

**METROPOLITAN AND ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**Date:** July 24, 2023

**Called to Order:** 5:32 p.m.

**Adjourned:** 7:10 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

**ATTENDING MEMBERS**

John Barth, Chair  
Zach Adamson  
Dan Boots  
Crista Carlino  
Michael-Paul Hart  
Keith Potts

**ABSENT MEMBERS**

Paul Annee  
Josh Bain  
Ali Brown  
Jason Larrison  
Jessica McCormick

**AGENDA**

**RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING / OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE** – Morgan Mickelson, Director, Office of Sustainability

**SOLIT WASTE HAULER/PROCESSOR PUBLIC EDUCATION** – Portia Bailey-Bernard, WM, and Craig Lutz, Republic Services

**THRIVE OVERVIEW – ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION** – Morgan Mickelson, Director, Office of Sustainability

**COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS** – Chairman Barth

## ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

The Environmental Sustainability Committee of the City-County Council met on Monday, July 24, 2023, in Room 260 of the City-County Building. Chair John Barth called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. with the following members present; Zach Adamson, Dan Boots, Crista Carlino, Michael-Paul Hart, and Keith Potts. Councillors Paul Annee, Josh Bain, Ali Brown, Jason Larrison, and Jessica McCormick were absent. Chief Administrative Officer/Policy Director Greg Stowers and General Counsel LeAnnette Pierce represented Council staff.

Chair Barth asked committee members to introduce themselves.

Chair Barth explained that the Environmental Sustainability Committee has spent the Spring discussing recycling, and their goal is to use what they have learned to create action steps. He also explained that the end of the meeting will focus on a draft of possible legislative action.

RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING / OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE – Morgan Mickelson, Director, Office of Sustainability

Morgan Mickelson, Director, Office of Sustainability, presented a PowerPoint update on the Office of Sustainability. She explained that all of the solid waste contracts, including recycling, will expire in 2025. The Solid Waste Minimization Plan was completed in December 2021; the Hauler and Processor Request For Information (RFI) was completed in June 2022; and the Solid Waste and Recycling Consultant Request for Quote (RFQ) was completed in June 2023. The next portion of the solid waste procurement process will be the Collection and Disposal and Processing Request For Proposal (RFP) development.

Ms. Mickelson informed the committee that the Office of Sustainability has moved on to the merit review round for the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Recycling Education and Outreach Grant Program, from which the Office of Sustainability has requested \$2 million. The Merit Review Board will announce the selection of grant recipients in the fall of 2023.

Chair Barth asked if having a consultant for the procurement process would happen in 2024. Ms. Mickelson replied that the onboarding with the consultant will begin as soon as the contract is signed, and they are prepared to meet the 2026 deadline for the new solid waste contracts to begin.

Councillor Potts asked about the EPA grants process and if the money would entirely be used for education and outreach. Ms. Mickelson replied that yes, the money would be used for education and outreach to expand recycling use in Indianapolis. Councillor Potts also asked if there was anything Councillors or the community could do to advocate for Indianapolis in the Merit Review portion. Ms. Mickelson said it was largely an internal review process but that they had gathered letters of support from Indiana elected officials in Washington, D.C.

Councillor Boots asked if all materials had been submitted and if there was anything else materially that could be done for the EPA grants process. Ms. Mickelson said that everything

was complete and submitted, they are just waiting on the selection results. Councillor Boots asked for clarity of the dates for the end of the contracts. Ms. Mickelson said it was not a single ending period but that they were staggered with the ability to slowly phase out the old and phase in the new. She also stated she could get him the exact contract end dates.

SOLIT WASTE HAULER/PROCESSOR PUBLIC EDUCATION – Portia Bailey-Bernard, WM, and Craig Lutz, Republic Services

Portia Bailey-Bernard, Area General Manager, Waste Management (WM), provided a brief overview of WM staff in Indianapolis; noting that although WM is a large, national company, since it is run regionally, the employees are dedicated to Indianapolis. Ms. Bailey-Bernard said that WM has three sustainability focuses: that material is repurposed, energy is renewable, and communities are thriving.

Ms. Bailey-Bernard reminded the committee about the last time WM was before the committee and the many questions that were asked about what can and cannot be recycled and informed the committee that they now have public information guides to help answer those questions.

