



Alternative Energy Options

City Council Work Session

January 23, 2018



Richfield
The Urban Hometown

City Council Goal

- City Council Goal since 2015
- Contributes towards Green Step Cities designation (Best Practices 4, 26)



Green Team

- Made up of Richfield Staff
- Meet to discuss alternative energy as well as Green Step initiatives



Information Gathering

- Members of the Green Team conducted informational interviews:

**Energy
Consultant**

Hybrid

Solar Installer



Energy Audits

- Conducted free energy audits from two energy consultants
- Presented their findings and next steps:
 - solar arrays
 - complete LED street light change-out
 - pool mechanical upgrades
 - athletic field lighting
 - ice arena upgrades



How would we pay for this?

- Purchasing Power Agreement
- Grants and rebates



Options

1. Continue the process towards implementing a solar project.
2. Suspend work towards implementing green energies.

Recommendation

To continue the process towards selecting an energy consultant or installer to pursue solar projects, subject to no financial obligation.

Questions?



Organics Recycling Recommendations



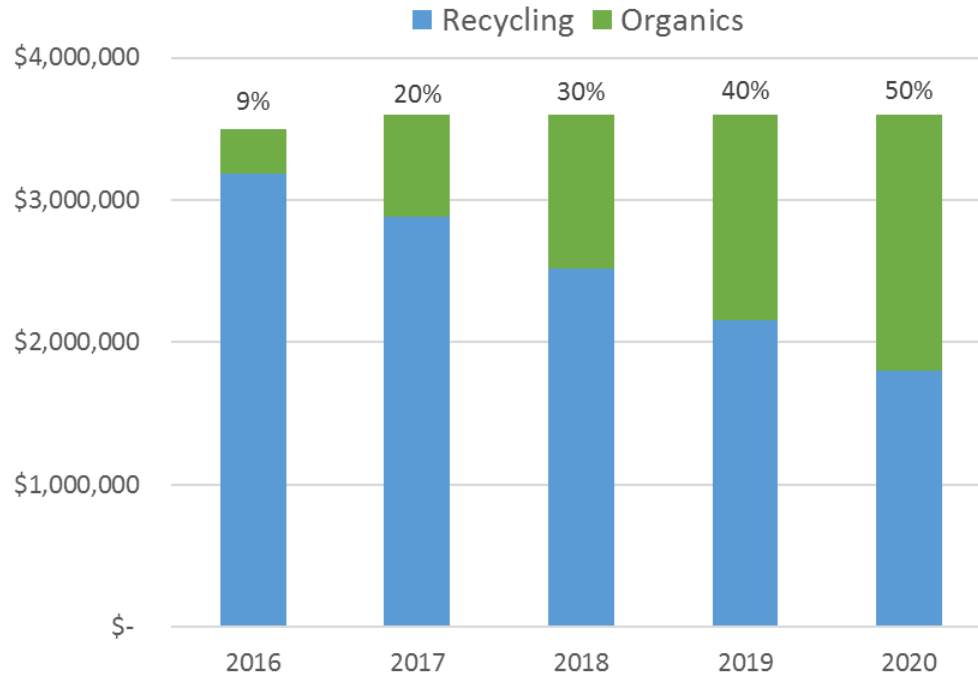
Tonight's objectives

- **Summary of information provided at previous study session**
- **Present Recommended Plan of Action**
- **Hennepin County Support**
- **Citizen Input**

September Study Session

- Hennepin County is shifting their recycling grant money to include organics.
- In 2018, 30% of our recycling rebate comes from offering organics
- Offered 5 different action plans

Hennepin County is shifting more funds to organics



Organics Collection Options

OPTION 1	Require all haulers to offer organic collection by ordinance.
OPTION 2	Develop a pilot program with the County to offer all haulers an incentive to offer organics collection.
OPTION 3	Establish an organics drop off site(s).
OPTION 4	Organize hauling and require organics collection by contract.
OPTION 5	Do nothing.

Recommended Action Plan



Overview of Recommendations

1. Launch a citizen based organics taskforce.
2. Appoint a City Council member to serve as a spokesperson for the new taskforce.
3. Partner with the Richfield League of Women Voters.
4. Establish drop-off site(s) to increase awareness and education about organics.
5. Charge the taskforce with studying and planning the establishment of organized recycling, including curbside organics collection
6. Ultimately work towards organized waste collection.

Establish Drop-off Site (s)

- Follow Dakota County's Model.
- No cost to residents.
- Heavily supported by Hennepin County.
- Helps retain county recycling funds.
- Locate site (s) by dense residential areas providing opportunity for apartment residents to participate.



