

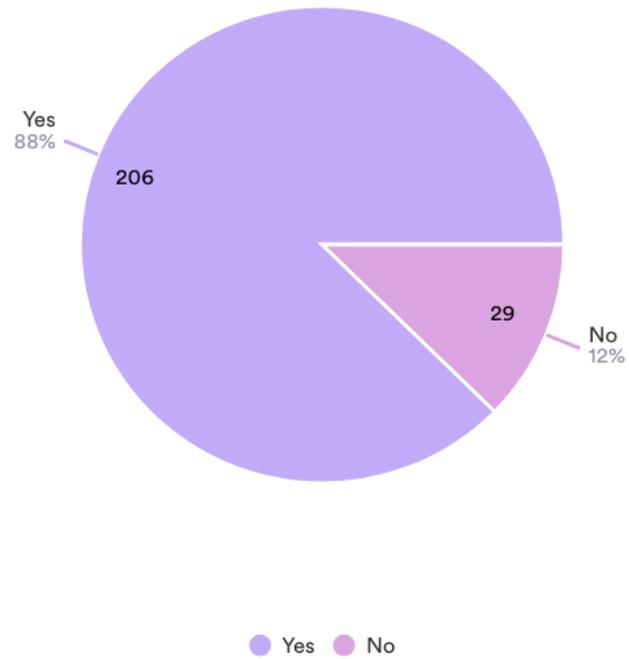
Results: Sanitation District Co-Collection

Survey

240 Responses

Have you been using the green and orange bags?

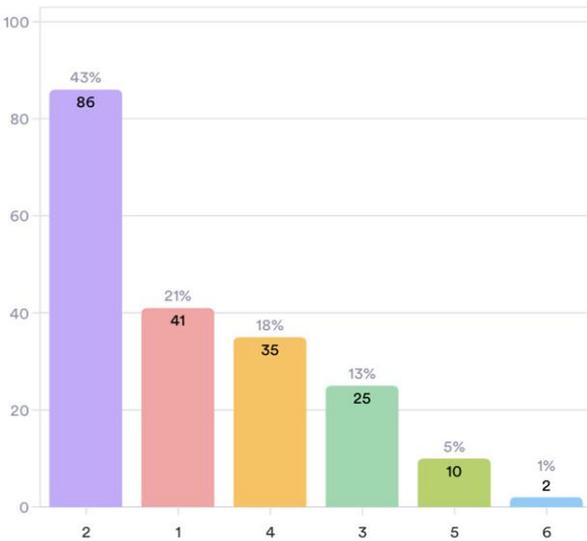
235 Responses- 5 Empty



Family size/Bag Usage

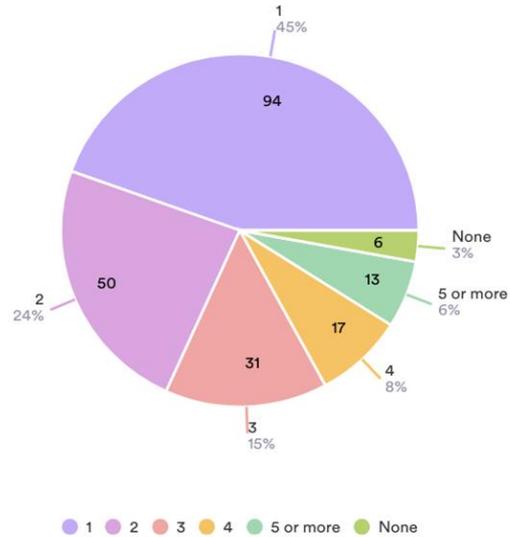
How many people are in your household?

199 Responses- 29 Empty



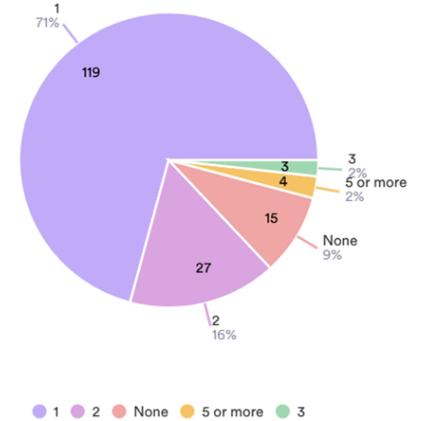
How many orange trash bags do you typically use each week?

