less and recycle as well as for those who separate their recycling.
- More items should be recyclable and picked up curbside, such as plastics, yard debris, household hazardous waste, furniture, building materials, Styrofoam, batteries, and fluorescent bulbs.
- A greater effort should be made to recycle more items in schools, especially Styrofoam and organic waste.

3. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = nothing more and 5 = a lot more, indicate how much more you would be willing to pay for any new service, if it were to cost more to provide.

Rank	# Responses	% Responses
1	17	15.7
2	28	25.9
3	39	36.1
4	17	15.7
5	7	6.5
Average score = 2.71		

On average, respondents are willing to pay only a little more for new services. However, few respondents are willing to pay significantly more.

Summary of Comments

- The costs of recycling programs should be paid for by those who don't recycle.
- Will pay more for increased services that benefit them.
- Recycling should be cheaper than garbage disposal.

4. What is most important to you about services in the future? Cost, convenience, resource conservation or other? If other, explain:

Rank	# Responses	% Responses
Cost	13	12.0
Convenience	16	14.8
Resource Conservation	58	53.7
Other (All of the Above)	21	19.4

A majority of respondents identify resource conservation as the most important aspect of future services.

Topic 2 – How much can we recycle?

5. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = not satisfied and 5 = very satisfied, rate your satisfaction with the current level of effort by residents and businesses on recycling.

Rank	# Responses	% Responses
1	9	8.7
2	29	27.9
3	45	43.3
4	15	14.4
5	6	5.8
Average Score = 2.81		

Approximately 80% of respondents are dissatisfied or only somewhat satisfied with the current level of effort by residents and businesses on recycling.

Summary of Comments

- For the most part, households do a good job of recycling, although they could do better. Businesses and schools need to do a better job.

- There is no incentive for businesses to recycle.
- There is a need for more outreach/education/informational materials.

6. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = not important and 5 = very important, rate the importance to you of making a larger investment in public information and recycling programs.

Rank	# Responses	% Responses
1	1	1.0
2	11	10.5
3	17	16.2
4	28	26.7
5	48	45.7
Average score = 4.06		

Over 72 % of respondents feel it is important to make a larger investment in public information and recycling programs.

Summary of Comments

- Education is the most important aspect of increasing recycling rates.
- Reusing and reducing should be emphasized.
- Improving services is more important than making a larger investment in education.

7. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = no further government regulation and 5 = high level of government regulation, what level of government regulation would you support in order to increase recycling?

Rank	# Responses	% Responses
1	10	9.6
2	4	3.8
3	27	26.0
4	30	28.8
5	33	31.7
Average score = 3.61		

Over 80% of respondents would support more government regulation in order to increase recycling.

Summary of Comments

- Regulations should be placed on businesses to recycle, manufacturers to be held responsible for the end-life of their products and on what can be accepted at land fills, not on residential households.
- Regulations on households and businesses will have to be used to improve current recycling rates.

8. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = nothing more and 5 = a lot more, indicate how much more you would be willing to pay for any new service that would increase recycling if it were to cost more to provide.

Rank	# Responses	% Responses
1	8	7.8
2	22	21.4
3	42	40.8
4	17	16.5
5	14	13.6
Average Score = 3.07		

Thirty percent of respondents would pay quite a bit or a lot more, with an equal percentage saying they'd pay nothing or only a little more for increased recycling services. It is unclear how much more people would be willing to pay for any new service.

Summary of Comments

- People are willing to pay a small amount for services that they will use.
- Those who waste should pay the cost for those who recycle. There should be penalties for those who do not recycle.

Topic 3 – How can sustainability principles guide solid waste practices?

9. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = not satisfied and 5 = very satisfied, how satisfied are you with the current level and type of home and business sustainability practices?

Rank	# Responses	% Responses
1	17	17.3
2	32	32.7
3	34	34.7
4	12	12.2
5	3	3.1
Average score = 2.51		

Approximately 50% of respondents are dissatisfied with the current level and type of home and business sustainability practices. An additional 35% are only somewhat satisfied.

Summary of Comments

- Not enough is being done. There should be more systems and programs in place.
- Businesses could do better.
- People need to be educated on sustainability concepts.

10. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = not "green" and 5 = very "green," how "green" should we make the solid waste system in terms of emphasizing broader environmental protection and resource conservation practices?

Rank	# Responses	% Responses
1	5	4.9
2	1	1.0
3	16	15.7
4	19	18.6
5	61	59.8

Average score = 4.27

Approximately 60% of respondents support making the solid waste system very green, with another 18% expressing strong support for the idea.

Summary of Comments

- Many people are not familiar with these concepts.
- The system should be made more green, but not at too high a cost.
- Garbage and recycling trucks should be greener.
- Greening the system is a good long-term goal.

11. The region should go beyond the “greening” approach to adopt zero waste strategies. Indicate your agreement on a scale of 1 = strongly disagree; 5 = strongly agree.

Rank	# Responses	% Responses
1	13	12.7
2	3	2.9
3	17	16.7
4	20	19.6
5	49	48.0
Average score = 3.87		

Over 65% of respondents mostly or strongly agree with going beyond the “greening” approach to adopt zero waste strategies. Only 15% disagree with this approach.

Summary of Comments

- Many people are not familiar with zero waste principles or feel that the term should be changed to something people can understand.
- Zero waste is unachievable.
- Zero waste strategies should be adopted and are a great long-term goal.
- Most of the effort should be placed on working with corporations to prevent waste.

12. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = nothing more and 5 = a lot more, indicate how much more you would be willing to pay for any new practice that would increase the sustainability of our solid waste system.

Rank	# Responses	% Responses
1	13	12.5
2	17	16.3
3	28	26.9
4	27	26.0
5	19	18.3
Average score = 3.21		

Twenty-nine percent of respondents are not willing to pay any more or only a little more for new practices that would increase the sustainability of our solid waste system. There is no consensus on how much more people are willing to pay.

Summary of Comments

- Willingness to pay for these services varies greatly.
- People need proof of the effectiveness of new practices
- These practices are needed, but who should pay?

Other comments

13. Is there anything else you would like to share with us?

- Metro is doing a great job.
- More effort should be put into education.
- Recycling should be cheaper than garbage.
- Focus on working with businesses to recycle more and produce less waste.

Conclusions

These conclusions are based on comments made at public meetings hosted by Metro, the SWAC meeting, public meetings hosted by neighborhood and civic organizations, and comments collected from questionnaires. Additional detail for each key topic and associated public comment follows in the report.

The current garbage and recycling system is adequate, but recycling rates and services should be improved.

- The current garbage and recycling system is inconsistent across the region. Standards for what can be recycled and how items can be recycled vary among jurisdictions. Rural and unincorporated areas do not receive the same service that urbanized areas do. The entire system needs to be standardized across the region and made simple and easy to understand
- More materials need to be recyclable and more recyclables need to be collected curbside. Styrofoam and all types of plastic should be recyclable. Products such as electronics, food/organics, hazardous materials and plastics should be home-sorted and eligible for curbside pickup. Large items should also be picked up periodically.
- Transfer stations should have more knowledgeable staff, shorter lines and more convenient hours.
- Efforts should be made to make the solid waste system more "green" in terms of emphasizing broader environmental protection and resource conservation practices. However, this should not be done at much cost to the public.
- Resource conservation is the most important factor for future services.
- People generally are willing to pay something more for increased services, but few are willing to pay a lot more.

Increase efforts to inform and educate the public and businesses about recycling.

- Businesses need more information and instruction about what they can recycle and how recycling benefits them economically.
- Recycling education programs in K-12 schools have been successful. Funding should continue to be directed towards programs for school-age children.
- Information should be easy to understand and distributed periodically in the form of brochures, packets for new residents and on the backs of garbage bills.
- Recycling and sustainability issues are not publicized enough. Advertising campaigns should be used to provide basic education about recycling, but should also emphasize "reduce" and "reuse." In addition, businesses and residents that employ exemplary recycling and sustainable practices should be recognized for their efforts.

Make recycling less expensive and more convenient relative to garbage disposal.

- People are generally willing to support a higher level of government regulation in order to increase recycling rates. However, fees and regulations should be a last resort and must go toward services that will benefit those who pay for them.
- Households and businesses that do not recycle should pay for those who do. Regulations should first be placed on manufacturers to reduce and use recyclable packaging.

- Incentives and disincentives may include subsidizing the costs of recycling, providing residents and businesses that recycle with tax breaks, charging a higher cost for garbage bins, setting jurisdictional garbage rates by the amount they recycle, maintaining high tipping fees for garbage collection, providing larger, covered recycling bins and placing disposal bans on certain recyclable materials.

Government and Metro in particular should model sustainable practices and standards for the region.

- Sustainability is still a fairly new concept to many people and some do not understand it or equate it with recycling. However, those who do understand the concept are supportive of incorporating more sustainability into government business practices, especially the solid waste system.
- Government agencies and Metro in particular should lead the region by modeling sustainable practices and standards. These practices could include using recyclable lunch packaging in school and hospital cafeterias, requiring the use of recycled content paper and double-sided printing for all government documents and by purchasing recyclable materials and materials with reduced packaging.

Zero waste is not a priority in the current system, but should be a long-term goal.

While society is not ready to adopt zero waste policies today, it should be a long-term goal for Metro's solid waste system. Metro should begin by educating the public about terms such as "sustainability" and "zero waste" or finding alternative terms that resonate with the public. Incentives should be used to encourage waste reduction by residents and businesses. Efforts should be placed in one or more of the following areas:

- Work with national and state agencies, as well as large companies with headquarters in the metro area, to develop voluntary standards for reducing product packaging.
- Hold manufacturers accountable for the end life of their products.
- Incorporate end-of-life disposal costs at the point-of-purchase.

Next Steps

More than one hundred residents from cities throughout the metropolitan area took part in "Let's Talk Trash" discussions to express their opinions on solid waste services and how we should conserve natural resources in the future. The comments and ideas collected, as well as technical data, legal requirements and staff recommendations will help staff update the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan for the next ten-year period (2005-2015). Additional phases of public involvement are planned to take place in early 2005 when a draft of the plan will be made available for review and comment.

The revised RSWMP and details about staying informed and involved in Metro's public involvement process will be posted on Metro's web site (www.metro-region.org/letstalktrash).

Appendix A: Discussion Guide

(Discussion Guide will be added before the report is finalized.)

Appendix B: Discussion Leaders' Guide

The following document was used by discussion leaders at the three public meetings hosted by Metro.



Let's talk trash

Discussion leader, note taker script

As participants sit down at your table, introduce yourself and encourage the group to introduce themselves to each other. Encourage people to read through the discussion guide if time allows. Make sure that everyone signed-in upon entering the room.

15 – 20: Introduction and background

Explain the roles of the discussion leader and note taker.

Hello. I hope you've all had a chance to chance to meet each other. In the interest of time, I'm going to start our discussion.

My name is _____ and I'll facilitate our discussion. My role is to:

- help maintain a respectful dialogue
- keep our conversation focused
- Move our group through the agenda and keep us on schedule.

I'll make sure that

- everyone has an opportunity to participate and listen to each other's thoughts
- dialogue is focused on the choices and all choices are considered
- dialogue allows for adequate examination of trade offs among choices

This is (name of NOTE TAKER) who will record major points that come up on the flip chart.

Note taker speaks

Hello. My name is _____.

- As note taker, I may ask people to clarify their point in order to make sure I capture the meaning of something I hear
- Since you'll see the notes I make on the flip charts, you can help along the way. Feel free to ask for corrections if you feel your thoughts are not accurately reflected.
- I won't record everything discussed, rather, I'll note points of agreement and serious opposing opinions.

- I will also maintain a "parking lot" page for important thoughts that should be discussed at a later date.

Discussion leader continues

Any questions? Okay, let's get started.

Section 1:

20 – 25: "Do garbage and recycling services meet your needs?"

We are now going to start talking about Section 1, "Do garbage and recycling services meet your needs?" Hopefully, you have all had a chance to read through the discussion guide. To help with the discussion, we've highlighted a few points from the background section, which you can see on this board.

Direct their attention to the board that lists the key background points for Section 1. Allow 30 seconds for them to review the board.

Please turn to page 5 in your discussion guide. "Do garbage and recycling services meet your needs?" Please note the more detailed questions listed on the right side of the page.

Please think about this overall question in light of those detailed questions:

- Does the current system meet your needs?
- What changes would you recommend to the system?
- What aspect of the system should be emphasized for the future?

If possible, use the last few minutes to summarize the main themes of your Section 1 discussion before going onto the next section (e.g., agreement on certain points, dissention about an approach).

Section 2:

40 – 60: "How much can we recycle?"

Now we're moving on to our Section 2, "How much can we recycle?" Again, we've highlighted a few points from this section that will be critical for our discussion.

Direct their attention to the board. Allow 30 seconds for them to read the highlights.

Please turn to page 7 of the discussion guide.

Point out the possible approaches and more detailed questions listed in the text.

Please try to answer this overall question, "how much can we recycle," in terms of these three areas.

- Are you satisfied with the current level of effort?
- Do you want to make a larger investment in education programs and recycling options – like larger recycling bins on wheels or more neighborhood cleanup events?
- What level of regulation would you support in order to increase recycling?

If possible, attempt to summarize highlights of the discussion on Section 2 before going onto the next section (e.g., agreement on certain points, dissention about an approach).

Section 3:

60 – 80: “How can sustainability principles guide solid waste practices?”

Now it's time to talk about Section 3, “How can sustainability principles guide solid waste practices?” Once again we have highlighted some key issues from the Section 3 background section in your discussion guide.

Draw attention to the board and give them 30 seconds to read the highlights.

Please turn to page 9 of the discussion guide.

Point out the possible approaches and more detailed questions listed in the text.

Please think about the overall question, “How can sustainability principles guide solid waste practice?” in light of these three topics.

- Are you satisfied with current sustainability practices?
- Should government set sustainability standards for the solid waste system?
- Should we go further and adopt zero-waste strategies?

If possible, attempt to summarize highlights of the discussion on Section 3 before going onto the next section (e.g., agreement on certain points, dissention about an approach).

80 – 95: “What’s the bottom line?”

- We’ve had a conversation about the garbage and recycling system – how it’s working for you and what you’d like to see changed about it.
- We’ve talked about recycling, the level of success this approach is helping us accomplish and how hard we want to push it for the future.
- We’ve talked about sustainability approaches that take us back to explore the root of the issue and at other ways to solve the problem.

Considering all we’ve discussed, what are the most important strategies or directions the region should focus on?

Use the following prompts to stimulate discussion:

- *Consider the system as a whole or individual parts*
- *Is there anything missing or incomplete*
- *Have the note taker display the newsprint pages so participants can review the major points made in their discussion*

Finally, I’d like to ask you to prepare for table reports. Is there a volunteer from our table who would like to describe to the larger group any common threads, points of agreement or dissent from our discussion?

Direct volunteer to respond when lead facilitator asks for table reports.

Remind people who would like to be on the mailing list for next steps in the process and to get a report on the Let's Talk Trash discussions to sign up.

Make sure that everyone at your table has a questionnaire. We want each participant to complete it and turn it into Metro today. As an alternative, people can complete the form and mail it into Metro. The questionnaire is also on Metro's web site and can be completed and emailed into Metro. Encourage participants to turn in their questionnaires by October 4th.

Thank everyone for coming and sharing their thoughts.

Appendix C: Agenda



REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN (RSWMP) UPDATE LETS TALK TRASH - PUBLIC MEETINGS SEPTEMBER 23, 2004, 7 - 9 PM

AGENDA

0 - 2 minutes	Welcome	Metro Councilor
2 - 15	Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none">- RSWMP update- Public input- Housekeeping- Table reports- Questionnaires- Questions for clarification	Arnold Cogan Cogan Owens Cogan
15 - 20	Introductions and background	Discussion Leaders
	Facilitated Table Discussions	All
20 - 40	Section 1: Garbage and recycling services	
40 - 60	Section 2: How much can we recycle	
60 - 80	Section 3: Sustainability principles	
80 - 95	Bottom line discussion	
95 - 110	Table Reports	Arnold Cogan
110 - 118	Complete Questionnaires	
118 - 120	Closing	Metro Councilor
120	Adjourn	

Each of the public meetings followed the above agenda. The public meetings took place on the following dates, times and locations.

SEPTEMBER 23, 2004, 7 - 9 PM
Metro Regional Center, Council Chamber
600 NE Grand Ave., Portland

SEPTEMBER 28, 2004, 7 - 9 PM
Pioneer Community Center
615 Fifth St., Oregon City

OCTOBER 2, 2004, 9:30 - 11:30 AM
Public Services Building, Cafeteria
155 N. First Ave., Oregon City

A meeting with the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) followed a similar agenda, but did not discuss Topic 1 and took place on the following date, time and location.

SEPTEMBER 27, 2004, 3:30 - 5 PM
Council Chamber and Annex, 3rd floor
Metro Regional Center, 600 NE Grand Avenue, Portland

Four meetings with neighborhood associations, community planning organizations, and civic organizations followed a similar agenda, but Topic 1 was not always discussed due to time constraints.

NOVEMBER 03, 2004 - 30 MINUTES

- Gresham's Environmental Services Council Advisory Committee
- 11 area neighborhood associations

NOVEMBER 03, 2004 - 45 MINUTES
Raleigh West Neighborhood Association Committee

NOVEMBER 09, 2004 - 25 MINUTES
Five Oaks/Triple Creek Neighborhood Association Committee

NOVEMBER 15, 2004 - 55 MINUTES
Park Place Neighborhood Association

Appendix D: Informational Materials

(Five visuals used to help facilitate discussion at the meetings. These will be added to the report before it is finalized.)

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Appendix E: Additional Comments (Web master comments, letters and correspondence)

"Let's Talk Trash"

Public comment sent to Webmaster Account

Messages copied in their entirety and compiled in this document beginning Sept. 20, 2004

Please consider holding these meetings out in more of the public areas Portland has a SE area, outer SE, SW, NW and NE. It is not always easy for people to go across town and feel we are not as important as close in NE, Oregon City and Hillsboro. Thank you for your time Judy

1. I think recycling should be seen as a community good and not just a profit-maker. The Heiberg Garbage and Recycling company does not accept many, many plastics that are clearly marked with the "recyclable" symbol. The reason Brian Heiberg gives is that it is not profitable to recycle those items.
 2. Some communities in the mid-west do their recycling at the transfer station where low-wage workers do the separating. (An alternate, but not a good solution.)
-

The city is a thing that doesn't occur in nature. As such, urban living results in a disconnection of the cyclical flow of organic resources. Farming for food and fiber mines organics from the soil in which they grow. These organic substances (considered resources) are shipped to cities where they are consumed. The residue left after consumption changes in its nature from resource to liquid or solid waste.

Metro tried a composting venture and failed. The venture was doomed before it started because the proprietary municipal waste composting machinery selected (Dano) had proven itself laughably incapable of performance on two occasions prior to the metro effort. Warning was given to the entrepreneurs on several occasions but was unfortunately ignored.

There are only three disposal options. Air, water and land. Exhaustive studies seem to have disposed of burning and drowning as alternatives to landfilling. Landfilling is expensive and getting more so as oil prices creep upward and sites creep further away. In addition landfilling doesn't get the organics back into the soils from which they originally came. Until the organics are returned, sustainability cannot be achieved.

A useful vision has a city surrounded by organic, labor intensive, farms that supply life enhancing nutrition to the city dwellers and in turn the city dwellers compost and return the residue to the farms where its reincorporation into the topsoil maintains the high levels of soil fertility necessary to organic farming. This is called a completed life cycle and is not only sustainable but also promotes evolution.

High rate municipal composting (without odor) is achievable with technology that is in the public domain. A plan exists.

I wish Metro would recognize that the recycling programs we have in place are fine. The idea that more needs to be done is a solution in search of a problem. Years ago folks used to recycle on their own without the government getting involved. Now that Metro has a bureaucracy in place, of course Metro wants to expand its recycling efforts so it can justify taxing more and spending more. Why don't you recognize that everything is fine the way it is and give it a rest?

It behooves us to get a handle on recycling Styrofoam solid core packing material. I can't imagine the amount out there. It has to go somewhere besides my garage! I will be driving a good 20 miles from my home to deliver this to a business on NE 122. I just can't imagine all of my fair city going to this length to deposit 4 or 5 pieces let alone researching to find a deposit for this. Please help.

Hi:

I just relocated to Portland from Los Angeles (I know, I know) and I am in shock as to the way trash is handled here. Portland is such a forward thinking and environmentally conscious city that I can not believe how badly it is handled! And how outrageously expensive it is to dispose of your garbage.

Los Angeles has too many downfalls to discuss but I must admit that the garbage system SHINES. Billing is through the water and power department (\$12.00 per month), revenue for the city. Customers are provided with three 50 gallon cans - black for solid waste, green for yard debris (which is made into compost and sold to consumers. more revenue for the city.) and blue for recycling - even more revenue for the city. This makes a very consumer friendly system and people are more apt to recycle more items. Everyone is happy!

It is costing me more than \$90.00 per month to dispose of my garbage AND I AM NOT A HAPPY CAMPER!! It just seems that there has got to be a better way to deal with this situation. It may be worth looking at some of the solutions that LA came up with - I think it would go over big in Portland.

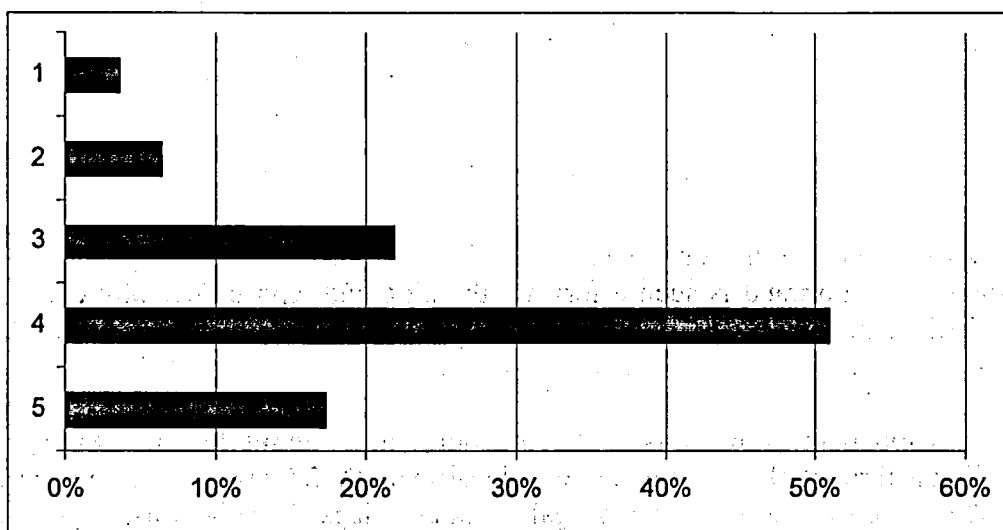
I want Metro to mandate/encourage the recycle of plastic tubs with a marked recycle number, even if only to burn them for fuel. At present, many such dishes/tubs, such as cottage cheese tubs, are not recycled in any convenient way, even though they show a recycle triangle with a number on them. If these are recycled for fuel, then can plastic bottle lids be included in the same group?