Dakota County Drop-Off Sites

Dakota County Drop Off Sites

Great Success!

- Two Sites Established:
 - Thompson Park, West St. Paul
 - Lebanon Hills Park, Eagan
- 1,577 households registered between the two sites.
- Over 5 cubic yards collected each week.
- Established for the purpose of educating the public about organics.

Dakota County Drop Off Sites

Great Success!

- Residents must register to receive the free service.
- Registrants receive:
 - welcome packet
 - locked gate combination
 - 2 compostable collection bags
- Serviced once a week, twice per week in summer depending on odor

A green rectangular sign with rounded corners is mounted on a wooden fence. Below the sign, a black toolbox with yellow latches and handles is hanging from the fence. The sign contains text about compostable bags.

Free certified compostable bags

Please take up to two
bags only per visit

www.dakotacountyus 952-891-7557

Dakota

Resident Incentive

Go through a box compostable
bags per week

Bags cost \$.06 each

\$24 collection fee per pick-up

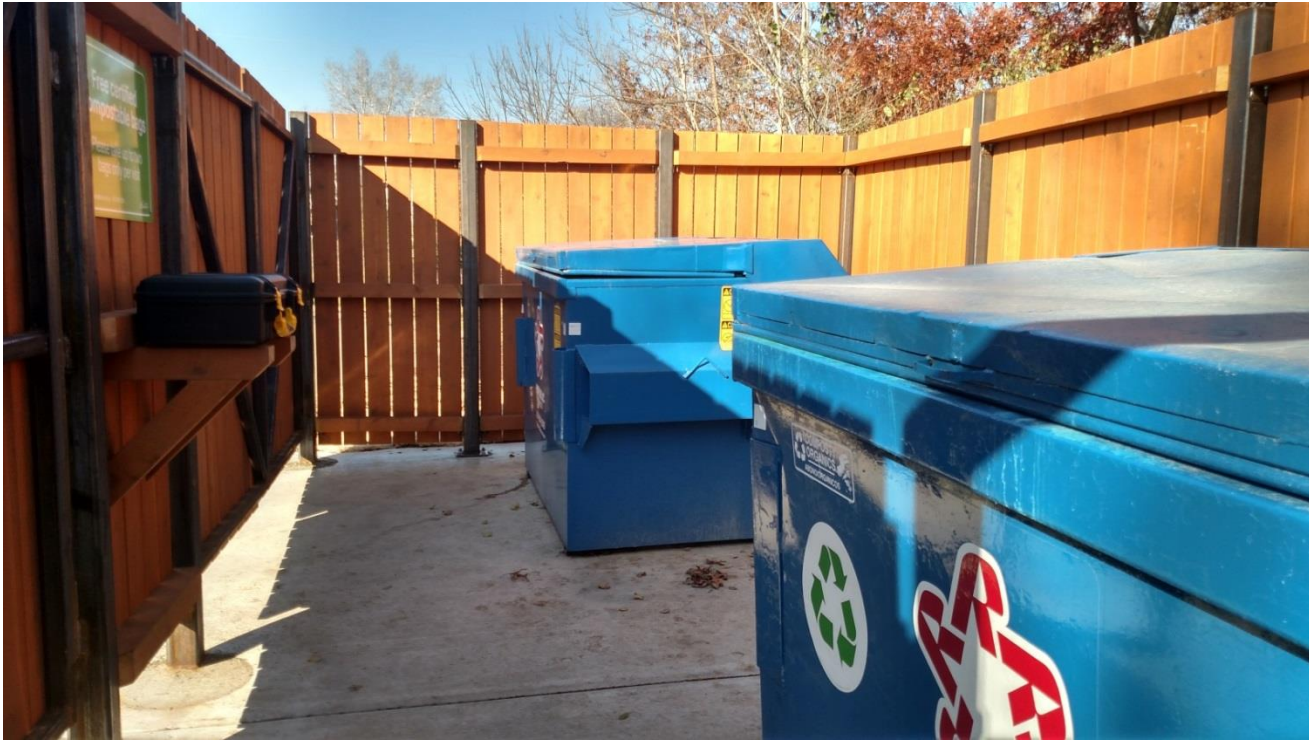
West St. Paul



Resident Access at Lebanon Hills



Inside



Hennepin County

- \$100,000 available for organics drop-off sites county-wide
- Grant eligible items include:
 - enclosure, signage, compostable bags, welcome packets, and collection fees



Citizen Support

Organics Taskforce Charge

- Determine selection criteria and recommend drop-off locations
- Determine Program Details.
- Develop a plan for the educational outreach & evaluation of the drop-off sites.
- Plan and work towards establishing organized recycling including curbside organics collection