211 Responses- 29 Empty



How many green food scrap bags do you typically use each week?

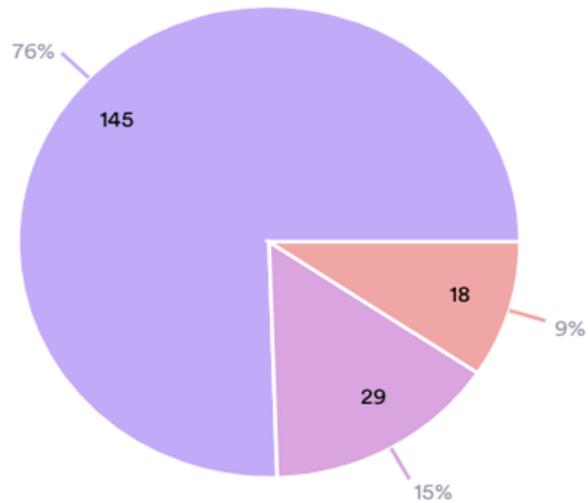
168 Responses- 72 Empty



Bag Sizes

What size of orange bag do you use

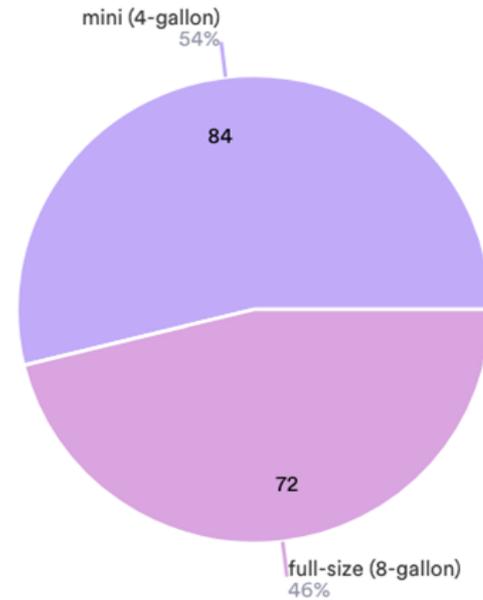
192 Responses- 29 Empty



● Medium (15-gallon) ● Large (33-gallon) ● Small (8-gallon)

What size of green bag do you use

156 Responses- 73 Empty

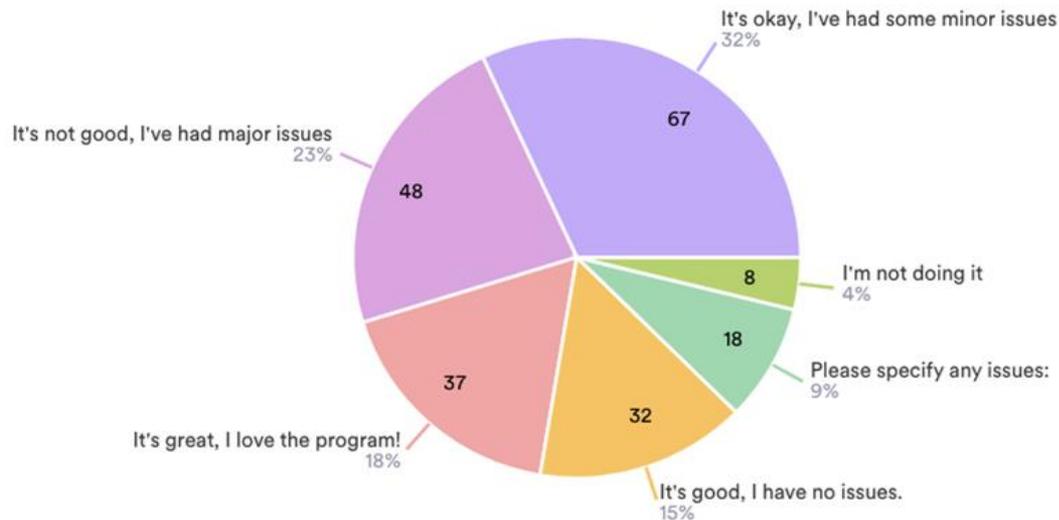


● mini (4-gallon) ● full-size (8-gallon)

Popularity of the Program

How is Save As You Throw going in your household?

