



# **City of Denton Proposed Solid Waste Ordinance Update to Include Commercial Diversion**

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# Agenda

- Background
- Metrics/Trends/Problems
- Components of the Commercial Diversion Article
- Public Engagement Opportunities
- Public Meeting Feed Back
- Solid Waste Ordinance Updates
- Next Steps
- Request for Direction



## Background

- July 2022 - Adopted Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Strategy
  - Alignment with Council's Key Focus Area of Promoting Sustainability and the Environment
- November 2022 - Council Work Session on introduction Comprehensive Diversion Ordinance (CDO)



# Metrics/Trends/Problems

- Current Commercial Diversion Rate is 3% equaling 2,448 tons
- Current Commercial Recycling Participation Rate is 17% equaling 483 customers
- 2020 Waste Characterization Study showed that 42%-55% Commercial trash comprised of programmatic materials
- Donation Box concerns
- Northlakes Recycling Center Update
- Solid Waste Ordinance inadequacies
  - Limited enforcement capability for illegal containers, overflowing materials, and contamination
  - The Service Assistance (Porch Collection) Program and Valet Services are not considered
  - Outdated 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Permitting and Yard Waste articles
  - Commercial Recycling/Diversion is not required



# Components of the Commercial Diversion Article

- Require **ALL** entities to implement a diversion/recycling program
- Requirements from Customers
  - Submit a diversion plan annually
  - The choices for diversion of Programmatic Materials will be contract with the City of Denton or a 3<sup>rd</sup> Party
  - The choices for Non-Programmatic Materials will be contract with a 3<sup>rd</sup> Party or perform in-house
- Requirements from 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Diversion Vendors or In-House programs
  - Obtain Permit with City (currently implemented)
  - Send quarterly diversion tonnages to the City



# Public Engagement Opportunities

- Mailings to commercial/multifamily customers informing them of the Commercial Diversion Article and opportunities to comment
- Made online public comment available starting Feb. 3
- Held Public Meeting at the Civic Center on Feb. 16
- Posted Redline and Clean versions of revised the Solid Waste Ordinance on Feb. 28 thru April 4<sup>th</sup> for continued public comment



# Public Feedback

- Concerns with legal non-conforming/grandfathered properties, unique layouts, and enough room for another container
  - Assured meeting attendees that we would handle unique situations and layouts individually and create a plan/solution that fit their business
- Asked for clearer wording on what type of diversion would be acceptable
  - In our letter to commercial businesses and online Diversion Plan portal for implementation of Commercial Diversion Article we would outline acceptable diversionary materials. For example used motor oil, plastic film, textiles, scrap metal all are non-programmatic materials that are acceptable for a diversion plan.



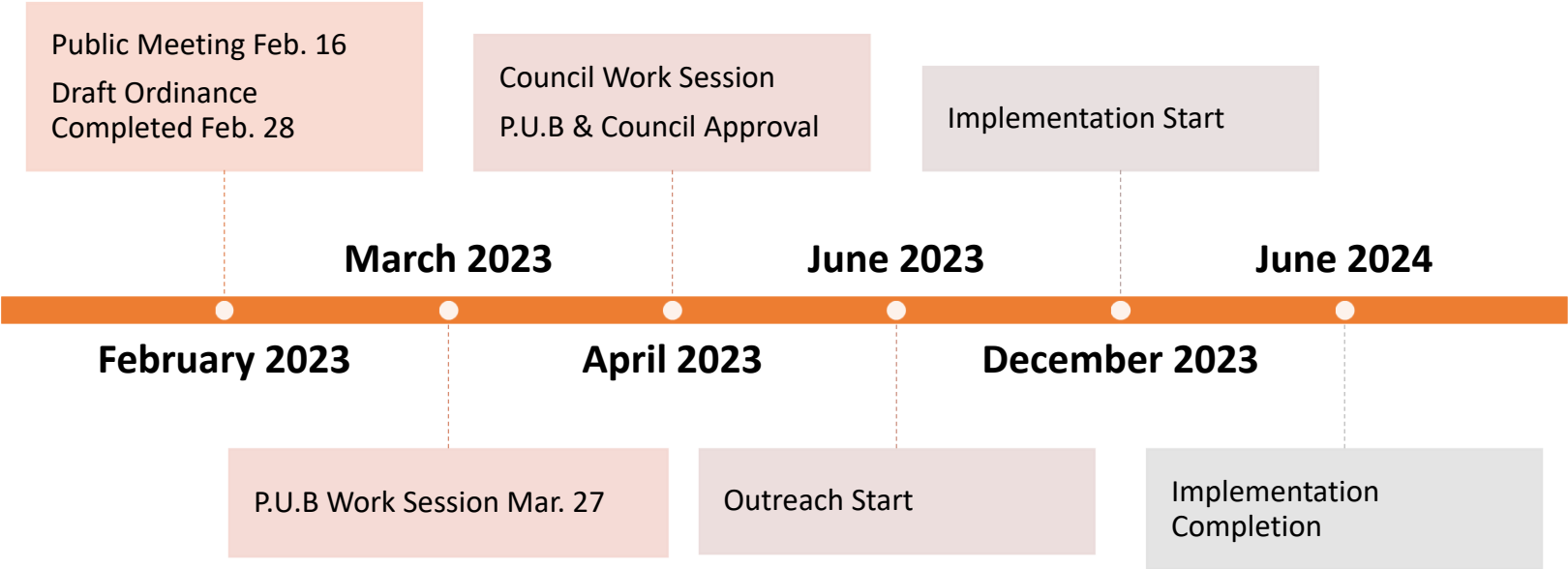
# Ordinance Updates

- The City will remain sole provider of residential trash and recycling of programmatic materials and commercial trash
- Include Porch Collection Service, Valet Services, and Commercial Diversion
- Update 3rd Party Permitting and Yard Waste articles
- Updates for illegal containers, overflowing materials, and contamination
  - Which may lead to other ordinances updates to help with implementation





# Status and Next Steps



# What does implementation look like?

- Phases
  - There will be five groups made from the 2803 commercial customers
  - Each group will be phased by months over a five month period starting in June 2023
- Communications
  - A letter will be sent out as each group/phase comes online
  - Customers who are currently commercial recycling customers with the City of Denton will receive a letter stating the new ordinance and informing the customer that they don't need to do anything unless they change/update their diversion plan
  - Customers will be given a six month time frame to implement/submit their diversion plan
- Feedback and reporting
  - SWR team will be following up with customers as needed based on their grouping and diversion plan



# Request for Direction

- To move forward with rewrite of Solid Waste Ordinance and include a Commercial Diversion Article
- Other Direction



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# Discussion and Questions

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