



Waste Diversion Strategies

Town of Erie Council Meeting

Sept. 24, 2024

Environment Services Department:

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Tonight's Agenda

- Introduction
- History
- Insights from other Municipalities
- Insights from Haulers
- HOA engagement
- Town of Erie options
- Council discussion
- Next steps

Introduction

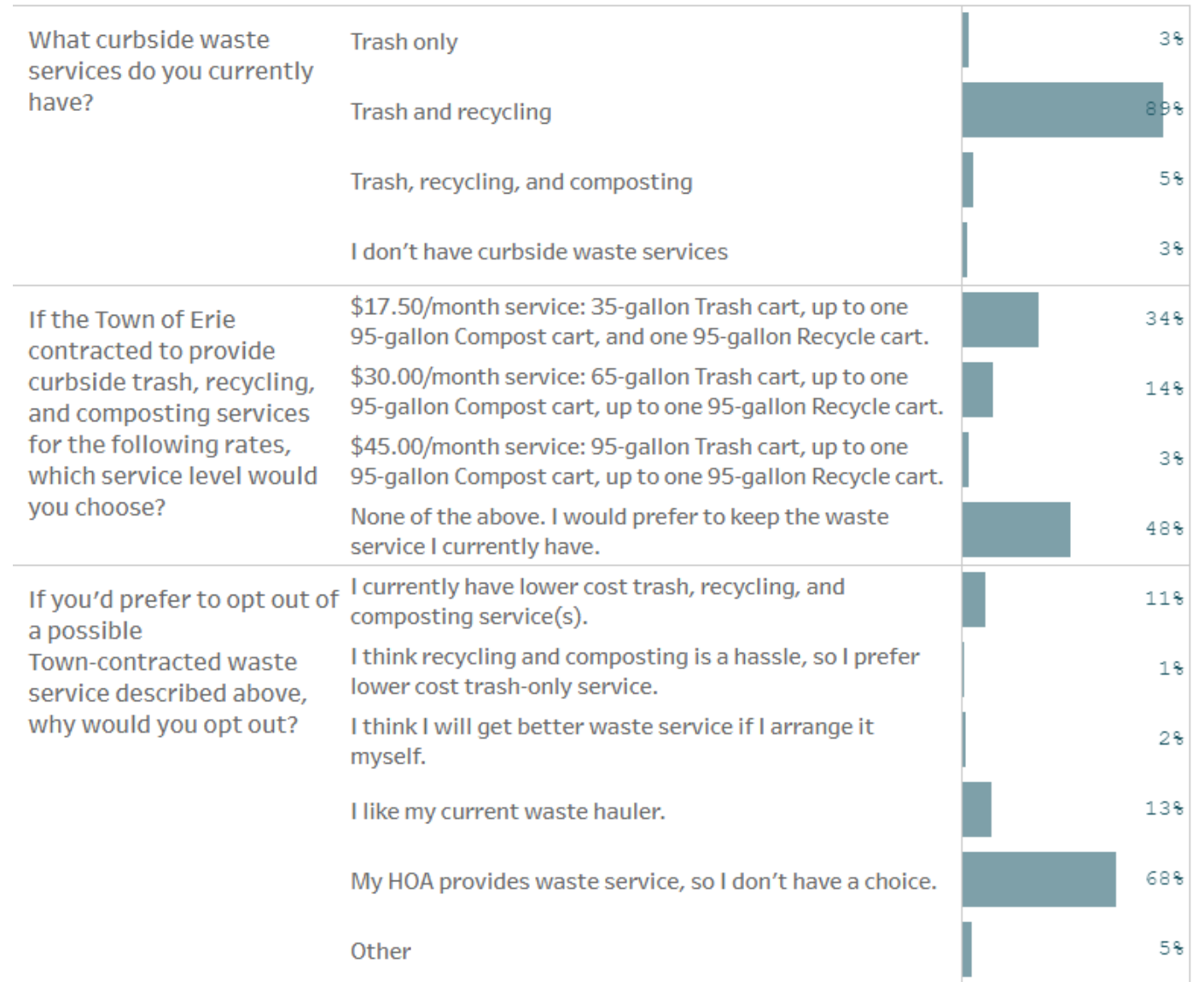
Why discuss waste hauling and diversion strategies?