210 Responses- 30 Empty



● It's okay, I've had some minor issues ● It's not good, I've had major issues ● It's great, I love the program! ● It's good, I have no issues.
● Please specify any issues: ● I'm not doing it

Among the 210 respondents that filled out this question almost 3/4 are positive about the program to ok with the program (about 73%). Around 1/3 of respondents are negative (about 28%). due to rounding errors these percentages add up to 101%

Highlighted Comments

- “Bags purchased do not seem to be consistent in quality. Some fit better than others in the same trash can. I have purchased some with different mil thickness but same price. Also having a scented option would be nice”
- “.../Expand sanitation to the whole town, bid the routes to private haulers with dedicated trucks and bins. Cost savings for all citizens. Think harder!”
- “.../This also isn’t going to affect the amount of waste my family produces. I have kids. They say they want Mac n cheese. I make them Mac n cheese and then they don’t eat it and I throw it away. Your bag program isn’t going to change the quirks of children.”
- “Stop harassing citizens. Do not try to penalize people if they have a dog poop bag in their trash bin. Would you rather have dog poop on the street?”
- “Eliminate the plastic that bags are wrapped in for purchase”

Key Takeaways:

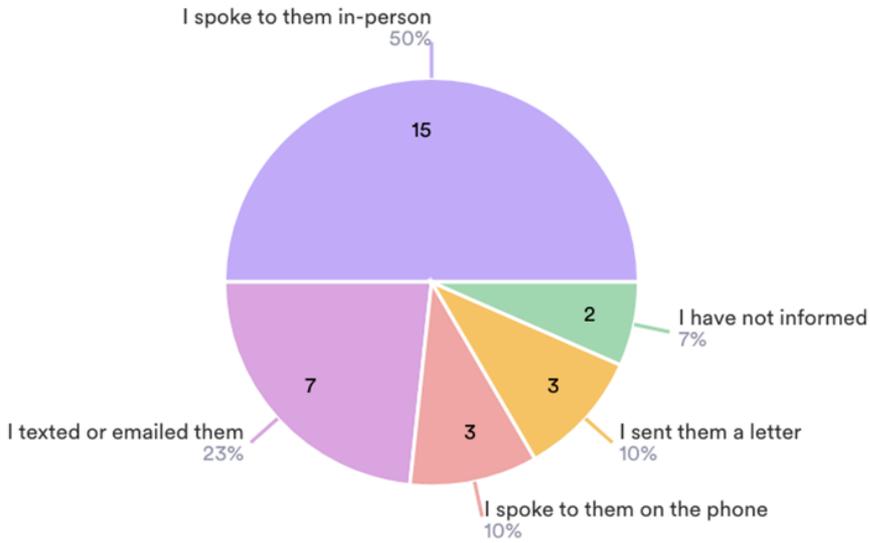
- Of all the respondents to the survey about 2/3 of respondents range from loving the program to thinking it's fine and having minor issues.
- The most common household among respondents is 2 individuals, the most common number of bags used per week is one orange and one green.
- Nearly 70% of respondents use 2 Orange bags or less per week
- The average number of orange bags used among respondents, excluding those who reported using 0 bags per week is: 2.049 bags
- 6% of respondents use 5 or more bags per week. These are some of the folks who would previously have been subsidized by their neighbors
- 88% of respondents for the entire survey comply with the program.
- 88% of respondents who use the bags use the green food scrap bags as well.
- 12% of respondents are not using the bags and hence are not paying for the disposal of their waste.

Landlord Survey Results

30 respondents

How did you inform your tenants about Save As You Throw? (select all that apply)

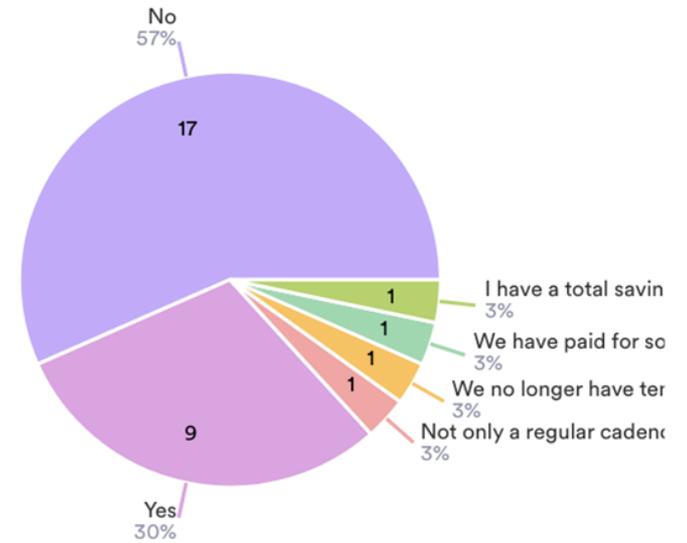
30 Responses



- I spoke to them in-person
- I texted or emailed them
- I spoke to them on the phone
- I sent them a letter
- I have not informed my tenants about the details of Save As You Throw

Do you supply your tenants with the bags they need each month?

