



Baltimore Zero Waste Plan

A Just Transition to an Equitable Future

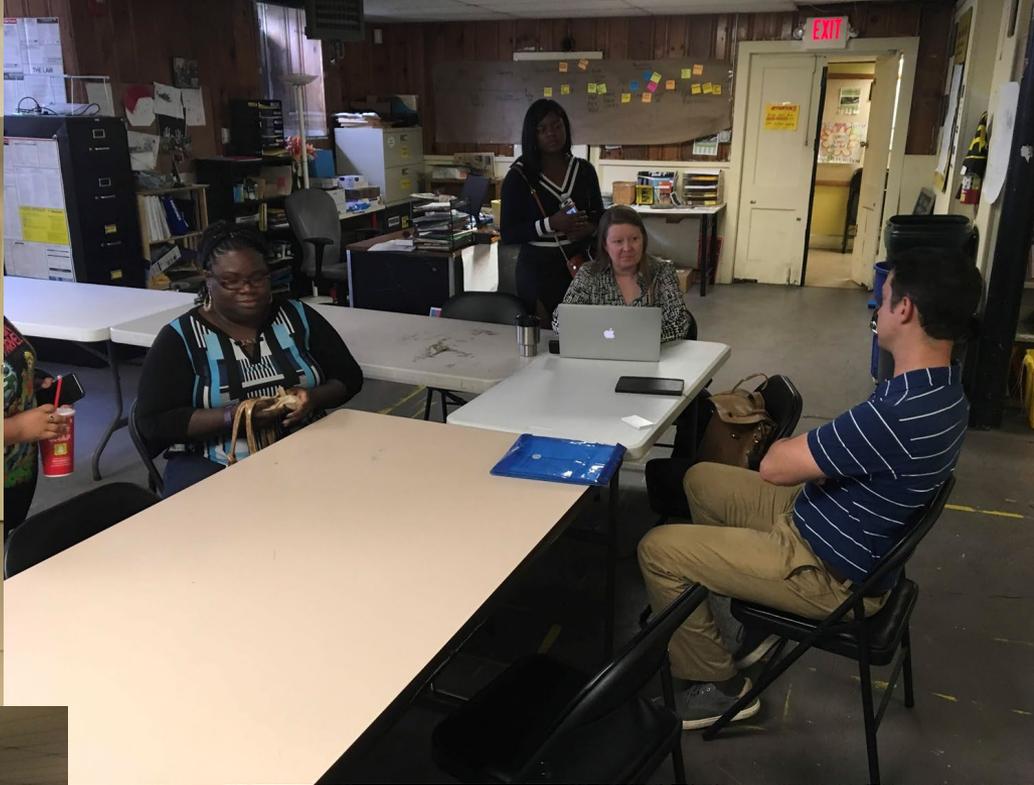
Stakeholder Process

- Plan developed by community
- Guided by United Workers
- Helped by Baltimore Office of Sustainability
- Zero Waste Associates & Institute for Local Self-Reliance







