

Garbage and Recycling System Facilities Plan Development

Proposed Values and Outcomes (Draft 5/31/22)

Overview

The Garbage and Recycling System Facilities Plan, to be adopted by Metro Council, will outline future infrastructure investments and services needed to fulfill the goals in the 2030 Regional Waste Plan. The planning process will assess the region's current public, private and non-profit garbage, recycling and reuse infrastructure, identify services gaps, and present potential approaches and a plan for future system investments. Specifically, the plan will include:

1. An overview of the facility-based garbage, recycling and reuse services necessary for achieving the goals of the 2030 Regional Waste Plan,
2. The current and anticipated gaps in those services,
3. 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, and
4. An implementation plan and financing options for Metro's role in advancing the plan and building new facilities.

Values and Outcomes

The Garbage and Recycling System Facilities Plan will be guided by the 2030 Regional Waste Plan values and racial equity principles. Together, these six values and three equity principles make up the values framework for the Garbage and Recycling Facilities Plan. This document presents the proposed plan's desired outcomes under that framework. Since the Regional Waste Plan was created before Metro had a dedicated Tribal Policy Advisor position and did not include a value, principle or goal related to Tribal consultation, one value has been added to reflect Metro's commitment to this approach.

The proposed values and outcomes were presented to the Regional Waste Advisory Committee and the Metro Policy Advisory Committee for review and input in March and April 2022. Their input has been incorporated into the proposed outcomes. Outcomes that relate to actions in the 2030 Regional Waste Plan and/or have the highest potential to advance racial equity goals in Metro's Strategic Plan to Advance Racial Equity Diversity and Inclusion, are noted. Each outcome is also noted as to whether it is expected to be achieved during the Garbage and Recycling Facilities Plan's planning process or the implementation phase as facilities are built out over the next 20 years.

Key assumptions to clarify the context and expectations for the plan outcomes include:

- The region's garbage and recycling system remains a hybrid system made up of a mix of public, private and non-profit providers.
- The plan will expand on the 2030 Regional Waste Plan actions specifically related to Metro's role in planning and building future facilities and infrastructure. Other actions, such as regulating or incentivizing private solid waste facilities, are outside the scope of this plan.
- The plan will clarify Metro's future role in providing facility-based services, including facilities to be built or renovated by Metro, or by Metro in cooperation with public, private and/or non-profit partners (referred to as "facility projects identified in the plan" in the outcomes below).
- The planning process may identify recommendations for how private and non-profit facilities could meet some of the identified gaps in the system and project outcomes, and these will need to be developed further outside of this plan.

Regional Waste Plan Values

1. Protect and restore the environment and promote health for all

Ensure that current and future generations enjoy clean air, water and land. Lead efforts to reduce impacts of climate change and minimize release of toxins in the environment.

| | Proposed Outcomes | Related Policy Guidance | Outcome type |
|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| A | The planning process identifies the design, technology and operational best practices to implement in facility projects identified in the plan in order to minimize human health, safety and nuisance impacts to employees, customers and neighboring communities. | Regional Waste Plan Goal 12 , Actions 12.1, 12.2, 12.3 Goal 16 , Action 16.3 | Planning and Implementation |
| B | Facility projects identified in the plan that include new construction or major renovations adhere to Metro's proposed Sustainable Buildings and Sites policy update (expected to be reviewed by Metro Council by July 2022), which includes meeting the International Living Future Institute's Core Green Building Certification standard that addresses ecological and climate change impact, access to transit, water and energy reduction, human health, responsible building materials, accessibility, equity and inclusion, biophilic design & education. | Regional Waste Plan Goal 12 , Action 12.4 Goal 7 , Action 7.1 | Implementation |
| C | Existing facilities owned or leased by Metro meet the operations and maintenance standards in Metro's proposed Sustainable Buildings and Sites Policy and reduce emissions of carbon dioxide, particulate matter, and other pollutants and toxins from on- and off-road vehicles, stationary equipment, and products and materials used onsite. | Regional Waste Plan Goal 12 , Actions 12.3, 12.4 | Implementation |
| D | All facility projects identified in the plan develop good neighbor agreements with their host communities to lessen negative environmental and human health impacts from facility operations. | Regional Waste Plan Goal 13 , Action 13.3 | Implementation |

2. Conserve natural resources

Reduce the amount of energy, water and raw materials needed to make products. Manage materials to their highest and best use (reduce, reuse, recycle).