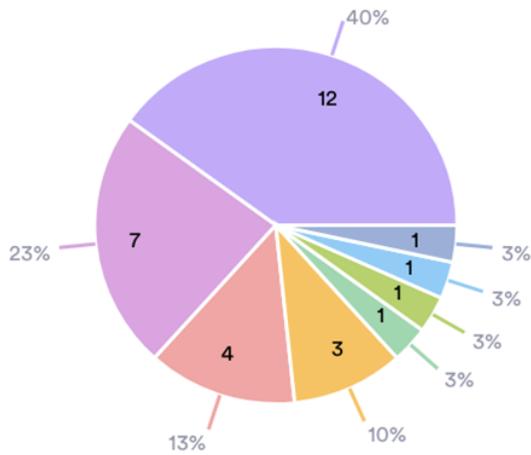
30 Responses



- No
- Yes
- Not only a regular cadence; but we've given him several rolls
- We no longer have tenants. We live here now. The Sanitation Dept. has not changed...
- We have paid for some but the neighborhood is sharing based on who has time to g...
- I have a total savings of \$130/year. I have 2 units in my home. This leaves \$65 per te...

Have your tenants been complying with the program?

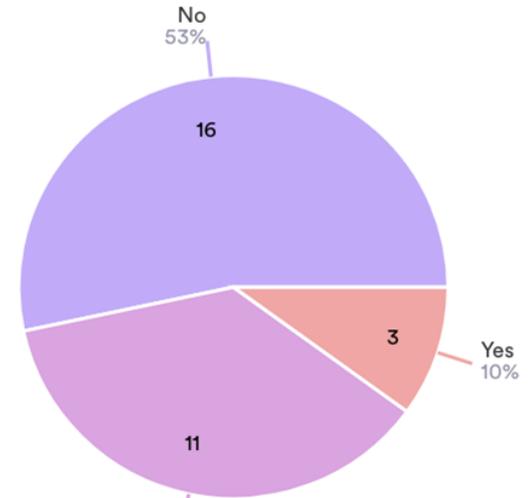
30 Responses



- Mostly - we've had a few hiccups, but overall they're complying
- Yes - they're doing a great job and we've had no problems
- I don't know
- No - and I have provided them with bags
- We are living here and we are fully onboard with this program.
- My tenant is extremely angered and found an alternative for trash disposal
- Yes, but we have had problems with strangers coming off the street and putting loo...
- It doesn't work for them

Would you prefer a higher sanitation fee if it meant that the City provided a fixed number of bags to your property based on your size/quantity of trash carts.

30 Responses



Please expand if you have comments:

37%

- No
- Please expand if you have comments:
- Yes

Highlighted Comments:

“Get rid of the program. It’s oppressive and controlling. Green bags, great idea! Orange bags, oppressive.”

“Keep on educating people about the environmental (for everyone) benefits and the economic (for them/us) benefits.”

“In theory it is great to just have the city provide the bags at a cost based on size of bins but based on my math it simply isn't enough. If you have 1 bin for 2 rental units and that's only \$65 per tenant and \$5.41 per month, that's not enough for the year so there is still the issue of when they run out.”

Key Takeaways:

30% of the landlords who responded to the survey supply bags to their tenants or passed along savings in some other way.

Most don't like the program but also don't want an increase in sanitation fees to cover the cost of disposal.

A majority of their tenants are also complying with the program.

There was a common misconception that non-compliance led to fines.

