

# WasteSmart Plan

Briefing to  
**Alexandria City Council**  
January 8, 2019



Attachment 3



# Agenda

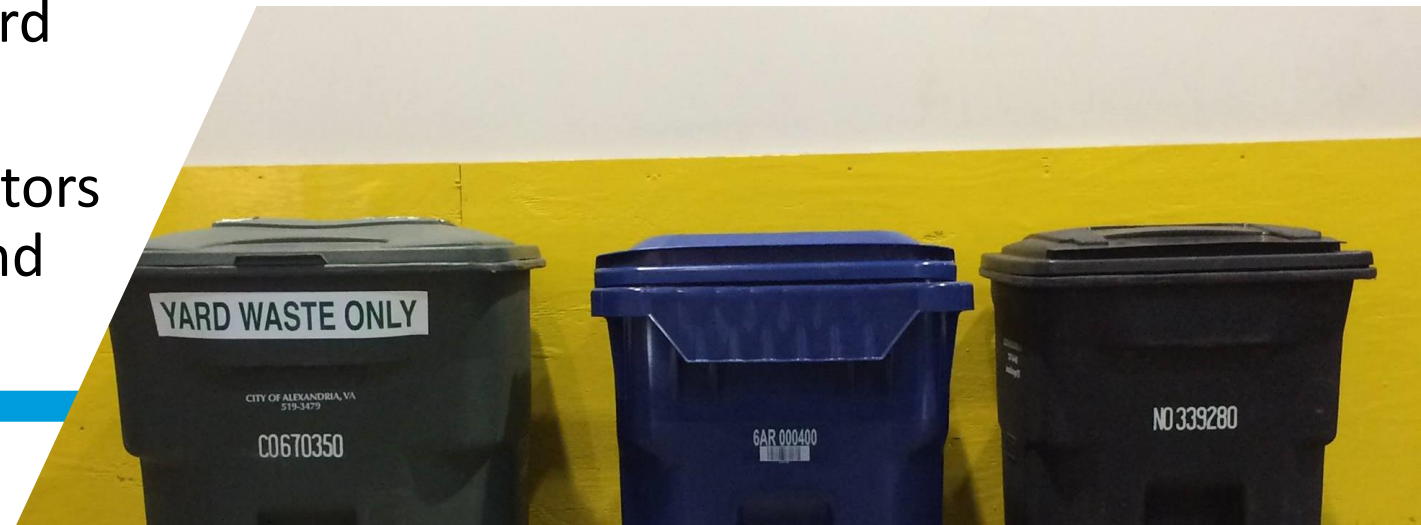
- Background
- Strategic Plan process
  - Community engagement
  - Third-Party Program Evaluation
  - Alignment with other City Plans
- Vision & Values of Strategic Plan
- Short-, Mid-, Long-Term Actions
- Questions & Answers





# FY18 Resource Recovery Achievements

- Composting program – 5 year anniversary. Visited 101,000 times and composted over 816,000 lbs.
- Public space trash and recycling bins mapped with new efficient routing.
- Residential recycling and trash ‘waste-audit’ completed.
- Distributed 1,000 new 64-gallon black trash carts and repurposed green bins for yard waste only.
- HHW & Electronics Center - 11,000 visitors and recovered ~230,000 lbs of HHW and 191,000 lbs of electronics.



