

Sustainable Materials Management Plan

City of Tacoma

SWANA Technical Session
February 26, 2016

A faint, circular seal of the City of Tacoma is visible in the background. The seal features a mountain range, a sun, and a body of water with a ship. The text "SEAL OF THE CITY OF" is visible around the top edge of the seal.

Background

- City of Tacoma Climate 2008 Action Plan
 - Maximizing commercial and residential recycling and reuse, and proper deconstruction of buildings.
- 2008 Tacoma-Pierce County Solid Waste Management Plan
 - Waste diversion goal of 70 percent or more by 2028,
- City of Tacoma Resolution No. 38907
 - Reaffirmed 70 % Goal on May 13, 2014
 - Resolution required development of a Sustainable Materials Management Plan.



Solid Waste Division

- Tacoma Solid Waste Management
 - Operates both collection and transfer operations
 - Residential and Commercial Collection, recycling and organics
- Accomplishments:
 - Excellence Awards from the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) for Collection Operations and Transfer Station Operations
 - Doubled the tons of waste diverted from 2000 to 2014 (111% increase)

Rationale for the Plan

- Why is it necessary?
 - Tacoma is at roughly a 54% diversion rate.
 - Reaching a diversion rate of 70% will require enhanced as well as new approaches.
 - Limited resources mean tough choices will have to be made
 - Solid Waste Management Plan calls for analysis of options for diversion before implementation

Overall Strategy for the Plan

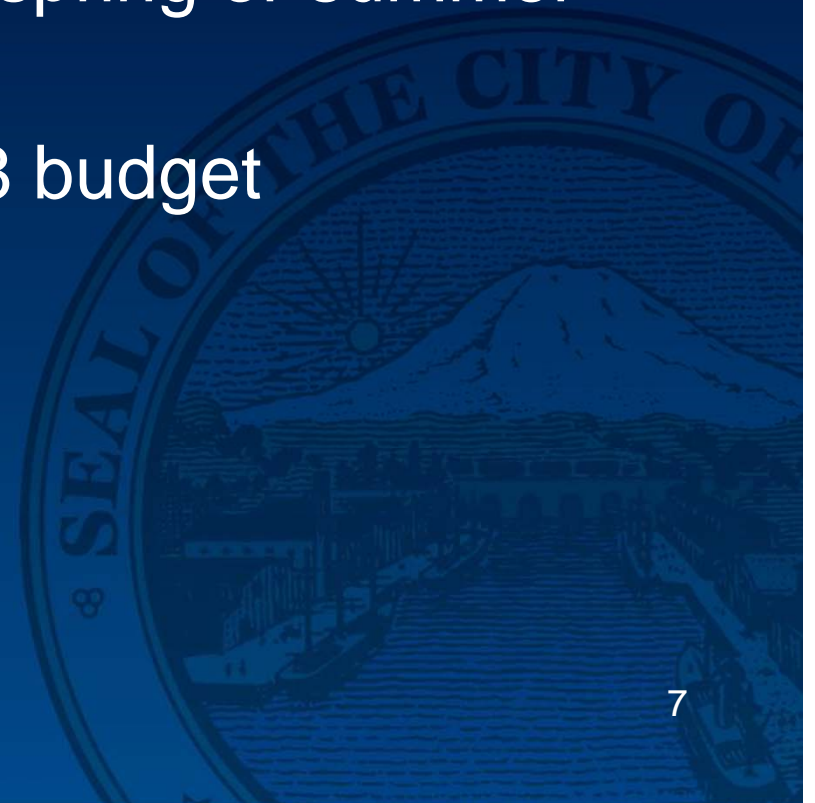
- How will it be implemented?
 - Layered approach of three or four phases over several years to reach a 70% or higher rate of diversion.
 - Logical plan for implementation
 - Layers meant to both build on each other and also “up the ante” if needed
 - Still try to get “lower hanging fruit” first

Plan Components

- Perform second waste characterization
 - Use comparison data from 2015 and 2009 waste characterization studies to track progress and identify needs
- Outreach and stakeholder input
- Identify diversion/reduction options
- Develop scenarios, including diversion potential and potential resource needs
- Recommend strategies

Next Steps

- Waste Characterization study will be finalized
- Final plan complete end of April
- Staff will return to Council in spring or summer 2016 for update
- Start integrating into 2017-18 budget



Sustainable Materials Management Plan

Gary Kato
Division Manager
City of Tacoma
gkato@cityoftacoma.org

February 26, 2016

