

# Improving Recycling & Waste Diversion

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COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

NOVEMBER 6, 2017

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# COE Direction & Objectives

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- **Committee on the Environment**

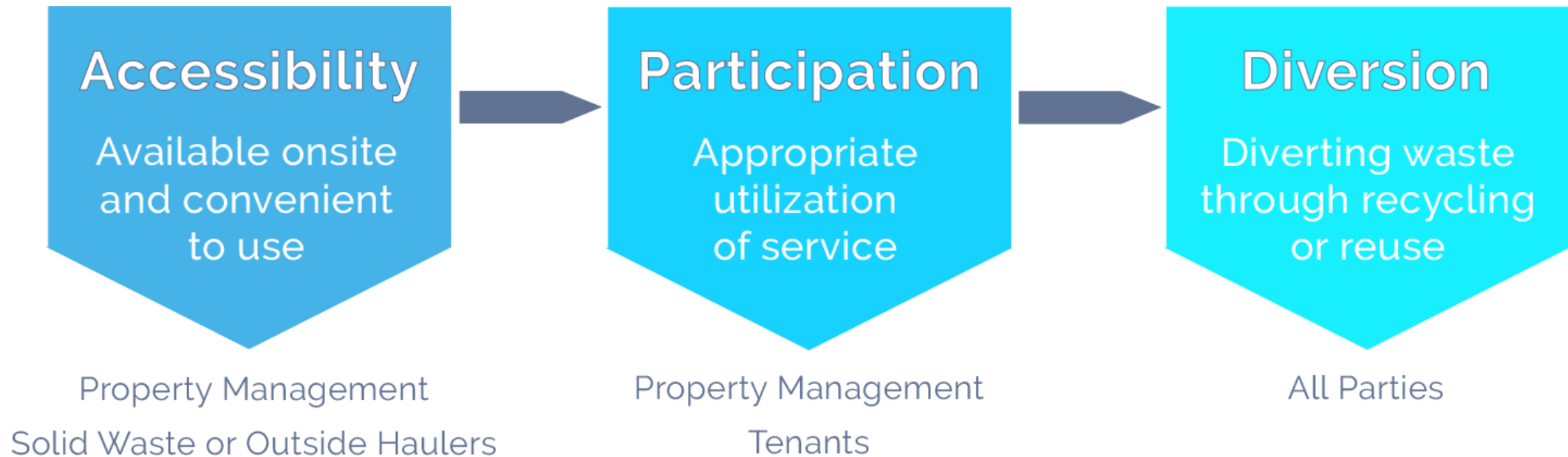
- Improve multi-family tenant access to recycling
- Increase multi-family & commercial recycling participation
- Increase material diversion

- **Previous Discussions**

- March 6, 2017 – Discussion on commercial & multi-family recycling
- May 19, 2017 – Proposed strategies to increase multi-family recycling
- September 11, 2017 – Provided policy overview & received COE direction

# Recycling – Key Terms & Key Players

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# Outcomes – Environment/Sustainability

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## Environmental Impacts

- Soil/Groundwater
- Air
  - Methane/Carbon Monoxide
  - Dust
  - Unpleasant Odors
- Reduced Vegetation
- Vehicle Emissions