Aaron Johnson, Area Vice President – Great Lakes Region, Waste Management (WM), said that WM works closely with a company in North Carolina called Reprieve, which is a large purchaser of recycled plastic that is turned into yarn to make dry-fit shirts for large sports-wear companies. He states that WM is the largest recycling company in North America of post-consumer goods and the largest sustainability company in America. WM is building twenty new renewal natural gas plants, one of which is in Danville, Indiana. WM is also building 40 new recycling plants. Mr. Johnson said that Indianapolis is in the top five cities in the United States for investing in recycling; largely since Indianapolis does not have city-provided curbside recycling.

Mr. Johnson said that plastic waste is only about 5% of recycled materials in peoples' bins, but accounts for about 40% of the value of recycled materials. There are 36 million tons of plastic waste generated annually in the United States, however only 3.1 million tons of plastic waste is recycled. The predicted demand for 2030 is 14 million tons of needed plastic recycled materials. Mr. Johnson said that with curbside recycling, Indianapolis could save 6 million pounds of plastic materials from the burning process that could be used by companies instead of extracting new oil.

Mr. Johnson explained that public education about sustainability and recycling is incredibly important to WM, as they make money and can create a more sustainable product life cycle by having more people recycle. He said that WM is dedicated to educating the public. Ms. Bailey-Bernard echoed Mr. Johnson in saying that WM has the tools, resources, and skin in the game in ensuring the public is informed and dedicated to sustainability.

Chair Barth asked what the feedback from the public is like when presented with the education. Ms. Bailey-Bernard said that the main feedback is people wanting to know what they can and cannot recycle.

Councillor Potts asked if there is a relationship between WM and Indy Parks. Ms. Bailey-Bernard said there is not currently a partnership between those two, but she looks forward to building those relationships.

Councillor Hart asked about the percentage breakdown of what goes into a recycling bin and what residue represented. Mr. Johnson answered that residue represented those items put into bins that are not recyclable.

Councillor Carlino asked what the current budget for education and outreach in the Indianapolis area is, since WM currently only serves one district. Ms. Bailey-Bernard said they did not know what the budget for the Indianapolis area is but that Councillor Carlino can reach out to her so they can come up with a specific plan to keep Indianapolis residents informed. Councillor Carlino said it needs to be a zip code-focused outreach through social media or fliers. Mr. Johnson said they are able to target specific houses for education because of cameras they use to detect what is being dumped into trucks from specific bins and can send education materials to houses who are not putting in the correct items.

Councillor Boots asked if WM worked with businesses to ensure they are providing recycling bins. Mr. Johnson said they do work closely with businesses to encourage recycling.

Craig Lutz, Area Sr. Manager – Municipal Services, Republic Services, said that people, especially younger generations, do want to recycle. The process needs to be accessible to them and they need to be informed on how. Mr. Lutz said that there is a large amount of work necessary to ensure there is a return on investment through public education. He said that large amounts of money are spent setting up plants, and they do a lot of work to make sure the public is ready for recycling by the time a new plant or route is set up.

Mr. Lutz said that Republic is dedicated to more than recycling, and sustainability as a whole is important. He said Republic uses compressed natural gas vehicles and is expanding its use of electric vehicles with a goal of 50% being electric by 2030. Jamoni Harper, Senior Municipal Manager, Republic Services, stated that by 2027, 50% of all new vehicle purchases will be electric, and they are already testing those vehicles in cities as close as Chicago.

Councillor Adamson discussed an engine that Cummins had made that lessens or eliminates the amount of energy or fuel used by large vehicles that need to start and stop regularly and encouraged Republic to look into the use of those engines.

Mr. Lutz explained that part of their public education is geared toward students. He said that before COVID they would invite classes to tour a plant; but since COVID they have created educational videos for students to watch in class, which is also safer than taking students to a plant. Mr. Lutz also explained Republic includes recycle “dos and don’ts” printed into the lids of their recycling bins.

Chair Barth asked how a newly onboarded person to Republic recycling services is given information from Republic to understand what they need to do. Mr. Lutz replied that Republic

reaches out once a quarter and provides an app with answers to common questions, which can also be found on their website.

Councillor Adamson said the biggest problem for himself and his constituents is that some homes in his district do not have sidewalks or have stairs in the front of the homes, in addition to trash needing to be set out in the back and recycling in the front. Councillor Adamson asked why it was set up differently. Mr. Lutz replied that in some areas the alleys are old enough that they were not made to accommodate the modern large and automatic trucks.

Councillor Carlino said that it might be helpful if there was an increase in social media to get the attention of younger people. She also wants to see more locally focused outreach in Indianapolis.

Councillor Boots asked what the best decision someone should make if they are not sure if something is recyclable or not. Mr. Lutz responded they have a saying that is, "When in doubt, throw it out." Councillor Boots requested an info graphic of what can be recycled, and Ms. Mickelson said she had one and could send it to him.