# WasteSmart Strategic Plan

20 Year Plan for the Future of Sustainable Solid Waste Management  
in the City of Alexandria



# Planning Process

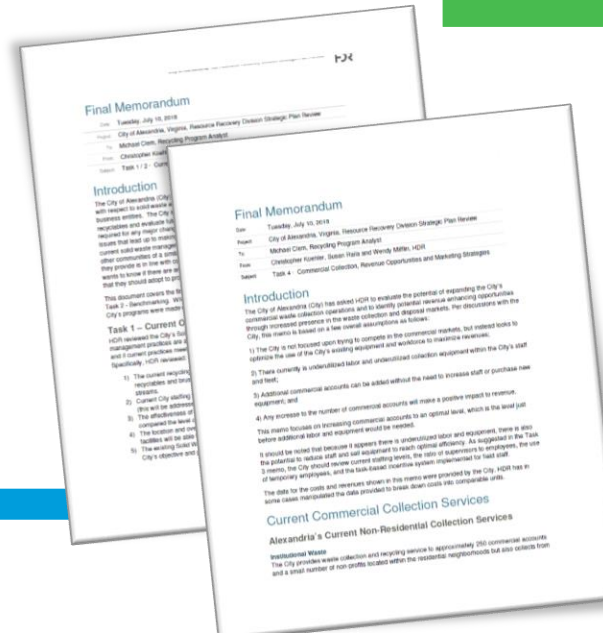
Ongoing Stakeholder Engagement

HDR White Papers Complete

Align Plan with the Environmental Action Plan

WasteSmart Development

Implementation



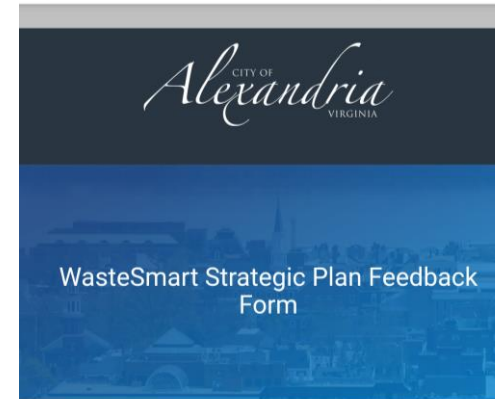


# Stakeholder Input

Over **1200** comments & questions received

- 9 Civic Association Presentations
- Online Feedback Form
- Letter to the Editor
- WasteSmart Open House + Facebook Live
- Dedicated WasteSmart Website
- eNews / Social Media
- Eco Café participation on solid waste planning
- Employee town hall meeting
- Feedback from residents participating in the composting program at Farmers' Markets
- EAP Public Meetings
- EPC Retreat & Working Group Presentation

<https://survey.alexandriava.gov/s3/V>



The City of Alexandria is currently developing its [WasteSmart Strategic Plan](#), a sustainable solid waste management plan that incorporates input from the community, the Department of Transportation & Environmental Services, and other stakeholders. This feedback form is available for five minutes to complete, and your input is valued.