I want Metro to make easier the recycle of Styrofoam, either in block form or peanuts. Could this be done on a quarterly basis (particularly after the winter holiday season) or maybe at the same time/places as hazardous waste collection events?

Appendix F: Questionnaire Data

DO GARBAGE AND RECYCLING SERVICES MEET YOUR NEEDS?

1. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = not satisfied and 5 = very satisfied, indicate your satisfaction with the current garbage and recycling services you use. For example, are services convenient, are facilities easy for you to access and are costs reasonable?



1 = not satisfied

- There is no option for recycling only. We only generate about 2-3 cans of garbage per year. Why should we pay as much as everyone else who generates a can a month?
- Poor overall recycling of material (55%).
- Heiberg charges for extra bags of yard debris. No credit for times when no yard debris. Should be offset system. Why do you charge for yard debris since it goes to compost?

2 = mostly dissatisfied

- I don't think my hauler is particularly committed to environmental sustainability.
- I would like to have more plastics (tubs and plastic bags) recycled curbside so I don't.
- The pricing system is not satisfactory. You get charged more for having less garbage.
- I never read about Portland bidding out recycling and garbage service like they do in Seattle. I don't think we get the best price when we don't get market competition, at least once every 10 years.
- I want weekly yard debris pickup.
- They aren't as extensive as I'd like to see. You need to collect plastics of all #s as well.

3 = somewhat satisfied

- Collection services and costs are fine, but I am concerned that many plastic bottles and aseptic containers are lowest at the processors, and that much glass is not recycled back into glass products.
- Generally services are good, however, I would like to see more opportunities to recycle different items curbside to help get to zero waste.
- Recycling alone will not get us to zero waste
- Should be easier to recycle reusable building materials
- Cost at the Metro facilities seems high. You need to explain if you are talking about your facilities or at the curb. I will assume you are asking about your facilities.
- Would like clear definitions of the mix of recyclables in my bins.
- There is not yard debris collection and my hauler's office staff is not friendly.
- Like the old system where I could choose my hauler; this hauler is surly in person and office assistant is abrupt and marginally helpful when I call the hauler.
- Not enough plastic recycling available. Yard debris is too expensive.
- I wish that the cost would be a little cheaper and that maybe it would cost less to recycle than to put out our regular garbage.
- Would like to have one cart for all recycling. Styrofoam should be included.
- Don't understand why I need to sort recycling when it is all tossed into the same truck together.
- I would like to clean out the garage but don't have a truck. We need special days when waste haulers can take HHW and couches etc.
- For living in an area with so many trees, the green waste can is way too small to accommodate leaves and tree prunings for anyone, but a xeriscaped homeowner.
- Would like a depot for office paper in Gresham. Home-based businesses produce high-grade office paper that could produce a higher value end product if kept separate from commingled recyclables!
- The pick-up schedule for recyclables fluctuates from early morning to late afternoon without any notification, making it difficult at times to ready the recyclables for pick-up on time.
- Recycling pickup is convenient, but plastic items are not allowed.
- We are in a retirement center.
- For what is now recyclable at curbside the service is great. But there are still way too many things that are not recyclable (plastic lids for instance) or for which recycling is difficult.

4 = mostly satisfied

- Not enough 5cent containers are being recycled
- It is less expensive to recycle and compost than it is to send materials to landfills, which is how it should be!
- Services are good compared to other parts of the country
- Curbside good, cost reasonable, service great (west slope garbage). Washington county drop box seems to be a monopoly. They have poor customer service, the operation seems focused on the company
- Cardboard is too hard to compact into red container so I take all recycle to a center instead of using container. Fewer (or no) packing rules when recycling at center. Just heave it into a big bin.
- We should be increasing the number of items that go in the red bins

- I can't recycle everything that could be recycled curbside. Plastics for example are usually left by the handlers when I put them out. For the most part though, I am pretty happy with pick up
- I wish you would accept plastic tubs, plastic clamshells, and plastic film curbside.
- More plastics should be recyclable, and styrofoam should be picked up curbside
- I would like to see more curbside recycling of plastics such as plastic tubs and bags
- Easy but no friendly reminder left where recyclables are thrown into garbage
- It's pretty good, but the costs are rising
- The services provided are good services that would accept TV's, monitors and things like that would be great.
- Cost is okay but not great could be more affordable.
- Costs are rising
- You do a great job.
- Some plastic is hard to recycle.
- I utilize weekly recycling but only monthly garbage pickup. I feel though, that I subsidize those houses that put out weekly garbage. My cost is half theirs, not one quarter, as it should be.
- Lawn debris recycling can be expensive
- Need better plastic recycling options
- Good but would like more expansion and financial incentive
- Would like to see market for 'tub' plastics
- There are many containers (especially plastics) that are not accepted in curbside recycling, and there are no public receptacles for recycling
- Cost seems a bit high
- I live in Oregon City and the metro station is very close, so in my case it's very convenient. Most things I recycle curbside.
- I would like my hauler to stop picking up contaminants from recycling bins (those in the neighborhood).
- Shared use in condo
- I would like home pickup of some hazardous waste and more plastic recycling.
- Roll carts with lids to keep paper dry and more volume. Household batteries, plastic tubs and bags at curbside.
- Should be able to recycle all plastic containers.
- From what I know they are good for me.
- Home Service - regular weekly pick up of yard debris recycling & garbage Landfill/Transfer Stations - expensive located far enough out that it is a trip therefore not done frequently

5 = very satisfied

- Quite satisfied
- Services are reasonable priced and convenient
- I love how many options there are to recycle in Portland.
- Curbside is convenient

- Curbside pickup
- Timely pick-up, emptied containers put neatly at corner of driveway.
- We have pickup once a week for garbage and recycling, which is very convenient.
- Twice-monthly garbage pickup 1/2 mile from home; once a month recycling pickup.
- Excellent service, fair price

2. Are there services you want added, expanded or changed in the future? What are they?

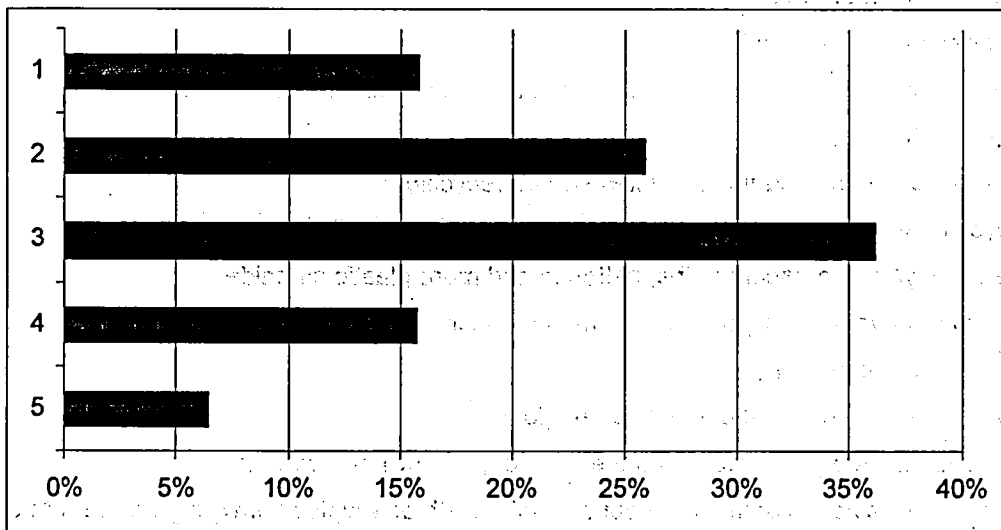
- Take more types of recycling...different plastics like #5 tubs; what about prescriptions?
- Annual large item day
- Recycling of chemicals, paints (once per month), recycling of mixed materials such as assemblies-toasters, recycling of electronics (once per month), recycling of plastic tubs, etc.
- Yes! I want to be able to put our (or take somewhere) all recyclables marked with the triangle. It is ridiculous to have a system that excludes so much plastic.
- More materials (esp. Plastics) eligible for recycling at the curb.
- More plastics recycling. Real milk carton and tetrapak recycling. 9i understand they are sorted out and disposed of at the recycling plant.)
- I want to price chart to be in favor of people with less garbage and give them a price break
- I would like to see a bulky item collection both for recycling and solid waste so I didn't have to drive to the transfer station.
- Eliminate commingling of recyclables.
- Those of us who do wash thoroughly and separate should be a brake in price on collection.
- We have Alberta sanitary service and on a couple of occasions we've made reasonable requests for service, which they flat out refused to accommodate.
- I would like to see better opportunities to recycle film plastic and non-usable clothing and textiles
- More options for plastic recycling, a program for electronics to be recycled, more opportunities to recycle yard waste in the summer and early fall.
- Electronic waste, food waste,
- Building materials exchange
- I want glass separated from all other materials collected for recycling
- Yard debris collection, roll cart recycling
- Would like yard debris collection every week during may through October if this can be added for a low cost. Do not want food waste collected from household as this costs too much per ton collected.
- Styrofoam packaging recycling needed
- No.
- Lawn trash expanded in summer
- Expanded/clarified recycling service
- Would be nice to have more items to be recycled (styrofoam). Possibly additional pickup of yard debris. San Jose has one of the best recycling programs - very easy to recycle.
- Commingled recycling without sorting glass/tin/etc.

- Home composting- huge benefits yet folks don't use the bins right. Need free carbon sources (leaf sweepings) and turners (mine cost \$15 it was in Eugene and it broke!
- At my last place of residence in California, we were allowed to put out 5 extra bundled of yard waste along with our huge green waste can. They were accepted as long as they were no longer than 5 feet
- Satellite depots for clean office paper; recycling containers in parks and public places for beverage containers - bottles and cans.
- I still take many plastics (2-6) to wild oats for recycling. Some commercial packaging makes it hard to cut down with plastics.
- I want school recycling to get better. Especially food at lunch.
- Include recycling of various plastic containers and bags.
- We want trash to really be recycled and not just trucked to a landfill.
- We need more help for recycling fluorescent lamps ballasts electronics windows and small amounts of construction debris like concrete.
- Lessened
- Need broader container deposit program
- Yes, 1) plastic recycling of 'no neck' containers. 2) post-consumer compostable materials-- food scraps, paper plates that can't be recycled.
- Offer recycling of compostable material and all plastics
- I want the option of a garbage pick up every two weeks, or else a reduced rate for a half sized garbage can.
- Want choice of drop box in Washco; paint can recycle open on Sunday
- I would really like to see curbside composting.
- Styrofoam and battery disposal. Paying to recycle isn't going to work.
- Increase the scope of recycling
- Special pickup if you have a big clean up
- Plastic pick-up
- Expanded to include plastics, food
- Curbside food waste pickup for composting and yard waste pickup increased to weekly.
- Recycle more types of containers, as above
- Plastic films and increased yard debris.
- A local recycling center for teachers or parents to provide materials to be reused in creative ways within the classroom.
- I think we should promote recycling at a higher level by charging those who do not recycle a higher rate. Small cans should be given a greater discount than they currently receive.
- More info on what is recyclable plus what to do about plastics
- More convenient bottle and can return services
- Pick up, TV's, monitors, batteries.
- No
- I would like a more convenient (hours, locations, costs) way to recycle monitors. I'm taking my 4 monitors to Clark county so I don't have to pay. I teach environmental science.

- Would like to be able to recycle more plastics (i.e. Non-neck containers) as well as see composting services for apartment complexes.
- Added plastic recycling.
- Organics recycling, additional plastics recycling (containers and films)
- Plastic tubs, polystyrene
- Weekly lawn debris pickup
- I'd love to include all plastics in my bin, threaded head or not.
- Expanded plastic, and organic matter recycling
- Continued increase in the different types of plastic recyclable options, tubs, bags, etc.
- More plastic recycling; yard debris weekly in Portland.
- More recycling. We only have 4 to pick from glass, newspaper, cardboard, tin
- See above -- plus, a decrease in the cost of dropping garbage/recycling off at transfer stations I think would encourage more people to use them rather than dump illegally
- More on composting
- Plastics, all the stuff you don't know what to do with.
- Yes. I would like weekly yard debris pick-up
- Expansion of items collected either curbside or at depots.
- Commingled recycling, expanded recyclables collection including plastics 3-7
- Hazardous waste drop offs on a regular basis
- Would like to recycle more materials curbside, i.e. Plastics
- Weekly yard debris collection in Portland
- Expand plastic recycling to include more kinds of plastics including margarine tubs
- Plastics of all kinds
- Roll carts for recycling; expand the list of items to be recycled.
- Plastics recycling and hazardous waste disposal not easily accessible.
- I would love to recycle fluorescent bulbs, batteries and more plastic curbside.
- Would be great to have twice a year bulky item and hazardous waste collections.
- Curbside plastic bag recycling.
- Curbside food waste, commingle everything but glass.
- Transfer stations salvage yard - store. More education, I know I can do better.
- Garbage cans better sized to actually accept a weeks worth of a typical family's garbage with out overflowing. Too tall and skinny - two 13 gal kitchen bags fill
- I just want more people to know exactly what they can and can't recycle
- Add more materials for recycling or roll carts for recycling to make it easier for citizens
- More recycling of plastic, weekly yard debris
- More plastics recycling. Those darn yogurt tubs seem to pile up at my house.
- Expanded recycling
- Alkaline battery recycling in bins

- Composting
- Yard waste, more plastic recycled
- Add hauler staff to sort/separate residential trash on pick-up day. Requires trash-pick up prior to recycling pick up.
- I would love to have yard debris pickup more than once every two weeks.
- More education: you need to do a much better job explaining how to separate items and what you take. I walk through my neighborhood and see what rotten job a lot of people have done sorting their stuff
- More plastic recycling at curbside.
- More options of number of cans per month. Recycling of all plastics that can be sold.
- No
- Recycle more plastics
- Such as? I'd like to recycle yogurt & cottage cheese tubs.
- 60-gallon carts for recycling pick up instead of bins (yes I would pay for this) bulky waste pick up electronic pick up curbside recycling options for plastic containers.
- Electronics & household

3. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = nothing more and 5 = a lot more, indicate how much more you would be willing to pay for any new service, if it were to cost more to provide.



1 = nothing more

- Its already too expensive
- I pay sufficient amounts to cover the costs of collection and disposal.
- I see no reason why it should cost more.
- I should pay less for less service.

- I do not want to pay anymore than I already do
- We pay for recycling; the general public does not want to pay for extra recycling when they could just throw it away. Recycling will not be successful if it cost more money.
- Don't
- A greater focus on composting should reduce the amount of waste-- therefore it should not cost more.
- Not sure how to answer this, I like my service. I only think enforcement to others should be applied. Force people to recycle or they are penalized.
- Lets become more price competitive
- We do not produce large volumes of garbage or recyclables
- We pay enough already.
- Twenty bucks a month is sufficient much more and people will stock pile it to consolidate runs to the landfill
- Rates are already quite high in Beaverton so I'm not willing to pay more
- I try hard to do the right thing. I don't want to have to pay more if I consume less and recycle. Ask the polluter to pay more.

2 = a little more

- I'd pay a little more for weekly yard debris pickup and the same to eliminate commingling.
- We haul our yard debris to McFarland
- I think recycling should pay for itself if possible. Am willing to pay a bit more if more products can be recycled than can be now.
- Maybe if you made the recycling fees cheaper then you would get more people who are willing to pay to get their recycling picked up.
- I would be willing to pay slightly more if I can recycle more.
- Broaden the container law
- I would be willing to pay 3-5 dollars more per month for food composting.
- If we can recover goods instead of sending to landfill, shouldn't we pay less?
- At this point I don't have the financial flexibility
- If it were significant to the city, the environment, or my convenience I would consider it important
- I don't think we need much in the way of new services, so I'm only willing to pay a bit more
- This depends on whether or not my household would use the service.
- More interested in manufacturer responsibility and rate incentives to reduce waste.
- It depends on the service.
- I'm just cheap
- It already seems high for garbage service.
- Fixed, small income

3 = more

- A reasonable increase in cost is worth it if it increases sustainability and decreases environmental impact.

- Those who don't separate adequately should pay extra.
- I'd certainly be willing to pay to recycle more materials
- If the new service was reasonable, it may be warranted.
- A couple of dollars a month is easy for me and big for you if there are recognizable services added
- I would be willing to pay \$1 per month more for collection of source-separated office paper. Would be willing to deliver paper to local depot and pay onsite.
- I base my estimate on what I spend to operate my own car to transport the additional plastics to wild oats for recycling, or hazardous waste to a waste station.
- Has to eventually be same as or less than garbage cost.
- Depends on service. I would like to see 0 waste
- If it was an optional new service - a reasonable price would be ok.
- I'd pay a little more to recycle all plastics
- I am willing to pay if I know plastic films are being recycled.
- I think recycling should be closer to 90%, particularly hazardous waste. People at the transfer site should remove hazardous materials and things like sod, before landfilling.
- Not sure. As an apartment renter, I do not know how much of my rent is related to garbage and recycling.
- Would pay some to be able to recycle more
- We are on a tight budget.
- If I get to recycle more things, I am willing to pay more.
- Depends on how 'green' the service truly is
- Add more plastic containers to list of acceptable recyclable items, and add composting program. Top current trash is unacceptable plastic containers/bags, styrofoam and food waste.
- I'd be willing to pay a couple of dollars more a month for yard debris pickup every week.
- Depends on the service

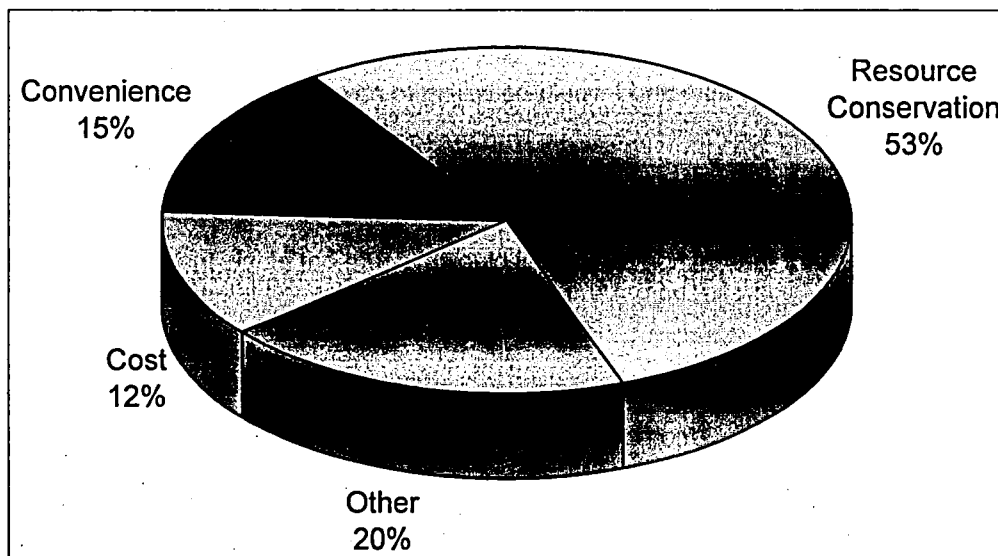
4 = somewhat more

- An extra \$1-2 per pick up would be fine.
- It shouldn't cost more if the service is designed efficiently.
- Would be willing to pay to support an exchange
- Especially for reusable material. Like aprons and dishes. Also less packaging on the food.
- The cost for recycling now is very, very reasonable. Just having a place to properly recycle things would be worth whatever it costs us within limits of course.
- I would use the 'carrot' of keeping recycling 'free' but raising rates of garbage to landfill
- It is either going to cost us now or later in the future. Why not pay for value added recycling now.
- A fair amount
- Would pay for convenience and save transport.
- For current services \$0

5 = a lot more

- We need to start paying the resource loss and social costs instead of putting it onto future generations. This is best (by far) done with a tax on goods relative to the products ease of recyclability
- I would pay more only if I knew for certain that the material collected would be utilized to its highest extent
- We have a crisis in terms of ewaste and I would be willing to pay not to send our problem to China
- I would love to see a strong PAYT (Pay As You Throw) program implemented.
- Recycling and waste prevention is extremely important to me. We have to be willing to pay for it.
- It costs money to provide the additional service...nothing is free.

4. What is most important to you about services in the future? Cost, convenience, resource conservation or other?



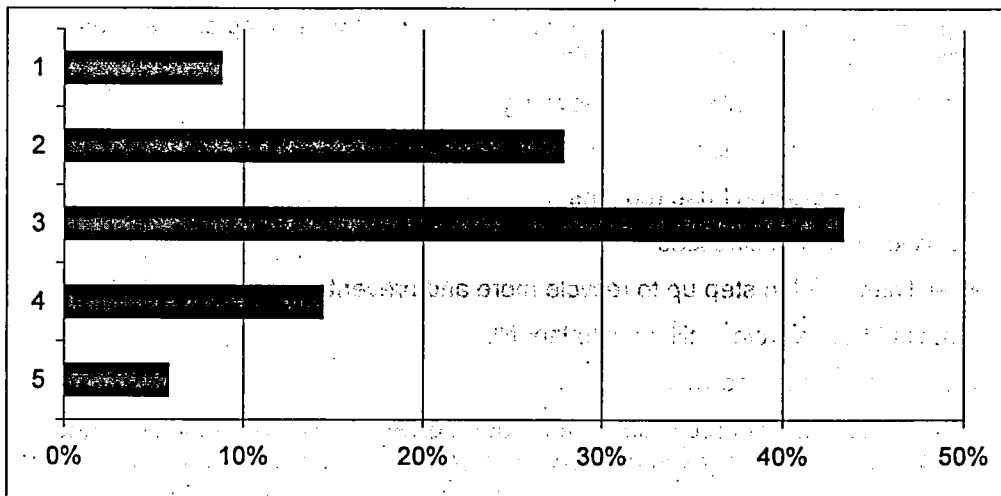
Other

- Fairness, I don't like paying for what I don't use.
- Keep rates low!
- I think there should be more waste streams collected for recycling -- but I do NOT support co-mingling.
- Cost and convenience
- I want to see more waste being diverted in our region. Food waste is an enormous percentage of what is in the landfill.
- We as a nation flat out waste too much. I would like to see some more upstream answers for reducing or environmental impact, like education on packaging, and products that are support on a local basis.
- They are all important
- Ability to recycle all products purchased.
- All
- Low sulfur diesel, rail haul to Arlington,
- Of course without convenience, some people will not recycle at all so we need to make it easier for them to do it.
- I know this is not a new idea, but we must STOP producing plastics that can't be recycled. Improved recycling has to start with how products are packaged.
- Resource conservation and reduction of hazardous waste and no incineration.
- Viability of recycling industry
- Education of customers on available services and customer utilizing available services.