Councillor Boots asked about single-stream trash and recycling and if it was something in the works. Mr. Lutz said it is not something that would ever be possible due to how trash would damage recycling products and make them unable to be used for future products.

#### COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS – Chairman Barth

Chair Barth introduced a draft ordinance for comments and feedback for city-sponsored curbside recycling.

Councillor Hart pointed out WM's comment about being able to include recycling and a 40% waste reduction without an increased cost to taxpayers. He said he would like to see that added to the ordinance.

Councillor Carlino suggested researching both state and federal recommendations surrounding recycling and how Indianapolis could codify those. Chair Barth said this is a good opportunity to learn from what other cities have done.

Councillor Potts said he is a fan of subscription curbside composting and was wondering if they could add that as an option alongside the recycling, doing one big change at once, or in multiple additions over time.

Councillor Boots asked if this was a new ordinance or if it was amending a current one. Chair Barth said it was amending and strengthening a current ordinance. Councillor Boots said some of the wording needs clarification in regard to if something is a "goal" or a "mandate." Councillor Boots also suggested the ability to switch the weekly pick-up of trash with the bi-weekly pick-up of recycling, because he produces significantly more recycling than trash since he also subscribes to a composting service.

Councillor Adamson said that his district is a denser population area, and he believes it is important to bring apartment building owners into the conversation to encourage them to provide recycling as an option to their residents.

Councillor Hart said he has experience with building maintenance and the importance of educating the population to use it correctly when it is already difficult to get people to use the trash services correctly. Councillor Adamson mentioned New York, who uses numbered trash bags to keep track of who is and is not using recycling services.

Chair Barth said he is going to take all of the feedback to make adjustments to the draft ordinance.

THRIVE OVERVIEW – ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION – Morgan Mickelson, Director, Office of Sustainability

Ms. Mickelson presented on the City's work toward minimizing the impact of heat waves currently affecting the country.

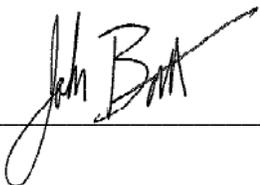
- Planted 31,595 trees as of spring 2023 in partnership with Keep Indy Beautiful (KIB)
- Used Key Neighborhood Identification Tool to measure which neighborhoods have not received urban forestry investment, have low urban canopy, and have high social vulnerability; in order to determine which areas in Indianapolis will need heat mitigating intervention
- Provide education to the public on how to adapt to extreme heat through communicating to at-risk populations, providing cooling centers, and disseminating information on how to stay safe in high heat

Chair Barth asked what is the factor test that triggers the use of cooling centers. Ms. Mickelson said there a number of factors considered, including actual temperature and heat index, but that she does not know them at the moment.

Councillor Carlino thanked the Office of Sustainability for their social media use, making it easy to know what is going on.

There being no further business, and upon motion duly made, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



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# **Solid Waste Minimization Study & Procurement Plan:** Public Outreach and Education

Department of Public Works  
Office of Sustainability

June 26, 2023





# Agenda

- Office of Sustainability update
- Invited speakers:
  - WM
  - Republic Services



# Solid Waste Procurement Process

- All Solid Waste contracts (including recycling) expire in 2025
- Solid Waste Minimization Plan – COMPLETE, Dec. 2021
- Hauler and Processor RFI – COMPLETE, June 2022
- Solid Waste and Recycling Consultant RFQ – COMPLETE, June 2023, engaged APTIM, who conducted the Solid Waste Minimization Study
- NEXT: Collection and Disposal & Processing RFP development

Implementation Schedule

Phase/Task	2022				2023				2024				2025				2026
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1												
Issue RFI		█	█	█													
Negotiate Short-Term Hauling Extension				█	█	█											
Consultant RFQ					█	█	█										
Disposal and Processing RFPs							█	█	█	█	█						
Develop RFP							█	█									
Vendor Response Time								█	█								
Review Proposals									█	█							
Vendor Negotiations									█	█							
Contract Approval and Execution										█	█						
Collection RFP											█	█	█	█	█	█	
Develop RFP											█	█					
Vendor Response Time												█	█				
Review Proposals													█	█			
Vendor Negotiations														█	█		
Contract Approval and Execution															█	█	
Marketing/Outreach RFQ																█	█
Public Outreach																	█
Transition Activities																	█
New Services Commence																	█