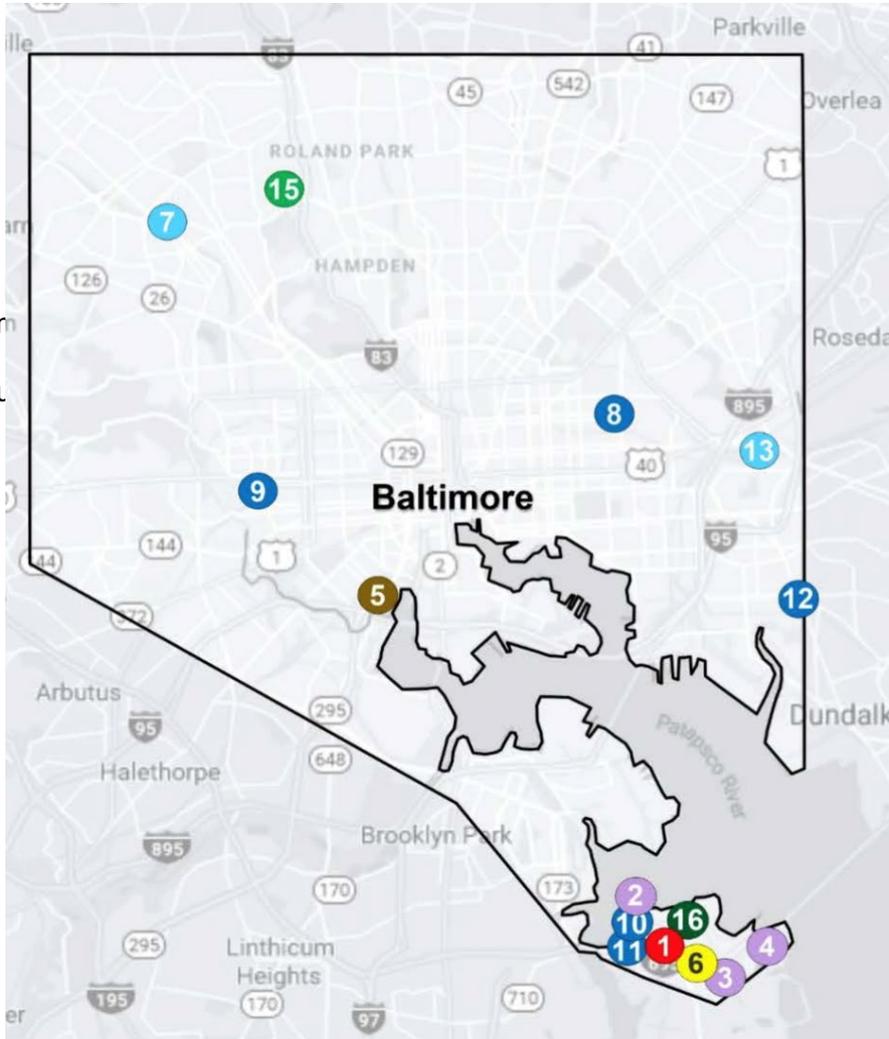




What We Heard: Urgency & Equity

- Communities continue getting dumped on – an unacceptable inequity
- With Clean Air Act, urgent to plan for major change
- BRESKO incinerator, landfill and other polluting waste infrastructure are concentrated in South Baltimore
- \$55 million of health impacts/year need to stop. Baltimore has 40% asthma rate
- Illegal dumping needs to stop
- Inequitable recycling (including no recycling at public housing)
- Residents are already taking the lead on Zero Waste and are a strength to build upon

What we heard: Prioritize Equity



Local Solid Waste Processing and Disposal Facilities Directly Serving Baltimore City

- | | | | |
|----------------|-----------|--------------------|------------------|
| (1) QRL* | (6) BRMWF | (10) BPTS | (14) WMRA |
| (2) W.R. Grace | (7) NWTS* | (11) Stericycle | (15) Camp Small* |
| (3) Lot 15 | (8) BRC | (12) D. Sharpsmart | (16) BCCF |
| (4) HPP | (9) L&J | (13) Quad Ave. | (17) BRPF |
| (5) BRESCO | | | |

*Denotes City-owned facility

Environmental
Injustice: poor and
black communities
bear most of the
burdens

What we heard: Equity Gains

- Follow Laws: Clean Air Act and Equity Assessment Program
- Reach Sustainability Plan Goals for 90% diversion from burning and burying
- Cleaner air
- Cleaner communities
- Safer communities
- More jobs
- Less waste
- Meaningful and genuine engagement

Builds on Sustainability Plan

- 90% diversion from landfill and incinerator
 - BRESCO faces near term closure due to Baltimore Clean Air Act
 - Stakeholders want Just and Equitable Transition away from BRESCO
- Expand Waste to Wealth initiative
- Legislation and policies to reduce wasting