- We should be shooting for zero waste.
- We need effective collection programs that enable our recyclables to go to the uses that will save the most energy and other resources. Then we can make those programs more convenient and efficient to reduce cost. I hope we don't follow stupid California where they let haulers yard debris in landfills in place of soil to cover garbage. I hope our yard debris is used for compost to make better soil, which can be used for organic farming.
- Waste reduction as important as open space--like to see Metro restore support and resources to waste management.
- I favor resource conservation but feel recycling should be made REALLY easy by providing services to pick most anything: compostable, all plastics, electronic goods, etc.
- Resource conservation is the main reason I recycle.
- I've been misled by Garbage/Recycling companies in Portland who claim to recycle items such as aseptic containers, when they are actually incinerated. I would like to see more accountability along the lines of recycling. Companies should be required to recycle the items that they claim to recycle. I've hear stories about the cost of recycling being so expensive that companies would rather ship recyclables to a landfill than spend the money on recycling and I worry that those stories are true.

SECTION 2: HOW MUCH CAN WE RECYCLE?

5. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = not satisfied and 5 = very satisfied, rate your satisfaction with the current level of effort by residents and businesses on recycling.



1 = not satisfied

- Organics is pitiful; my garage clean out is tossed - carpet, chemicals etc.
- Our residential neighbors recycle little/none. Cardboard and other paper consistently get put in trash cans
- We can't even reach the paltry 62%!
- Some people don't even try
- Seems very few people and businesses recycle.

- Could always do better
- I think there is more businesses and residents could do. Waste prevention for example, is something that should be a constant message to people. When there are still people using 90/60 gallon -

2 = mostly dissatisfied

- My company could easily recycle a lot more.
- We could do a lot better.
- Much of the recycling business put in; in-office recycling bins get thrown in the garbage, driving down the road people seem to recycle but I'm sure we could all do much better.
- Much more could be done by the business sector
- I see a great need for improvement in the schools— there should never be paper in the garbage can at any school and right now there is plenty ending up there! Styrofoam trays have got to go too!
- We haven't added a new recycling material to our household program in 8 years. Seattle can do plastic bags and tubs, which I have to cart to the grocery store.
- People do a good job with what is easy and would probably recycle more items if it was made very convenient
- I often see people throwing recyclables in the trash and frequently go to businesses where they don't even appear to have recycling.
- Need greater efforts at the commercial level.
- I work at a mall in Washington County in which, except for cardboard, recycling seems virtually non-existent.
- 50% recycling rate isn't good enough and the amount of trash that is being created has actually grown, we need to reduce the amount of stuff!
- We do not feel commingling really means recycling.
- Residents seem to work at it; business very spotty, can be awful
- Too many of my neighbors don't use red bins
- Few public recycle bins in businesses
- Commercial facilities need to step up to recycle more and prevent waste.
- Too much that could be recycled still goes to landfill.
- Everyone knows we have a long way to go.
- Very upset that schools use nonrecyclable foam trays it gives the wrong message to kids. Why not washable reusables or force the manufacturers to recycle the trays. Pps should set example, it's appall
- My company recycles paper, but doesn't buy recycled products and there's nowhere to recycle things like cans or bottles, etc.
- Businesses are doing poorly in part because there is not an adequate program nor incentive for them to participate

3 = somewhat satisfied

- Improvement by business is needed.
- As a household, we can do better. We already use the smallest garbage can size we can have, but could do better if more products could be recycled.

- Businesses in Gresham are expanding recycling; residents are losing interest. Need more residential public outreach.
- I see many who don't care
- Seem to do minimum - everyone could recycle more
- Most of my neighbors seem to recycle and most businesses I am in regular contact with do
- People try but costs in time and services are hard.
- Businesses could do more.
- People are not motivated to recycle.
- I have no idea what efforts have been,
- I know some people who never use their recycling bins. I feel that it should be mandatory. If they choose not to recycle, they should pay above and beyond what recycling families pay.
- Residents do very well, exceeding projections. Businesses need to do a lot more, and best' requirements for how much businesses recycle should increase. We also need well designed public receptacles
- The garbage people should not pick up the garbage unless it is properly sorted. The haulers should inspect.
- Most everyone recycles what they can, but they don't think twice about filling a garbage can each week. With a worm bin and compost pile, we generate very little...shrink wrap, plastic lids, that's it
- Good, but plenty of room to improve
- We do have a high local recycling rate, but I am still bothered when people don't take the time to recycle even easily-separated items
- Too few commercial users recycle waste effectively, i.e. Restaurants do not always provide
- We could do a lot better!
- I see a lot of business not recycling basic goods like paper.
- Lots of organics still in the bins!
- We do better than most places in the country
- Education and outreach needs improvement.
- Businesses could definitely do a better job.
- Forest grove is pretty aware, as communities go; but I see room for education/awareness on the separation efforts.
- I live in NE Portland and feel there is not really adequate info presented to these residents and businesses to promote efficient consumerism in regards to recycling.
- It seems too many residents and/or businesses do not sort recyclables well. I wonder how much is thrown out due to poor sorting. Plus, I think everyone could be doing a better job overall.
- Businesses need to do more.
- I don't think people feel they are making a difference.
- I think both parties can do more to increase recycling rates.
- We are only at 47%, I understand
- We have come a long ways and we have a long ways to go. I believe that there are many who do not recycle, particularly residents of apartments and businesses who do not have recycling plans.

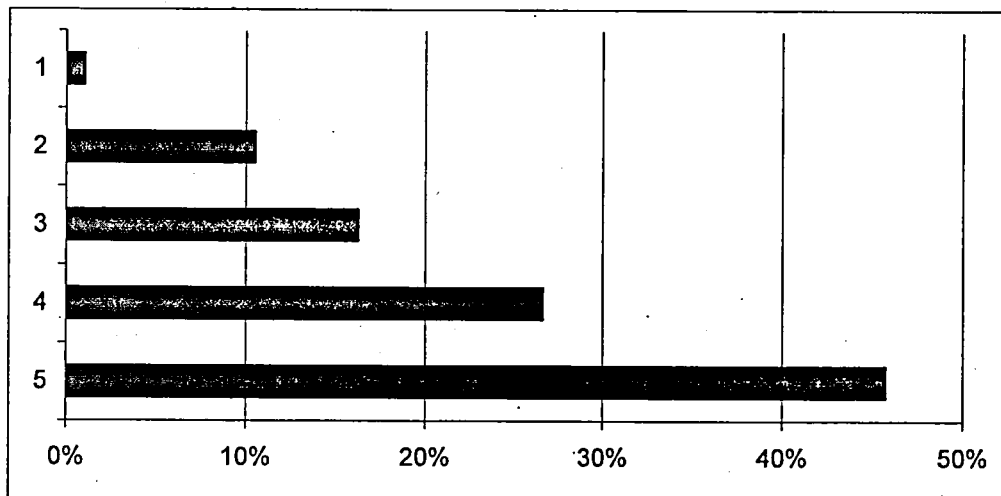
4 = mostly satisfied

- My neighbors and I do a good job. Not sure about businesses.
- I generally see recycling bins out next to every garbage can on garbage day.
- Other than the wrong or improperly prepared material, recycling is very good.
- They seem to do pretty well effort wise.
- I feel like my law firm could do a lot better!
- I wish that places in the workplace would make an extra effort to conserve and to recycle more than they do currently.
- More options could be offered such as scrap wood, more plastics, etc.
- I think residents do a very good job - I'm not convinced businesses are doing as well.
- Metro does a great job of education us on where to get information -- the '234-3000' jingle campaign was great! We could use better hours on weekends at facility sites though.
- I'm so happy to see so many people make an effort.
- I think people could try harder to recycle as much as possible.

5 = very satisfied

- I think we are all doing what we can. but it will take more. The question is, are we willing to pay for it.
- Yard debris collection could go to once a week during May through October.
- I see way to much waste, and overuse of our resources. A huge room for improvement to engage our citizens and more importantly our businesses to be stewards of socially conscious resource consumption.

6. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = not important and 5 = very important, rate the importance to you of making a larger investment in public information and recycling programs.



1 = not important

- I don't think this is an issue.

2 = mostly not important

- If it cost a lot, I feel that it is a poor use of money.
- I think a lot money is wasted on sending people newspapers like 'trash talk' no one reads that. A simple flyer with what people can recycle cost less is read more.
- I don't want to spend more, just make it simple
- I don't think that throwing more money at recycling is the answer. The problem is too much consumption not lack of recycling.
- Public information needs to be improved, more programs are not needed if the information was easier to understand.
- "Large investment" in public info should be limited to NEW recycling programs. My child is taught how to recycle almost every year by Metro at school, this is unnecessary.

3 = important

- Accepting more items for recycling would help. Cans at a reduced cost for recyclers. Word of mouth and setting by example - neighbors is most effective. Not money for ads.
- I see the value of recycling education for kids, but adults need other engagement.
- Well-intentioned people don't really know what is recyclable curbside. They need to have non-recyclable materials left at the curb. That's the best education!
- With consumers I think recycling is more of a convenience issue
- Would like to see more info on waste prevention.

4 = somewhat important

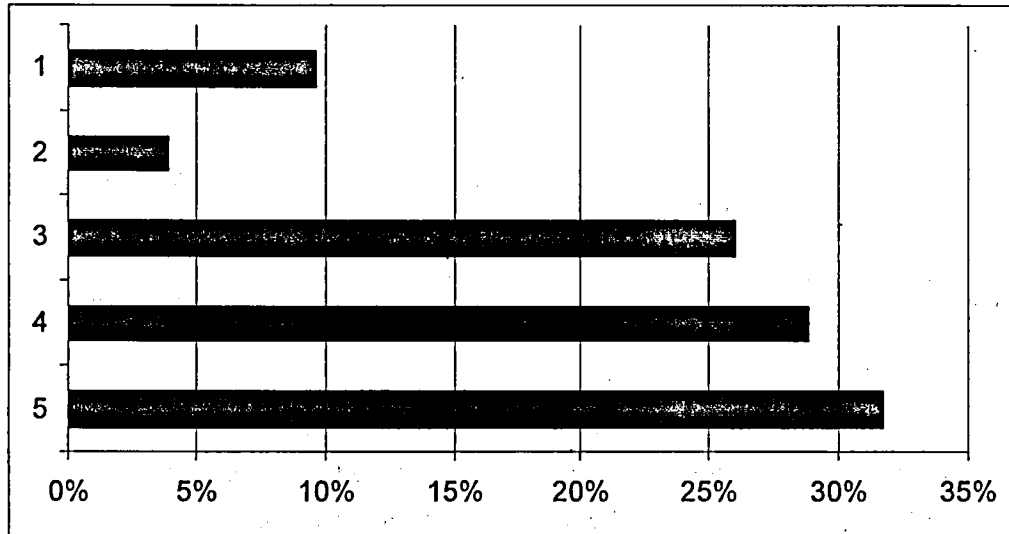
- I'd probably put 5 if the public information emphasized reducing and reusing and not quite so much on recycling
- Having a more easily readable guide to recycling protocols that can read quickly and put on fridge or in kitchen drawer, that is on durable paper would be a good thing for households to have.
- Need more info on how to recycle, like what things need to be segregated and what does not
- Just anecdotally, I have noticed a decline in curbside setouts in my neighborhood with advent of roll carts. It seems more people are throwing away recyclables. The roll carts are overflowing/bins going
- We need fewer garbage cans, more recycling opportunities
- Five of my students are right now filling out this questionnaire. I teach environmental science at north Clackamas Christian.
- Need to be careful to spend education/promotion dollars only where they will be effective. Don't waste money on things like videos to go on cable channels.
- Individualized assistance, help people to overcome perceived barriers
- You have to find a champion within each group to make these changes
- I've heard a lot of talk recently about recycling not being much/any better for the environment based on the amount of energy it takes to recycle -- I think de-bunking this myth would be valuable
- I think that it is important for people to recycle and for programs to be started
- My neighbors & I do a good job. Not sure about businesses.

5 = very important

- It's so important! I don't see the world surviving if we don't
- Keep changing behaviors - it takes a long time
- Our world has finite resources. Renewable resources need to have a high priority
- Recycling can lead to greater thoughtfulness in purchasing decisions.
- I think increased education is the key to getting people on board to participate.
- Recycling is very important, and lets not forget about reduce and reuse first!
- We don't need more information, but rather convenient ways to recycle more items on a regular basis. Why can't I recycle my compact fluorescent bulbs and computers on a regular basis.
- Because so many people operate on an 'out of sight, out of mind' basis, education is key to increasing recycling efforts.
- Business can have huge impact either way, so get them onboard
- Citizens and businesses won't know about programs unless they are educated about them.
- Extremely important, I work in a school and apples me how much is not recycled or reused.
- See my earlier comment about the huge need for education. (I also need to mention that a lot of these poor recyclers are otherwise conscientious (sp?) Folks.
- Again, education is a learning tool
- Become more involved in educating the public.
- I think it's important for our long-term health.
- Since we don't have recycling regs, voluntary action depends on education and personal actions

- Remember, reduce intake, reuse output, then finally if nothing else, recycle! (waste = food!)
- The investment doesn't need to be monetary - standards and accountability is needed.
- Yup! +++ we aren't there yet.
- People constantly need info input, look at what we have to hear on the news everyday. People need to get more input about their immediate environment.
- We can do a lot better.
- Education seems to be the only way that people know what to do.
- Our grandchildren should not have to live with our wastefulness
- Awareness should increase level of recycling. An emphasis on school age children would be good as that would benefit future generations.
- The more you know, the more you are willing to participate.
- I think that it is incredibly important to educate the common people about normal, minuscule ways to conserve. For example, teaching people the benefits of composting verses garbage disposal.
- Community and environment are core values we hold highly.
- Recycling is great but more emphasis needs to be made on re-duce.
- Natural and manufactured resources are limited. We need to reduce, reuse, and recycle.
- I hope people will make the commitment if they have the right information
- Education about the importance of resource reduction and socially responsible consumption is one important way to use an upstream solution to our current crisis.
- I would like recycling available to everyone, but I do not know if it is in every community. Also it's so important the public know exactly what can be recycled and how we can prepare our recycling.

7. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = no further government regulation and 5 = high level of government regulation, what level of government regulation would you support in order to increase recycling?



1 = no further government regulation

- I don't think we need any more regulations, just the will to listen to the public.
- I don't think that the government should be involved any more than necessary
- Do not need more government regulations
- I am not a fan of regulation. Education is a better approach. If people want to recycle they will. You can't force them to do it.
- Government involvement requires a subsidy, therefore the markets do not drive the programs. Some areas are unregulated which makes it unfair to both the public, businesses, and collectors.
- Educate don't regulate - impress people with the benefits of recycling not scare them with more regulations
- No opinion on this issue

2 = hardly any regulation

- We are already recycling at a high rate in Portland, will cost too much to ratepayers to make substantial increases in recycling.

3 = some regulation

- We need to increase recycling, some regulation could make it happen.
- I would say 4 or 5 but people resist more 'laws' or 'rules.'
- I could see certain regulations on businesses being valid
- I'd be interested in perhaps some landfill bans and/or some manufacturer take-back regulations for appliances and electronics.

- Carrot is better than a stick, but increasing recycling is very important.
- The regulation would be most helpful in preventing the existence of certain products in the first place or in establishing more producer responsibility over the product's entire life cycle.
- Pay for landfill remediation! Ziploc doesn't guarantee their 400 ton sizes!
- Look at why education hasn't worked first.
- Only if businesses receive the same restrictions as residents, would I support further regulation. I feel this is where the majority of waste usually occurs.
- How about investing in businesses (mrf's, manufacturers, etc) who allow the system to handle more materials
- Any new rules that legally enforce people to be educated about the dying state of today's earth.
- I think regulations a component but not the sole motivator. What if we tell people to recycle and they don't...who will enforce and at what cost.

4 = more regulation

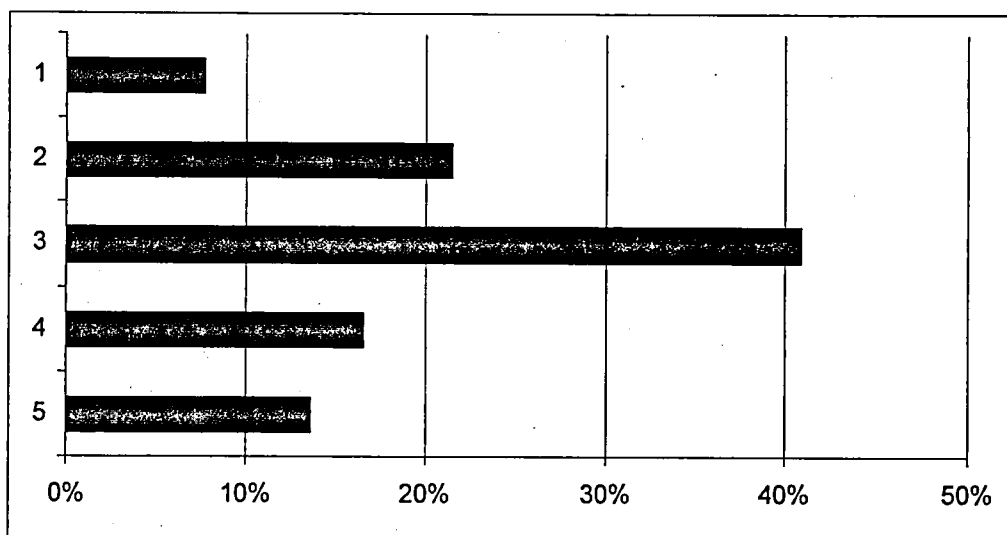
- Waste is a national problem, gov. Regulated recycling would be a good thing.
- Voluntary standards only get us so far. If this region is going to boost its recycling rate, government has to tell business to take some responsibility.
- I would focus more on mandating recycling with businesses as Portland does
- I support government regulation that puts the burden on the producers as in Europe
- Packaging restrictions are needed. Should advocate on national or state level where possible.
- I think landfill bans of selected materials would be appropriate.
- Some people are not motivated to do things because it is the right thing to do - it needs to be a law or ordinance before they will do something. Mandatory garbage service should help this!
- We all need a push once in a while....
- Regulation to increase access & opportunities to recycle
- If it is something I can do without \$ investment.
- People alone are not going to do it.
- I've seen volunteer recycling, we are falling short.
- Hold our citizen accountable for natural capital costs of each and every one of our lifestyles. Then you can have financial incentives to reduce and recycle

5 = high level of government regulation

- Hate more rules and regs, but they will pay off in the long run.
- Make companies take back old tires, computers, etc. Enlarge the bottle bill.
- Make the haulers collect recyclables properly. If they want to commingle then they should get less on their franchise fees.
- If, by 'government regulation' you mean enacting a law making it illegal to not recycle, then I
- Regulate it highly, especially in business
- Make it mandatory but convenient so that people don't cheat or dump stuff
- Look at Germany where original manufacturers must take a product back when the customer is finished with it. They don't landfill goods to the extent we do. It is regulated by the government.

- I think that is the only way some people will do it
- Usually things happen when government mandates policies that benefit the entire region.
- Make it mandatory for businesses and residents to recycle!
- It is obscene that our country consumes so many resources. The least we could do is make recycling a responsibility of any us consumer. Recycling is more important than littering, which has a fine.
- Same as above-- I want to see practices as green as possible, regulation is good if it works
- I think that we have hit a plateau with the level of recycling in the area from voluntary measures. To get to zero waste or an 80% + recycling rate, we'll need some regulations.
- Given our levels of consumption compared to other nations, we must be responsible for our actions...just as littering - fines.
- A garbage tax to producers-similar to the green dot program of Germany is essential.
- Perhaps done via incentives not sure what a good balance would be for success.
- I would support requiring recycling in the construction industry to 'level the playing field'
- Sadly, those who still don't take the time will need such to change habits.
- Although recycling is not the answer, your question doesn't cover reduction, reuse, etc. So I am voting for all strategies
- If government regulation would increase recycling, then I would support that.
- Whatever it takes to get more done! Fines for not recycling materials were common in New Jersey to get consumers and businesses to recycle.
- Benefits from recycling accrue to the community, so government needs to be in charge.
- I think the government's involvement should be geared toward getting volunteers and citizens involved so the public is doing the conservation (on the government's dollar!)

8. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = nothing more and 5 = a lot more, indicate how much more you would be willing to pay for any new service that would increase recycling if it were to cost more to provide.



1 = nothing more

- As I said, my main concern is overpayment for service I'm not utilizing because I am rigorous with recycling and buying green.
- Don't want to pay for any new services
- Not just me, but the average person is not going to pay extra when they could just throw it away for the normal price of garbage.
- If people who didn't recycle had to pay a lot more, I think that would take care of the increased cost. Why make the people who are doing it pay? That doesn't make sense to me.