# Grants Update

- Recycling Education and Outreach Grant Program (EPA-I-OLEM-ORCR-23-02)
- "Indianapolis Circular Economy - has been found to be **eligible** to move on to Merit Review"
- Request made for \$2M
  - "At the completion of the Merit Review process, we will update you on the status and disposition of your application and any next steps necessary on your part. We anticipate announcing the selection of grant recipients in the fall of 2023." - (USEPA)

# Invited Speakers

- WM
- Republic Services



# Indianapolis & Marion County

*Bringing Indianapolis into the Future of Waste Collection & Diversion*

*Brent Bell, Vice President of Recycling, WM Recycle America  
Aaron Johnson, Area Vice President, WM Great Lakes Area  
Porlia Bailey-Bernard, Area General Manager, WM Great Lakes Area  
Wes Smith, Area Recycling Manager (Indiana), WM Great Lakes Area*



# We are WM.

Waste Management is now WM.



Such a modification may seem small, but the truth is it's a seismic shift for our company. WM's business offerings go beyond just managing waste. We are North America's largest environmental solutions provider and a sustainability leader focused on helping customers achieve their sustainability goals.



# Always Working For A Sustainable Tomorrow®

WM is reinvesting what's possible to enable a more sustainable world.

Leveraging our infrastructure, innovation, and expertise, we're setting a bold sustainability vision for the future: one where material is repurposed, energy is renewable, and communities are thriving.



# Material is REPURPOSED

We're reimagining a circular economy.

We operate innovative recycling and waste solutions that fuel the continuous reuse of materials.

## Education Resources:

- [Recycle Right®](#)
- [How Recycling Works Video](#)
- [Repreve Video](#)

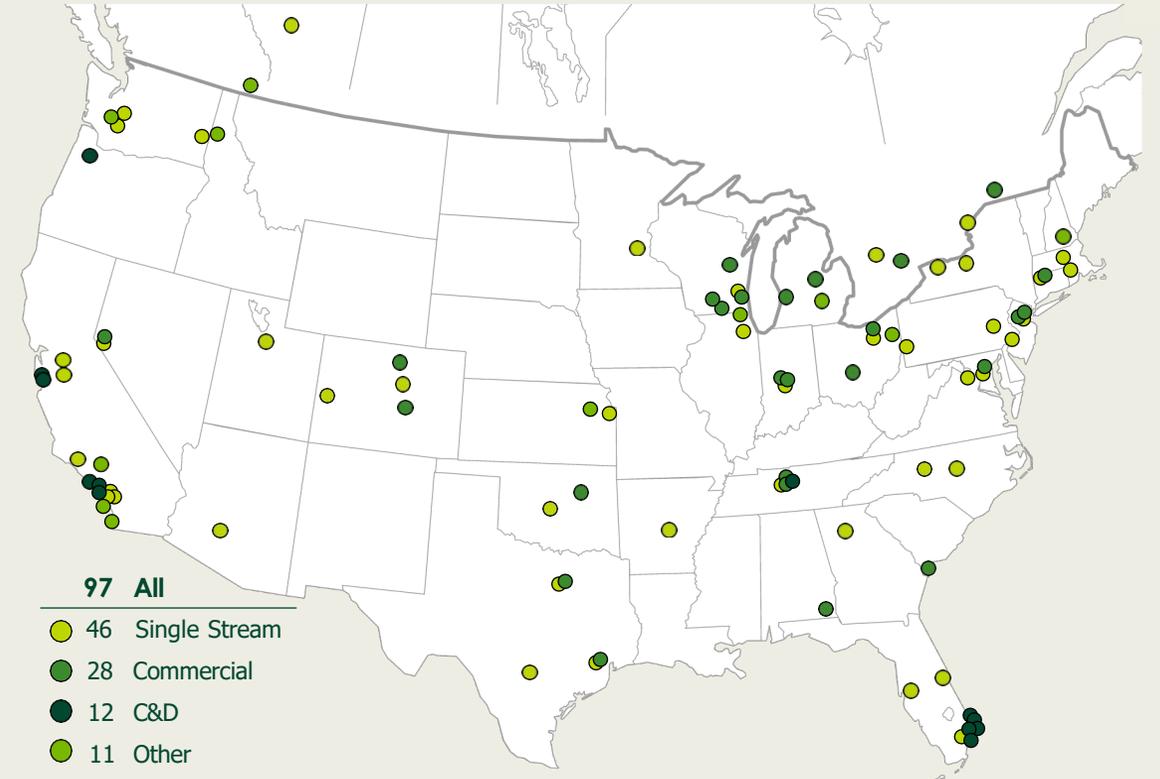
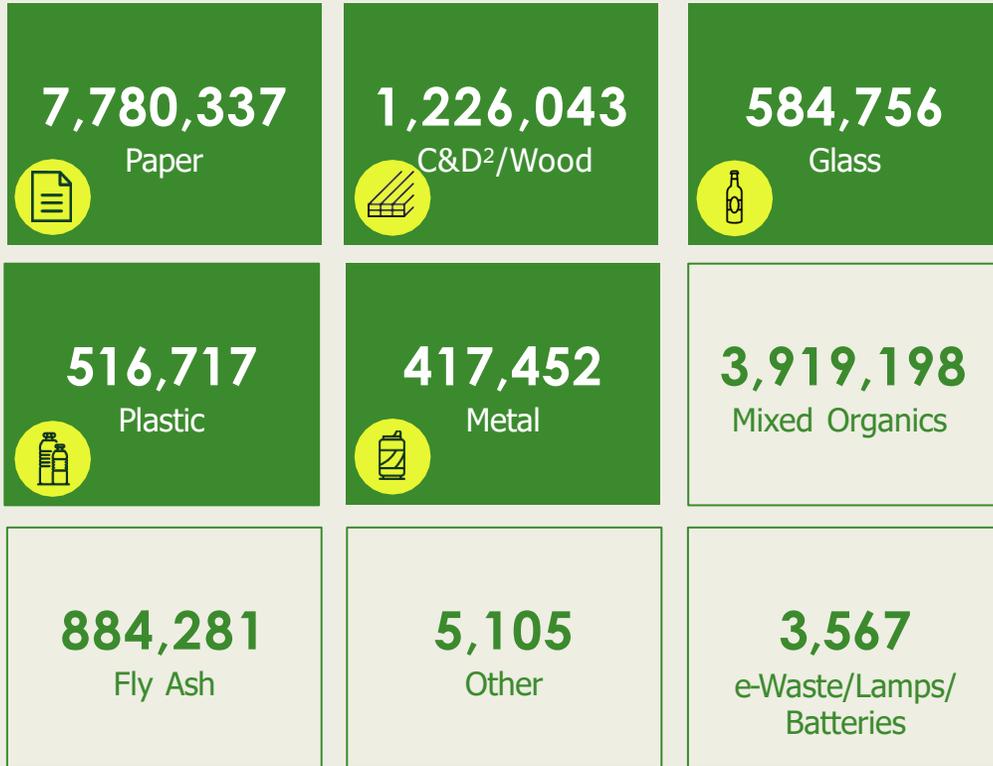