**Baltimore Office
of Sustainability**
People · Planet · Prosperity

Zero Waste Plan Guiding Principles

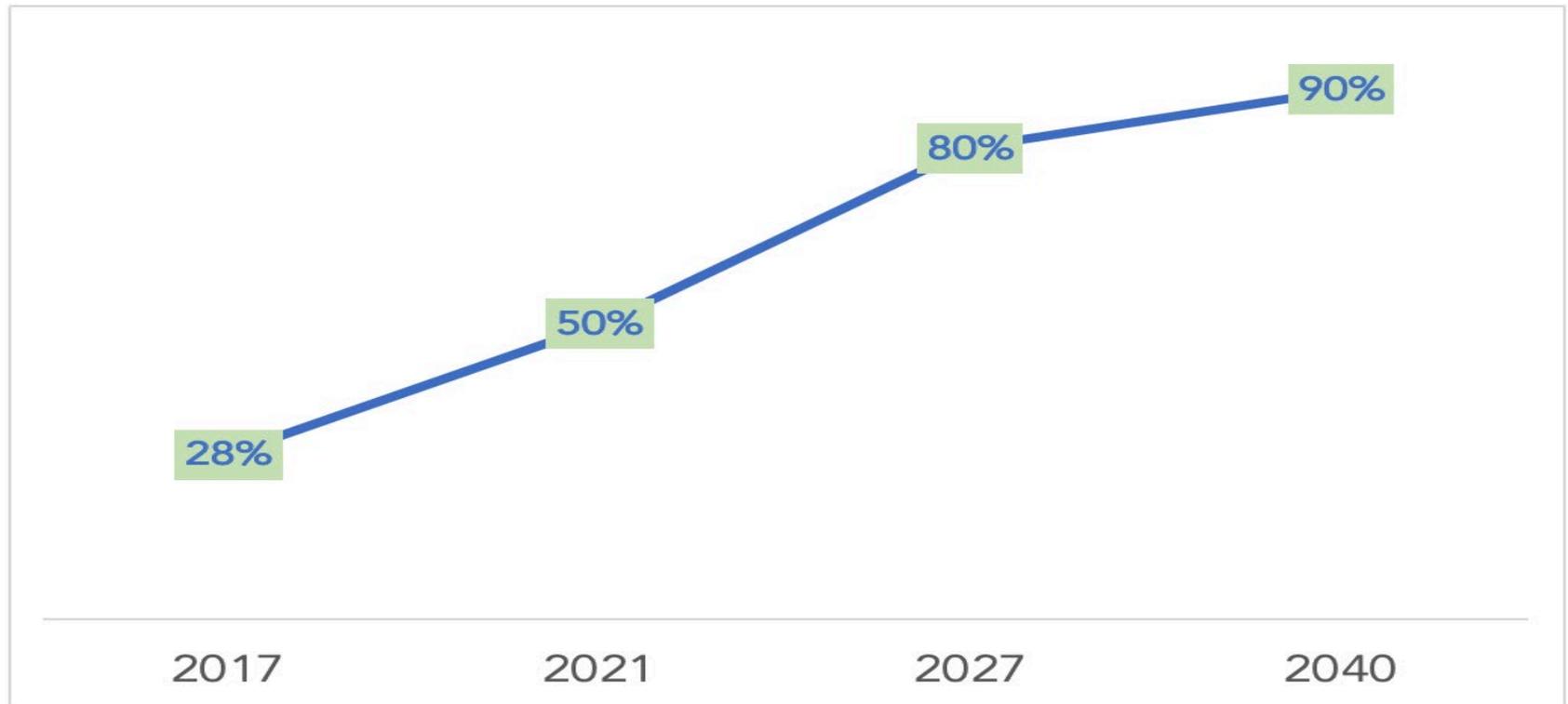
- Define Success
 - Adopt Zero Waste Definition

“Zero Waste: The conservation of all resources by means of responsible production, consumption, reuse, and recovery of products, packaging, and materials **without burning** and with **no discharges to land, water, or air** that threaten the environment or human health.”