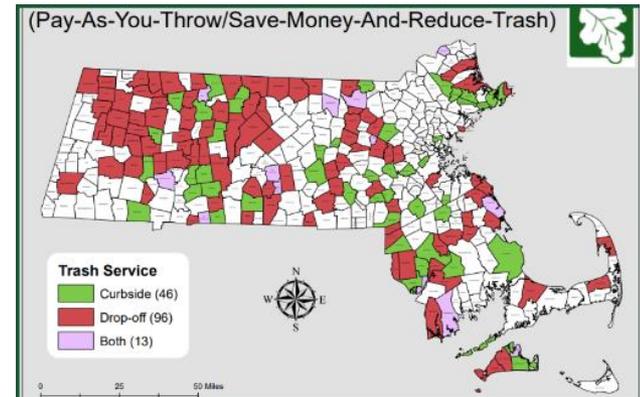
Middletown Co-Collection DATA

A dark blue horizontal bar spans the width of the slide, positioned below the title. It is composed of two segments: a darker blue segment on the left and a slightly lighter blue segment on the right.

SAYT & Food Scraps

- SAYT
 - Typically Generates a 40% or higher trash tonnage reduction
 - Over 4,000 combined years of history in New England
- Food Scraps
 - 22% of waste stream
 - 60% of all GHG's from trash
 - Methane emissions higher than thought
 - Food Waste taken to landfills creates 20% of all human generated methane emissions

MA SAYT:



CT SAYT:

Stonington
Middletown
Woodbury
Kent
West Hartford
Madison
Guilford
Newtown

Waste Reduction

Current Reduction 31%

Tonnage week of 05/20 was 3rd lowest of the year (36%)

Target of 44% is not being achieved because

- Free bags from prior year and bag give away program
- Still between 75-95% participation

Food Scrap Collection

84,000 lbs

Nov 2023 – May 2024

Food Capture Rate is at 20%

Target is 40-60%, Recycling in at
21%

Need to transition to Food Scrap
Education Plan.

UBP IS EFFICIENT

SORTED PROPERLY:



