Zero Waste Implementation Plan Status Update and Recommended Next Steps

Regular City Council Meeting, October 17, 2023



Objectives

- Provide overview of Alameda's Zero Waste Goal
- Provide update on progress towards strategies adopted in 2018 Zero Waste Implementation Plan
- Provide update on City's landfill diversion
- What's next for Zero Waste and tonight's staff recommendation



Alameda's Zero Waste Goal

- First Zero Waste Implementation Plan (ZWIP) adopted in 2010
- Set Alameda's goal to achieve zero waste, establishes 89% landfill diversion target
- 2018 ZWIP adopted 5 targeted strategies to continue progress towards 89% goal
 - Proposal to change deadline not adopted



- Strategy 1: Support Zero Waste Culture in Alameda
 - Ongoing partnership with Community Action for Sustainable Alameda (CASA)
 - City ReThink Disposable agreement ongoing, provides assistance to food service businesses to ensure compliance with food ware ordinance
 - Reusable food service ware program development ongoing, Okapi coffee cup program active, future program for reusable to go food ware in progress



- Strategy 2: Conduct Targeted Technical Assistance with Commercial and Multi-Family Sectors
 - This strategy was funded at approval of 2018 ZWIP
 - Key results of Strategy 2 include:
 - > Increased recycling service for 22 generators
 - > Increased organics service for 41 generators
 - Increased recycling and organics combined for service for 44 generators

- Strategy 3: Create a Food Recovery Program and Enhanced Organics Management
 - Required under Senate Bill 1383 (CA short-lived climate pollutant reduction strategy)
 - > Only 8 accounts in Alameda without organics service
 - City partnership with Alameda County Department of Environmental Health for implementation and enforcement
 - > In 2022, over 350,000 pounds of edible food recovered



- Strategy 4: Update Alameda's Construction and Demolition Debris Recycling Ordinance and Conduct Outreach
 - Completed in 2021 as part of overall AMC Chapter 21 code update:
 - Codifying the California Green Building Standards Code (CALGreen).
 - Outreach continuous via City Permit Center



- Strategy 5: Expand High Diversion Franchise Agreement
 - New Franchise Agreement approved in 2021
 - New agreement sets minimum diversion goals for ACI, 89% by FY 2030-31
 - New agreement expands programs including:

| Multi Family Bulky | City Drop Box Service | Contamination Monitoring |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Additional recycling route | Bundled cardboard collection | MF move in/out outreach |
| Event services | Bulk compost and mulch | Compost giveaways |
| SB1383 ½ organics route | Full time ACI recycling coordinator | MF motor and cooking oil collection |



Alameda's 2022 Diversion

- As of the reporting for 2022, Alameda's diversion rate has increased
- Currently achieving 81% diversion (up from 79% in 2021)



What's Next in Zero Waste?

- The Zero Waste program will continue key work from the 2018 ZWIP and implementation of SB 1383
- Seeking City Council approval for next ZWIP consultant selection tonight



Staff Recommendation

- Staff recommends City Council approve the agreement with HF&H and budget resolution
 - Cross departmental evaluation of proposals and selection
 - Project will create a mid and long term planning tool
 - Associated budget resolution to appropriate funds
 - > If approved, project is estimated to take 9-12 months



Questions/Discussion

Thank you
Liz Acord, Public Works Coordinator
Marc Green, Zero Waste Program Specialist