- Reduce truck traffic and impact on streets, increase public safety
- Decrease waste that is landfilled and reduce local methane emissions from the landfill
- Reduce costs for the majority of Town residents
- Equity
- Improve local and regional air quality
- Make curbside composting and recycling service available to more Town resident

Current Status-quo:

- Predominant service level is large waste containers only (96 gallons)
- Fees are flat regardless of how much waste is collected (Not Pay-As-You-Throw [PAYT])
- Hauler rates vary widely for same service

2023 Community Survey Data



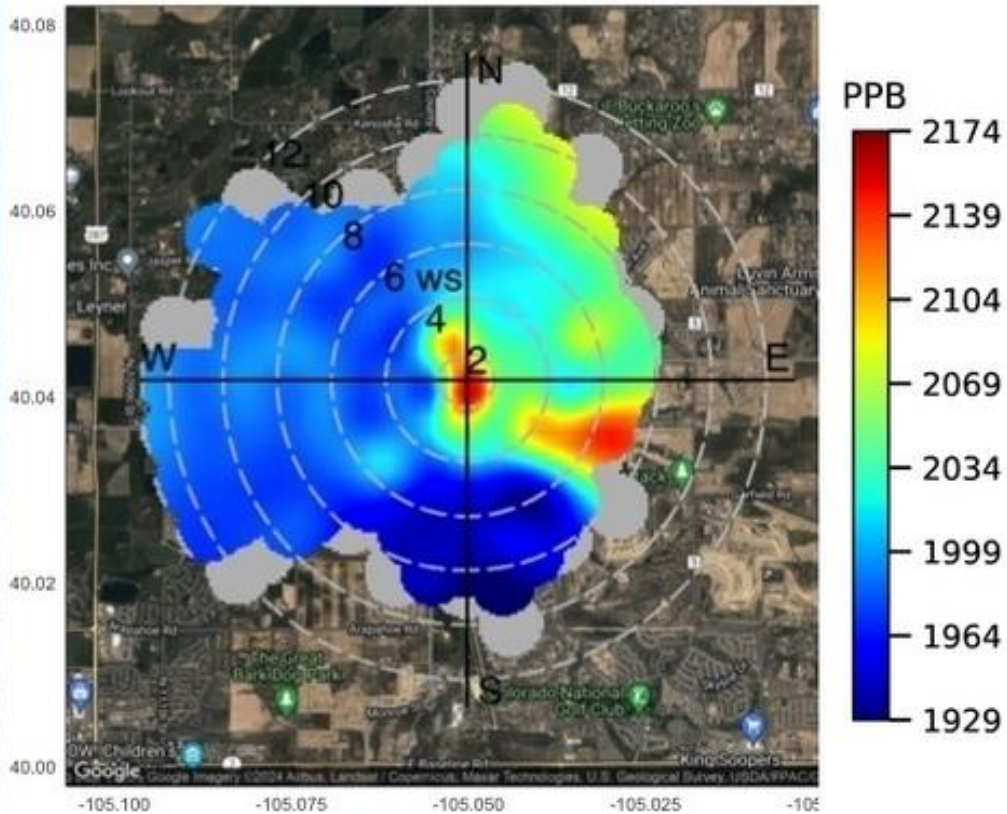
Local Impacts of Trash Vehicles



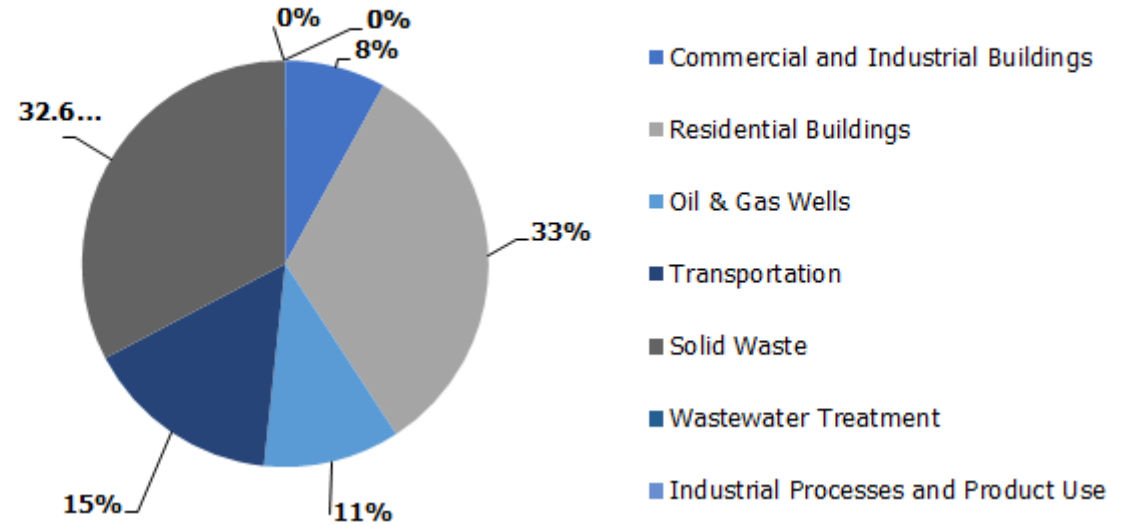
Air Quality

Erie Community Center
Methane Oct 01, 2023, to Dec 31, 2023

Minimum bin value = 2
Wind speeds larger than 1 m/s



Total BASIC+ Emissions by Sector (mt CO2e)



All Emissions by Sector (BASIC+)

Sector	Emissions (mt CO2e)	Percentage of Total
Commercial and Industrial Buildings	28,332	8%
Residential Buildings	115,871	33%
Oil & Gas Wells	38,494	11%
Transportation	55,198	16%
Solid Waste	115,292	33%
Wastewater Treatment	130	0.04%
Industrial Processes and Product Use	101	0.03%
Total Emissions	353,418	100%



