

Solid Waste Management

Status and Vision

Presented by The Department of Public Works

Agenda

Refuse

- Background
- Policy
- Procedures

Recycling

- Final Pilot Program Statistics
- FY 2024 Recycling Plan



How Much Solid Waste Each Day?



A: 10 Tons



B: 15 Tons



C: 20 Tons

Background

January 2020

- Refuse and recycling collection efforts were augmented by inmate labor from Middle River Regional Jail

April 2020

- Inmate labor unavailable

December 2020

- Recycling crew increasingly redirected to refuse collection

July 2021

- Curbside recycling ends
- Recycling crew reassigned to refuse collection

December 2021

- Turnover and injuries significantly reduce refuse crew
- Refuse operations augmented by other Public Works staff

July 2022

- Refuse crew adequate to conduct normal operation

Solid Waste Policy

Current Policy

- Very accommodating
- Specifies types of containers
- Prohibits some items
- No limit on number of containers

Issues

- Open-ended effort with fixed resources
- Perceived as “unfair”
- Can be unsightly
- Difficult to enforce
- Damaging to morale



Current Procedures

- Hand loading
 - Workman's comp exposure
- Poor refuse control
 - Spills, scattering, & stains
- City personnel handling private property
 - Property disputes
- Out of step with industry standards
- Difficult to optimize



Future Policy Goals

- Standardized limits on refuse collection
- Incentivized, “Pay-As-You-Throw” rate structure
- Fee-based additional services
- Graduated, consistent enforcement
- Discrete workload

Future Procedures

- Standard, City-owned refuse receptacles
- Mechanical tippers on existing trucks



Next Steps

- Converting “goals” into actual policy
 - Continued research & consultation
 - Public outreach
- Transition Plan
 - Public Communication