**WWM**®

# Market Leader with Scale and Expertise Largest

North American Manager of Recyclables<sup>1</sup>



Plastic waste offers the greatest opportunity and value in the circular economy.

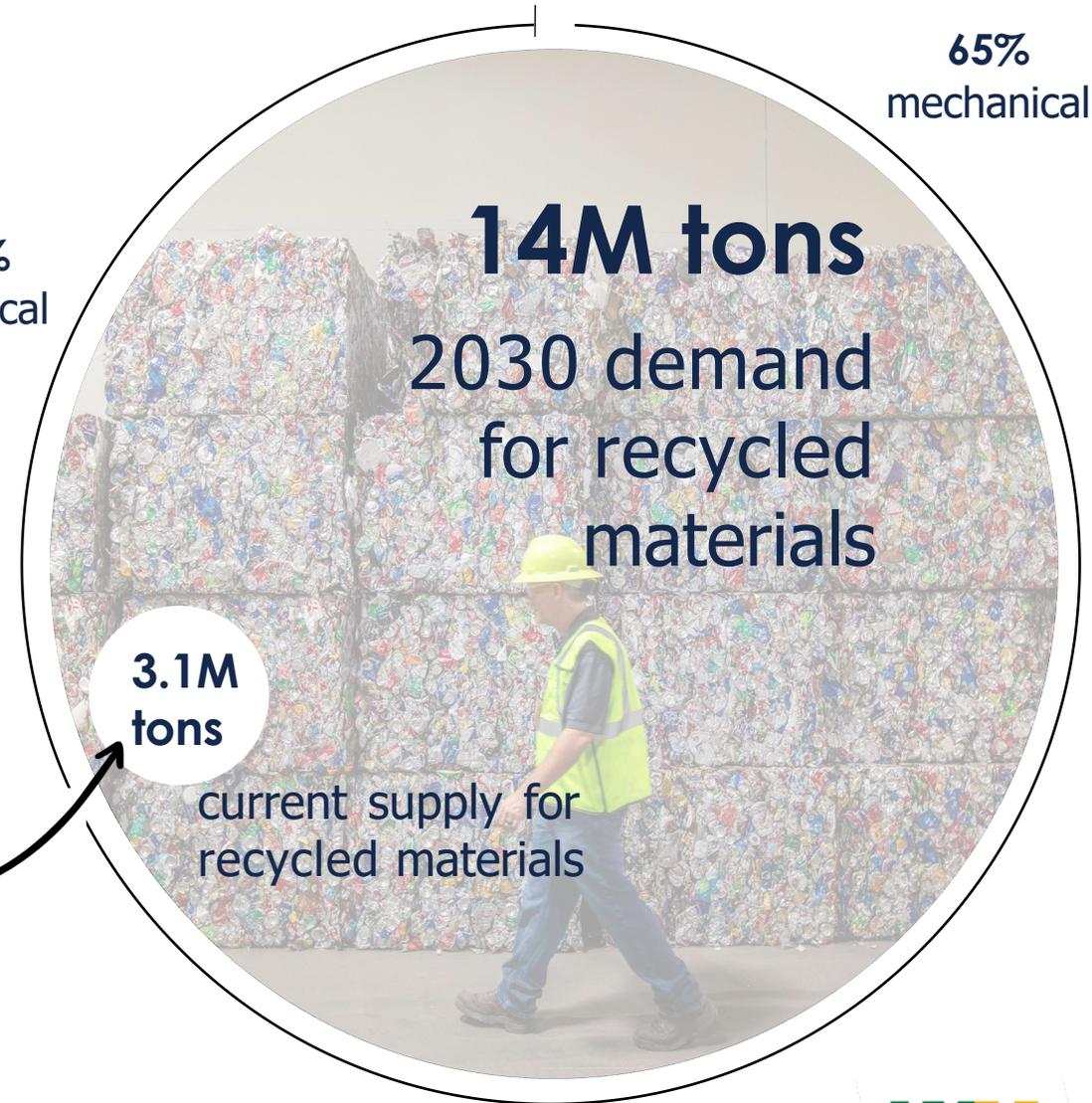


# Unprecedented demand for recycled materials is 3-4X greater than current supply



**3.1M**  
tons of  
*recycled*  
plastic waste

35%  
chemical



# Driving Circularity

**Reliable collection**  
with WM Smart Trucks



**Trusted, innovative processing**  
with state-of-the-art MRFs



**Quality, recycled material**  
to drive circularity



# Communities are THRIVING

We're empowering people to live sustainably.

We collaborate to strengthen the resiliency of the diverse places where we live and work.

### Marion County Community Collaborations

- Indianapolis 500
- Indianapolis Zoo
- Indy Chamber
- Indianapolis Colts
- Indianapolis Indians
- Make a Wish
- Wildlife Habitat Council
- City of Indianapolis
- McKinney Climate Fellow – Indiana University





## Environmental Sustainability Committee, Meeting #3:

*Indianapolis IN – Environmental/Sustainability Committee June 26, 2023*

Craig Lutz  
*Manager, Municipal Services*



# Partnering with Customers to create a more Sustainable World



## Recycling & Solid Waste

Providing customers with sustainable solutions that support a cleaner, safer and healthier world



Provide safe, high-quality service that supports customer sustainability goals



Vertically integrated to compete effectively across the nation



Strong internalization, controlling material stream from collection to recycling & disposal