Before: 10 regular bags



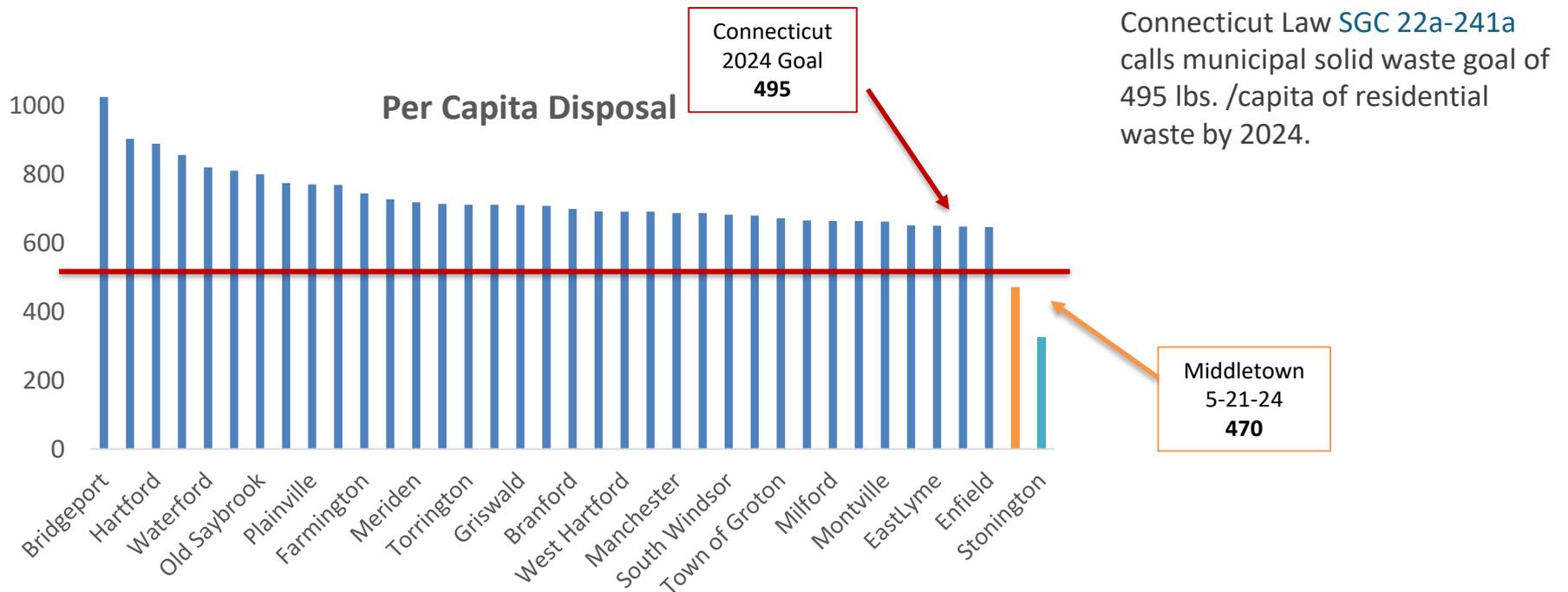
**EXACT
SAME
WASTE**



After: 2 UBP bags, 1 food scrap bag, recyclables

FEWER PLASTIC BAGS, LESS WASTED WASTE

Comparative Pounds Per Capita



*Data from all municipalities is from 2018. Current numbers are in the process of being compiled.

Key Numbers

Collective Bill Reduction To

District \$324,756 \approx \$118 x 2,752 HH

Bag Revenue generated FY 2024

\$117,271 (Annual Trend)

Amount for Tip Fees in Budget pre-SAYT

\$295,650 \$120 x 2,464 tons

Tip Fees paid for FY 2024

\$199,779 (Annual Trend)

Participation

Carts on streets with alternate street parking



WARNING

Your cart has been stickered because you are not using the required orange and green bags or you are using them improperly.

City-issued bags can be purchased at:

Price Chopper 855 Washington St Available at Guest Services Desk	Smith & Bishel 155 Main St
Reboot Eco 131 River Rd	Stop & Shop 416 E. Main St
City Hall, Dept. of Public Works 245 Dekoven Dr, Room 210	Walgreens 311 E. Main St & 633 Washington St

Next time your cart is flagged for non-compliance, it will not be emptied until the correct bags are used.

For more information call 860-638-4858
or use this QR code to go
www.middletonct.gov/201/Sanitation
Division

Carts that participated received:



Thank You!

Your participation in this change has led to a 30% reduction in trash sent for disposal from the Middletown Sanitation District.

To show our appreciation, the City of Middletown has included your household in a raffle for one of five chances to win \$100 gift card to a local grocery store. Thank you!

For more information call 860-638-4858.

Carts not complying



OOPS!

Your cart was not emptied because you didn't use the required orange & green bags for your trash.

City-issued bags can be purchased at:

Price Chopper 855 Washington St Available at Guest Services Desk	Stop and Shop 416 E. Main Street	Ace Hardware 480 S Main St	Reboot Eco 131 River Rd
Walgreens 311 E. Main St & 633 Washington St	Smith & Bishel 155 Main St	City Hall, Dept. of Public Works 245 Dekoven Dr, Room 210	

Contact us when your trash is bagged correctly and we will come empty your cart.

For more information call 860-638-4858 or email recycling@middletonct.gov or use this QR code to go to the website reducethetrashct.com/middletown/

Next Steps

- **Goal:**
 - Create a level playing field in the District and City Wide
 - Improve food scrap quality
 - Improve enforcement
 - Control future cost increases
 - Review commercial/residential fee structure

Options

- Continue program as it currently runs
 - Achieving 30% waste reduction
 - Offering convenient collection of food scraps
 - Not enough participation
 - Lack of enforcement mechanism
 - Labor intensive
 - Landlords not assisting renters

Modify program to reduce bag costs and increase billing amount

- Reduce bag costs for all users
- Waste reduction would continue
- Option for curbside collection of food scraps continues
- Enforcement mechanism needed for fairness
- What is a reasonable price point?

Offer free bags with increased billing

- Distribution logistics extremely difficult
- Need upfront costs
- Less participation
- Still need strong enforcement when people run out of bags
- Lose value of the bags, less waste reduction

Remove bags and add a separate cart and collection for food scraps

- Cost increase for containers, staff, truck
- Lose waste reduction incentive
- Without UBP, no assistance from the state
- How to enforce?

Offer food scrap collection only

- Offer curbside food waste collection
- Lose any incentive for waste reduction and better recycling
- Costs will increase to cover the costs of separation.
- Are people willing to pay more for this service?
- DEEP funding not available

Go back to traditional collection

- Habits will revert back
- Costs will increase drastically and infinitely.
- No curbside food scrap collection

- Costs:
 - 2021 \$88/ton
 - 2022 \$90.64/ton
 - 2023 \$93.36/ton
 - 2024 \$118/ton