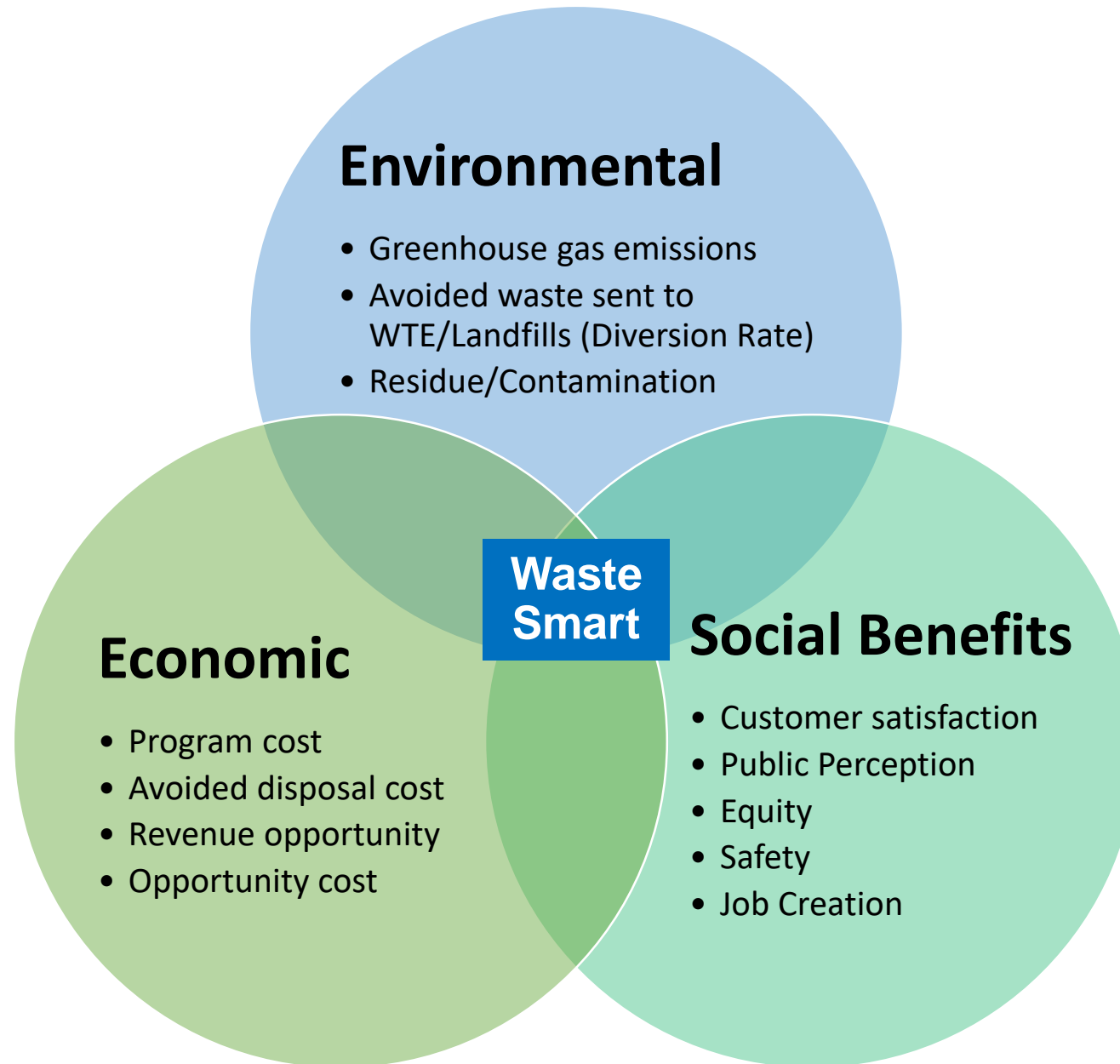


# Third-Party Program Evaluation

- Current services and benchmark to other communities
- Costs and benefits of collecting solid waste by private contract
- Opportunities to increase revenue by offering new services
- Evaluate collection and processing of recyclables separate from regular trash
- Evaluate the environmental benefits of current waste collection and processing practices
- Evaluate feasible alternatives to operating a waste-to-energy facility in Alexandria after 2038 and recommend a general planning schedule for managing Alexandria's solid waste beyond 2038