International Peer-Reviewed Definition of Zero Waste

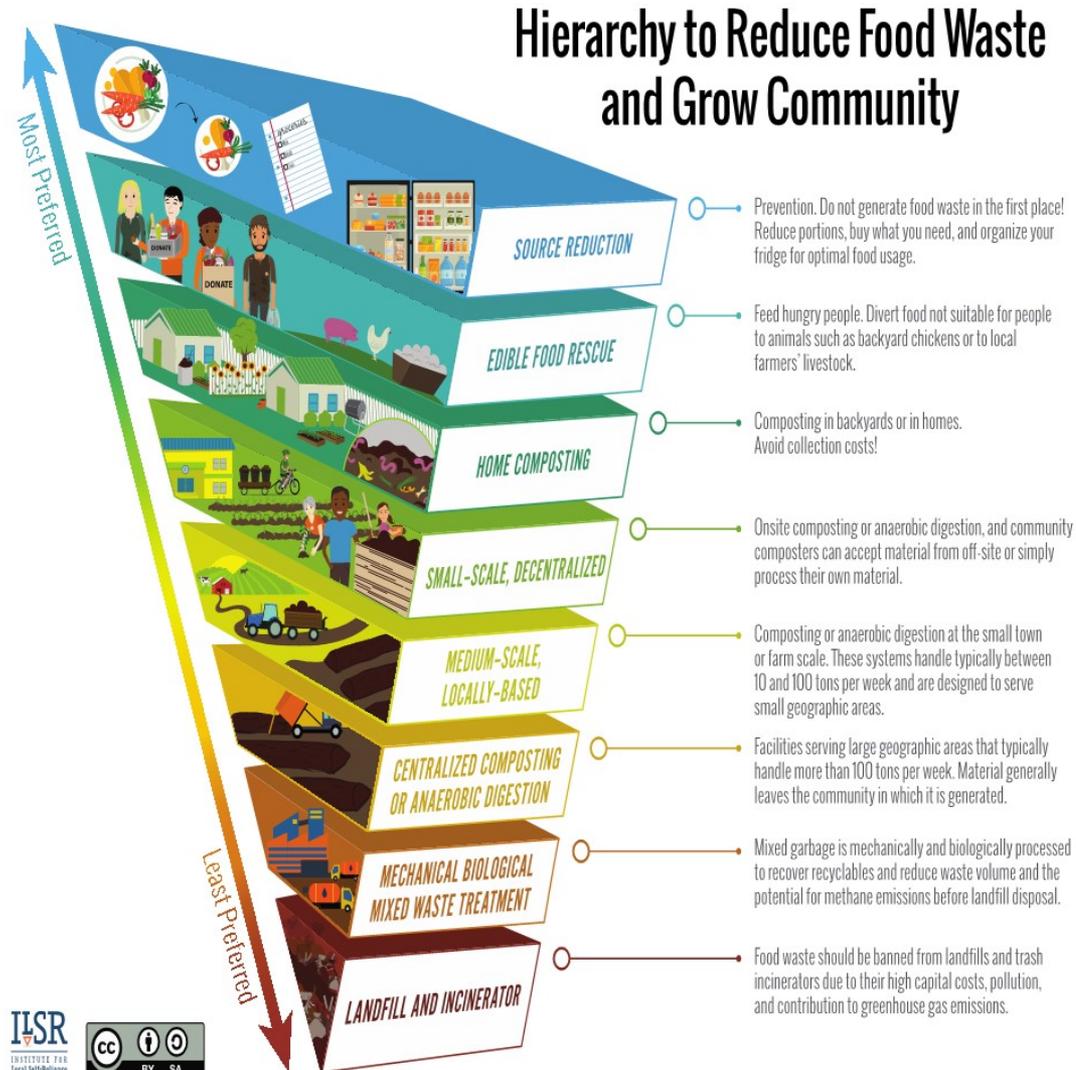
Zero Waste Plan Guiding Principles

- Define Success
 - 90% Diversion by 2040
 - Donate 20% of Edible Food by 2030
 - Divert 50% of Food Waste by 2030



Zero Waste Plan Guiding Principles

- Highest & Best Use



Zero Waste Plan Guiding Principles

- Universality
- Equity – Stop Burning and Dumping on Community
- Participation
- Transparency
- Accountability



Destiny Watford, 2016 Goldman Environmental Prize Winner

Bridge Strategy to Zero Waste Needed

- Detroit Incinerator closed abruptly 5 days after citizen lawsuit was to be filed
- Had to quickly arrange to send waste to Landfills 30 miles away immediately as they had not planned for this contingency
- With City Adoption of Baltimore Clean Air Act, there is real prospect that BRESCO will not be able to continue to operate and City contract with BRESCO ends 12/31/21
- **Need to plan now** for that contingency, and not be surprised by that