| | Proposed Outcomes | Related Policy Guidance | Outcome type |
|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| A | The plan identifies high-priority materials to target for reuse, repair, recycling or composting and the infrastructure investments needed to manage those materials efficiently, at a regional scale. | Regional Waste Plan Goal 8 | Planning |
| B | The planning process identifies opportunities for facility projects identified in the plan to provide workspace for business incubation, access to materials and other tools for supporting projects that reuse, repair and upcycle materials. | Regional Waste Plan Goal 8 , Actions 8.2, 8.5, 8.6 | Planning and Implementation |
| C | The region's reuse and repair infrastructure is expanded to provide neighborhood scale opportunities to buy and donate reusable and repairable items throughout the region, particularly where those services are not currently available. | Regional Waste Plan Goal 8 , Actions 8.2, 8.4, 8.5, 8.6 Metro Racial Equity Strategy Goal D | Implementation |

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| D | The siting process for facility projects identified in the plan gives preference to areas where reuse, repair and recycling businesses already exist or could locate in the future for potential colocation benefits. | Regional Waste Plan Goal 8 | Implementation |
|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|

3. Advance environmental literacy

Facilitate life-long environmental learning for youth and adults. Increase knowledge of natural systems, and the human impacts on them, in order to foster civic responsibility and community empowerment.

| | Proposed outcomes | Related Policy Guidance | Outcome type |
|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| A | Facility projects identified in the plan provide opportunities for youth and adults to learn about the recycling and garbage system, environmental justice and the connections between products, human health and nature, through tours, displays, exhibits, viewing rooms and events. | Regional Waste Plan Goal 6 , Actions 6.2, 6.3, 6.4 Goal 9 , Actions 9.1, 9.3 Metro Racial Equity Strategy Goal D | Implementation |
| B | Environmental education and programming offered at facility projects identified in the plan are developed in partnership with community-based organizations and non-profits focused on waste prevention, reuse, repair, recycling, composting, environmental justice, sustainable materials management, and toxics reduction. | Regional Waste Plan Goal 6 , Actions 6.2, 6.3, 6.4 Goal 9 , Actions 9.1, 9.3 Metro Racial Equity Strategy Goals B, D | Implementation |

4. Foster economic well-being

Promote inclusive prosperity and living well for all residents of the region. Increase access to economic opportunities for all communities.

| | Proposed outcomes | Related Policy Guidance | Outcome type |
|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| A | Facility projects identified in the plan offer jobs with living wages and benefits, as well as a safe work environment with on-site amenities for employees. | Regional Waste Plan Goal 3 , Action 3.2 Goal 12 , Action 12.1 Metro Racial Equity Strategy Goal C | Implementation |
| B | Facility projects identified in the plan are publicly operated to support implementation of Metro's workforce diversity and wages goals. | Regional Waste Plan Goal 3 , Action 3.5 | Implementation |
| C | Metro implements all applicable strategies in the Construction Career Pathways Project Regional Framework to the construction, renovation and operation of facility projects identified in the plan in order to recruit, train and retain individuals who are underrepresented in the garbage and recycling industry, particularly women and people of color. | Regional Waste Plan Goal 4 , Actions 4.1, 4.2 Metro Racial Equity Strategy Goal C | Implementation |
| D | In partnership with workforce and community-based organizations, facility projects identified in the plan provide workforce development opportunities within the garbage, recycling, reuse and repair sectors for people with barriers to employment. | Regional Waste Plan Goal 4 , Action 4.5 Metro Racial Equity Strategy Goal C | Implementation |

5. Ensure operational resilience, adaptability and sustainability

Maintain a regional system that is safe and responsive to changing conditions to ensure long-term viability. Prepare for recovery after natural disasters.

| | Proposed outcomes | Related Policy Guidance | Outcome type |
|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| A | The planning process evaluates and incorporates key elements of interrelated regional transportation and land use planning projects, such as the 2023 Regional Transportation Plan. | | Planning |
| B | The planning process identifies funding options for the plan’s final list of facility investments that align with Metro Council’s solid waste rate and fee setting criteria, such as affordability, waste reduction, consistency and predictability. | Regional Waste Plan Goal 14 , Actions 14.2, 14.3, 14.6 | Planning |
| C | Facility projects identified in the plan are designed for highly efficient and flexible operations, such as having flat tipping floors for better screening of materials for reuse/recycling, easier cleaning and faster unloading for customers. | | Planning and Implementation |
| D | The plan identifies the earthquake, flood, and natural hazard performance standards to implement at facility projects identified in the plan. | Regional Waste Plan Goal 18 , Actions 18.4 18.5 | Planning and Implementation |
| E | The plan identifies the investments needed to build redundant and resilient infrastructure, equipment and services into the garbage and recycling system for enhancing disaster resilience. | Regional Waste Plan Goal 18 , Actions 18.1, 18.4 | Planning and Implementation |

6. Provide excellent service and equitable system access

Ensure that high-quality and good-value programs, services and facilities are equitably accessible to all.