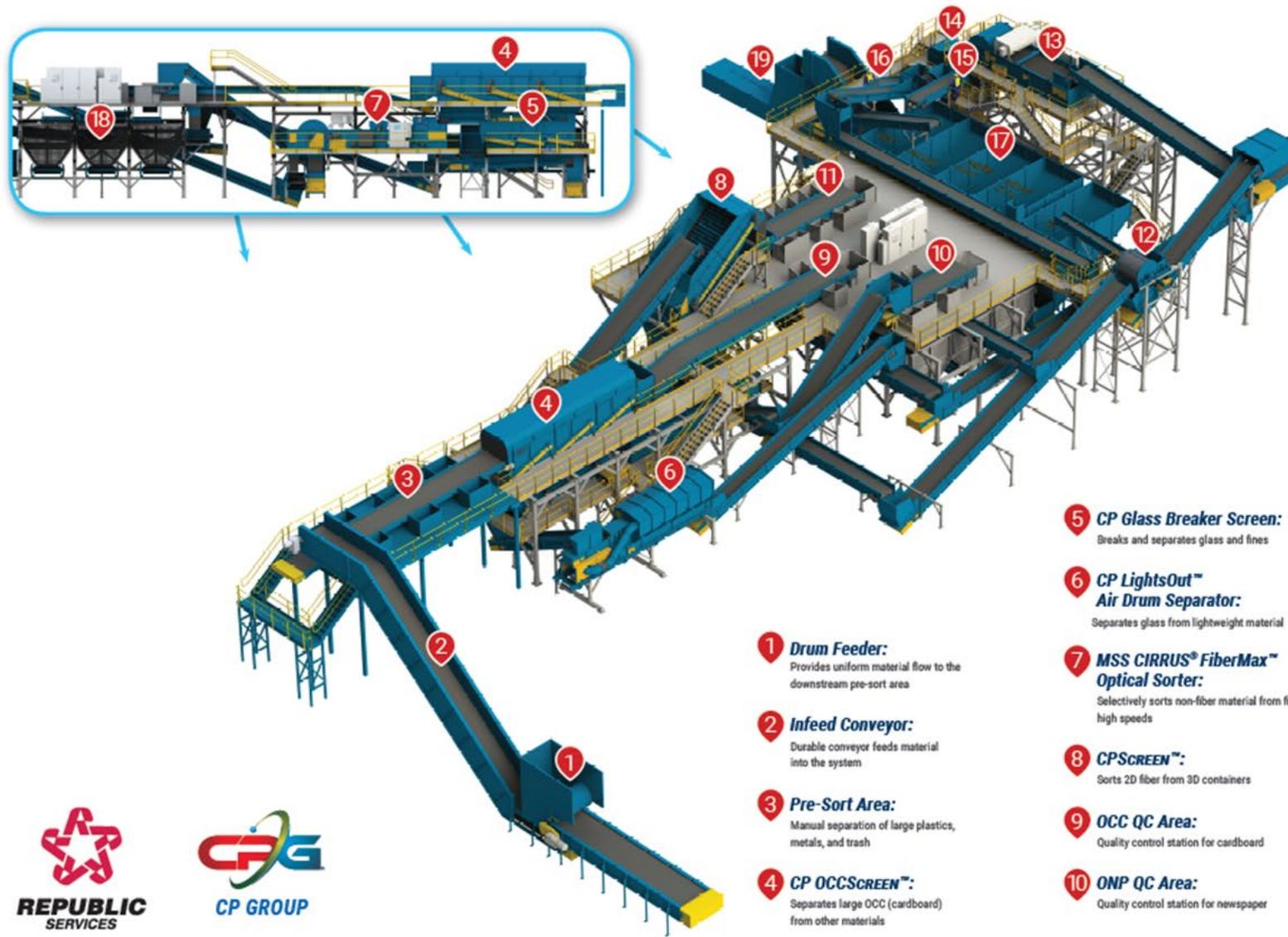
Prioritize investments in market verticals with above average growth rates



Leadership position in electric technology innovation for collection fleet

# REPUBLIC SERVICES INDIANAPOLIS

## 25 TPH Residential Single Stream Recycling System



- 1 Drum Feeder:**  
Provides uniform material flow to the downstream pre-sort area
- 2 Infeed Conveyor:**  
Durable conveyor feeds material into the system
- 3 Pre-Sort Area:**  
Manual separation of large plastics, metals, and trash
- 4 CP OCCSCREEN™:**  
Separates large OCC (cardboard) from other materials

- 5 CP Glass Breaker Screen:**  
Breaks and separates glass and fines
- 6 CP LightsOut™ Air Drum Separator:**  
Separates glass from lightweight material
- 7 MSS CIRRUS® FiberMax™ Optical Sorter:**  
Selectively sorts non-fiber material from fiber at high speeds
- 8 CPSCREEN™:**  
Sorts 2D fiber from 3D containers
- 9 OCC QC Area:**  
Quality control station for cardboard
- 10 ONP QC Area:**  
Quality control station for newspaper

- 11 Mixed Paper QC Area:**  
Quality control station for mixed paper
- 12 Drum Magnet**  
Separates and recovers steel from other materials
- 13 MSS CIRRUS® PlasticMax™ Optical Sorter:**  
Selectively sorts plastics at high speeds
- 14 Eddy Current Separator:**  
Separates and recovers aluminum from other materials
- 15 PET QC Area:**  
Quality control station for PET containers
- 16 Aluminum QC Area:**  
Quality control station for aluminum containers
- 17 Silos:**  
Holds sorted containers and makes material accessible to baler
- 18 Fiber Bunkers:**  
Holds sorted fiber before baling
- 19 Baler:**  
Prepares separated commodities into bales for shipment



Items that can always be placed in your recycling cart include: 

Items that can never be placed in your recycling cart include: 



How to prepare your recyclables:



**Empty. Clean. Dry.**  
Keep all recyclables free of food and liquid.



**Don't bag it.**  
Never put recyclables in containers or bags.

# Recycling Simplified

<https://recyclingsimplified.com/>

*Recycling: Simple as 1-2-3*

**1** Know what to throw  
Cardboard, paper, metal cans, plastic bottles and jugs.

**2** Empty. Clean. Dry.™  
Keep all recyclables free of food and liquid.

**3** Don't bag it  
Never put recyclables in containers or bags.



## Paper & Cardboard

Flattened cardboard, newspapers, magazines, office paper and common mail.