## Sustainability Factors

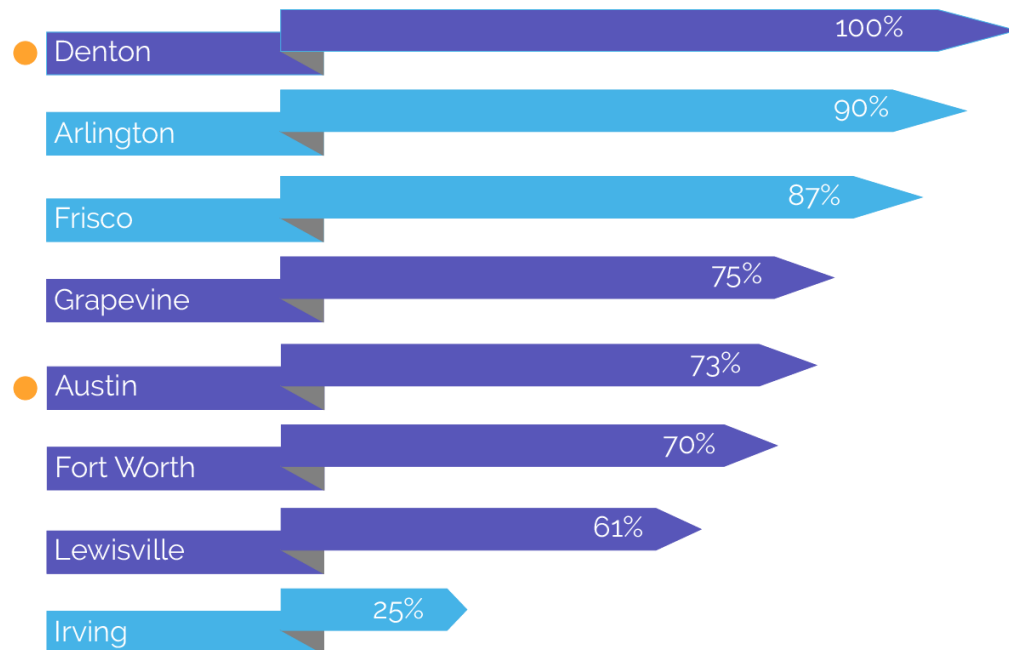
- Land Use/Airspace
- Resources
  - Reduce
  - Recycle
  - Reuse
- Changing Waste Stream

# Multi-Family Recycling - Benchmark

## Single Family Recycling Accessibility

Mandatory

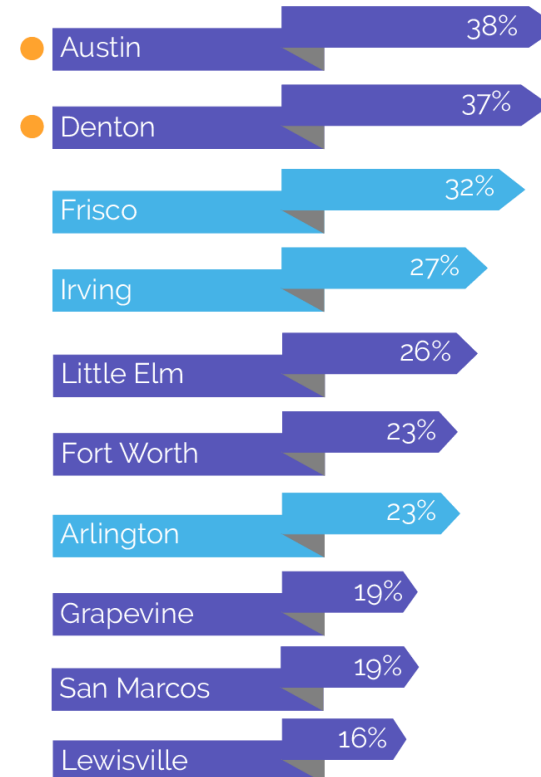
Voluntary



## Single Family Diversion Rate

Mandatory

Voluntary



# Multi-Family Accessibility & Current Efforts

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- **Multi-Family outreach program began in late 2016**
  - 468 total Multi-Family complexes
  - 194 voluntarily participating
  - 64 of these are new in FY17, compared to average of 3 new per year in prior years
  - 41.5% participation rate
- **Focus on Strategic Effort beginning FY18 and beyond emphasizing**
  - Collecting data
  - Targeted approach
  - Partner with Sustainability

# Commercial Accessibility Benchmark

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Multi-Family Recycling	City	Accessibility Rate		Diversion Rate	
		Commercial	Residential	Commercial	Residential
Mandated	San Marcos	Not tracked	Not tracked	Not tracked	19%
	Little Elm	Not tracked	Not tracked	Not tracked	26%
	Fort Worth	Not tracked	70%	Not tracked	23%
	Lewisville	Not tracked	61%	8%	16%
	Grapevine	Not tracked	75%	6%	19%
	Austin, TX	Not tracked	73%	42%	38%
Voluntary Participation	Denton	Not tracked	100%	5%	37%
	Arlington	Not tracked	90%	Not tracked	23%
	Frisco	Not tracked	87%	Not tracked	32%
	Irving	Not tracked	25%	Not tracked	27%

# Improving Accessibility

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- **Policy/Mandate**

- Chapter 24 Ordinance – Recycling is not required for multi-family
- DDC Subchapter 13 – Recycling is not required for new development
- Site Criteria Manual – Technical requirements (revetment size)