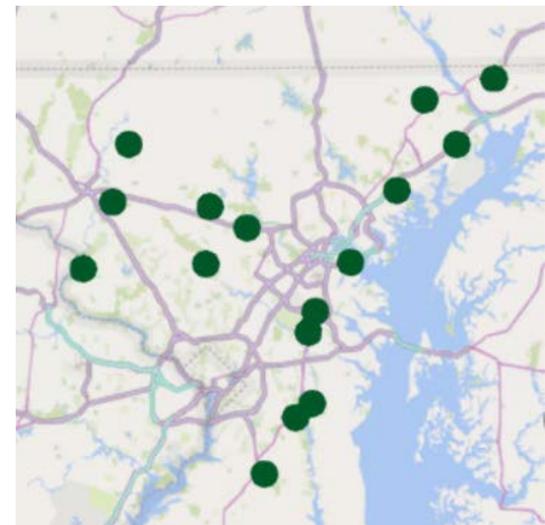
Bridge Strategy to Zero Waste

Based on examples from around U.S.: 12 landfills - 3 hour drive

- Don't Renew BRESKO contract
- Transfer to landfills and compost
 - Baltimore County considering transfer
- Expand Recycling & Composting
 - Free Recycling & Compost Carts
- Stop Dumping
- Landfill is not the answer -
Zero Waste is.



16 compost facilities - 1 hour drive



San Francisco, California

- Recycling & composting for all = 40% within 2 years
- Mandatory recycling & composting = 80%



San Fernando, Philippines

- Adopted Zero Waste as a Principle
- Diverted 55% in 6 months
- 12% in 2012 to 76% in 2017
- Model for Decentralized Waste Management – MRFs in 33 of 35 villages.



Capannori, Italy

- Door-to-door collection was introduced in stages across the municipality between 2005 and 2010
- By that time, 82% of municipal waste was separated at source, leaving just 18% of residual waste to go to landfill.



Zero Waste Initiatives

- 6 Major Zero Waste Initiatives
- 65 strategies to be implemented in:
 - Short-Term (2020-2021)
 - Medium-Term (2022-2027)
 - or Long-Term (2028-2040)
- Implementation will achieve 90% by 2040

Zero Waste Plan Initiatives

1. Packaging & Product Bans

- Ban plastic bags & single use plastics
- Support State legislation on packaging, Bottle Bill, product bans, minimum content, fees & redesign



Zero Waste Plan Initiatives

2. Recycling & Composting for All

- Free large carts for recycling & composting
- Phase in services universally & equally (Res. & ICI)
- Home, on-site and community-scale composting
- Preferences, set asides, grants & Good Green Jobs
- Site composting, MRF & transfer facilities



Zero Waste Plan Initiatives

3. Deconstruct & Recycle Buildings

- Reuse abandoned buildings for alternate use
- Require deconstruction, source separation, certified C&D facilities and space for recycling



Zero Waste Plan Initiatives

4. City Lead by Example

- Zero Waste goals for each City department
- Source separated recyclable & compostable materials collection in all City facilities & schools
- Sustainable Procurement



Zero Waste Plan Initiatives

5. Engage & Educate Community

- Extensive outreach (incl. Master Composters)
- Anchor institutions lead on Zero Waste as models
- Promote repair, resale & reuse (e.g. repair fairs)
- Use grants, Block Leaders, preferences and setasides



Zero Waste Plan Initiatives

6. Turn Wasting into Resources

- Reallocate resources to frontline communities
- Create community gardens, farms, and reuse and recycling operations from vacant lands and buildings
- Partner with Community Land Trusts to develop sites
- More recycling drop-offs & store evicted possessions
- Support more reuse and repair



Zero Waste Plan Initiatives

Diversion Analysis

- **Total Citywide disposal ~1 million tons (residential, industrial, commercial, institutional, construction and demolition)**
- **Current diversion is ~19-28%**
- **Zero Waste Plan initiatives estimated to divert an additional ~800,000 tons**
- **Projected diversion at full implementation would be ~90%**