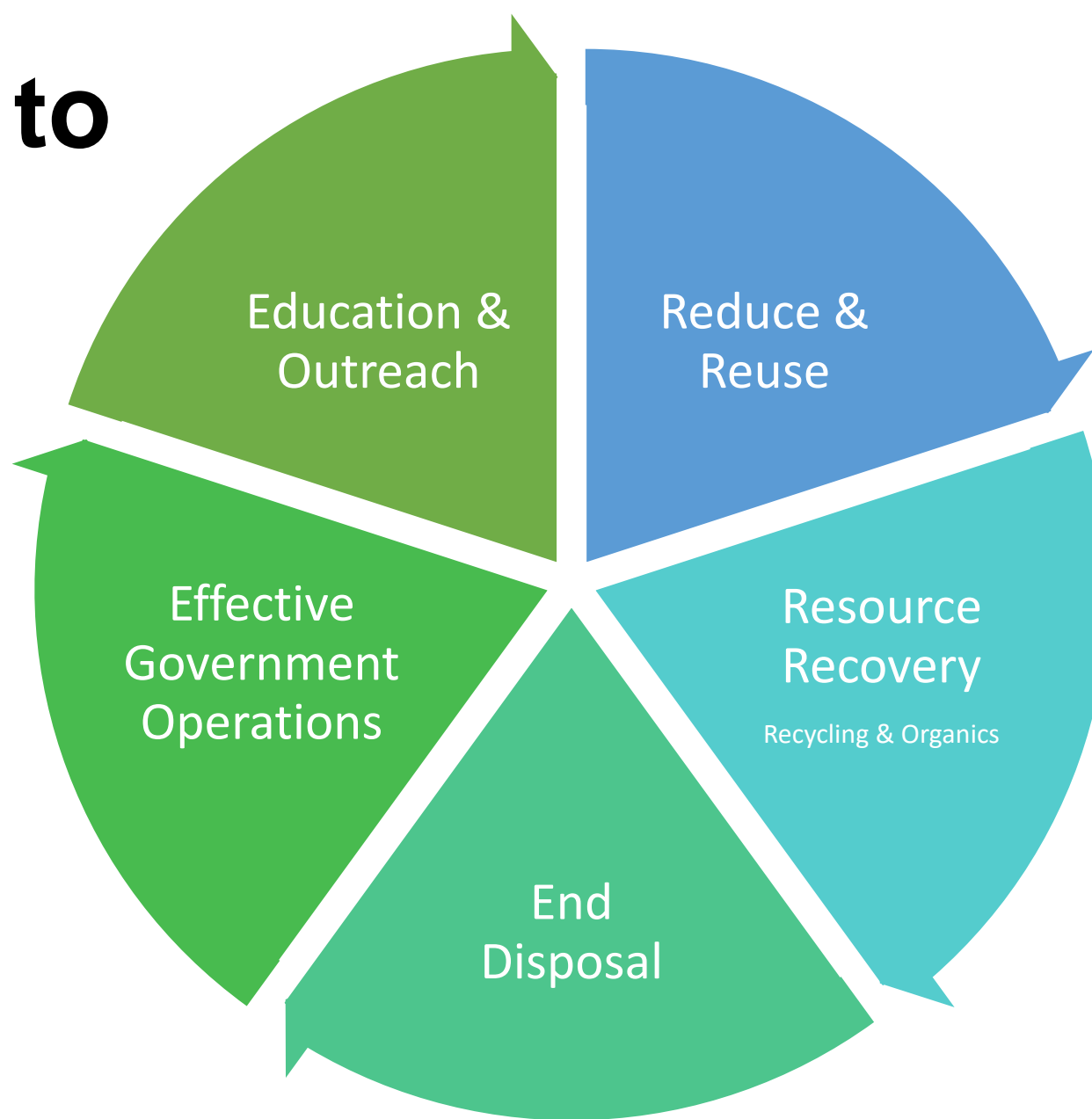


# Vision & Values





# Roadmap to Success



# Effective Government Operations

## Short Term (FY19-21)

- Consider Special Revenue Fund to self-fund
- Route Optimization Study
- Review Solid Waste Fees

## Mid–Long Term (FY22-38)

- Evaluate public space trash/recycling, make recommendations on operational changes
- Establish sustainable purchasing guidelines to include for recycled content
- Fleet Greening (Electrification, Flywheel Hybrid, CNG, etc.)

