



# City of Denton

City Hall  
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Denton, Texas  
[www.cityofdenton.com](http://www.cityofdenton.com)

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## AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

**DEPARTMENT:** Solid Waste and Recycling

**ACM:** Christine Taylor

**DATE:** November 15, 2022

### **SUBJECT**

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction on the development of a Comprehensive Diversion Ordinance for the City of Denton.

### **BACKGROUND**

On July 19, 2022, the Denton City Council adopted the City of Denton's Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Strategy ("CSWMS") to guide the City's future solid waste/materials management system and to develop infrastructure, programs, and policies necessary to manage the diversion of materials for ultimate disposal. As part of this strategy, the creation of programs, policies and resources designed to drive diversion is envisioned to be essential for program success.

The purpose of this report is to introduce the proposed development of a Comprehensive Diversionary Ordinance, which will require all customers of the City of Denton Solid Waste Services to implement a mandatory program to either recycle divertible materials through the City's curbside program or manage their divertible non-programmatic materials through an independent third party with mandatory reporting of net diverted material volumes to the City.

### **DISCUSSION:**

Absent a reduction in waste generation, key to minimizing the volume of waste destined for ultimate disposal is the concept of waste diversion. Currently, while recycling is available to all residential customers, the ability/requirement to recycle in the commercial/multi-family/government/institutional sectors is left to the open market. Currently, approximately 17% of the commercial sector chooses to recycle with the City of Denton. Denton's remaining commercial customers either recycle/divert material through 3<sup>rd</sup> party providers or have no diversion program in place. Successfully implemented, a Comprehensive Diversionary Ordinance will drive material from ultimate disposal, increase reuse of a finite commodity, and, potentially, reduce disposal costs for all participants.

Over the next few months, Solid Waste and Recycling will be working with the community to author and update amendments to Chapter 24 to create a Comprehensive Diversionary Ordinance, which will include:

- Program rules and requirements updates
- Third party recyclers permitting programs
  - To include "donation boxes" typically found in local shopping center and school parking lots

- Program metrics and reporting definitions and requirements
- Enforcement
- Phasing plans.

Once implemented, the Comprehensive Diversionary Ordinance will ensure convenient, onsite recycling options for all Denton residents and businesses.

Following implementation, the need for the existing Recycling Drop-off Facilities will be moot. Our plan is, by the end of June 2023, the North Lakes facility will be removed from service and the existing site will be returned to Denton Parks and Recreation to be incorporated into the new North Lakes Tennis Center.

The Landfill Recycling Drop-off facility will remain operational and available for customer access during normal, landfill operation hours.

### **EXHIBITS**

Exhibit 1: Agenda Information Sheet

Exhibit 2: Presentation

Respectfully submitted:  
Brian Boerner  
Solid Waste Director