History

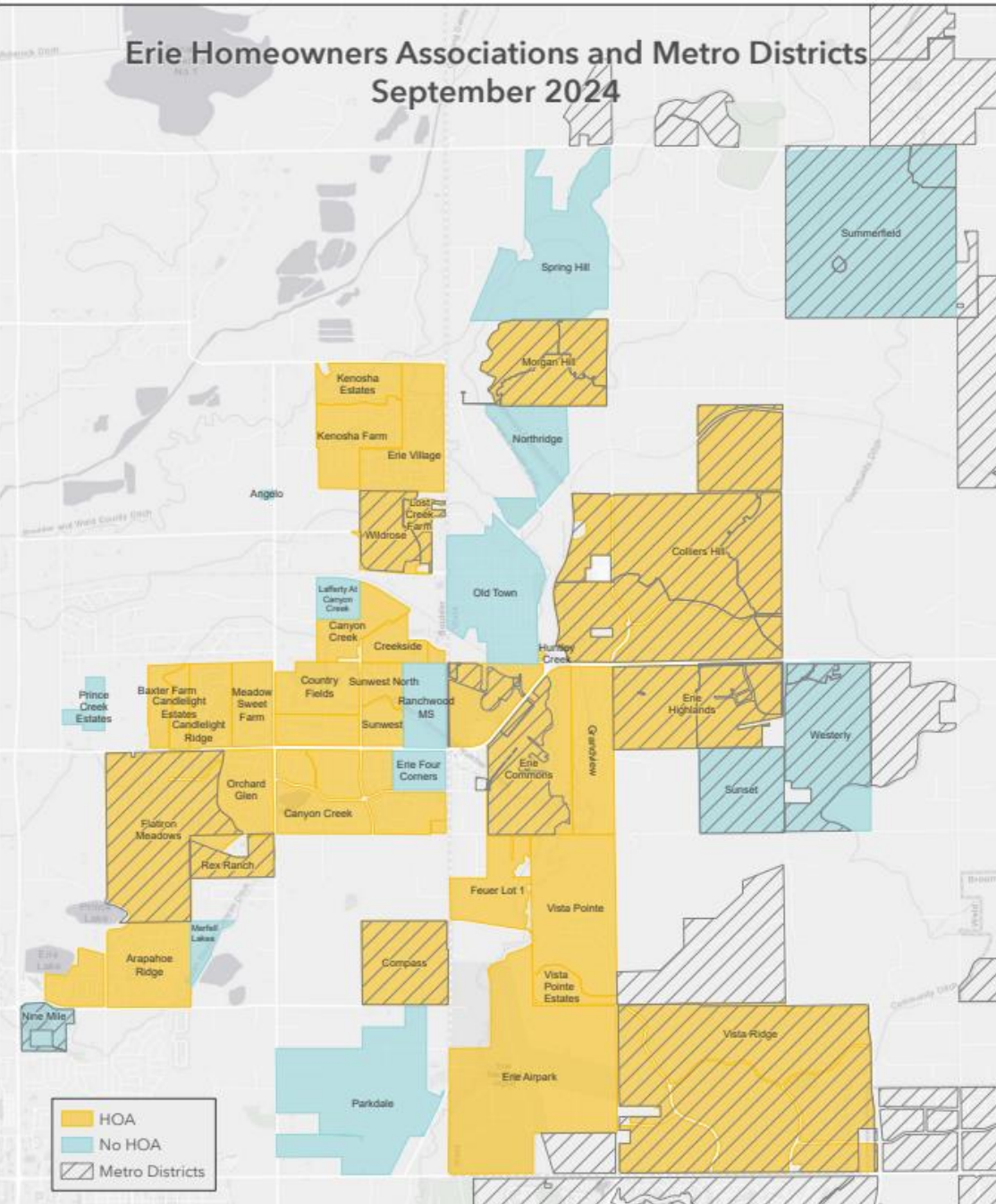
2020 – 2022

- Initial look at a communitywide waste hauling contract for non-HOA neighborhoods (Old Town & Northridge).
- Research and exploration funded by Front Range Waste Diversion grant that also supported infrastructure expansion at the Recycling Center.
- March 2020 adopted Ordinance 15-2020, applying Boulder County’s commercial waste hauler licensing requirements to haulers doing business in Erie.
- Community engagement: survey and tabling at events and some HOA neighborhoods.

Issued RFP (2022) received three bids, pricing was too high, so staff withdrew proposed contract.

- Haulers explained pricing (or no bid) was due to short contract length, small population of customers, and short time for mobilization.

Erie Homeowners Associations and Metro Districts September 2024



HOA
 No HOA
 Metro Districts

Subdivision	Address Points
Angelo	1
Arapahoe Ridge	617
Baxter Farm	16
Candlelight Estates	31
Candlelight Ridge	96
Canyon Creek	971
Canyon Creek	195
Colliers Hill	2281
Compass	518
Country Fields	210
Creekside	185
Dearmin Minor	0
Erie Airpark	169
Erie Commons	942
Erie Four Corners	250
Erie Highlands	752

Subdivision	Address Points
Erie Village	389
Feuer Lot 1	1
Flatiron Meadows	826
Grandview	420
Huntley Creek	15
Kenosha Estates	28
Kenosha Farm	253
Lafferty At Canyon Creek	133
Lost Creek Farm	44
Marfell Lakes	4
Meadow Sweet Farm	182
Morgan Hill	491
Nine Mile	324
Northridge	193
Old Town	668
Orchard Glen	213

Subdivision	Address Points
Parkdale	901
Prince Creek Estates	4
Ranchwood Minor Subdivision	295
Rex Ranch	134
Spring Hill	0
Summerfield	479
Sunset	249
Sunwest	157
Sunwest North	109
Vista Pointe	337
Vista Pointe Estates	24
Vista Ridge	2314
Westerly	780
Wildrose	120

GIS does not keep specific HOA information; address points are an approximation.



Insights From Other Municipalities

From August - October 2023, conducted seven interviews with neighboring municipalities or stakeholders about their experiences implementing different waste policies.