\*Green – EAP goals





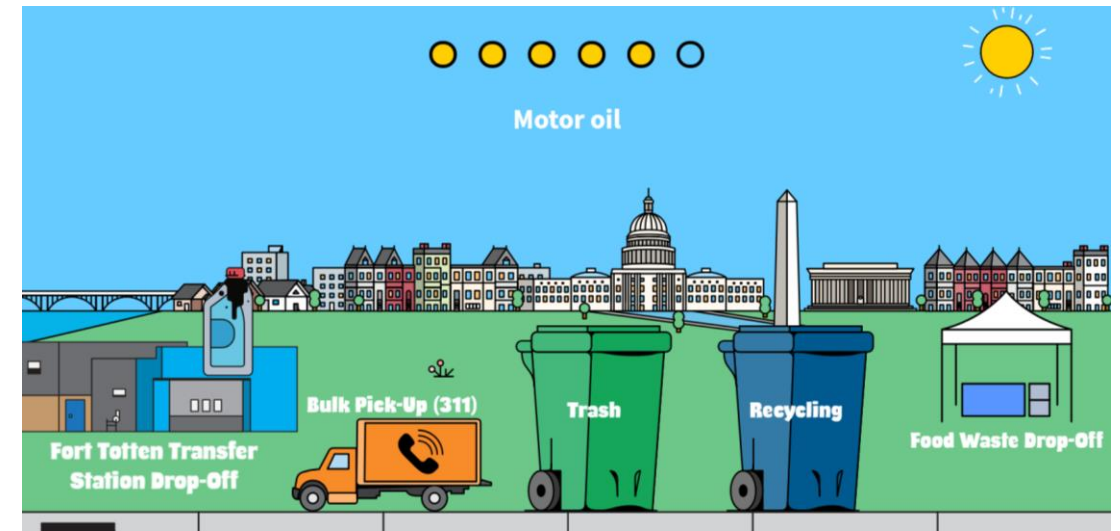
# Education & Outreach

## Short Term (FY19-21)

- Refresh website to be mobile friendly
- Increase social media presence
- **Recycle Right Campaign**
- Implement 'How to Sort' Search Tool & Collection Notification Tools
- Develop digital resources for schools, commercial and multifamily properties

## Mid-Long Term (FY22-38)

- Improve accessibility of content (translations)
- Ambassadors Volunteer Program



# Reduce & Reuse

## Short Term (FY19-21)

- Reuse/Repair/Donate Directory
- 'Share a Bag' Pilot
- Evaluate Pay-As-You-Throw feasibility
- Support the regional development of a bottle bill & bag law

## Mid-Long Term (FY22-38)

- Support building material reduce, reuse and recycling through regional partnerships
- Support the regional development of Product Stewardship Legislation for electronics, mercury containing products, paints and pharmaceuticals
- Work with surrounding jurisdictions to reduce plastic waste







# Recycling

## Short Term Goals (FY19-21)

- ✓ Recycling Sort at the Material Recovery Facility
- ✓ Recycling Collections & Processing ITB
- Implement special drop-off sites for glass recovery and implement a glass recovery awareness campaign
- Continue monitoring the recyclability of glass, potentially expand glass drop-off centers, and make recommendations for changes to the single stream program
- Review recyclability of #3-7 plastics in the marketplace to determine whether to include in the City's recycling list and update City Code



## Mid-Long Term Goals (FY22-38)

- Conduct waste characterization study
- Expand support for commercial and multifamily recycling education and enforcement
- Consider establishing business rebates, grants

\*Green – EAP goals

# Organics

## Short Term (FY19-21)

- Continue to meet and grow public awareness of food composting at farmers' markets
- Evaluate privatization of composting
- Improve efficiency and cost-effectiveness of yard waste collection program

## Mid-Long Term (FY22-38)

- Evaluate organics processing market readiness
- Evaluate curbside organics collection feasibility
- Develop organics haulers license list to support commercial/multifamily collection
- Support growing local composting efforts such as backyard and community composting

\*Green – EAP goals





# End Disposal



## Short Term (FY19-21)

- Continue to closely monitor Covanta's preventative and corrective maintenance

## Mid to Long Term (FY22-38)

- Develop options and recommendation with savings available from the City's contracted tip fee at Covanta reducing \$0 from 2025-2038
- Complete regional comprehensive alternative disposal study
- Evaluate long term end disposal options, knowing that long lead time will be needed

# Thank You!

## Questions & Answers

More information on WasteSmart can be found at:

[www.alexandriava.gov/WasteSmart](http://www.alexandriava.gov/WasteSmart)

 alexandriava.gov/TES  @TESAlexandriaVA  @AlexandriaVATES  @AlexandriaVATES