| | Proposed outcomes | Related Policy Guidance | Outcome type |
|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| A | The plan establishes direction for improvements to existing Metro owned or leased facilities, including such facilities as the Regional Illegal Dumping Deployment Center, MetroPaint, Metro South and Metro Central Transfer Stations, Metro West site. | Regional Waste Plan Goal 16 , Actions 16.6 | Planning |
| B | The planning process considers developing retail-like facilities (such as stores and malls) that can serve both as collection points for certain recyclable and reusable materials and places where people can shop upcycled, used or repaired items and sustainable products. | Regional Waste Plan Goal 16 Metro Racial Equity Strategy Goal D | Planning |
| C | The plan outlines a preferred scenario for a future network of regional facilities to be built over the next 20 years consisting of a mix of smaller-scale facilities and large transfer stations, in order to maximize access to service, geographic equity and reductions in environmental and human health impacts. | Regional Waste Plan Goal 8 , Action 8.5 Goal 16 , Actions 16.1, 16.2 | Planning and Implementation |
| D | When siting facilities designed to serve the general public, preference will be given to sites that are close to a major road or highway and public transit to increase accessibility for customers with or without cars. | Regional Waste Plan Goal 16 , Actions 16.1, 16.2 Metro Racial Equity Strategy Goal D | Implementation |

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|---|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| E | Facility-based services that are identified in the plan are kept affordable for low-income customers through methods such as income-based sliding scale pricing or discounts. | Regional Waste Plan Goal 14 Metro Racial Equity Strategy Goal D | Implementation |
| F | Facility projects identified in the plan employ multilingual and culturally competent staff and use communication tools (flyers, signage, and wayfinding) that are simple and easy to understand by all. | Regional Waste Plan Goal 11, Action 11.1 Metro Racial Equity Strategy Goal D | Implementation |
| G | Facility projects identified in the plan are accessible and inclusive to people with disabilities. | Metro Racial Equity Strategy Goal D | Implementation |

Regional Waste Plan Principles

7. Community restoration

Take action to repair past harms and disproportionate impacts caused by the regional solid waste system.

| | Proposed outcomes | Related Policy Guidance | Outcome type |
|---|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| A | The planning process evaluates the benefits and burdens of potential facility investments on historically marginalized communities, using a climate justice lens. | Metro Racial Equity Strategy Goal A | Planning |
| B | The planning process incorporates the viewpoints and needs of historically marginalized communities as they relate to garbage and recycling facilities and services. | Regional Waste Plan Goal 1 Metro Racial Equity Strategy Goal B | Planning |

8. Community partnerships

Develop authentic partnerships and community trust to advance the plan's vision.

| | Proposed outcomes | Related Policy Guidance | Outcome type |
|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| A | The planning process is guided by a new Community Advisory Group, made up of members representing historically marginalized communities from throughout the region, who works alongside staff to review draft findings and develop plan elements, and creates leadership opportunities for members. | Regional Waste Plan Goal 1, Action 1.1 Metro Racial Equity Strategy Goal B | Planning |
| B | Metro actively involves local community based organizations in the siting, review, design and construction of facility projects identified in the plan. | Metro Racial Equity Strategy Goal B | Planning and Implementation |
| C | If facility projects identified in the plan provide business incubator or space for the reuse, repair and upcycle of materials, Metro seeks to partner with and support projects led by people, organizations and businesses from communities of color, immigrant communities and other historically marginalized groups. | Metro Racial Equity Strategy Goal E | Planning and Implementation |

9. Community investment

Emphasize resource allocation to communities of color and historically marginalized communities.

| | Proposed outcomes | Related Policy Guidance | Outcome type |
|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| A | Facility projects identified in the plan develop Community Benefits Agreements with their host community to ensure benefits and investments, such as Community Enhancement Grant funds, are equitably shared and help address the host community’s needs. | Regional Waste Plan Goal 13, Action 13.4 Metro Racial Equity Strategy Goal E | Implementation |
| B | Facility projects identified in the plan that are intended for residential customers provide community gathering opportunities through, for example, parks, meeting spaces and event venues. | Regional Waste Plan Goal 13 Metro Racial Equity Strategy Goal D | Implementation |

New Proposed Value

10. Tribal consultation

Develop authentic relationships with sovereign Nations so that Tribal interests can be considered in Metro’s Waste Prevention and Environmental Services (WPES) projects and programs.

| | Proposed outcomes | Related Policy Guidance | Outcome type |
|---|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| A | Tribes are sovereign nations who have interests that could be affected by development of this plan. Metro’s WPES Department seeks consultation and engagement with Tribal governments on how the plan can help advance shared priorities such as cultural and historic resource protection, environmental protection, addressing climate change and using resources sustainably. | | Planning and Implementation |
| B | Through government-to -government engagement on this plan, Metro’s WPES Department seeks to establish new relationships, partnerships and builds trust with Tribes. | | Planning and Implementation |