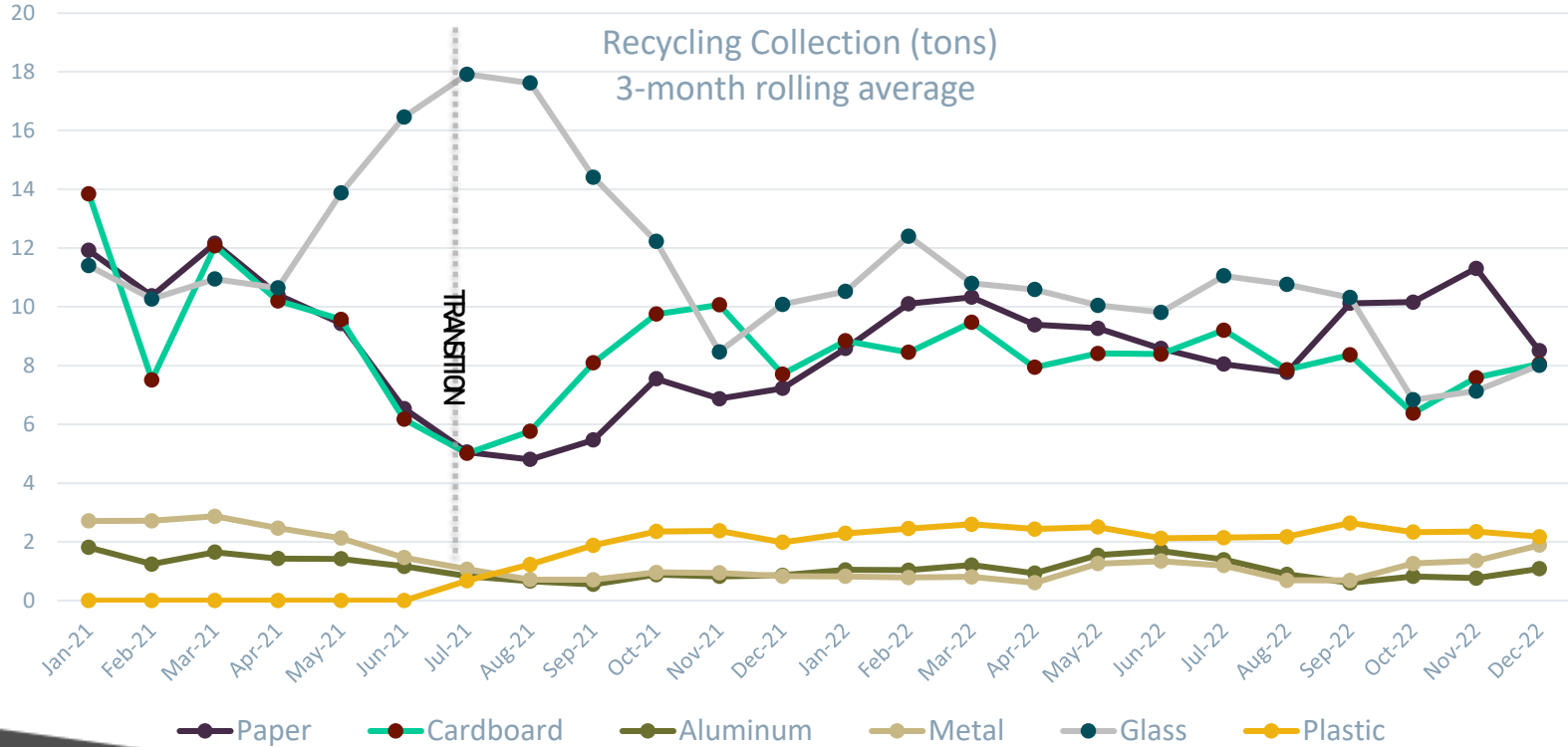


Recycling

- Central collection “pilot program” initiated in July 2021
 - Timing accelerated to defer FY2022 rate increase
 - Collection expected to drop 40%-50%
 - Contamination expected to drop to zero
- Pilot program scheduled to finish at end of FY2023

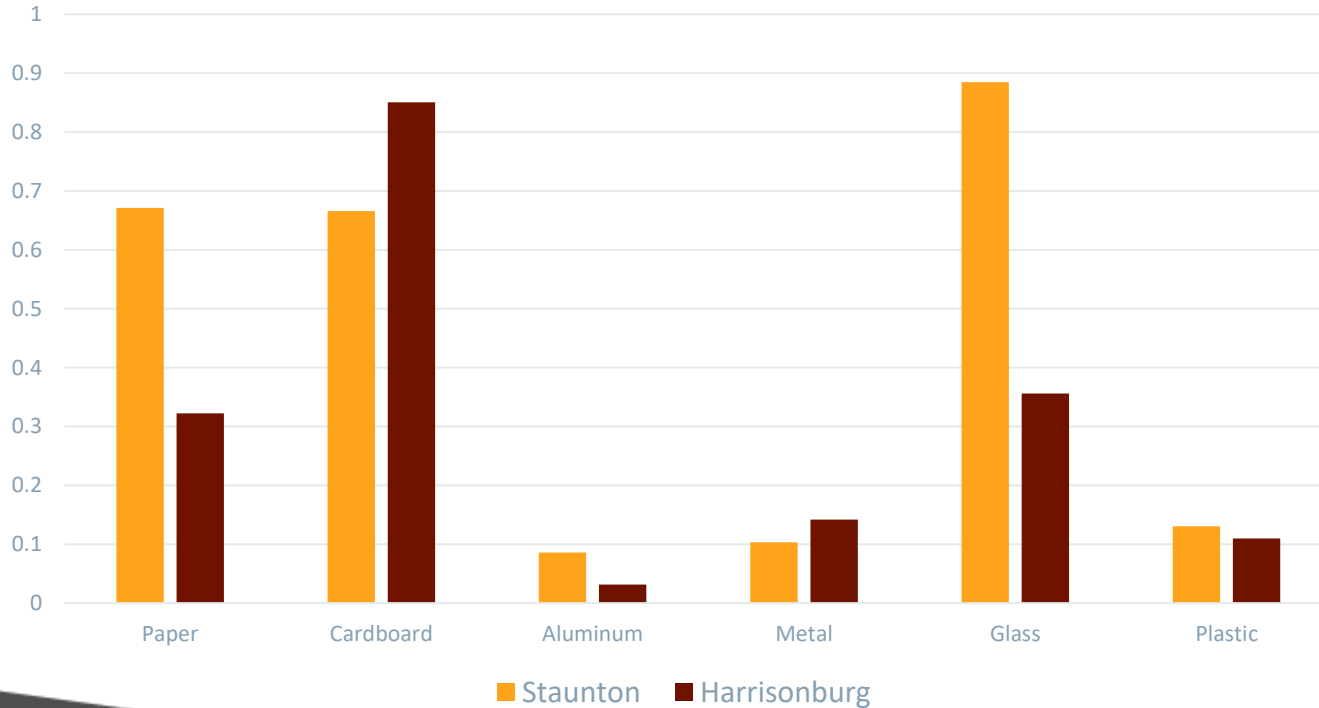


Collection



Local Comparison

Monthly pounds per capita



Pilot Program Conclusions

- Collection stable @ 75%-90% of curbside totals
- Almost no contamination
- Gypsy Hill Park is not a good location
- Additional hours are needed
- Some accommodations need to be provided



FY 2024 Recycling Program

Central Recycling Center at Public Works compound

- Better control
- Access to equipment and labor
- Scrap metal recycling



Additional labor

- Expanded hours
- Accommodation program for those unable to come to the Recycling Center

Future of Recycling

- Rural recycling is still difficult & expensive
- Curbside collection requires access to a Materials Reuse Facility (MRF)
- Recycling trucks will not be excessed

Questions?