2 = a little more

- It depends on if I really needed the new service
- Don't charge me for doing the right thing. Make the guy who drives a hummer and uses weed & feed, disposable cell phones, etc. Pay for it.
- To have carts for garbage, recycling, and yard debris collection at all residential customers for all services makes sense. The cost would be minimal.
- Depends on how much the costs would change. How high?
- Even though I may want to give as much as I can to support new recycling costs, my checkbook simply won't allow it.
- My tolerance for significantly increased costs is not high. Maybe \$1 to \$2 more per month
- However, if recycling is mandatory (like Seattle and Hawaii) it might not be necessary to raise costs.
- Just because of my current financial situation, but I don't mind be held accountable for my ecological footprint in our great community.
- Cost to landfill should go up before you begin charging for recycling.
- Recycling needs to be prepaid by building it into the cost of the product or good. If you just increase the cost of the recycling service you make it less attractive with respect to disposal.

3 = more

- Provide me a proposal. This question is fairly generic
- If it increases recycling I'm all for it!
- Didn't you already ask this?
- Depends on how spending is managed.
- I am in a lower middle class bracket, and my economic restrictions would dictate how much I could afford. Putting the burden on who produces the most waste is most logical.
- I would favor increased fees on the purchase of goods to cover increased disposal costs instead of higher backend fees. Ireland has a 15 pence fee on plastic bags that has significantly reduced them
- Relative to current a few dollars more is not hard to deliver...
- I would pay \$5.00/ month more
- Depends on service
- We don't pay to recycle now, unless it has been built into the garbage collection costs.
- It eventually has got to cost less than trash hauling.
- As long as the price is based on cost, I'll pay somewhat more.

4 = somewhat more

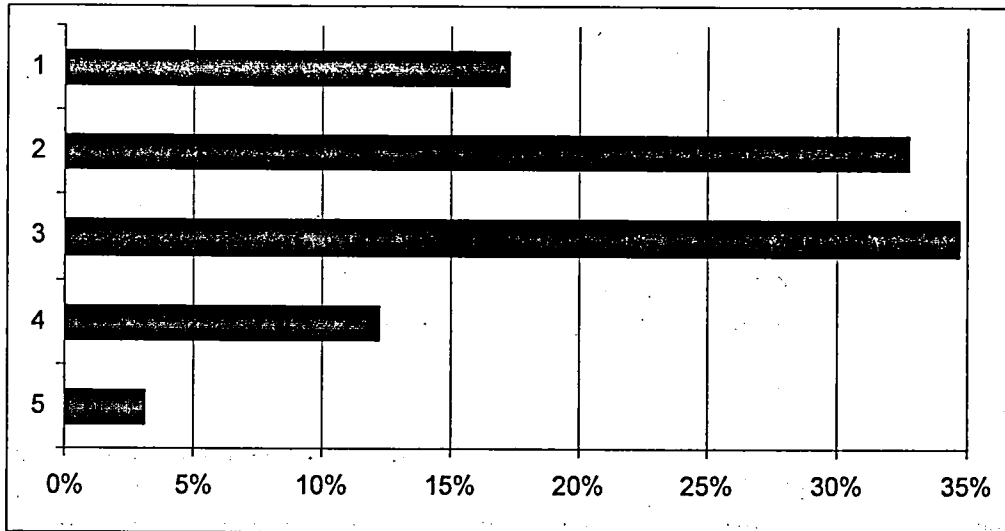
- I would pay more for recycling as long as regular garbage rates were kept as low as possible.
- This isn't optional.
- Worth the added cost in the end.
- It would probably be a rent increase.
- I would pay but I think it would be more effective to have penalties for NOT recycling.

5 = a lot more

- I will pay more. But will everyone. Good question and you had better be sure of the answer.
- \$1 per month for less commingled service
- Right now we only pay about \$17 a month for garbage, recycling and yard debris pickup, which is a bargain.
- Included into costs of buying product, a fully responsible product would give the pennies back. If recycled properly just as the bottles do now.
- I don't think it has to cost more, but this is the only choice. I envision ecoparks such as they have in Berkeley where people can buy what is currently thrown out.
- We have to be willing to pay for this as it is a benefit to all and to future generations.
- I can reduce costs by doing some or all myself.
- Too vague, which service

SECTION 3: HOW CAN SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLES GUIDE SOLID WASTE PRACTICES?

9. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = not satisfied and 5 = very satisfied, how satisfied are you with the current level and type of home and business sustainability practices?



1 = not satisfied

- I am no expert, but I see it losing ground. No one in my neighborhood does anything to sustain themselves.
- Portland has some great examples but the community is only just starting to scratch the surface of when it might accomplish.
- We just have a long way to go, I like the direction we are going, but we seem to be stagnant on our growth of these practices. Many think that just recycling the newspapers is enough.
- I am not aware that Metro offers any services that support sustainability at businesses or home, except the natural gardening tours.
- Product and packaging design is a problem; people aren't as committed as I'd like.
- I don't see the system as being sustainable; simply collecting recyclables is not sustainable.
- Pilot projects are great, we need mainstream projects.
- I don't know which are the top ten home products that help the biosphere....
- Awareness is low and most businesses either don't want to know or are governed from out-of-state and don't care.
- We are barely scratching the surface as a culture. Many people would comply with stricter sustainability if it was culturally supported
- Portland does a lot metro could do much more.
- No measures are in place that communicate our level of sustainability.

- Portland does a lot metro could do much more.

2 = mostly dissatisfied

- I sure it is not great, we go through a lot of resource and produce a lot of waste in a year, we waste a lot.
- Could do better
- I feel there needs to be more public education regarding indoor air quality and toxic products in homes. Perhaps some supportive information on reducing consumption in general.
- People are still far from making whole system connections.
- Again, I feel more residents and businesses need to learn the options, and find ways to make it feasible to live with less waste.
- There is a lot more room to grow sustainable practices, even in Portland.
- It's a start, need to do much more!
- More businesses w/fleets should be using alternate fuels. TV's, computers, phones, electronic toys should have 'take back' programs.
- Businesses and municipal offices could do more. It should be enforced to use both sides of printer paper, as an example.
- Nothing is separated now. We don't believe commingling works.
- We have done a lot in our own home but others could do more and we could do better if we could recycle more types of products
- Sustainability is a huge and complicated issue. It not only has to do with the cost of service but the economy and the impact sustainability practices have on production and competition.
- There needs to be more incentive to homes and businesses for sustainable practices. i.e., energy efficient appliances, smaller collection containers, composting. Etc.
- Some people and businesses are familiar with sustainability, but most are not--still needs education.
- Plastic and excess packaging are too prevalent. Alpenrose dairy just switched to plastic from cardboard, more education.
- We are way ahead of the rest of the country but have far to go to reach zero waste
- We have a long ways to go. A lot more could be done in composting to reduce greenhouse gases and storm water management to reduce runoff/sewer drainage into the rivers. We also need energy conservation
- Businesses should do more w/resource efficiently and product responsibility. Design to be recycled or taking it back - close the loop.

3 = somewhat satisfied

- I like the options we have, I just want an option for less trash.
- For as little as people understand the concepts of sustainability, I think we're pretty much where we should be
- My students and I are not sure what this question means. I think nothing is sustainable with a growing population.
- No opinion on this issue
- I don't know what you are asking... I only know my practices and those of my employees and friends.

- Portland metro area does better than most of us but not nearly good enough
- Don't know enough
- We all could do a lot more.
- Businesses could take back more items.
- Again, education is needed.
- Compared with the rest of the country, we're doing a good job. But to be truly a sustainable community, we have to be better than just good.

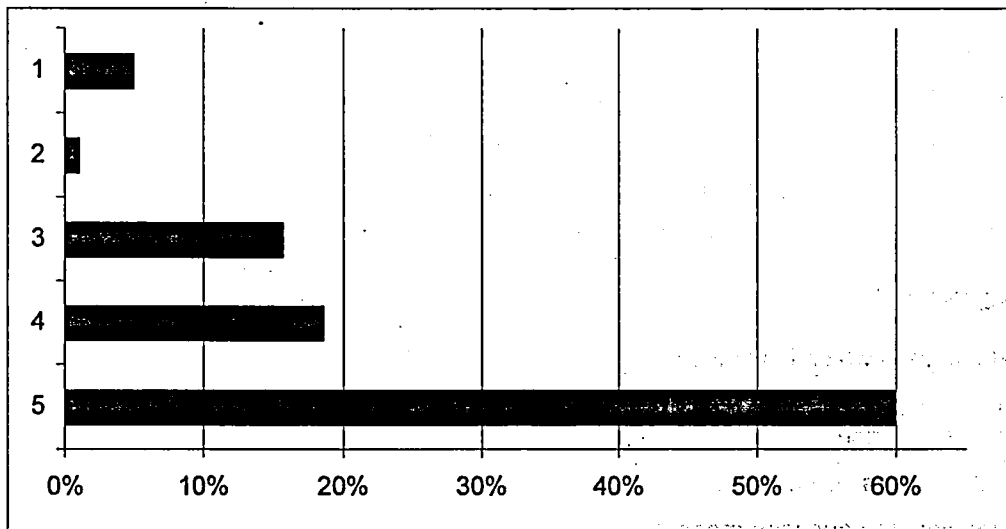
4 = mostly satisfied

- Ok as long as costs do not increase
- There are many options for everyone to make green choices. Again, more public information is needed in what is available to the public and how to take advantage of them.
- Work with businesses first where economies of scale will help make costs more reasonable.
- I think businesses could do better to help conserve and recycle and educate their employees about ways to conserve.
- Home=good, business=needs work
- Would love to see plastic tubs and 'no neck' containers added to list.
- There can be room for improvement
- Let's include schools/fast food and more.

5 = very satisfied

- With what I know -- which isn't much.
- Gresham is very progressive for business sustainability; water conservation seems like a bigger issue right now for residences.
- Don't know practices you mean
- I'm not sure what the question means!
- I don't understand what we are being asked in this question.

10. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = not "green" and 5 = very "green," how "green" should we make the solid waste system in terms of emphasizing broader environmental protection and resource conservation practices?



1 = not "green"

- Emphasize it when practical, i.e. does not dramatically increase costs
- Too many 'rules' already; too much restriction on private lands
- Not sure where you would head with this question. Would need to know what exactly you are asking.

2 = hardly "green"

- Oregon

3 = somewhat "green"

- It needs to be improved.
- You can't force what people don't want. Take small but firm strides.
- I believe that these diesel trucks should be required to reduce particulates. I'm not sure what else would be reasonably cost effective and have a significant environmental and health benefit.

- No opinion on this issue
- So much more education would be necessary.
- Don't understand the question.
- I think that it is just right the way it is.

4 = mostly "green"

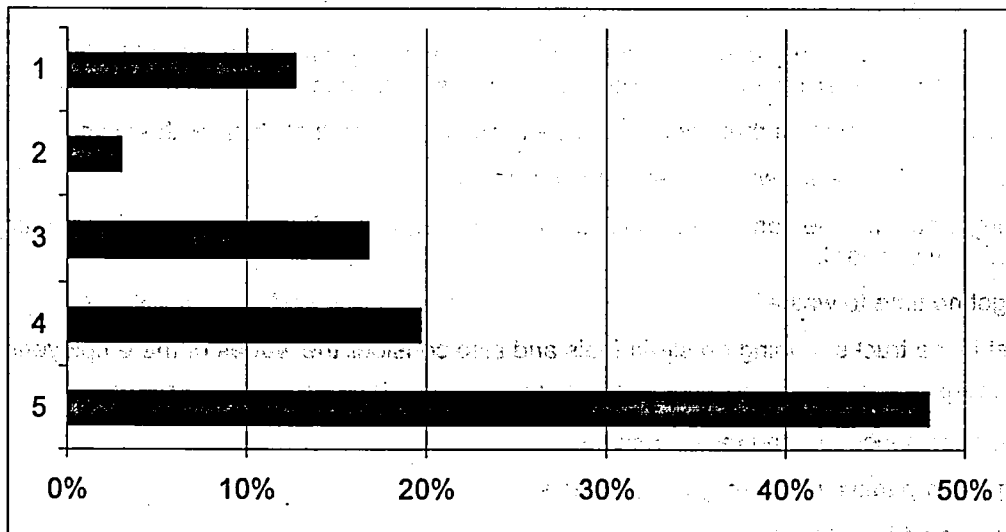
- I hope that 'greening' the system will still incorporate efforts to increase the amount of recycling.
- Ultimately 'very' green but not feasible in 10 years.
- At this point 5 seems an extreme, but if marketed well and people give good feedback - why not. Perhaps a little sticker or shelf tag that states, this product is friendly to the environment.
- Green pays in the long run
- I think we should make it as green as possible, as long as the cost isn't outrageous.
- We have a way to go here, with more and more improvements
- Take it as far as we can for the people of the future.

5 = very "green"

- Very! Again, if we don't we won't be around.
- Sustainability can be a really good common sense guide if it is used appropriately. It's not just a solid waste issue; all businesses should consider it.
- We recycle to save energy and resources, so haulers and their operations should join government to 'lead by example.' Garbage trucks need to use biodiesel and use filters to reduce air pollution.
- If there ever was a system that should be green, it's the system that deals with waste.
- Model the best behavior - within a reasonable budget
- Becoming a sustainable community isn't optional - it's required. And eliminating the concept of waste is critical in this regard.
- We've got no time to waste
- Let's get those trucks running on clean fuels and also consider the wages of the employees
- Let's make it sustainable, not green. We must be sustainable in all aspects of society
- Green makes sense for long term planning
- Try to get companies to buy recycled products.
- Portland should be a leader.
- As a region we need to realize that the environment can only take so much. We need to make everything possible green.
- I'm worried about the future and I want to take action in my community to create a sustainable future here.
- Not sure what this means
- Office depot offers a one-month computer recycling opportunity - why not take back programs year round for more electronics.
- We should do what we can.
- (My students discussed this questionnaire with their parents before today.)

- Portland metro region is seen as a global leader - now we need to act that way.
- Strong favor green but not use of the term
- Protecting the environment and natural resources should be the priority.
- I would put more emphasis on the generators of waste than on the solid waste collectors. The environmental damage from collecting and trucking waste and recyclables is small compared to manufacturing
- Solid waste is a key sustainability issue - if we look upstream to the source of the waste, a paradigm shift in the design and use of products would have to take place to significantly reduce trash.
- Increase protections, educate consumers, give businesses more incentives to reduce and reuse
- Get trucks running on biodiesel fuel! Switch over to hybrid vehicles! Make all city buildings green power purchasers!
- Let's stress the importance of conservation as a way to promote livability. This is more than a nice thing to do. Let's impose fines for littering or require community service.
- As green as possible
- How 'green' do we want our planet to be for our children, grandchildren, etc.???

11. The region should go beyond the "greening" approach to adopt zero waste strategies. Indicate your agreement on a scale of 1 = strongly disagree; 5 = strongly agree.



1 = strongly disagree

- Only if costs are in line and data supports each description
- It's too early to explore this, work on businesses recycling a greater amount first.
- It is a basic conflict in costs. Zero waste would be great if the manufacturers were responsible to take back the garbage they create in packaging.
- The concept is pie in the sky and it turns people off.
- The region should only promote this concept to manufacturing operations that have the ability and incentive to initiate and carry out zero waste strategies.

- I don't think we are there yet. Changes need to be implemented over time to be successfully implemented.

2 = mostly disagree

- I'm guessing that isn't possible for many years yet, considering the current state of technology and knowledge (i.e., cost).
- Zero waste will never occur, so why promote a program using the term

3 = somewhat agree

- I do not think zero waste is a reasonable standard. It cost a lot to do that and if it is going to cost more to recycle more things, like is asked in other questions, then it is not going to work.
- Impossible
- Again, I don't understand the question.
- Want to learn more about methods to approaches.
- Don't confuse zero discards with efficient materials utilization. Better to replace virgin materials with recycled materials than to utilize all solid waste but produce only low value products
- Zero waste is a term that most people don't understand. I think you should get rid of the terminology, but strive for the ideal.
- I agree in greening, I don't zero waste is possible in this society

4 = mostly agree

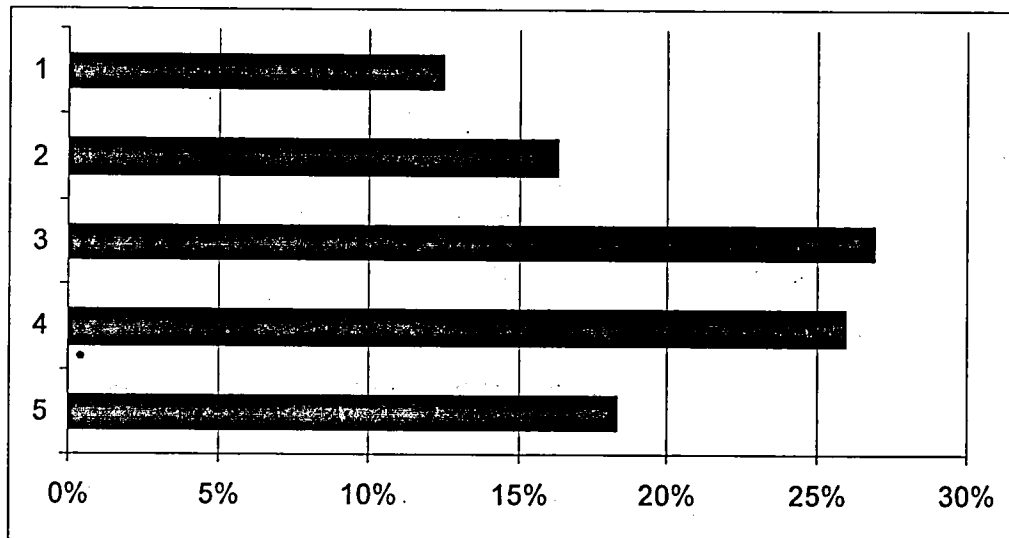
- Strategies yes, but drop the lingo of 'zero waste.'
- We are such a materialistic society. How long do people keep cars now?
- Zero waste the concept is great but actual practices need to be 'dumbed down' for the masses to easily grasp
- There's too much packaging.
- We really have no choice but to look at this as an option to help future generations.
- This would require a huge cultural shift, and again, could burden residents to change more than businesses.

5 = strongly agree

- I think in the workplace people should pay stronger attention to recycling and what can go into a recycling bin and what you can't.
- Go for it! Make it sustainable.
- We consume too much not to be committed to zero waste. We can't do it unless the manufacturers and their distributors make sure products are designed to be recycled and they have to take them back.
- Zero waste is the ultimate goal, and will achieve 'greening' along the way.
- Americans are far ahead of others in per capita resource use.
- Green isn't sustainable. Please refer to The Natural Step for an appropriate framework (www.ortns.org).
- Include What Comes Into The Region, i.e., Packaging On Products, Etc

- Northern Europe does much more
- If That's Possible, Let's Do It
- Oregon has always led the nation in this area. We need to keep setting a progressive example for the rest to follow.
- We need to shift away from the idea that a manufacturer or vendor is not responsible for end-of-life disposition, otherwise waste will not go away.
- Not sure I understand what greening approach means
- The less waste we produce, the better. If zero waste is possible, then that should be addressed.
- It's a goal we should try to proximate as a target. Must include producers and distributors in design responsibility.
- This would be amazing!
- To be successful, requires rethinking our approach entirely
- Strongly favor zero waste, businesses need help in seeing that this is in their economic interest
- Other communities in the nation have adopted these strategies, why shouldn't the Portland Metro region? It's also a more appropriate goal to 'prevent' waste than to 'reduce' waste.
- Environmental consciousness here is already elevated. It would not be difficult to take another step in that direction and make Portland an example for the entire nation to be proud of.
- The Goal Should Be Zero Garbage, Using Carrots And Sticks
- It's not easy being green, but that's what makes Portland a different sort of town!
- We have a long way to go, we should get started now.
- Green is great, but I want our citizens to be steward of sustainability and be rewarded for their efforts

12. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = nothing more and 5 = a lot more, indicate how much more you would be willing to pay for any new practice that would increase the sustainability of our solid waste system.



1 = nothing more

- None; we could offer tax incentives to companies for 'greener' packaging
- Garbage doubled when Arlington started. That was a lot.
- I do not have the money to pay extra to recycle more things, many people would be limited or just do not want to pay more for extra service when they could through it away.
- Don't want to pay anymore
- Define sustainability in the solid waste system!
- Personally I'm willing to pay a lot, but metro should drop this vague back end approach and go directly to the producer and consumer responsibility strategies.
- There are ways now to improve solid waste system without spending more money

2 = a little more

- You have asked this question three times, once is enough. I may not be getting nuances here I guess.
- Cost matters
- Very little,
- This really depends on the efforts the fees would support.
- Depends on the practices, again I really feel you need to go after the offenders.
- Again, if we're sending less to landfill, shouldn't the cost be less?
- Money is not the answer here either

3 = more

- Again, I would look at the costs vs. Benefits.
- I'm willing to pay more depending on my understanding of the business practices and distribution of funds.
- I still don't understand.

- Knowing that the percent of recycled materials is going up is a great incentive for me to pay more for garbage/recycling.
- Would be willing to pay more in terms of a product-by-product cost, or some other method that reflects an additional cost based on how much you consume.
- Lets keep costs down with greater use
- As with other increases - you need to sell it to me by having a good reason(s).
- I would need to be able to fit the costs into my own budget.
- No opinion on this issue
- Fees should be charged at point of waste creation, not disposal
- Eventually the cost should come down to current levels, or all businesses may not be able to commit long term, which is what we need.

4 = somewhat more

- Again, it is going to cost us either way.
- Before committing to spend more, I would like to make sure that there are sufficient new practices that could be done to result in substantial environmental benefit
- If all the cost increases mentioned in the survey added up to under a couple of dollars per household I'd be ok with it...
- I pay extra for sustainable energy.
- Every household should be billed for trash pickup, no exceptions.
- I think that anything we can do to preserve the environment should be done.
- 10%. Metro and local governments need to show me they really care about cost by bidding out garbage collection services every so often.
- Sustainability is crucial, and we should do it in a financially responsible manner
- Over time, a truly sustainable solid waste system would become more cost effective, saving money as disposal costs rise. There will be an initial investment in that program, and I'd support that.

5 = a lot more

- Zero waste sounds okay, but I like sustainability better as a guiding principle. It's more comprehensive and people are familiar.
- Depends on the service
- Depends on cost
- Metro can be a leader in change, and I would strongly support that.
- Charge everyone, those who recycle get \$ back. Everyone else is also paying for the extra services, which they aren't willing to deal with themselves.
- Again, I think with imagination it shouldn't cost more, but if it does, I am willing to pay for a cleaner future for my grandchildren.
- Sustainability should be a goal and we must put our money there to support it.

