Memorandum

CITY OF DALLAS

DATE April 25, 2022

TO Honorable Chair and Members of the Environment and Sustainability Committee

SUBJECT Follow-Up Information On Matters Related To The Local Solid Waste Management Plan Update Briefed To The Committee on March 7, 2022

On March 7, 2022, the Committee received a briefing on the Local Solid Waste Management Plan Update. An executive summary of the Plan Update is attached for your review, and additional information regarding several points of consideration that were raised by committee members during the March briefing is provided below. In addition to this interim update, a final briefing will be presented to the Committee on June 6, 2022, with the goal of receiving an affirmative vote to advance the Plan Update to the full City Council for adoption.

A Plan Update wrap-up public meeting was held at the Latino Cultural Center, and streamed virtually, on March 31. Both in-person and virtual attendees provided feedback on key aspects of the plan.

Supplemental information follows regarding several specific points of consideration raised by councilmembers.

1. **Regarding recycling collection and processing, provide a water bill insert to customers explaining what happens to their discarded materials.**

   The "Where Does My Recycling Go?" water bill insert was mailed to customers in May 2021, and was also sent in customer bills in April 2022. It—or a similar version-- is sent at least once each calendar year to educate customers on the life cycle of products and how recycling contributes to reducing the need to use raw materials for new items.

   At the conclusion of each mailing, all SAN water bill inserts can be found by following this link: https://dallascityhall.com/departments/sanitation/Pages/waterbillinserts.aspx

2. **Will goals from the 2011 plan carry forward along with the new objectives?**

   The 2011 LSWMP included a series of goals, objectives and programmatic approaches to achieving Zero Waste. The long-term Zero Waste goal adopted in the

2011 LSWMP has not been changed; however, the LSWMP Update has been developed to build on the 2011 LSWMP objectives and update them to:

A. Align with goals and objectives related to materials management adopted by CECAP
B. Acknowledge changes in the materials management landscape (e.g., recycling commodity markets, regulatory and policies adopted, technology innovations)
C. Incorporate the extensive system analysis and stakeholder engagement conducted as part of the LSWMP Update.

The following updated objectives are meant to guide policies, programs and infrastructure to support progress towards the City's 2030 goals (reference question #3) and the long-term Zero Waste goal:

A. Empower residents and businesses to reduce the amount of discarded material generated through proactive education, outreach and compliance efforts.
B. Establish and implement innovative operational best practices to provide efficient, cost effective, and environmentally responsible service.
C. Provide excellent customer service and support residents and businesses to maximize diversion from landfill.
D. Operate a clean, green and efficient waste system that seeks to generate energy from organics.

3. What are the measurable goals in the updated plan?

The LSWMP Update evaluated the ability of the City to reach the following goals related to materials management in the single-family sector were adopted by CECAP:

- Achieve 35% diversion of organic waste by 2030
- Achieve 60% diversion of paper waste by 2030
- 35% reduction in waste landfilled in 2030 (compared to 2021 tons disposed)

The City has elected not to establish tonnage-based goals for the multi-family and commercial sectors since the City only has influence over the material rather than direct control. The 2030 goals for the multi-family and commercial sectors are based on program participation and reporting compliance/verification of current and updated requirements of entities covered under the Multi-family Recycling Ordinance, participation in the Green Business Certification program and non-exclusive franchise haulers, as follows:

- 90 percent reporting compliance and verification of entities covered under the Multi-family Recycling Ordinance by 2030.
- Increasing the number of participants in the Green Business Certification program year-over-year.
- 90 percent reporting compliance and verification from non-exclusive franchise haulers.

4. How will the plan encourage multi-family facility operators to make recycling more accessible to residents?

There are several recommendations in the LSWMP Update document and implementation and funding plan related to increasing recycling accessibility to residents living in multi-tenant properties including:

A. Continue building on the City's Multi-family Recycling Ordinance by incorporating compliance levels of existing multi-tenant properties as a key performance metric related to the goals established.
B. Update the non-exclusive franchise hauler agreements and approved recycling hauler reporting requirements to provide City staff with a more comprehensive data-set regarding refuse and recycling tonnage collected from commercial and multi-family generators.
C. Leverage cross-departmental collaboration between SAN, OEQS, Code Compliance, and Development Services to proactively review multi-tenant permit applications to ensure recycling accessibility for tenants (e.g., refuse and recycling chutes/storage rooms) and haulers (e.g., sufficient space to store refuse and recycling dumpsters, adequate entrance/egress routes for collection vehicles).

5. How are City facilities actively engaged in recycling?

Sanitation provides, through a franchised private hauler, scheduled recycling collection services to city facilities including libraries, police and fire stations, Dallas Love Field and the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center. Recycling training is required for employees whose departments operate under, and are subject to, Environmental Management Systems (EMS) requirements. Employees not subject to EMS training requirements have access to the recycling course through the City's e-learning platform, Learning Zen. Recycling training available to City staff encourages the reduction of waste and recycling of materials including paper, cardboard, cartons, and containers made of plastic, glass, aluminum and tin. It also encourages work groups to create centralized waste collection stations and post educational literature on centralized waste to reduce the need for the daily emptying of garbage and

recycling containers at each workstation by housekeeping staff. In departments like Sanitation where centralized waste stations are used, housekeeping staff can focus cleaning efforts and time on sanitizing, dusting, and other cleaning, rather than on emptying multiple containers. The implementation of centralized waste stations was recommended in the City's Return to Work measures outlined to the City Council and employees after the rise of the coronavirus. The adoption of this approach to consolidated waste management is at the discretion of each department.

6. **How do we reduce illegal dumping particularly related to scrap tires? Can McCommas Bluff Landfill increase the number of scrap tires that residents and businesses can dispose of at no charge?**

   The Department of Code Compliance and City Marshal's Office oversee illegal dumping prevention, investigations, and abatement. Sanitation accepts scrap tires abated by Code Compliance at McCommas Bluff Landfill. Sanitation is permitted by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to store no more than 2,000 tires on-site at any one time, inclusive of tires properly received from the public.

   Sanitation paid $98,000 to a contracted tire recycler, All American Tire Recyclers, in FY 2020-21 for recycling costs of tires, including those received from Code Compliance. The expense for abatement of illegally dumped tires is likely a more appropriate expense for the General Fund rather than Sanitation ratepayers and landfill customers.

   Sanitation is exploring potential costs associated with a permit modification to accept and store additional tires at McCommas Bluff. Expenses will likely include capital improvements to the tire storage area, personnel costs to manage the material, and contract costs for final disposition of the tires.

If you have any questions please contact Jay Council, Director of Sanitation Services, at (214) 670-4485 or jerome.council@dallascityhall.com.

Carl Simpson
Interim Assistant City Manager

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Chris Caso, City Attorney
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Bilierae Johnson, City Secretary
Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager
Liz Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager
Robert Perez, Interim Assistant City Manager
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer

DATE April 25, 2022

SUBJECT Follow-Up Information On Matters Related To The Local Solid Waste Management Plan Update Briefed To The Committee on March 7, 2022

Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizor Tolbert, Deputy City Manager
Jon Fortune, Deputy City Manager

Genesis D. Gavino, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
Directors and Assistant Directors