- **Outreach/Education**

- Marketing (direct/indirect)
- Education
- Incentivize behavior

- **Programs/Operations**

- Drop off locations
- Alternative service delivery (carts vs containers)
- Landfill diversion/reuse (Home Chemical Collection)
- Enforcement (if direction is to pursue mandate)



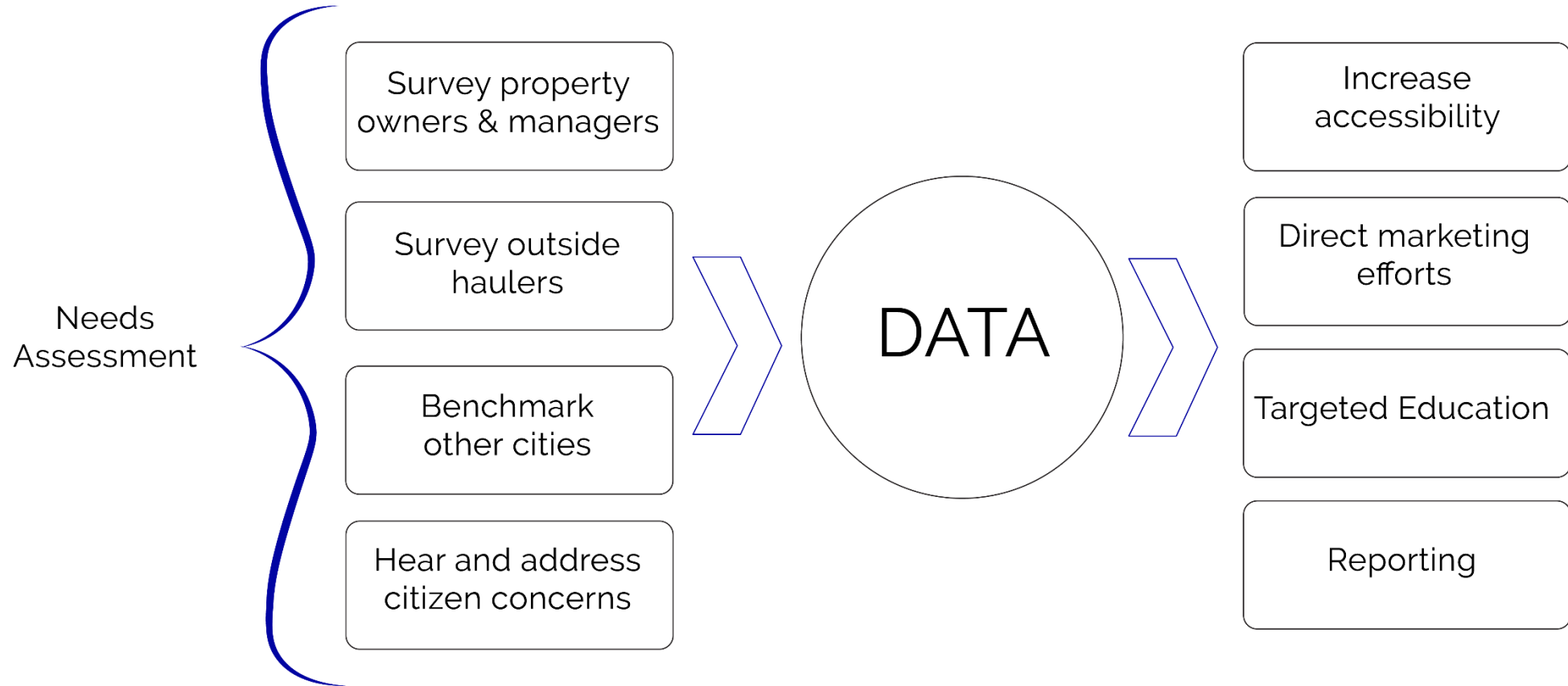
# Staff Recommendation – Accessibility

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- **Focus Group to Seek Multifamily Input**
  - **Challenges**
    - Property limitations & code requirements
    - Tenant behavior
    - Financial/Operational implications
  - **Needs & Required Support**
    - Tenant & property staff education
    - Service alternatives
  - **Mandate implications**

# Focused and Strategic Effort

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# Targeted Education

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- **Multi Family Tenants/ Student Population**
  - **Targeted messaging**
    - Multifamily Events
    - UNT /TWU orientation tabling (off campus living)
    - RA training
    - Recycling Champion/Ambassador program
    - Recycling Bags (drop off ready, recyclable, with messaging)
    - Print materials