13. Is there anything else you would like to share with us?

- Focus on business practices first for sustainability and 'green business,' then individual homeowners IF the cost of providing the service to homeowners pencils out with the resources saved. Better to focus on large volumes of resources and energy saved as can be found in businesses.
- I do not believe in the roll carts for recycling. Too much stuff can be hidden in the carts. We need to have open containers so the person picking up the container can see if the material is sorted correctly.
- How about local incineration and capturing the waste energy instead of transporting to the Arlington desert and filling a hole there?
- I think solid waste and recycling need to speak a language that people can understand. Zero waste and sustainability in recycling are terms that the average person can't get their brain around. How about rows of overflowing roll carts setting at curb with the caption, 'Moral values?' Just kidding. How about a defoliated Metro region with the caption 'It takes a lifetime to grow a tree and minutes to cut it down.' Then the current regional ariel photo - or is it already too awful? With the caption 'Leave it like you found it.' - Get to Gresham before they log the rest of the buttes!
- Metro has not taken a strong enough role in regional affordable housing strategy. Real opportunity if combined with green building to demonstrate true sustainability.
- No
- I support recycling as much as I can, already use the smallest trash can size available. Need to do more in the schools, I have had a hard time getting my kids to recycle and not throw everything in the trash. The next generation should be better than the last.
- The Portland region generally has a great solid waste system. There are two problems as I see it: 1) Metro pays a ridiculous amount in recovery incentives to waste facilities for not that much recovery; and 2) Achieving significantly higher recycling rates in the region is not possible unless businesses throughout the region are required to recycle.
- Again, I think the option or reduced trash pick up needs to be offered at a reduced rate. This will be the biggest incentive to reducing garbage and can be implemented immediately. It would be effective and fair, just like water usage and other utilities. We should be rewarded for being conscientious about reducing our garbage and recycling faithfully.
- I would like to see the Portland area especially Lake Oswego have recycling programs more similar to San Jose, CA. I think the ease of that program encourages more recycling. All of the carts (instead of various bins) also reduce the clutter on pick-up day.
- Some jurisdictions in the region are not pulling their weight to make progress. The others need to step up or Metro should hold their feet to the fire. Otherwise plans and goals don't mean much.
- I would like to know how I am doing on recycling. I was sorting everything when the collector told me I didn't need to do that. I notice neighbors that do some recycling include things that I know are not recyclable. How do you handle that? They should be reported, maybe a random check now and then and let people know what they are doing wrong, with a door hanger or ticket if constant offenders. Please do not sell or share my email address.
- Start a bioremediation project of the Willamette River using Ross Island!
- I just think we need a stewardship campaign were the citizens of this community are educated on the impact of their ecological footprint and they have a choice to hold themselves accountable for their resource consumption and reduction. Thank you for bringing our community together on this important issue. We wouldn't be were we are today on many sustainable issues without Metro!
- I hope you reevaluate your contracts. Heiberg is a peculiar company not interested at all in the community service aspects of garbage/recycling business. Maximizes profit - overly so.
- Thanks for asking, and good luck.

- Too many things are produced that cannot be recycled. We have to start at the beginning to get the end result better. Also, add Reject (easier said than done) as #1 option then #2 Reduce; #3 Recycle to your slogan.
- Maybe you can make these quizzes a little easier to understand for the common person.
- It's important to me that my local Portland recycling depot stays open. I like the option of taking my recyclables there on the weekend.
- I think Metro does great work. I also think it is critical that we start 'pushing the envelope' to make our community safer, healthier, and more secure - clean air & water, less pollution, fewer toxins in our bodies, and enough resources to sustain human dignity now and in the future.
- I want to recycle all that I can, by making it easy. I have to go to the store to get my bottle/can deposit back. Have to take hazardous waste to a facility. Stimulate environmental performance measures. Stimulate availability, marketability of greener materials. Give the public feedback on what products are made as a result of their recycling. Assist companies in recycling their own products. Educate the public on alternatives. Improve school recycling, increase awareness.
- Franchising of commercial garbage haulers would allow for more recycling and also allow for more livable neighborhoods.
- I am amazed that Beaverton is as proud to have brought us weekly yard debris service. We should be working to lower the collection, not increase it. This City doesn't get 'Green'. I think there should be a monthly free pickup and a charge thereafter. Unrelated, I don't like garbage trucks in residential areas at 6 in the morning. Sometimes they show up even earlier.
- A personal concern for me has been the over-consumption of batteries, and the throwaway mentality of electronic equipment and toys. I wish there were more public information broadcasted on disposing of these products responsibly, and more options. I personally have had to search out, and not always successfully, ways to throw out these items.
- Low cost improvements/suggestions: 1. Provide composting program (bin, credit/subsidization towards bin construction, composting instructions. 2. Provide diagrammatic posters for acceptable recyclable materials for hanging on fridge and in garage near trash/recycling containers to serve as constant reminders.
- Make it simple!
- I really liked the 'greening' and 'zero waste' strategies outlined in the previous sustainability section. More responsibility should be placed on the manufacturers of products to think ahead to their disposal. Either make products so they last longer or can be repaired instead of thrown away. Also package things in eco-friendly containers. My pet peeve is styrofoam packaging. It is so hard to get to a styro recycling center. Why can't we have containers in a few parking lots around town so we can drop off all our bulky electronics styrofoam and have the recycling company periodically pick it up? So much of it goes to the landfill because it is too inconvenient to drive it to the recycling center. It is also too bulky to fit in our home trashcans. PLEASE CONSIDER THIS IDEA!! Alternatively, just have more styro recycling centers.
- The cynic in me says that zero population growth won't happen until we start shooting each other to get clean water. We need to do better with residential fluorescent bulbs and electronics. Clark County has curbside pickup of appliance batteries and antifreeze.
- Consider having waste disposal companies becoming waste management companies and earning a fee on how much waste they help their customers reduce. See contract between PSU and Trashco as an example
- I am amazed that neighbors are throwing cardboard boxes into the garbage despite notices saying that all this material is recyclable.
- We would benefit from learning about practices in other countries that do a better job. We don't know what is possible.

- I think Portland has the best recycling program in the country. Any negative comments are relative only.
- Its great that you are even considering being sustainable and I hope you find something meaningful to lead us into the next 10 years. Best wishes!
- My power company allows me to pay extra for more sustainable power sources. I would gladly do the same for waste. Let's create an easy to use opt-in system and educate to encourage participation.
- My retirement center has no bins for glass, people put the glass in the same place as refuse.
- Our culture is too wasteful! I want to help with conservation and sustainability.
- Not really, no. Good luck in saving the environment, though!
- Thanks for the opportunity to comment.
- The Union of Concerned Scientists identify buildings as using more than half the energy. Metro needs to take leadership in creating a regional program in sustainable buildings with technical assistance and grants/funds to help meet this program's goals. A sustainable building program would have three goals: a target for affordable housing, a target for home ownership and a target for use of green building standards in all regional construction. It is a missed opportunity to have a Green Streets program without putting Green Buildings on those streets. Metro already does transportation planning and mixed-use development. A comprehensive building program would complement this initiative. In addition, Metro should follow Gresham's excellent program that goes beyond recycling help to businesses by also providing them with resource efficiency assistance. This really helps small and medium size businesses compete in these tough times.
- Would be useful to define 'pay a lot more' in \$ or %. It was hard to figure out how to respond by email to this questionnaire.
- Convenience is important for any program to succeed and gain broad support as is reasonable cost.
- Why not arrange for periodic recycling of things like computers and prescriptions. You could let private companies do this, park in a Fred Meyer/Safeway/Albertson's/New Seasons parking lot for a week or weekend, and then move on. People might be willing to pay a small fee. Do the same for household haz waste. We don't need to be able to do this every week; 2-4 times a year would be fine. And this way, the materials would be sorted for you. Just advertise in the community when the truck would be available. Businesses might be willing to pay to be the site to attract business...like the Farmers Markets do.
- I keep track of how much we send to the garbage. On average for the past four years, our monthly bill has been less than \$5, less than one pickup a month. I can't understand how people can fill their bins week after week after week. We need a real education campaign targeted with a goal of reducing waste, not just increasing recycling.
- Thank you for your efforts toward these goals.
- Thanks for asking these questions!
- We need more education about how throwing cigarettes on the street affects the river cleanup. Why spend millions on its cleanup without stemming the tide of pollution? Also, make recycling the prevalent form of disposal, and garbage the exception. Educate about the horrors of disposable diapers. They are a public health issue. People need to be scared about the environment. The feds won't do it, so local government must.
- Environmental benefits, neighborhood recycle days to make it more convenient.
- I would pay more if the costs were reduced somewhere else.
- Washco drop box is expensive and not customer friendly. As far as I can tell they are a monopoly, so there is no motivation to change practice. Pick up and delivery is at the convenience of their union employees. Paint recycling not avail on Sundays at the transfer in NW. The employee told me 'it

works for us because they don't want to work on sun. Really bad customer service move. Perhaps they could take a day off midweek, as many citizens can only make those trips on the weekend.

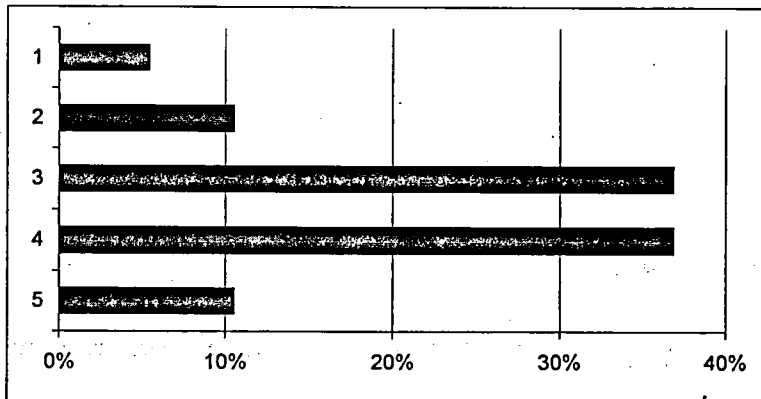
- We use more resources than the rest of the world. So we should recycle all we can.
- May want to consider developing community understood measures based on ecological footprint to communicate our level of sustainability.
- We use more resources than the rest of the world. So we should recycle all we can.
- I think 90/60-gallon roll carts should be outlawed. There is no way that residents should be filling those up every week, if they're recycling.
- Other than Metro, there is really no other agency or organization that can lead the way to a sustainable future of zero waste. I encourage the councilors and staff to step up to the plate and create the vision and execution in the Solid Waste Plan.
- We need as a State to push for more recycling plants for plastics. Please expand bottle bill to include all beverages and especially plastics. Force manufacturers to properly label and recycle materials.
- Surveys are limited in what they can accomplish, and this one is no exception. Having just attended a zero waste conference in San Francisco, I think we can borrow some of the ideas being generated in the bay area. First, we need a zero waste goal. Then we need to generate creative solutions that go beyond recycling. For example, in Berkeley there is an 'Eco-Park' that nets \$1.7 million a year and gleans much of their merchandise from what the municipal dumps can't dispose of, such as one of a kind items. Giving incentives to entrepreneurs for Rebuilding Center and Goodwill-type industries works in Berkeley very well. (Linnton Plywood Factory might be such an ecopark site) We also can do things such as compost food waste. Ewaste is a huge problem and is going to become our biggest nightmare. Or rather, China's and India's. Regulating ewaste is inevitable if we are to stem this travesty. Germany cut down on their packaging by allowing consumers to leave packaging behind - soon the retailers were demanding that their suppliers cut down on THEIR problem. Imagination and will can help us to maintain our already acknowledged lead in resource management and become an example for the rest of the U.S. as well. Sorry I can't attend any of your meetings!! Jeanne Longley
- In addition to waste reduction I feel it would be beneficial to develop more energy conservation strategies. The use of alternative fuels should be encouraged. Biodiesel and vegetable oil fuel are options for diesel cars. Many people are not aware of this. Education in this area would be helpful in decreasing our consumption of fossil fuel.
- Recycling is like a band aid. It doesn't get to the core issue of consumption patterns and mindful use of resources. Metro should emphasize Reduce and Reuse BEFORE Recycle. The Metro equivalent in St Paul, Minnesota puts out a great booklet on places you can find just about anything used.
- The public needs to understand more about plastics. What numbers of plastics can and can't be recycled and what's involved (toxicity-wise) with recycling plastic.
- I am of the mindset that 50% is not enough for a recovery goal. Oregon has been a leader in waste management and we should continue to push the envelope. I feel very strongly about greening the schools-- it is terribly frustrating to talk to students about reducing waste in their school and simultaneously tell them that there is nothing we can do to get rid of the styrofoam trays in the lunchroom! What about a government subsidy to help schools put the dishwashers back into the schools-- it would create jobs as well as create a more convincing resource conservation lesson for our children.

Appendix G: Summary of Franklin High School Questionnaires

The following is a summary of the questionnaires filled out by Franklin High School students between October 28 and November 3.

DO GARBAGE AND RECYCLING SERVICES MEET YOUR NEEDS?

1. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = not satisfied and 5 = very satisfied, indicate your satisfaction with the current garbage and recycling services you use. For example, are services convenient, are facilities easy for you to access and are costs reasonable?



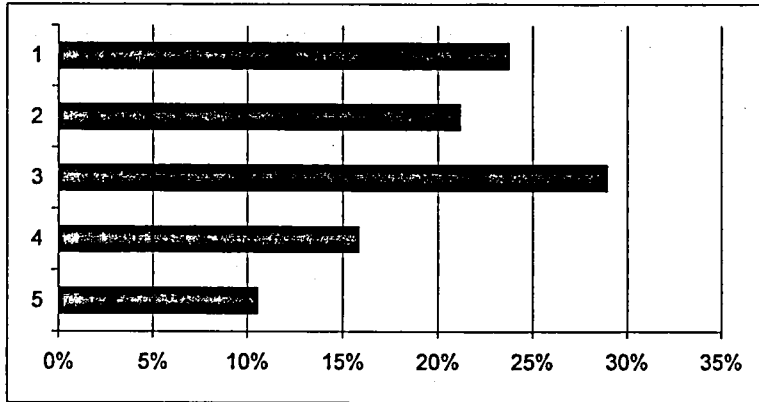
Sample Comments

- Recycling is pretty good, but should be improved.
- I think that government should enforce recycling more.
- Hopefully more will be able to recycle some day.
- The cost for yard debris is way too high. You should be able to bring recyclables to the dump for less.
- I think that the facilities are easily accessible. The costs could be lower.
- I think they should package items less.
- It is difficult to recycle while in an apartment.
- It's too complicated to sort.

2. Are there services you want added, expanded or changed in the future? What are they?

- I want more recycling.
- Trashcans that have separate sections for paper, plastic, yard debris, clothes, etc.
- No, just be better at the services you do.
- More zero waste systems.
- Less packaging because packaging is bad.

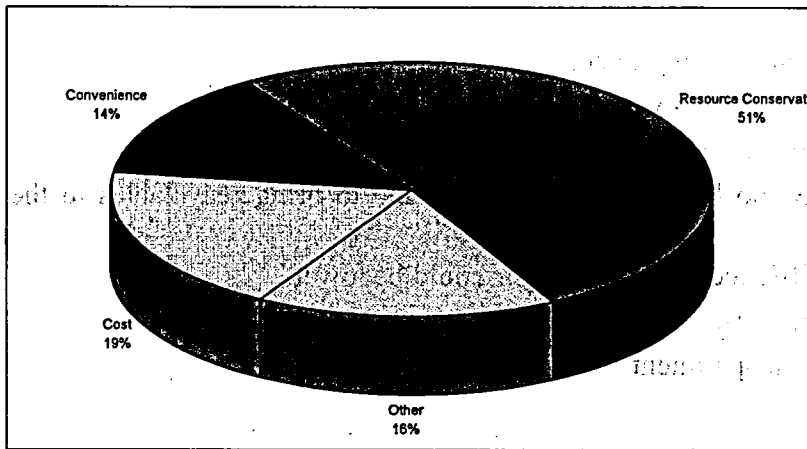
3. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = nothing more and 5 = a lot more, indicate how much more you would be willing to pay for any new service, if it were to cost more to provide.



Sample Comments

- I would pay a reasonable price.
- It's too expensive.
- I think we don't need to add any more services.
- If it made the environment better, it's worth it.

4. What is most important to you about services in the future? Cost, convenience, resource conservation or other?

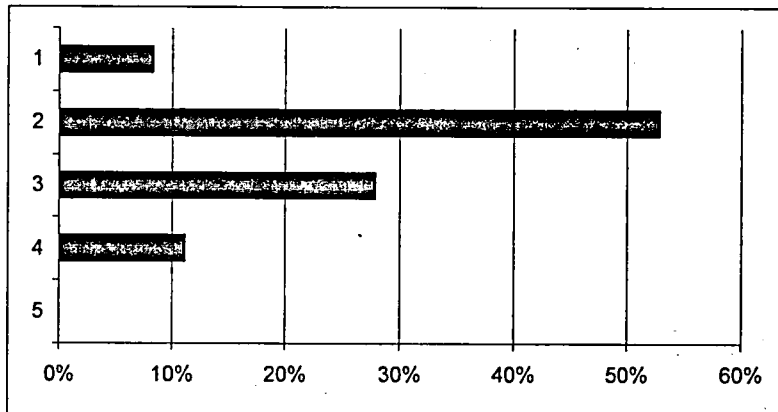


Sample Comments

- We pay higher prices and lose convenience without resources.
- More environmentally friendly.
- Less packaging and better disposal.

SECTION 2: HOW MUCH CAN WE RECYCLE?

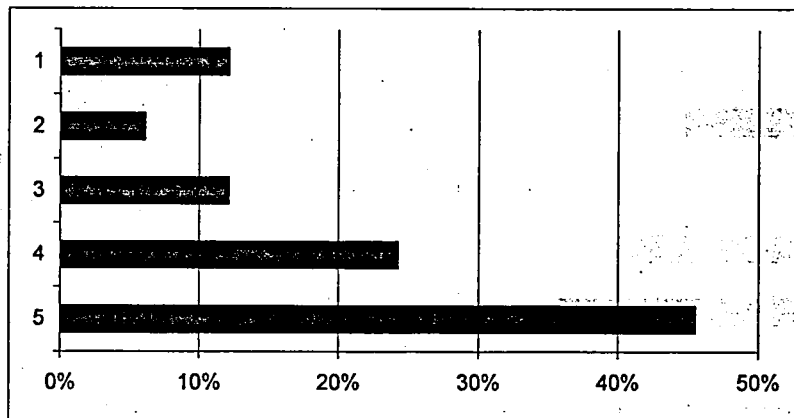
5. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = not satisfied and 5 = very satisfied, rate your satisfaction with the current level of effort by residents and businesses on recycling.



Sample Comments

- I think that a lot more people and businesses could recycle more.
- I think that people could put a lot more effort into it.
- There are 100s of things that can be recycled in fast food restaurants.
- Business needs to start recycling a lot more.
- You can't recycle everything.

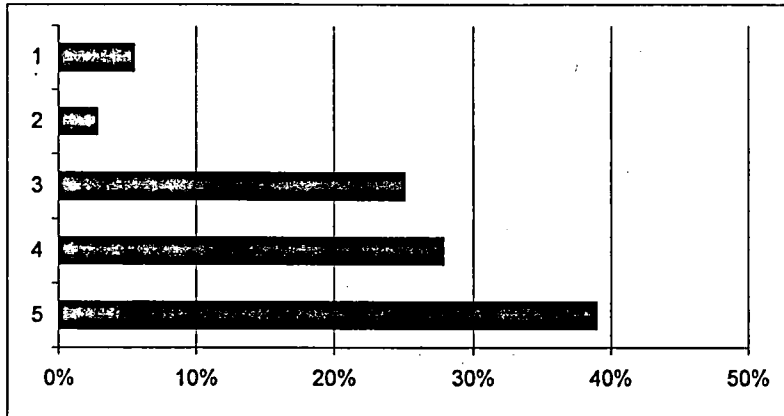
6. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = not important and 5 = very important, rate the importance to you of making a larger investment in public information and recycling programs.



Sample Comments

- I think that if there were more programs, people might want to get more involved.
- If people didn't come to school and tell us about recycling, I wouldn't know it existed.
- Spend investment into the program then spend some to inform the public.
- I don't think people really realize how important this issue is and how it affects them.

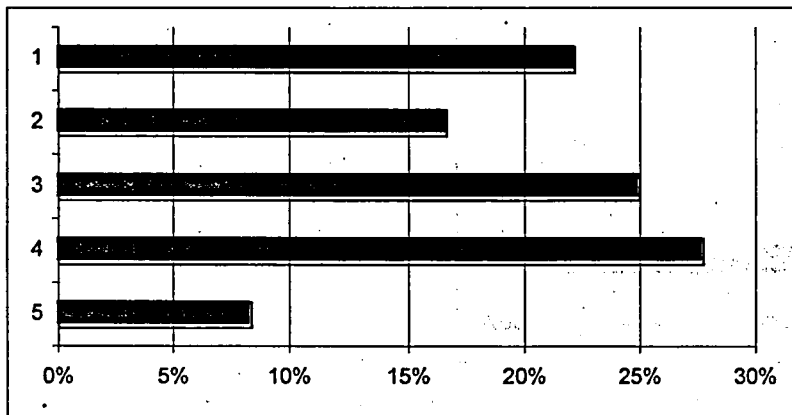
7. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = no further government regulation and 5 = high level of government regulation, what level of government regulation would you support in order to increase recycling?



Sample Comments

- Make people have to do it but not be pressured too much.
- If it needs to happen to recycle more than so be it.
- So businesses recycle their products more.
- This will not just encourage but will make people more environmentally aware and involved.
- Both, because we need volunteers and we need rules to do this.

8. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = nothing more and 5 = a lot more, indicate how much more you would be willing to pay for any new service that would increase recycling if it were to cost more to provide.