## Metal Cans

Beverage and food cans.

## Plastic Bottles & Jugs

Food and liquid containers with the lids on.

At Republic Services®, we bring you quick and easy ways to make a difference in our communities. Follow these simple guidelines to become a better recycler.

<https://recyclingsimplified.com/for-educators/>

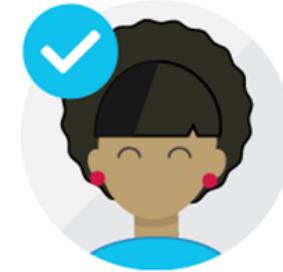
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Carefully aligned to grade-level curriculum standards



Provided to you 100% free of charge



Written and vetted by real teachers



Lessons designed to fit within a typical class period



Lessons can be used individually or as a unit



Easy for teachers to implement, engaging for students

# Recycle Cart/Container Lid Labels

## Acceptable Items *Artículos Aceptables*

Ensure items are empty, clean and dry.  
*Asegúrese de que los artículos estén vacíos, limpios y secos.*



### Paper & Cardboard

Cardboard (flattened), office paper, file folders, magazines, catalogs, newspaper and inserts, junk mail, telephone books, etc.

*Cajas de cartón (plasmadas), papel de oficina, carpetas de archivos, revistas, catálogos, periódicos y folletos, directorios telefónicos, etc.*



### Aluminum/Metal

Aluminum, tin or steel cans, foil, pie tins

*Latas de aluminio, hojalata o acero, papel de aluminio, bandejas de papel de aluminio*



### Cartons

Milk and juice cartons, aseptic containers

*Cartones de leche y jugo, envases asepticos*



### Plastics

Plastic bottles, containers (empty; caps on)

*Botellas y envases de plástico (vacío; tapones)*



### Glass

Glass jars, bottles

*Botellas y envases de vidrio*

## Unacceptable Items *Artículos inaceptables*

### Automotive containers of any kind

*Recipientes de aceite de cualquier tipo*

### Batteries

*Baterías*

### Cellphones, computers or electronics

*Celulares, computadoras o productos electrónicos*

### Ceramics or dishes

*Cerámica o vajilla*

### Clothing

*Ropa*

### Construction waste

*Desechos de construcción*

### Food waste

*Restos de alimentos*

### Garden hoses

*Mangueras de jardín*

### Hazardous waste containers

*Recipientes de desechos peligrosos*

### Plastic grocery bags

*Bolsas de compras de plástico*

### Polystyrene foam

*Poliestireno*

### Yard waste

*Desechos de jardín*

### Light bulbs, window glass or mirrors

*Bombillas de luz, vidrio de ventanas o espejos*



We'll handle it from here\*

228 SEPT20

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# Sustainability

Republic Services  
strives for a cleaner,  
safer and healthier  
world



*We invest more than  
\$100 million per year  
in our sustainability  
initiatives, as a  
commitment to our  
planet.*

# Industry Leading Performance

 <p>Great Place To Work<sup>®</sup> Certified JUL 2022-JUL 2023 USA</p>	<p>Member of <b>Dow Jones Sustainability Indices</b> Powered by the S&amp;P Global CSA</p>	<p><b>BARRON'S</b> <hr/>100 Most Sustainable Companies 2023</p>	 <p><b>FORTUNE</b> WORLD'S MOST ADMIRABLE COMPANIES<sup>™</sup> 2023</p>
 <p><b>3BL</b> <small>ME DIA</small> 100 Best Corporate Citizens 2022</p>	<p>Sustainability Yearbook Member 2023 <b>S&amp;P Global</b></p>	<p><b>2023</b>   <b>WORLD'S MOST ETHICAL COMPANIES<sup>™</sup></b> <b>ETHISPHERE</b></p>	 <p><b>CDP</b> DISCLOSER <b>2022</b></p>

**Craig Lutz**  
Manager, Municipal Services

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c: 317.716.4260

- Thank you!
- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Compost

