



WHAT DOES

**A ZERO  
WASTE  
COMMUNITY  
LOOK LIKE?**

# **Zero Waste Strategic Plan & Universal Recycling Ordinance**

**City Council**

**Feb 17, 2015**



# Zero Waste Business in Boulder- The Buff

from City of Boulder PRO



02:31

HD



# Meeting Purpose

- Review and give direction on Draft ZWSP and Action Plan
- Provide feedback on proposed regulatory framework for universal provision of recycling and composting services in Boulder



# 2015 Zero Waste Strategic Plan (ZWSP)



# Purpose of Strategic Plan

- Create a framework to prioritize initiatives for annual work plans
- Defines:
  - Zero waste goals & metrics
  - City and partner roles
  - Guiding Trash Tax investment principles
  - Evaluation criteria





# ZWSP Goals

- Waste Diversion
- Source Reduction
- Climate Change
- Participation



# Evaluation Process



**Goals**

**Guiding Investment Principles**

**Evaluation Criteria**

**Cost-Effectiveness**

**WHAT DOES**



**ZERO  
WASTE  
BOULDER**

**LOOK  
LIKE?**



# ZERO WASTE BOULDER



# Zero Waste Action Plan

## - Next 1 to 3 years -

- **Work with community partners to provide equal access to existing facilities & develop new facilities**



# Zero Waste Action Plan

## - Next 1 to 3 years -

Council request to bring back regulatory proposal:

- Requiring recycling at businesses
- Requiring composting at food-generating businesses
- To encourage more recycling and composting at multi-family complexes

# “Universal” Recycling Proposal

- 75% of Boulder businesses are in leased properties
- Proposed regulation applies to property owners *and* tenant businesses



# “Universal” Recycling Proposal

- All property owners must provide recycling and/or composting collection service



# “Universal” Recycling Proposal

- All businesses must recycle
- Restaurants, supermarkets must also compost
  - Provide bins
  - Train employees
  - Provide proper signs



# “Universal” Recycling Proposal

All Special events in Boulder must also be zero waste



## COMPOST This

It will turn into soil.

-  **Food & Plants**  
Food scraps, plants
-  **Coffee & Tea**  
Coffee grounds and filters, tea bags
-  **Food Service Items**  
Compostable cups, plates, utensils
-  **Paper Products**  
Napkins, paper towels, tissues, wet cardboard

Ⓢ Please, NO Styrofoam, plastic or foil

City of Boulder 

## RECYCLE This

It will become new material.

-  **Plastic #s 1-7**  
Plastic bottles, jars, tubs, containers, jugs
-  **Cans**  
Aluminum cans and foil, metal lids, pie pans
-  **Glass**  
Glass bottles and jars
-  **Paper & Cardboard**  
Newspapers, food containers

Ⓢ Please, NO Styrofoam or plastic bags

City of Boulder 

# “Universal” Recycling Proposal

**All property owners**

(residential and commercial)

**must subscribe to trash, recycling and  
composting service**

unless they self-haul materials or share service

# “Universal” Recycling Proposal Implementation Period

- Property owners provide service: **1 year**
- Businesses recycle: **15 months**
- Restaurants compost: **15 months**
- Non-food businesses compost : **>3 years**
- **Technical assistance:**
  - In advance of deadlines: compost & leased spaces
  - After deadlines: exemptions & warnings

# “Universal” Recycling Proposal

## Key Questions

- 1. Should all property owners be required to subscribe to trash service?**
- 2. What should “*all businesses*” include ?**
  - All non-residential uses
- 3. Should *all* businesses be required to compost?**
  - Non-food generators phased in over time
- 4. Should multi-family rental units be exempted from composting?**