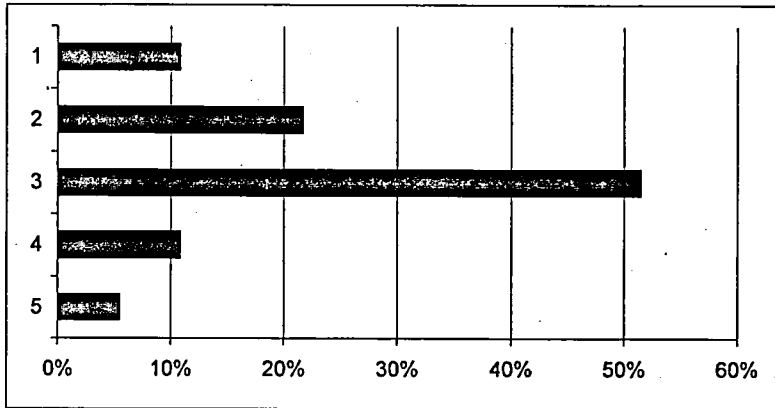
Sample Comments

- I would pay all the tax I could if I could still pay rent.
- None, it is fine. Leave it alone.
- Depending on how good.

- I think it would be worthwhile to pay more for something that would increase the amount of recycling.
- I don't think we should have to pay very much, because if we are recycling then we've done our part.

SECTION 3: HOW CAN SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLES GUIDE SOLID WASTE PRACTICES?

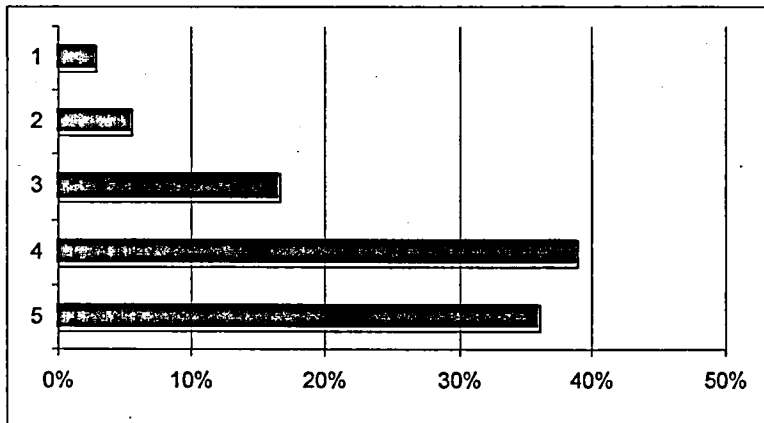
9. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = not satisfied and 5 = very satisfied, how satisfied are you with the current level and type of home and business sustainability practices?



Sample Comments

- Homes are all right but businesses are not.
- It is not great but not bad.
- It's not that great.
- It's ok.
- Too much packaging.
- I think that they are better now than in past years, but still could be better.

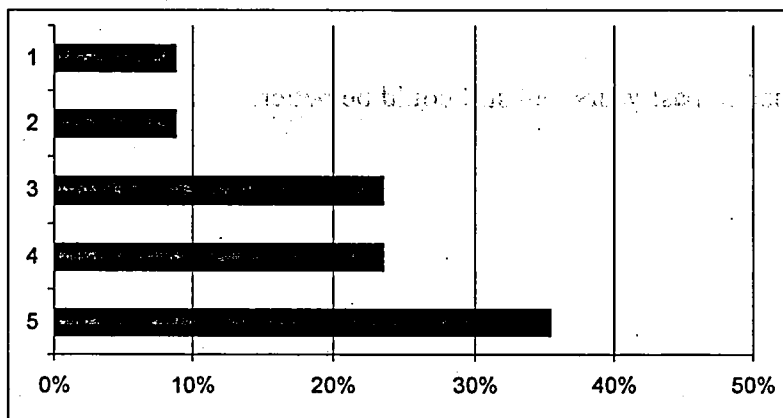
10. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = not "green" and 5 = very "green," how "green" should we make the solid waste system in terms of emphasizing broader environmental protection and resource conservation practices?



Sample Comments

- Try it out.
- It's a pretty good practice but zero waste is better.
- Very GREEN.
- I think that we should make them as green as possible.
- We should experiment and see which one works best.
- I don't know what green means.

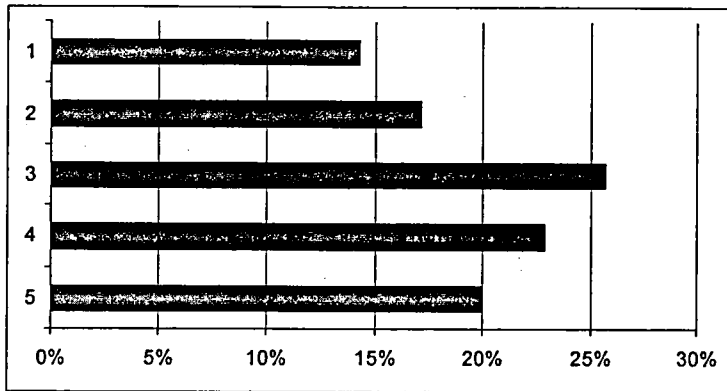
11. The region should go beyond the "greening" approach to adopt zero waste strategies. Indicate your agreement on a scale of 1 = strongly disagree; 5 = strongly agree.



Sample Comments

- Depends on how much money we need to spend.
- Zero is better because there would be less waste.
- So the business can take more responsibility to make better products.

12. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 = nothing more and 5 = a lot more, indicate how much more you would be willing to pay for any new practice that would increase the sustainability of our system.



Sample Comments

- Not too much. Enough so I could pay my rent.
- I think that if it would help sustainability.
- Not everyone wants to pay money.
- If the program works, and it's good and working, then I'd pay more.

13. Is there anything else you would like to share with us?

Sample Comments

- I think that you should try to make recycling a law.
- Yes, please take plastic in recycle bins.
- Don't be afraid to push because if it works well and saves our health, it does not matter what they don't want to do.
- Alternative forms of energy.

Appendix H: Meeting notes

PORTLAND MEETING, SEPTEMBER 23, 2004

TABLE #1

SECTION 1 DO GARBAGE AND RECYCLING SERVICES MEET YOUR NEEDS?

A. Does the current system meet your needs?

- Generally the current system works.
- Self-haul to Transfer Stations works well; continue providing good level of access to self-haul.
- Hours at facilities are important, range makes it easier.
- One person felt that it was better and cheaper to self-haul all household waste and recycling.
- Curbside garbage service too expensive.
- Incentives to reduce garbage service are not cost effective.
- Frustration with some aspects of recycling
 - Not taking a lot of items curbside.
 - Why not take stuff curbside that the grocery store would take, if it is all recyclable?
 - Concerns about service recycling – dumpsters having items that are recyclable, what happens to these items after collection?

B. What changes would you recommend to the system?

- The general consensus was that the current system (curbside, transfer stations, recycling) works.
- Some suggested changes:
 - More hazardous waste depots. Impressed with hazardous waste program, make it more accessible to outlying areas of the Metro region (Washington County, East Multnomah County).
 - Free/low cost computer/electronic recycling.
 - More types of plastic in curbside recycling.
 - Mandatory or incentive program for construction debris and appliance recycling.
 - Non-profit organizations could receive credits when clean ups occur. (Receive recognition for their efforts, receive reduced disposal costs.)
 - Recycling recognition program for citizens.
 - Disposal bans may be an effective tool or method.

C. What aspect of the system should be emphasized for the future?

- In the future we want to see increased recycling options.

SECTION 2 HOW MUCH CAN WE RECYCLE?

- Generally satisfied with current level of effort for recycling/garbage service.
- One person discontinued his garbage service due to his dissatisfaction.
- By not reaching recycling goals it shows the inefficiencies of current efforts.
- More education is important.
 - Schools (K-12 and beyond) are doing a good job of training children to recycle.
 - More education in the commercial/private business sector needed.
 - People need to know these services are available and that recycling is free.
- Financial incentives may be a way to get more businesses/citizens to participate.
- Current level of regulation is enough.
- Exhaust incentive options first and use regulatory controls as a last resort.
- Local government should be held accountable for implementing local programs.
- Improvements to current system
 - Need more office recycling instructions (What goes where, how to use, what you can recycle, how to separate recyclables).
 - Liked roll cart system (it deters theft and keeps recyclables dry).
 - More construction and development reuse (incentives for contractors/developers to reuse old materials).
- Renter recycling opportunities
 - Not enough space to recycle.
 - Recycling is often not an option.
 - Recycling takes space.
 - Multi-family dwellings appear to continue to put all waste and recycling into dumpsters.
- Planned communities should add space for recycling (responsibility of local governments).
- Model design ordinance/permit process.
- Recycling depots for row housing/other types dense housing.
- Urban growth boundary – dense housing developments require different collection approach/strategy.

- Recycling education coordinated with water, air, wastewater, storm water and solid waste – often the public receives confusing and conflicting messages.
- We want anti-freeze collected for recycling curbside.

SECTION 3 HOW CAN SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLES GUIDE SOLID WASTE PRACTICES?

- Construction and Development reuse is good but what about concrete? There should be a credit for recycling concrete; we support concrete recycling program efforts.
- Low flow toilets don't work.
- Waste prevention
 - Less packaging
 - Educate consumers and business to keep waste out of the system.
 - A program for waste prevention in packaging would work better at a state or national level rather than by local governments. Examples of waste prevention/reduction would be disposal deposits on products such as computers, cell phones, soda cans, household electronics, and appliances.
 - Deposits are good and people should be encouraged to use reusable containers.
- Encourage freecycling and online waste exchanges (online swap meets).
- More education about current programs that work.
- Encourage hauler trucks to pollute less.
- Pay attention to environmental performance measures.
- Keep land use and recycling issues separate – Metro recycling program is good whereas the land use policies are controversial.
- Quality of life – reducing waste will allow us to preserve green spaces.
- Zero waste policies would be difficult for local government to implement.
- Results from environmental programs are not always as intended (other environmental consequences – caribou in Alaska no longer migrating due to warmth from underground pipe).
- There should be a push for state and national standards similar to the work that has occurred with electronics take back and drink/bottle deposits.
- Consumer demand for less waste will drive manufacturing choices for packaging.
- There should be more publicity for products that meet zero waste standards.
- Zero waste is a utopian and unrealistic ideal.

WRAP UP – What is most important?

- We need to ensure our packaging and food supply are not contaminated, let's not take zero waste too far. Packaging choices need to be available.
- Improve the existing system.
- Build a strong foundation
 - Continue with current programs.
 - Those who are not currently recycling need to learn to do it.
- Make our current system more effective. Make it work!
- Reduce should be our first priority.
- Reuse should be the second priority.
- Recycle should be third.
- Education between government and other agencies.
- Recycling should be available for more products (especially plastics).

TABLE #2

SECTION 1 DO GARBAGE AND RECYCLING SERVICES MEET YOUR NEEDS?

A. Does the current system meet your needs?

- No. Curbside recycling is missed with Waste Management. It's harder to recycle when things are dumped in the garbage.
- New Portland resident sees that recycling and some garbage services are not city requirements. A percentage of the population does not recycle at all.
- Several participants noted that government standardization of the collection system would ensure consistent separation of all recyclables at both work and home.
- Home Eco Parties by NWEI indicate that there has been deterioration in home recycling practices over the last five years. Residents hear more information from haulers and less from local governments. Home recycling is not as carefully sorted as before, and residents have given over recycling responsibility.

B. What changes would you recommend to the system?

- Some suggested changes:
 - Drop off sites need to be more convenient and they are more cost effective than home curb site pickup.

- There need to be cost incentives for recycling because residential bin sizes have set prices that are paid whether the bin is half empty or full. Local governments need more price incentives.
 - San Francisco, Bellevue and Redland Washington have strong food waste collection systems. Portland needs curbside food collection for both commercial and residential. It should include more than just organic waste.
 - There is confusion about recycling plastic products with various numbers and this originates with educating consumers and the manufacturing process.
 - Consistency between different cities' rules is needed, because people work and live in different places. Example: recycling rules vary in Seattle and other Washington state municipalities.
 - The recycling educational process should be revisited especially for younger populations.
 - There would be a significant cost to standardization of the size or color of recycling containers. They could be bought in large volumes.
- Solid waste is an immediate experience of environmental conservation issues and an important tool.

SECTION 2 HOW MUCH CAN WE RECYCLE?

- Businesses are not separating office paper and newspapers. Papers are processed separately at waste facility. This is a waste of time and money.
- Fewer than 50% of businesses are recycling. 56% of business waste is recycled from commercial generation.
- City enforcement actions are not adequate to ensure implementation of additional regulations.
- Improvements to current system
- Business use standards with more regulations should be implemented.
 - The City of Portland should lead the business community toward higher recycling practices. This is supported by brochure facts provided here.
 - Disposal bans are one solution that would limit disposal of items that have strong markets, or by timelines. Haulers would need to work out a mechanism for this.
 - Local governments have relationships with haulers and have the power to enact bans. Metro implements regulations but does not have power.
 - Intergovernmental agreements are proposed as a goal.
 - Several participants commented that recycling programs with incentives like tax cuts, a levy system on products in landfills and procurement taxes are important.
 - The Oregon Convention Center's relatively low recycling rate increased from 15-24% over the last year. There should be contracts requiring an increased recycling rate in order to hold business accountable.
 - Several participants agreed that local governments and all Metro-wide facilities in particular should model recycling behavior and standards.
 - Recovery rates and goals should be increased like in the Netherlands. 75% of waste should be recycled by the year 2015, including food and paper recycling.
 - Education for young people needs to increase.
 - The strategy to increase recycling should have a multifaceted solution: enforcement, education, and higher goals.

- One participant is against higher goals if they bring higher environmental impact to benefit ratios. Energy is required for increased recycling. A different strategy like end use recycling or product creation was suggested.
 - Metro should increase sophisticated analysis of product environmental impacts by material content. Inputs and outputs are not the same. There are environmental and cost benefits.
 - Metro could partner with research agencies. There is traditional environmental research studying costs and benefits, and this is happening internationally. There is also product-based research.
 - There should be more recovery of energy resources.
 - Several participants concurred that a high recovery rate and environmental benefits are not mutually exclusive and if they are, something is wrong with the current system. Use the recovery numbers as a guide, but think holistically.
 - Evaluating recycling rates by weight rather than by material types is just one method.
 - This method is awful for recycling computers because breaking them down by materials and evaluating by environmental measures yields more informative results. There should be more sophisticated measures including environmental and social benefits and comparing by materials and household vs. business recycling.
 - Several participants agreed that the tip fee should be kept high and is the best incentive for recycling. In San Francisco, the recycling rate increased after fees were increased.
 - There should be full lifecycle analyses of recyclables including plastic casings.
- Additional Concerns:
- Participant asked whom to call from the City of Portland regarding business and construction groups, and about educating neighborhood groups.
 - It is a challenge to take the recycling message to the average citizen. Sustainability and recycling change the direction of education.
 - People used to pay more attention in the past to materials.
 - Several participants noted that hazardous wastes, notably batteries, including those that contain mercury are a big hazard. The impacts of each pollutant including mercury should be measured.
 - Until a hazard becomes a health hazard, no attention is paid to it.
 - Water pollution is an important factor. Types of recycling should be broadened to incorporate all environmental impacts, including deforestation resulting from paper usage.
 - It is challenging to convey environmental impacts with a recycling percentage.
- The increasing amount of waste per capita is a big issue.
- Metro's Recycling Information Center takes calls about these issues.

SECTION 3 HOW CAN SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLES GUIDE SOLID WASTE PRACTICES?

- Kristin Hull introduced the zero waste concept in terms of products and packaging:

- Sustainability means that all materials should return to the Earth or stay in the recyclable system and not leak out. Zero waste makes total sense.
- Zero waste should be the primary focus of Metro's efforts. Product responsibility issues are another strategy.
- The zero waste approach places the responsibility on manufacturers for this process. Alternative words are needed in order to view all waste as resources that do not go to landfills but other places. A third strategy needs to be sold to haulers.
- Members of the group debated the meaning of zero waste: no waste in a receptacle vs. the re-use of everything and no landfills at all.
- The system should align with nature's systems, with lots of waste but little wasted. For example, the cycling of elements Hydrogen, Carbon and Oxygen.
- In a 5-year plan, zero waste may not be feasible, but it should be a long-term goal.
- The timeframe (for enacting zero waste concepts) is greater than 10 years.

➤ Waste prevention:

- Several participants noted that single use products should be biodegradable. The manufacturing process should produce less wasteful packaging.
 - Several participants agreed that habit and behavior changing is necessary, by mandatory enforcement and other means. For example, in Germany, people pay for take-out grocery packaging. Has Metro looked at what other solid waste organizations at the forefront are doing?
 - People should bring their own bags.
 - Several participants agreed that disincentives to purchasing products that create hazardous waste are a good idea. Fees and enforcement should be increased upfront.
 - Behavior changes should start in schools with more recyclable lunch packaging. Community and institutional based changes are necessary.
 - Several people agreed that governments need to establish themselves as the model. Government current practices include recycling policies that are either in place and not practiced, or not in place. Packaging needs to be changed. For example, Styrofoam coffee cups are not regulated (Blumenauer?)
 - Several people agreed that businesses are not necessarily responsive to customers. School and hospital products are just as bad as business packaging, including #6 plastic.
 - All plant-based products including food wastes, yard debris and contaminated papers should be put into composting systems.
 - Disposable diapers are a major problem and manufacturers should be talked with about this.
- Sustainability depends on businesses, other institutions and citizens.
- Enforcement should be sensitive to smaller business needs.
- There should be outreach to small businesses and an effort to address cultural practices.
- The real estate market should educate new residents in community values that include sustainability and recycling.

- Several people agreed that Metro needs to start with itself first, be the model and then help set community standards.
- There is a self-interest context in working with businesses.
- Several participants agreed that customers, including haulers, might misunderstand RSWAMP as they try to make sense of it. RSWAMP may send the wrong message if the substance is right but the labeling is wrong.
- Fuel emissions should be reduced within the waste management system.
- The solid waste system should be looked at holistically and “greened”.
- The third strategy is to adopt and set an ultimate goal with defined intermediate steps that incorporate education and sacrifice along the way.
- The mission statement should be changed. Communication strategies are important.
- Metro should examine producer responsibility issues including end of life products and more recyclables.
- Hazardous waste disposal is a huge expense to Metro and would be a good place to start.
- Metro should develop a sustainability management system for this community and help brand Portland as a sustainable city to attract businesses.
- Portland has received recent bad press about being unfriendly toward businesses with increased costs of manufacturing. How can manufacturers participate in this process rather than leave Portland? Consumers and businesses need to be involved.
- Small business organizations should be engaged in opportunities to plan sustainable products and services.

WRAP UP – What is most important?

- There should be multiple goals and a commitment to diversity.
- The right things should be measured, but at what cost?
- There was a discussion of incentives and rate structures.
- The cost of garbage leads to decreased recycling costs.
- Upfront product costs vs. generated waste fees were debated.
- Metro’s Solid Waste and Recycling educational staff and curriculum were mentioned.

OREGON CITY MEETING, SEPTEMBER 28, 2004

TABLE #1

SECTION 1 DO GARBAGE AND RECYCLING SERVICES MEET YOUR NEEDS?

A. Does the current system meet your needs?

- There is an inconsistency of waste services between the city of Portland and outlying areas. Portland has a higher percentage of services including yard debris pickup. In the suburbs, ½ acre lots generate more yard debris.
- Does the Damascus area subsidize services in other areas? Would a regional fee ensure more equitable services?
- Participant lives in the Lake Grove, Roslyn areas and has a business in Clackamas. Asked how rates are negotiated with the city. There are excellent and increased residential recycling services.
- Business owner's biggest expense is Styrofoam packaging disposal, at \$800-1,000 a month. It is thrown in the trash. He ships 27,000 appliances a year throughout Oregon, and half of this packaging trash comes back. There is no reliable source of Styrofoam recycling, but owner would be willing to pay for this service.
- Office recycling systems do not meet needs, in terms of recycling other items like glass or oil.
- Outside of the UGB, and in unincorporated Clackamas County, there is no yard debris service. Garbage bills do not include yard debris pickup, as they do in Oregon City. Resident mows 2 acres and would like to have this large amount of yard debris picked up.
- If more comprehensive yard debris pickup service were available, resident would be willing to pay no more than \$10 for the convenience. Alternatively, he could bring a utility trailer to McFarlanes and pay around \$7/load.
- Karen Blauer summarized that unincorporated areas do not get a comprehensive set of waste and recycling services.
- Frustration with some aspects of recycling:
 - o Participant lives in unincorporated area outside of Oregon City and self hauls trash every two months. It is not cost effective to recycle, but would recycle more if there was a larger incentive or credit (more than \$3).
 - o Instead of recycling, resident burns paper and especially heavier newspapers.
 - o Convenience of burning is greater than a financial incentive. Resident burns a lot of items in their home fireplace.
 - o Resident's amount of garbage that is land filled is less than amount recycled. Resident self hauls for \$3 when recycling is done. Some people throw away valuable items.
 - o Recycled plastic bags are sometimes thrown away and not reused. One still has to ask for paper bags at Fred Meyer.
 - Is the plastic wrap wrapped around products recyclable?

B. What changes would you recommend to the system?

- Some suggested changes:
 - o Several participants agreed that convenience is an issue. Much more paper would be recycled if it was more convenient for residents.
 - o Uniform, inexpensive and attractive cardboard containers for paper recycling are needed.
 - o There is a need for more education concerning paper recycling outside of Portland.
 - o Since Metro subsidizes home compost machines, they should also subsidize home shredders in the future. Credit card solicitations and mailed advertising create a confidentiality concern.
 - o Participant would like to see a greater availability of products made with recycled goods. More of the waste stream should be recycled and reused like newspapers, items in resale shops.
 - o Several participants agreed that more new products should be created that are recyclable and produce less waste. Stiff cardboard is one example of a recyclable product.
 - o When cell phones are shipped via UPS, newspapers and peanuts should be reused as shipping materials.

C. What aspect of the system should be emphasized for the future?

- There should be more research and development of plastic and Styrofoam uses.
- New Seasons offers non-microwaveable and compostable containers made from sugar cane.
- Clackamas County will meet with businesses for onsite recycling assistance.
- Several participants agreed on both convenience and conservation values, with cost a secondary discussion emphasis.

SECTION 2 HOW MUCH CAN WE RECYCLE?