- Spoke with Longmont, Broomfield, Denver, Golden, Lafayette, Fort Collins, and Western Disposal.

Main takeaways:

- No one size fits all approach, each municipality has something that supports their community.
- Contract term is key: 3-5 years minimum.
- Early involvement of HOAs helps to better facilitate their involvement once their contracts expire.
- A phased policy approach may be beneficial.

Insights from Haulers

In May 2024, staff interviewed all haulers operating in Erie:

- One Way, Inc., Republic Services, Waste Connections, Waste Management (WM), Western Disposal Services, and Wompost.
 - One Way – approx. 500 single homes
 - WM – approx. 6,200 contracts in Erie (primarily HOA)
 - Waste Connections – approx. 7,800 contracts in Erie (18 HOAs, 860 single homes)
 - Wompost – 266 single homes (compost only)

Key points including specific recommendations:

- PAYT model is important to increase diversion and incentivize trash diversion.
- Longer contract and increased participation will produce competitive rates.
- Limited compost collection and utilization in Erie at this time.

HOA Engagement (ongoing)

37 HOAs contacted via email and phone with survey and interview requests.

- Conducted two interviews with Vista Ridge and Erie Airpark representatives, received some data from Erie Highlands, and was told Collier's Hill was not interested in participating.
- Despite multiple follow ups, many property management representatives did not engage.

General Responses:

- The price for hauling varies greatly – our interviewees ranged from \$9.97 to \$29.62 per month for 96-gallon trash and recycling. Many residents, however, do not know how much they are paying since it is included in their HOA fees.
- PAYT 15-2020 ordinance enforcement could be a problem in some neighborhoods due to limited storage space and HOA requirement to keep trash bins inside except on trash day.

