

## **WASTE PREVENTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES: GARBAGE & RECYCLING SYSTEM FACILITIES PLAN POLICY PREFERENCES WORKSHOP**

**Date:** May 2, 2024

**Department:** Waste Prevention &  
Environmental Services

**Meeting Date:** May 21, 2024

**Prepared by:** Estee Segal

**Facilitator:** Maria Elena, Metropolitan Group

**Presenters:** Marta McGuire, WPES Director;  
Estee Segal, Principal SW Planner;  
Luis Sandoval, Principal SW Planner

**Length:** 2.5 hours

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### **ISSUE STATEMENT**

Metro is developing a long-range plan for facility and program investments that meet goals to reduce garbage, improve service quality and access, and keep services affordable. The Garbage & Recycling System Facilities Plan (System Facilities Plan) will take a holistic view of the system and help clarify Metro's future role in providing facility-based services, including facilities to be built or renovated by Metro or in cooperation with public, private and nonprofit partners.

This workshop will provide time for Councilors to discuss policy choices and share priorities related to the regional garbage and recycling system and the development of the System Facilities Plan.

### **ACTION REQUESTED**

Direction from Council on preferred policy and preferences to guide project staff in developing a set of facility and program investments to bring back for Council review in summer 2024.

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. What are your preferences (from the exercise card choices) for each policy area?
2. Where is there alignment or disagreement amongst Councilor preferences?
3. Is there policy consensus or direction to guide staff in developing a set of preferred facility and program investments?

### **STRATEGIC CONTEXT & FRAMING COUNCIL DISCUSSION**

In January, staff presented a summary of what we heard from project stakeholders on the four scenarios developed to consider different ways to address facility gaps. Almost 60% of project stakeholders preferred the Distributed scenario, in which Metro would build a network of distributed mid-sized facilities across the three counties, but many liked elements of the No-Build and Full-Service scenarios, too.

At the January Council work session, Council indicated preference for the Distributed Scenario, and asked for additional discussion to narrow options and discuss roles, tradeoffs, and cost implications.

The purpose of the May workshop is to discuss policy options and further clarify Council priorities to guide the development of a specific set of facility and program investments to improve the garbage and recycling system in the future.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Garbage and Recycling System Facilities Plan will look at the region's current public, private and non-profit garbage, recycling and reuse infrastructure, identify service gaps, and present potential approaches and a plan for future system investments. Specifically, the plan will include:

- An overview of the facility-based garbage, recycling and reuse services necessary for achieving the goals of the 2030 Regional Waste Plan.
- The current and anticipated gaps in those services.
- Alternative scenarios for the public, private and non-profit sectors to fill the gaps or mitigate the need to fill them over the next 20 years.
- An implementation plan and financing options for Metro's role in advancing the plan and building new facilities.

The plan may include construction of new facilities, incorporation of new services in existing facilities and non-facility-based alternatives. The plan will include consideration of costs and ratepayer impacts and will elevate the needs of communities of color and other groups historically underserved or impacted by the solid waste system.

The plan will help guide Metro's future investment in facilities and infrastructure and help to close the gap between those with access to services and those without. The planning process includes five phases and is anticipated to be complete at the end of 2024.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1: SFP values & outcomes summary flyer

Attachment 2: SFP policy preferences exercise