- Incentives are preferred to regulations because they are more effective and create positive relationships with government agencies.
- Hoffman Construction is involved with LEED projects and some redevelopment sites that incorporate over 90% recycled products. These products include concrete, wood, steel and plastic and do not include food.
- Metro's motivation for recycling was examined, whether it was to meet state and federal goals. Increased recycling options translate to increased effectiveness.
- System includes two pails under the sink, one for garbage and one for recycling glass and cans, and a curbside bin for paper. Her husband likes to burn newspapers, but they are easily recyclable.
- Improvements to current system
 - o Separating food waste from wrappers is a good idea. Participant recycles glass jars, newspapers and cardboard.
 - o Recycling goal is too low, should include other items.
 - o Need more recycling options.
 - o Participant would like a 75% recycling goal. Portland receives garbage from its neighbors.

- o Northwest Recycling advocacy is a resource.
 - o There should be a greater investment in educational programs, especially for children. Education of grandchildren is important, because older people get complacent.
 - o It should be easier to recycle, with everything together.
 - o Source separation would save the local/regional economy money.
 - o Resident remembers hazardous waste events after the fact and needs easier, more convenient container to set out hazardous waste.
 - o Participant is impressed by Internet services and was not aware of hazardous waste services. Would like more education especially pertaining to hazardous waste.
 - o Convenient pickups or having waste hauled is mentioned.
 - o Resident has had paint in their shed for the last nine years and needs a more convenient way to set it out at their curb. At the transfer station they waited in line for white paint at a good price and there is no incentive to take it back.
- Native Oregonian is proud of this state and could tolerate more public relations advertisements pushing recycling. A promotion reminder would be helpful.
 - The effective Lady Bird Johnson "keep it beautiful" campaign made a big impact during childhood.
 - Advertising and radio talk shows are effective media for airing recycling reminders.
 - Oregonians are generally not receptive to governmental intervention or regulation.
 - Business owner stated that businesses in his industry are receptive to recycling incentives, but is not aware of other industries. For example, with the electronics industry, is there a market for copper and zinc?
 - Hoffman sells a lot of appliances and their wood framing is not currently recyclable. People take the pallets, or they are burned as kindling.
 - Industries are not very different from each other in that a financial benefit will spur change. Low wage labor is mentioned.
 - It's important to know how waste affects the water quality in the Clackamas River watershed, its streams and tributaries.
 - There should be region-wide statutes against water pollution. Oil and other runoff from parking lots go directly into the ground water table.
 - Group reached consensus on increasing emphasis on educational programs and willingness to pay for convenient and more recycling options. Incentives are preferred to regulations.
 - The group would be in favor of specific product landfill bans or regulations in the future.

SECTION 3 HOW CAN SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLES GUIDE SOLID WASTE PRACTICES?

- Waste prevention
 - o Participant is not satisfied with types of green power. They increase waste and need

more work. The City of Oregon City only does least cost purchasing. The department could do better with water, paper and fuel consumption. Thermostat settings could be more sensitive to climate.

- o New Seasons uses low waste products in a cost effective manner.
 - o Metro grant applications require two-sided recycled paper. Government should use their processes to segue into more sustainable practices. Larger documents like request for proposals should be double sided also.
 - o It's not required, but the City could require recycled content paper; for example.
 - o Several participants agreed that a minimum 75% recycling rate should be the goal. The 62% goal should be exceeded via sustainability measures.
- Participant likes the zero waste idea. Product research and development and incentives are necessary for product utilization. Options are good, but would not buy necessarily. Tax credits should be provided to businesses that provide recycled products. This would help businesses make resource friendly decisions.
 - There should be incentives to find packaging alternatives.
 - Several participants agreed that governments should model resource-conserving practices, by using cost efficient hybrid cars for example.
 - On the state bid list there are limited choices. Japanese and American cars are compared.
 - Cost and environmental conservation should factor into government purchasing decisions. Government can make recommendations, which are preferred to regulations.
 - Tax incentives for the private sector to develop energy efficient cars may work for the auto industry because of demand and supply, but perhaps not for other industries.
 - Whirlpool and General Electric are national appliance brands that ship their packaging and products to many local businesses.
 - Hauler trucks may create bad emissions. Haulers may recover costs via city contracts.
 - Several participants agreed that the breaking point of sustainability is cost because recycled or more sustainable products and services are often more expensive.
 - Corporate decisions are often not sustainable. For example, when businesses use Styrofoam instead of paper.
 - The group also expressed a strong preference for incentives over regulations.
 - A homeowner said curbside hazardous waste pickups that are priced for disposal would make disposal easier.
 - It would be difficult to regulate homeowners and how would incentives be decided upon?
 - Tax incentives for business are important.
 - Karen Blauer mentioned that governments could require that haulers use truck filters as an

example of a sustainable option. Overall, there are more recycling and sustainable efforts now. There is more individual interest in zero waste than from corporate, national and global sectors of the economy.

- Research and development, educating businesses, creating incentives, communicating with suppliers and increasing awareness on a regional scale are all pragmatic ideas.
- Researchers should find uses for Styrofoam.

WRAP UP – What is most important?

- Education is important, and should not just “preach to the choir”. Other ways to reach people include via one to one interactions with neighbors, in schools and at stores.
- The 75% recycling rate is better than a 62% rate. We have a moral commitment to civilization. Lady Bird Johnson’s message and the 1970’s advertisement featuring the Native American wiping glass from the road are memorable.
- Research and development will find alternatives that will be easiest in the long run.
- Incentives are important.
- A “Lewis and Clark” advertising campaign could show pioneer explorers discovering a big landfill in order to increase awareness.
- Native Oregonian brags about being from Oregon and is proud of his roots. Jokingly refers to newcomers as “invasives”.
- There is widespread complacency about this issue and others.
- Several participants agreed that people’s motivation needs to be increased.
- California family is not recycling anything. Newcomers and “expats” from other states, for example Nashville, TN, need to be educated.
- Maintain and do not reduce current recycling efforts. Recycling demand could be better. There should be more awareness about commingling recycled products, for example different types of papers.
- Praise and compliments increases enthusiasm for recycling.
- Karen Blauer concluded that the Metro region could go back to the basics and remind other state residents of the Oregon legacy “things look different here”.

TABLE #2

SECTION 1 DO GARBAGE AND RECYCLING SERVICES MEET YOUR NEEDS?

D. Does the current system meet your needs?

- Satisfied (kind of)

- More services needed seasonally (i.e. yard debris)
- Costs reasonable
 - Alternatives for costs may include coupons
 - "Hardship rate" for those on fixed incomes; e.g. elderly, disabled, etc..
- Curbside recycling
 - Would like containers for keeping recyclables dry
 - More curbside recycling – plastic bags, electronics, household hazardous waste
 - Subsidize free recycling with higher landfill disposal rates
- Facilities
 - Not important who runs them
 - Convenient for bulky items
 - Special waste more difficult to recycle
 - Other options such as non-profits good
 - RIC good resource
- i. Convenience vs. cost
 1. Convenience, conservation. Wide range of recycling facilities is helpful
 2. Cost matters, especially in hard economic times
 3. Charge fees on products when purchased, rather than paying for disposal
 4. Publicize availability of special bulky waste pickup
 5. Give public a heads up about where rates are headed long-term, if possible

SECTION 2 HOW MUCH CAN WE RECYCLE?

- Current level of recycling is better than national average, but needs improvement
- Much more recycling could be done in construction and demolition, organics, etc.
- Really "crank" on getting more paper recycled to improve recycling rate.
- Schools are the best audience for training to recycle, especially K-6th grade. Need to put more efforts there and measure the success.
- Businesses need convenience and incentives
- Be innovative: PSU paying hauler to reduce waste and then splitting the savings"
- True cost of recycling much higher than land filling, but it is the right thing to do
- Cost effectiveness important
- Regulation
 - City of Portland is doing well with their recycling regulations, without much backlash
 - Education and incentives better than regulation
 - If recycling costs more, people won't do it. Keep recycling rates low to motivate largest number of people.
 - Charge more for disposing, perhaps with a set minimum charge
 - Educate that recycling is the right thing to do
 - Use "carrot," measure effectiveness, follow with "stick" if necessary

SECTION 3 HOW CAN SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLES GUIDE SOLID WASTE PRACTICES?

- Satisfied with current level? No, can't keep throwing stuff away; develop systems to help motivate businesses to recycle.
 - Zero waste is a good long-term goal – "Greening" the system will be important short-term.
 - Concept of zero waste will change how people think
 - Local governments, Metro help by example
 - Educate, don't regulate
 - Waste is a sign of an inefficient system
 - Some local companies doing great – publicize what they are doing to inspire others to follow suit
 - Let people know 2 bins available for households
 - Show people how much more can be done
 - Encourage using smaller garbage cans, offer more recycling bins
 - Charge for disposal at point-of-purchase, like the bottle bill
 - When practical, make manufacturers responsible end of life disposal.
 - Expand the bottle bill, and make it work for stores (cost). Local governments and Metro could help
 - Government takes lead in using green products. If you do it, publicize it! Can help transform the markets
 - Show that it is cost effective to recycle (may cost more up front, but cheaper in the long run)
 - Look at correlation between recycling rate and disposal cost
- Make recycling more convenient than disposal

HILLSBORO MEETING, OCTOBER 2, 2004

TABLE ONE

SECTION 1 DO GARBAGE AND RECYCLING SERVICES MEET YOUR NEEDS?

A. Does the current system meet your needs?

- Newer resident replied yes but needs more information about it. SOLV-it, on-line resources are helpful.
- Does not meet plastic recycling needs. Moved Colorado relatives a few years ago. Freedman and Sons is a major Recycling company in Denver. There are only two companies left in the United States (one in NJ, CA) that process plastics recyclables and they do not accept all numbers.
- New recycling centers do a lot of plastics recycling but where do they go?
- Household does not create much trash or recycling.
- No. Resident has had repeated illegal dumping in right of way in front of her property and once paid \$126 to have a load of tires removed. Metro and Washington County issue separate citations.
- Resident can fill up bins from Far West Fibers and does not have to store up recyclables but can bring in herself.

- No. Far West Fibers and Beaverton Center mentioned. Costs are not applicable. Conservation is most important.
- Church collected Styrofoam and had no place to recycle it. New resources are being used like dairy cartons with plastic tops.

B. What changes would you recommend to the system?

- The general consensus was that the current system does not work.
- Some suggested changes:
 - All businesses and municipalities should recycle more.
 - The Bottle Bill worked because it attached a monetary value to recyclable products. It should be expanded to include Snapple bottles, take out containers and Styrofoam. Bottles with necks are accepted.
 - Fast food restaurants should take responsibility for products contaminated with foodstuffs. Washington County still has Styrofoam meat trays that harbor bacteria. Food related Styrofoam should not be created and the creators should be paying for recycling them.
 - Companies that manufacture Styrofoam and plastic should be held accountable via permits, fines or dollars.
 - The population has to be deprogrammed of this "throwaway or 'out of sight, out of mind' mentality" that did not exist before the 1950's.
 - Habits and lifestyles need to be changed in order to separate wastes. Combining wastes is a bad idea. Commingling products may make consumers careless.
 - There are commingling costs to society in tax dollars and labor to re-separate products. Waste separating conveyor belt jobs are not living wage jobs.
 - Manufacturers should bear responsibility for waste and recycling.

C. What aspect of the system should be emphasized for the future?

- Consultants could help both single families and businesses to recycle better.
- Haulers could not accept recyclable materials from both businesses and residents and leave an explanatory note.
- Recycling education is important because recycling varies by municipality.

SECTION 2 HOW MUCH CAN WE RECYCLE:

- Participant asked whether the change in recycling rates in 2000 to 2001 indicated a change in commingling or plastic recycling practices.
- Styrofoam and #6 plastics are thrown in the trash.
- The 62% rate sounds reasonable by next year.

- Several participants agreed that big jugs and smaller bottles of water are not being recycled. In California and at businesses they are not being recycled because they have no redeemable value. The Bottle Bill should be expanded.
- Improvements to current system:
 - Go beyond recycling education, for both residents and businesses.
 - Government should take more initiative. Clean Water Services utilizing rainwater toilets is an example.
 - Businesses can save money by creating less waste. Smaller trash bins are an economic incentive.
 - Businesses could participate in voluntary recycling consulting.
 - Business waste bins should be monitored to see what is and is not being recycled. Businesses should pay fines for un-separated recyclables.
 - Audits can help in meeting recycling goals. Businesses could be charged for recycling services and this would dictate changes in business policies.
 - Targeted spot audits and regular checks especially for excess waste producers.
 - Incentives (preferred), state and local regulations are options.
 - Waste prevention and reuse is preferred to waste diversion and recycling.
 - There should be recycling audits and more monitoring.
 - If legislation creates costs, then businesses should pay. More businesses, especially property management companies including both rental and commercial corporate parks need to be targeted.
 - Most businesses are concentrated on survival and recycling is not their foremost concern. Dedicated individuals can try to change businesses from within.
 - Expand relevant waste recycling programs for businesses. Create free classes and videotapes with other incentives to encourage participation.
 - Markets need to be developed for recycled products and trash.
 - It's been a long time since the 1970's bottle bill and consumers have not changed enough. They need financial incentives because that is their motivation.
- Additional concerns:
 - The toxic process of heating and melting recyclables in addition to picking up and transporting them all have environmental impacts.
 - Chemical and oil companies have taken over manufacturing companies so they can continue using cheaper raw materials.
 - Consumers are being lied to because recycled waste products are being deposited in landfills instead. Some day landfills will be mined for resource recovery.
 - Waste haulers need incentives too. They may not care about recycling.

Section 3 HOW CAN SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLES GUIDE SOLID WASTE PRACTICES?

- People need to put pressure on companies and go beyond saving trees, look at habitat effects on fish, and erosion.
- Education starts with manufacturer. Resident talked with Tom's of Maine about their natural products. They are not always recycled or made from recyclable products. Consumer advocacy, media coverage or boycotts would increase corporate accountability. Start with

more major corporations. Tom's is using 100% recycled paper content in their toothpaste cardboard packaging. The caps and inside plastic parts of deodorants are not recyclable.

- Change Metro and state policies. VT, WI and OR are three examples of more progressive state policies.
- The costs should be shifted away from the state. Funds should come out of garbage bills and tipping fees.
- Waste Prevention:
 - Show markets for recycled products, more R and D. Milk bottles and bags recycled to create fence posts.
 - Reuse plastic disposable diapers.
 - Institute fines.
 - Educate consumers that plastics are recyclable.
 - The LA Sanitation bureau sends out periodic brochures. Currently brochures are only sent out with rate changes in July and in December.
 - Save money by not expanding transfer stations.
 - Alpenrose produces plastic containers for kids.
 - Increase plastic recycling and alternatives to plastic. Consumer does not know which numbered products to avoid buying.
 - There are not enough of food coops or stores that have bulk food aisles or ways consumers can bring their own bags. Sanitation and time concerns.
 - Consumers need to pay for the convenience of new containers.
 - Consumer brought Fred Meyer bags to Safeway for reuse. They were not recycled but thrown in the trash and she received the 3-cent credit.
 - Consumers forget to take cloth bags to the store and then throw away plastic bags.
 - In Ireland, a negative incentive means that one is charged the real cost for a new bag, rather than reimbursing someone for bringing in a bag.
 - Sustainability affects recycling goals. Recycled foil packaging could be measured by weight or eliminate types of packaging produced by businesses.
- Expand recycling legislation and container bill to include paid deposits and incentives to recycle all containers and boxes.
- In Texas, there are no deposits. Kids collect bottles for fundraisers. They are a micro-enterprise and source of income.
- Greening the solid waste system:
 - Demonstrate key tangible economic savings. An example is bio diesel vs. regular diesel.
 - Several participants favor credits and incentives for haulers with greener operations, over regulations. A sorting facility with natural lighting is one example.
 - Yes to regional standardization.
 - Haulers pick up cottage cheese containers. Use "do not haul" tags and charge for recycling inappropriately.
 - Give financial incentives to haulers. Incentives could come from education fund. Consumers don't know about unclean containers.
 - Identify funds for monitoring and audits.
 - Master recycling outreach should be as comprehensive as master gardening.

- Less toxic materials should be used. Oil and chemical companies are producing toxic materials and pressuring other industries.
- There are many environmental groups in Oregon. They could publish a "page of shame" on their website featuring wasteful packaging. Frito-Lay chip holders are just one example.
- City of Portland's BEST and BRAG sound environmental practices awards already exist. There should be bad awards for products like Dutch Boy's non-recyclable paint cans. Liability concerns are acknowledged with this approach.
- There is consensus that specific consumer complaints about products put the most effective type of pressure on companies. Governmental regulations or incentives play a secondary role to that of consumers.
- All non-profit, governments and businesses should work together to effect change with manufacturers.
- There is agreement that manufacturers should be held accountable for the ultimate cost of product life cycles including manufacture and reuse of that product, and not consumers.
- Consensus that consumers need more sustainable options that are cheaper and then they will buy them. Use the market to an advantage.
- Landfill mining will continue to happen in the future.
- Individual power vs. corporate control is an important factor.

WRAP UP – What is most important??

- Group likes zero waste approach bullet points.
- Both recycled and less toxic products need to more readily available. For example papers that are both recycled and chlorine free.
- The United Methodist Women's group called Staples about selling chlorine free paper. They gave information to the company. Consumer advocacy does not necessarily correspond to corporate responsibility. It is the government's responsibility to make manufacturers accountable.
- Does Metro use 100% recycled products?
- A renewed recycling effort was compared to a victory gardens wartime effort. A trash monitor could check loads and impose charges.

TABLE #2

SECTION 1 DO GARBAGE AND RECYCLING SERVICES MEET YOUR NEEDS?

E. Does the current system meet your needs?

- Adequate for now, but will need to do more in the future.
 - Need to divert more from landfills.
- Inadequate
 - Terribly inadequate in rural Washington County; recycling only picked up once a month.
- Curbside recycling
 - Would like covered recycling bins to keep materials dry. Current services are convenient, but would prefer roll carts.
 - One industry-insider noted that covered roll carts can be problematic because people often put putrescibles and other incorrect items in .
 - Educate the public to remove lids, and about other items that aren't wanted.
 - Need more curbside services (add plastics, dairy tubs, etc.)
 - It's nice that metal and aerosols are taken
- ii. Convenience vs. cost
 - 1. Charge more for larger garbage cans; people will put more effort into recycling then.
 - 2. Cost is reasonable; yard debris pickup is good.
 - 3. Recycling information is confusing in some parts of the region – needs to be consistent.
 - 4. Cost is less important than diverting waste from landfills
- iii. What changes would you like to see?
 - 1. Add plastics to curbside program
 - 2. Add food waste
 - 3. Bulky waste neighborhood events
 - 4. More household hazardous waste events in Washington County
 - 5. More frequent recycling service in rural areas.
 - 6. Rural areas would also like to be able to co-mingle
 - 7. Would like occasional (maybe annual) feedback from haulers to know if you're recycling correctly.
- iv. Future emphasis?
 - 1. Education
 - 2. Education
 - 3. Oh, and education!
 - 4. Get out a consistent message to the entire Metro region. Too many different rules in different areas; very confusing if you move from one to another.
 - 5. Give out compost samples at fairs, conventions, community events.
 - 6. Encourage reduce, reuse, recycle, restore.
 - 7. Use locally-owned haulers. People HATE big, multinational waste companies that have no local loyalties.

SECTION 2 HOW MUCH CAN WE RECYCLE? (This became primarily a brainstorm of ideas to increase recycling rate)

- Put recycling tips on garbage bills to help educate people.

- Willing to put more funding into school education.
- Incentives: More trash should cost more money.
- Education in Washington County lacking. Need more, and more consistency.
- Enforce hauling regulations (inconsistencies in recycling from hauler to hauler)
 - Monitor the haulers more, both large and small
- Require businesses to recycle, using economic incentives and landfill bans
 - Phase this in, offering discounts for keeping recyclables out of the garbage
 - Point out that incentives already exist because if you have less garbage, you can save money on garbage bills.
- Fund recycling education in schools, and make sure that happens every year.
- Consistent education throughout the region is crucial. Change the rate structure if necessary to make that happen.
- Customers in unincorporated Washington County are subject to charges that seem very unfair (and very different from other areas). It has become cheaper there to not recycle. Not only is there inadequate pickup service, there's an extra monthly charge for the "privilege" of using their "will call" service (in addition to the cost for the actual pickup)
- Make haulers and regulators take part in education.
- Use Master Recyclers as a resource for education, too
- Keep public education simple for highest impact, using bullets, pictures. A good campaign one participant saw was a card explaining what can and can't be recycled: The "can recycle" side of the card was green, the "can't recycle" side was red.
- Education, education, education.

SECTION 3 HOW CAN SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLES GUIDE SOLID WASTE PRACTICES? (This became mostly comments and discussion of the Zero Waste concept).

- Great in theory, but Zero Waste puts the proverbial cart before the horse. Current practices need to be improved and maintained first.
- On the other hand, people might get excited about these new concepts because recycling is old news.
- Pilot programs would help.
- Need e-waste to be completely recyclable / reusable. "Free Geek" is a great example.
- New technology is moving so fast it actually creates more waste.
- Plan ahead by paying for disposal costs at time of purchase. (Build the cost of recycling or disposal into the cost.)
- Increase the cost of consuming so that recyclable items are less expensive and more attractive as an option to new items.
- The Portland area sets examples for other cities.
- Sustainability is a great idea, but not at the expense of losing recycling programs to pay for it. Work on "greening" the system to improve current practices.
- Metro should provide leadership by defining sustainability, writing a mission statement, identifying the roles of residents, government, businesses.
- Reward green companies – publicize success stories, both from businesses and residents.
- Promote and define sustainability.
- Encourage businesses, residents to dispose less and recycle more.
- Think beyond our generation; consider what will make a better world for the next.
- Add recycling bins to kitchen designs.
- Make sustainability a habit.

BOTTOM LINES

- Education came up on pretty much every page of notes, as did the concept of “consistent message region-wide”.
- Get the word out clearly and simply
- Don't let education programs go away – need them every year.

Need more facilities / outlets for recycling.

RALEIGH WEST NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETING, NOVEMBER 3

Metro's “Let's Talk Trash” discussion was given 45 minutes on the Raleigh West Neighborhood Association Committee meeting agenda. There were three residents present at the meeting. After an introduction by Metro Councilor Susan McLain, residents discussed the issues. Participants were encouraged to take home the discussion guide, complete the questionnaire and send it to Metro. The following are notes from the discussion:

SECTION 1 DO GARBAGE AND RECYCLING SERVICES MEET YOUR NEEDS?