Town of Erie Strategic Waste Diversion Recommendations

Recommendations	Considerations
Pay as You Throw (PAYT) Ordinance Update & Enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boulder County/Town Ordinance require PAYT with recycling. • Town has not enforced this requirement based on its 2020 ordinance. • Hauler compliance may increase prices for some residents while lowering for others
New RFP and Communitywide Hauling Contract(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could expand curbside recycling and compost to all residents and reduce cost for most • Reduces damage to roads and air pollutants from multiple trucks and haulers. • Incorporating HOAs would take time (~3-5 years).
Universal Recycling Ordinance (URO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires recycling at all businesses and multi-family housing. • Ideally phased in after PAYT and communitywide contract.

Updated RFP Potential Outcomes

Revising RFP to fix previous flaws could achieve:

- Reduced cost for most Town residents
- Incentive for HOAs to opt-in (reduced cost, increased services, and no need to contract/bill)
- Fewer trucks and less damage to Town streets
- Increased recycling and composting
- Reduced GHG from landfill emissions and truck traffic
- Economies of scale, use of existing assets, and better service

State Legislation:

- Extended Producer Responsibility and impact on recycling costs from 2026 forward.

Council Discussion

Key high-level questions:

- What are Council priorities?
 - Road wear/traffic
 - Air pollution, climate change impacts
 - Increasing composting to reduce GHG
 - Quality of service
 - Cost of service
 - Other?
- Does Council support updating and reissuing the RFP to get clear pricing information and potentially implement a contracted opt-in/opt-out system?
- How important to Council is expanding compost service?
- Consideration of an opt-out fee?
- Other questions?

Next Steps

Summarize discussion and clarify direction.

Estimated timeline moving forward.

- Continue to engage community & HOA survey
- Updated PAYT ordinance targeted discussions and develop updated language and enforcement mechanisms
- Finalize and release communitywide waste hauling RFP
- Evaluate RFP results and share with Council
- Bring updated PAYT ordinance to Council for approval
- If RFP responses are competitive, negotiate contracts with hauler(s) and HOAs

Contact SustainableErie@erieco.gov with comments and questions.



Thank you

Questions:
SustainableErie@erieco.gov

Appendix A: Engagement Summary

- Prior to bringing information to Town Council regarding a single/preferred hauler contract, the following engagement was conducted:
- From August - October 2023, 7 interviews with neighboring municipalities or stakeholders were held about their experiences with the implementation of different waste policies.
 - We spoke to Longmont, Broomfield, Denver, Golden, Lafayette, Fort Collins, and Western Disposal.
- In November 2023, an application was submitted to the Front Range Waste Diversion (FRWD) Technical Assistance Service Provider (TASP) program. The scope of the application was for TASP to provide support in the research of and engagement for a new Town-wide waste policy.
 - The project was initially accepted by the FRWD Board but was not fully approved due to the similarity to the project they funded between 2020-2022 of which the waste hauler portion was not successful. With the Council possibly changing over in November 2024 the uncertainty of support was also a factor.
 - TASP does offer lower-level support that the Town is able to take advantage of. They have already agreed to support updating the previous RFP if it is reissued.



Appendix A: Engagement Summary (con.)

- The Sustainability Division spoke with HOA representatives at the O.N.E. meeting on May 8, 2024. The following data was gleaned from the nine attendees who participated in their survey:
 - Seven out of nine attendees did not know how much they paid for their waste hauling since it is included in their HOA fees.
 - Price is an important consideration for new contracts.
 - Themes of including compost and weekly recycling pick up arose.
- The week of May 20, 2024, staff conducted interviews with all the waste haulers in Erie – One Way, Inc., Republic Services, Waste Connections, Waste Management (WM), Western Disposal Services, and Wompost. These interviews served as an informal opportunity to gather updated information from the haulers and hear their opinions on waste policies for Erie. The following individuals were spoken with:

Organization:	Primary Contact / Title:
One Way, Inc.	Angel Montoya / Director of Operations
Republic Services	Mark Petrovich / Municipal Services Manager
Waste Connections	Randy T... (Ctrl) District Manager
Waste Management (WM)	Curtis Gardener / Public Sector Solutions Manager
Western Disposal Services	Eric Loof / Sales Manager
Wompost	Carolyn Pace / CEO and Founder