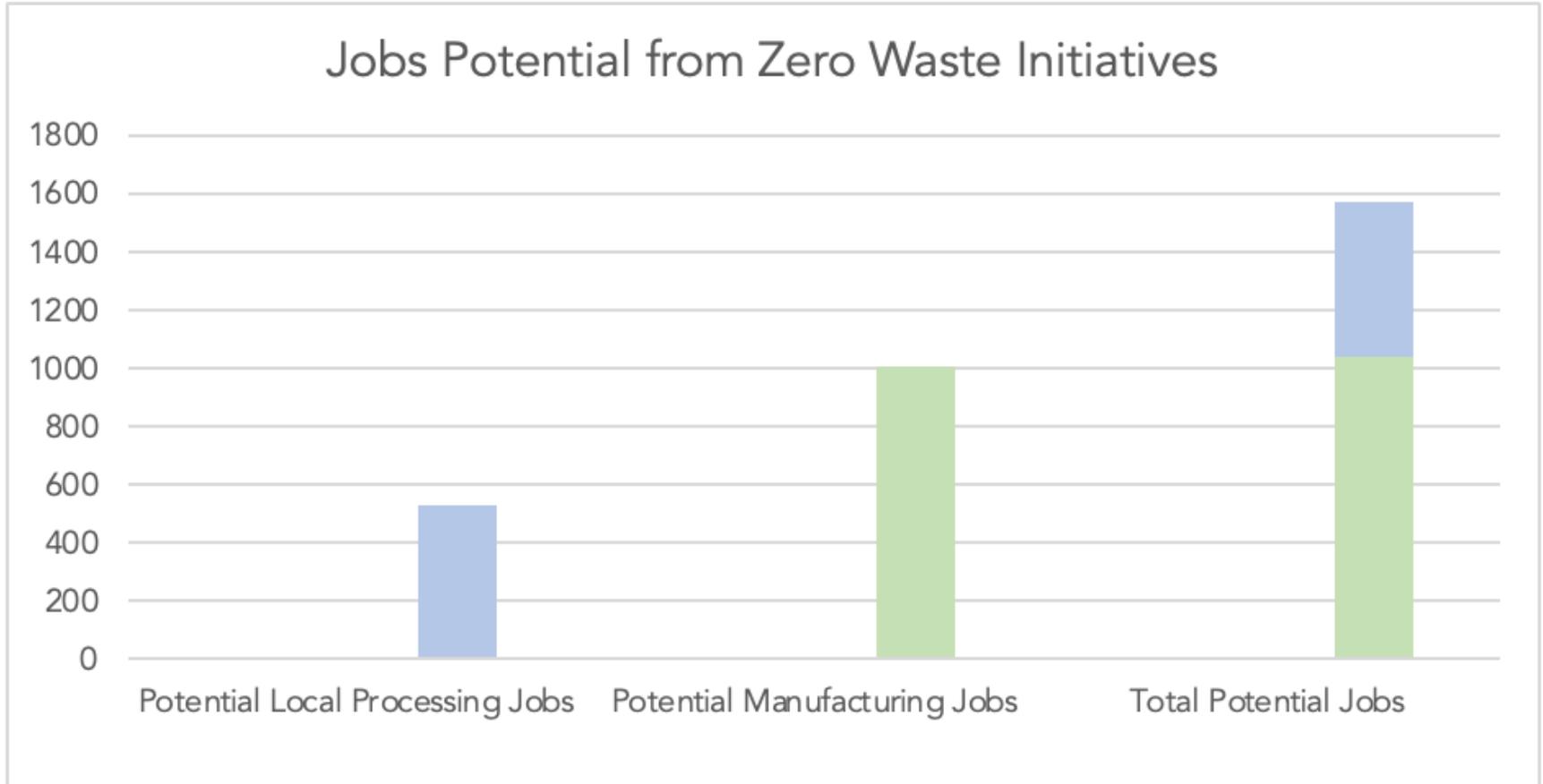
Zero Waste Plan Initiatives

Diversion Analysis: Short-Term

Zero Waste Initiative	% Diverted	Short-Term Tons Diverted	Major Materials
1. More Packaging & Product Bans	2%	5,000	Mixed plastics, paper
2. Recycling & Composting	20%	84,400	Food waste, yard waste, paper, plastics
3. Building Deconstruction & Recycling	10%	46,600	Building materials
4. City Lead by Example	2%	17,800	Food waste, plastics
5. Community Education and Engagement	2%	19,800	Food waste, plastics
6. Turning Waste Into Resources	2%	10,500	Food waste, paper, plastics other
		184,100	

Zero Waste Plan Initiatives

Jobs Potential



What can Council Do now?

1. Adopt a Zero Waste Plan Resolution to adopt the Zero Waste Plan as meeting goal of prior Council resolutions.
2. Ask DPW and Geosyntec to work with Office of Sustainability, United Workers and Zero Waste Associates to develop a near-term Bridge Strategy.



**If you're not for Zero Waste,
how much waste are you for?**

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