A. Does the current system meet your needs?

- No. Family in Seattle has large recycling bin for everything commingled and someone else separates wastes. What is the added cost of this? Less than 2 years ago Seattle had a system like in Portland with separate brown paper bags, which require more effort.
- No. Resident does not use products in a segregated manner so separation of recyclables is inconvenient. When preparing meals he uses cans, boxes, glass etc...
- No. Resident is cynical about Waste Management trash services because they are charging premium rates for garbage disposal and recycling in order to optimize profit and not because of a sense of civic duty. He recycles because of legal and moral values and says that the companies are making money off of “what we have to do”.
- Choice and costs are important issues.
- No. The general population is committed to recycling, but this breaks down when it becomes inconvenient, particularly for larger families with more kids that create large volumes of garbage.
- No. Several participants agreed that recycling levels in Beaverton seem average or lower than in close-in Portland. Bins are never full.

B. What changes would you recommend to the system?

- Some suggested changes:
 - City of Bellevue provides recycling bins that are convenient. Family used to throw everything away before these bins were provided.

- Portland bins are too small, especially for yard debris and garbage. Make recycling and debris bins larger.

SECTION 2 HOW MUCH CAN WE RECYCLE?

- Recycling education not necessary for his household. They recycle because it's the "right thing to do."
- Improvements to current system
 - There should be no cost for recycling certain items.
 - Education at schools is most effective because changing children's behavior influences parents. Children may be more conscientious. Anti-smoking campaigns are an example of this educational approach.
 - Several people agreed that middle school; in 5th and 6th grade is the best time to educate children about values.
 - Commingled residential recycling is preferred. It's simpler.
 - Individuals need to benefit. A voluntary incentive is a great idea.
- Additional Concerns:
 - He is forced to dispose of bulky Styrofoam in his trashcan and is charged the same rate as household garbage.
 - Cost of recycling.
- It is difficult to regulate when waste management is often out sourced to other companies, although neighborhood cleanups could be mandated.
- In Oregon, almost 85% of businesses have fewer than 50 employees. Smaller businesses pay subcontractors that hire janitors who make the decisions about what is recycled and disposed of, 75% of the time. Business owners do not monitor garbage pickups and are not informed. There is no system to ensure that recyclables are not thrown away.
- Monitoring is not effective for commercial facilities or residences.
- At Norm Thompson, janitors segregate recyclables at outside bins.

SECTION 3 HOW CAN SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLES GUIDE SOLID WASTE PRACTICES?

- Consensus on improving the bottle bill.
 - Dissatisfied with how slow the aluminum can recycling machines are. The 5-cent refund is not worth the time.
 - It's easier to skip the deposit and dump recyclables into the recycling bin.
 - Machines don't accept every size/variety of can and bottle or different bar codes.
 - Cans and bottles accumulate in basement and will be donated.
 - Oregonian's idealism exemplified by the bottle bill is frayed. They want to "do the right thing", but recycling should be made simpler and more convenient.
 - Large retailers and distributors put up consumer roadblocks including slow machines and only recycling store specific brands.

- Washington is recycling more than Oregon.
- In California, returnable items are priced by weight and not per piece.
- Only government would set sustainability standards. Who else would?
- Power companies don't offer options that consumers want. They don't have sufficient knowledge to set appropriate standards, and are motivated by corporate interests.
- Waste prevention:
 - Government should purchase energy efficient fleet cars and paper with recycled content. Resident is surprised that government standards are not as high as they could be; Norm Thompson, Nike and Intel may have higher standards.
 - Purchasing items with higher organic cotton content is one example of how collective purchasing power can drive higher standards.
- Higher standards usually cost more. A cost benefit ratio applied to gasoline means that as the price of gas goes down, more driving yields additional environmental residues and health care costs.
- A public trash summit that converts Metro's complex analysis into layman's terms and real choices would add a sense of urgency to citizens in the community. Avoid academic terms.
- Increasing grant opportunities and available funds would increase participation.

**GRESHAM ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING,
NOVEMBER 3, 2004**

Metro's "Let's Talk Trash" discussion was given 30 minutes at a meeting of Gresham's Environmental Services Council Advisory Committee, to which the 11 area neighborhood associations were also invited. After an introduction by Metro Councilor Rod Park, committee members and a neighborhood representative discussed two issues: "how much can we recycle?" and "how can sustainability principles guide solid waste practices?" (The Committee had already provided input specifically on business recycling at a discussion facilitated by a City of Gresham Solid Waste Dept. staff member, and had written a letter to Metro expressing preferences for increasing business recycling. That letter will be included in the final report.) Participants were encouraged to take home the discussion guide, complete the questionnaire and send it to Metro. Counting three Gresham City Hall staff, members of the advisory Committee, and one citizen representative, there were 12 participants in this discussion. The following are notes from the discussion:

SECTION 2 HOW MUCH CAN WE RECYCLE?

- Businesses with systems for paper recycling work well. Cafeteria could use some help.
- Norm-culture for employees needs to be in place. Top level management must support it, and need systems in place too (bins, etc.)
- Businesses may have materials that expire (paint or other chemicals) might be able to be used for a non-manufacturing use. Do assessment. Need to check internal rules.

- Many do a lot of recycling at home, but may find different materials and rules at work.
- Less waste makes for a nicer place to live, especially on trails.
- Keep getting more people involved, and try new things.
- People will do what they know.
- Work hard on areas that need work, or even one area (paper, food, C and D)
- Easy kinds of recycling are happening, especially residential.
- New areas are harder and require more work:
 - internal culture for change (regulations and thought processes)
 - commitment to change (top management, leadership)
 - ability to put systems in place
 - dedicated people to make it work
 - help to see opportunities, technical assistance
- I want to do more to save resources. Need motivation
- People need to know even small amounts matter (i.e. paper, food, not just large cardboard or scrap metal)
- Need understanding of recycling rules, what to recycle.
- Pay more to get more? Yes, I'd pay more if I knew money would help businesses recycle more.
- Business recycling: ESCAC and Gresham Chamber Government Affairs talked recently and agreed that education and incentives were preferred over regulations. Letter to Metro is attached.

SECTION 3: HOW CAN SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLES GUIDE SOLID WASTE PRACTICES?

- Cost more on front end to think sustainably
- Have manufacturer tell you what you can recycle (like a note with your tennis shoes that you can recycle them)
- Recycled products should cost less, not more. Recycled-content paper costs more.
- Barriers: Cost and culture
 - Easier to start a business sustainably, but harder with existing facility, culture.
 - If you can save money and you might be able to change culture.
- Tualatin Valley water building uses rainwater for toilets. Do you have to start with a new building?
- Focus on long term, look at big picture.
- Look at lifecycle of a product. Use less packaging!
- Education.
- Takes a whole combination of strategies.
- Manufacturer involvement critical to make it work.
- Might require regulations to equalize market impacts – no manufacturer will do the right thing first because of initial start-up costs.

FIVE OAKS/TRIPLE CREEK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETING, NOVEMBER 9, 2004

Metro's "Let's Talk Trash" discussion was given 25 minutes on the Five Oaks/Triple Creek Neighborhood Association Committee meeting agenda. Approximately 20 residents were present. After an introduction by Metro Councilor Carl Hosticka, residents discussed two issues: "how much can we recycle?" and "how can sustainability principles guide solid waste practices?" Participants were encouraged to take home the discussion guide, complete the questionnaire and send it to Metro. The following are notes from the discussion:

SECTION 2 HOW MUCH CAN WE RECYCLE?

- Resident has been recycling 35 years. It's second nature to him. He's aware that kids do it too.
- Resident and business person would be willing to separate and donate refundable bottles to people in need.
- Residents place of work has not organized recycling system (aside from office paper).
- Residents are generally getting the information they need to be able to recycle.

- Improvements to current system
 - Reach out to residents that live in apartments. Resident believes a lot is being thrown into the garbage (rather than recycled) at apartment complexes. The cause of this maybe a lack of room for recycling containers.
 - Increase the refund mechanism in Oregon's bottle bill.
 - Different types of plastics should be recyclable.
 - Establish a more convenient way to recycle batteries (e.g., gas station drop off sites).
 - Need a day/night source of recycling information (e.g., Metro web site address).
 - Resident would be willing to pay more to separate recyclables, but would not pay more for additional recycling service.
 - State should give tax credit to residents and businesses reusing recycled materials to encourage recyclables to remain in the region instead of sending them to out-of-state markets.

- Additional Concerns:
 - Bottle return refund is no longer an incentive. Resident is leaving refundable bottles at the curb for recycling rather than taking them back to a retailer.
 - Limited number of plastics that can be recycled.
 - Concern about contaminating the system with plastics that cannot be recycled (e.g., cottage cheese cartons).
 - Packaging for many products is a big waste. Is there a way to get manufacturers or retailers to take care of this?
 - How will new technology for tracking products (i.e., radio frequency identification) affect recycling efforts (e.g., product containers will have transmitters affixed to them)

SECTION 3 HOW CAN SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLES GUIDE SOLID WASTE PRACTICES?

- Resident expressed concern about the potential increase in taxes for implementing sustainable practices to the solid waste system.
 - What will costs look like immediately and how much will it cost on a long-term basis?
- Resident is concerned about air emissions from school buses and trucks. Need to take care of what comes out of our cars. A Federal mandate will soon require trucks to be fitted with new filters.
- Waste prevention:
 - Resident wants product packaging to be recyclable or reusable.
 - Resident would be willing to pay more for products if packaging was more environmentally friendly.

PARK PLACE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETING, NOVEMBER 15, 2004

Metro's "Let's Talk Trash" discussion was given 55 minutes on the Park Place Neighborhood Association meeting agenda. After an introduction by Metro Councilor Brian Newman, residents discussed all three issues. Participants were encouraged to fill out the questionnaire at the meeting, to mail it in or to fill out the online questionnaire. Fifteen people attended the meeting. The following are notes from the discussion.

SECTION 1 DO GARBAGE AND RECYCLING SERVICES MEET YOUR NEEDS?

A. Does the current system meet your needs?

- Transfer station used to really smell bad. Okay now.
- I've used the facility many times, but transfer station staff don't know what to do with some recyclables, like all the paper I brought in bags, at first they threw it in with the trash. I got the attention of a supervisor who pulled it out.
- I'm an avid recycler, would like to get a certificate, or gift certificate to recognize efforts. Motivation.
- Home garbage service and transfer station service is good, although the recycling sorts keep changing. It's confusing.
- Accessibility to dropping recyclables at transfer station. Inconvenient to wait in line 25 minutes just to drop off recyclables. Want to get in a quick line.
- Curbside okay, but can't get rid of plastic tubs
- Why not have a scavenger place. Someone could pull out usable items at transfer station. Charge people a few bucks for stuff, artists.
- Far West Fibers – hours are a problem. Not open on weekends. Like to use them, but can't on weekends.
- Only have one recycling bin, end up putting stuff in boxes and bags. Wants more bins.

- West Linn – you get a big bin. Want more bins, or bigger and covered.
- Metro Paint facility. Why moving. Homes are being built here. We need access to paint.
- If you can sell paint, why not sell items salvage from transfer station? I was told I couldn't pick up stuff I saw at transfer station. Why not?
- Want larger containers for yard debris and recyclables.
- Rain and wind blows stuff out of open small bins, stuff gets wet.
- Emphasize plastic recycling, polystyrene, packaging, computers, electronics.
- Want more accurate time pick up for trash. Not consistent. One time one week, another time another week.

SECTION 2 HOW MUCH CAN WE RECYCLE?

- Business development in Lake Oswego – only tiny area for recycling. No room. Would like to see some legislation for new development that space has to be designed in for businesses to recycle.
- At some businesses you can recycle cardboard and a bit of glass – not room for much else.
- Food waste – recycle at McDonalds. McDonalds only has trash cans. Why not recycling containers too?
- There's more opportunity to do more at businesses.
- Work with corporations. Ensure that materials are recyclable.
- More education about costs and benefits of recycling. How recycling processes work.
- Why don't we have more recycling options, end-use markets locally, instead of shipping stuff far away?
- Emphasize composting.
- Education is important, especially with kids, the next generation.
- Why do we still allow things made with plastics that aren't recyclable?

- Go to big corporations who put a lot of packaging into products.
- How to recycle buckets (paint)? Need more information.

SECTION 3 HOW CAN SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLES GUIDE SOLID WASTE PRACTICES?

- Hosted Japanese visitors here, they recycling everything! How do they do it? We can learn from them. I want to learn more, find out what's possible.
- I want to see less garbage.
- Me too, but I don't want government telling me what to do.
- Disgusts me how much plastic I throw away. My garbage is one-half plastics.
- Wood recycling – why is there a charge when you bring it in in a truck, but not when you have some of it separate out from your garbage, and they take it for free?
- Water quality is important to me. Want to do more to clean up water.
- Education about chemicals in the garden.
- How to get to new homeowners? You don't need to have a green, green lawn.
- Spraying instead of mowing along Hwy 213. Who's doing that?
- Government should set some standards.
- Get a broom out, why use leaf blowers.
- Bottle bill is nice, but it could be wider – all types of bottles, wine, juice, milk, Sobe.

- Deposits too labor intensive. Do it all at the curb, it's more convenient. Not worth the time and money to take bottles to the store.
- Everything that's manufactured could have a stamp on it "Oregon Recyclable" to make it easy to know what's recyclable. All of it could go in another recycling bin at the curb.
- Make it easy so you don't have to think about it.
- Time is an issue. Make recycling convenient. Easy. Deposit not that important to redeem.

BOTTOM LINE DISCUSSION

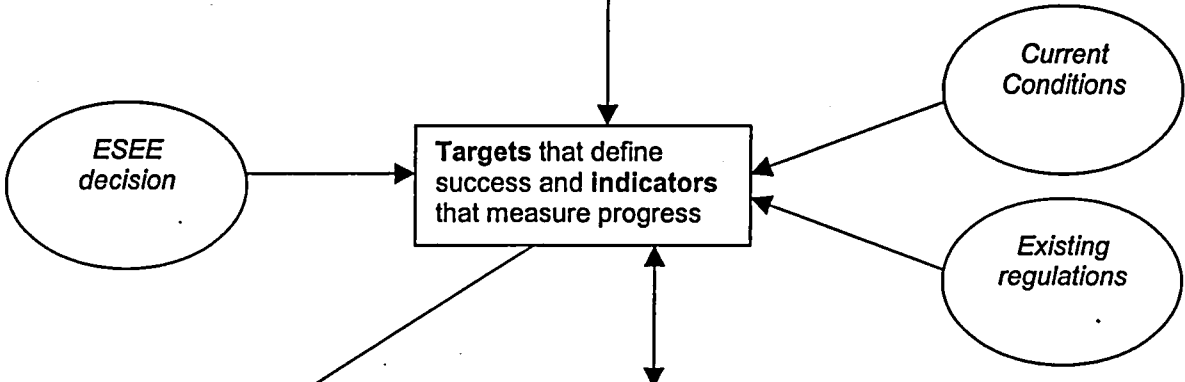
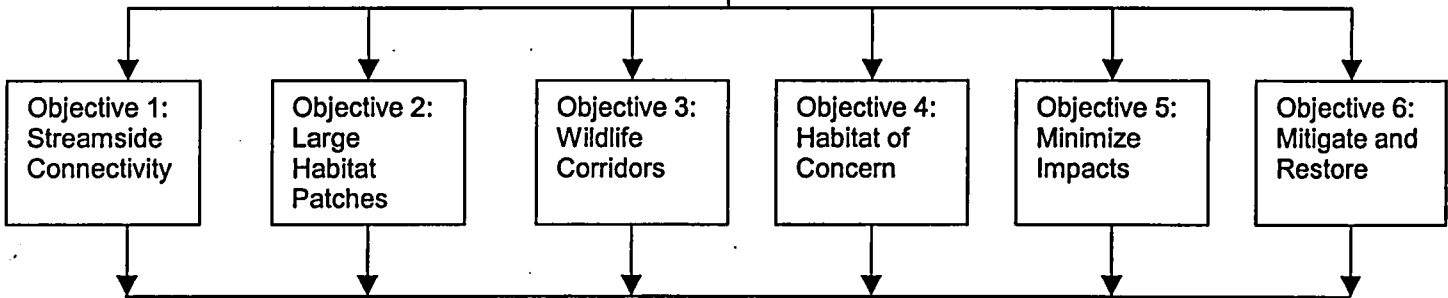
- Education! For residents and for Metro to listen to our comments!
- Product stewardship – make manufacturers responsible for their own products.
- Go into corporations and help them see how they can reduce packaging.
- Monetary incentives. The more you recycle the cheaper your trash bill.
- Will-call trash service is cheap! Do people know you can get trash picked up for just \$6.30? I only call every six weeks.
- Make it simple and easy.
- Advertise paint more.

The Regional Fish and Wildlife Habitat Protection and Restoration Program:

DRAFT

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VISION STATEMENT:
 "...conserve, protect and restore a continuous ecologically viable streamside corridor system, from the streams' headwaters to their confluence with others streams and rivers, and with their floodplains in a manner that is integrated with the surrounding urban landscape."



- Actions/tools to achieve targets:**
- Tree protection standards
 - Cluster development
 - Transfer of development rights
 - Aquatic buffers
 - Low impact development/site design
 - Greenstreets standards
 - Design standards for habitat continuity
 - Mitigation
 - Education and awareness
 - Technical assistance
 - Restoration
 - Acquisition
 - Incentives

- Who:**
- Metro
 - Local Governments
 - Homeowners
 - Developers
 - Watershed Councils and friends groups
 - State and Federal agencies
 - Businesses
 - Educators

Monitoring and tracking habitat protection and restoration

Adaptive management: are we making progress?

Fish and Wildlife Habitat Protection Tools

Tool Categories (See attached document for summary descriptions)		Program Goals					ESEE Decision*		
		Avoid			Minimize	Mitigate			
		Goal 1: Streamside Connectivity	Goal 2: Large habitat patches	Goal 3: Wildlife Corridors	Goal 4: Habitat of Concern	Goal 5: Minimize Impacts			Goal 6: Mitigate & Restore
AVOID	1) Acquisition	●	●	●	●	○	○	SL	✓✓
								ML	✓
								LL	
	2) Tree protection standards	●	●	●	●	●	●	SL	✓✓
								ML	✓
								LL	
	3) Cluster development	●	●	●	●	●	○	SL	✓✓
								ML	✓✓
								LL	
	4) Transfer of development rights (TDRs)	●	●	●	●	●	○	SL	✓✓
								ML	
								LL	
	5) Riparian setbacks	●	○	○	●	○	○	SL	✓✓
								ML	✓
								LL	
MINIMIZE	6) Low impact development - Impervious surface reduction	○	○	○	○	●	○	SL	✓✓
								ML	✓✓
								LL	✓✓
	7) Low impact development – stormwater management	○	○	○	○	●	○	SL	✓✓
								ML	✓✓
								LL	✓✓
	8) Design standards for fish passage and wildlife crossings	○	○	○	○	●	○	SL	✓
								ML	✓
								LL	✓

MINIMIZE (cont.)	9) Education and awareness	○	○	○	○	○	○	SL	√√
								ML	√
								LL	√
	10) Technical assistance	○	○	○	○	●	○	SL	√√
								ML	√
								LL	√
	11) Incentives	○	○	○	○	○	○	SL	√
								ML	√
								LL	√
MITIGATE	12) Mitigation	○	○	○	○	●	●	SL	√√
								ML	√
								LL	
	13) Restoration	●	●	●	●	○	●	SL	√
								ML	√
								LL	√√
	14) Ongoing monitoring	○	○	○	○	○	○	SL	√
								ML	√
								LL	√

● = directly supports achieving goal; ○ = indirectly supports achieving goal; √ = area most applicable
 SL = strictly limit; ML = moderately limit; LL = lightly limit

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INTRODUCTION

The Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) represents a small share of the transportation resources available to the region. Given the scarcity and relative flexibility of these funds, the MTIP policy direction over the past several years has been to focus on projects that are difficult or impossible to fund with other funds. Oregon's state gas tax, in particular, is constitutionally limited to certain roadway improvements, which leaves other transportation needs unmet. The MTIP has been used in many instances to complement this limitation. Because the MTIP represents a small source of regional revenue, the program has also placed a strong emphasis on leveraging funds from other sources.

Narrowing recommendations to get to the First Cut list for public review was based on the following factors:

- Honoring previous funding commitments
- Regional policy direction (economic development, modal emphasis, addressing system gaps, etc.)
- Technical rankings and qualitative factors
- Funding projects throughout the region

Prior to recommending a final cut list recommendation, technical staff is requesting whether policy makers would like to provide further direction or clarification on any of the four narrowing factors listed above. In particular, the Regional Policy Direction factor raises several potential issues.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FURTHER POLICY DIRECTION

1. Provide overriding emphasis on projects that support economic development.
2. Emphasize the previously approved categories as being the priority emphasis
 - Bicycle
 - Boulevard
 - Freight
 - Green Streets
 - Pedestrian
 - Regional Transportation Options (RTO)
 - Transit Oriented Development (TOD)
 - Transit

-OR-

In the priority emphasis group, give the greatest priority to categories that do not have other sources of dedicated funding as follows:

- High: Bicycle Trail, Boulevard, Green Streets (demonstration elements), RTO, TOD

- Medium: Bicycle on-street, Pedestrian
 - Low: Freight, Transit
3. Beyond the priority emphasis group, projects from other categories should be considered when they meet one or more of the following criteria:
 - the project supports regional economic development objectives;
 - the project leverages development in Tier I or II mixed-use and industrial areas;
 - funds are needed for project development and/or match to leverage large sources of discretionary funding from other sources; or
 - the project provides new bike, pedestrian, transit or green street elements that would not otherwise be constructed without regional flexible funding (elements beyond minimum design standards)¹.
 4. Emphasize project development in anticipation of a regional or state funding measure or project construction?
 5. Emphasize projects that incorporate green street designs and/or wildlife habitat benefits due to the difficulty of protecting fish and wildlife habitat through regulatory programs?
 - emphasize the Green Street category;
 - emphasize funding Green Street elements in all transportation projects;
 - fund further development of Green Street research and education; or
 - highlight Green Street elements of all funded transportation projects;

¹ Motor vehicle capacity, reconstruction or bridge projects would need to address one or more of these objectives; the more objectives addressed and better their relative performance to other projects, the stronger the case to include such project as part of the technical staff recommendation.