



VILLAGE OF DOBBS FERRY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

MEETING DATE: January 9, 2024

AGENDA ITEM SECTION: Resolutions

AGENDA ITEM NO. : 5

AGENDA ITEM:

Resolution: Consider a resolution committing funding to rivertowns feasibility study of establishing a food scraps curbside collection program

ITEM BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:

1. Draft resolution
2. Feasibility Study of Food Scraps Curbside Collection Program

RESOLUTION COMMITTING FUNDING TO RIVER TOWNS FEASIBILITY STUDY OF FOOD SCRAPS CURBSIDE COLLECTION

WHEREAS, the Village supports a planning study of a joint program of curbside collection of food scraps for composting. The study will assess the feasibility of a collaborative initiative including the Villages of Ardsley, Elmsford, Dobbs Ferry, Hastings, Irvington, Sleepy Hollow and Tarrytown; and

WHEREAS, the Hudson River Valley Greenway Planning Grant Program has been identified as a funding source appropriate for the study, which is estimated to cost \$95,000.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Dobbs Ferry supports the project and application to the Hudson River Valley Greenway and, upon approval of said request, commits to provide up to \$10,000 for the project.

Feasibility Study of Food Scraps Curbside Collection Program

Task 1: Initiate a Comprehensive Framework for an Organics and Food Scrap Waste Management Program

- Develop a Geographical Information System (GIS) Model that delineates the existing landscape of waste management services, with a specific focus on organics and food scraps, across all involved municipalities. This will include an evaluation of current waste generation patterns, collection routes, and operational logistics including fleet and facility management.
- Execute Targeted Stakeholder Engagements to interview essential personnel at both the county and municipal levels involved in waste management. These consultations aim to provide nuanced understanding of existing operations and logistical capacities that could inform the new organics and food scraps program.
- Conduct an In-Depth Regulatory and Policy Assessment specific to New York State and Westchester County's organics and food scraps management guidelines. The goal of this audit is to identify both enabling factors and regulatory hurdles that could influence the successful execution of a food scrap and organic waste management program.

Estimated Cost: \$20,000 - \$25,000

Task 2: Develop Targeted Operational Strategies for Food Scrap Pickup and Processing within the Solid Waste Organics System (SWOS)

- Conduct a Focused Review of Best Practices, specifically investigating New York State and regional efforts that have excelled in food scrap pickup and processing within their Solid Waste Organics Management programs.
- Explore Various Food Scrap Management Systems: Investigate the different technological and logistical systems utilized in the pickup and processing of food scraps. This includes reviewing automated sorting systems, in-vessel composting, anaerobic digestion facilities, and the feasibility of transitioning to an electric vehicle fleet for more sustainable operations.
- Identify and Evaluate Innovative Approaches: For instance, Thompson County, New York, Tacoma Park, Maryland, and Portland, Oregon have successfully implemented a food scrap collection program that has significantly reduced landfill waste. By studying such proven models, we aim to identify strategies specific to food scrap pickup and processing that are both effective and adaptable to our initiative.
- Assemble a Curated Vendor Inventory, emphasizing service providers that specialize in the pickup and processing of food scraps. This will streamline the selection process for potential operational partners.
- Pinpoint and Engage Crucial Stakeholders, which include governmental agencies and community organizations with a strong interest in sustainable food scrap management. Their collaboration is indispensable for the successful planning and implementation of a targeted SWOS.

Estimated Cost: \$20,000 – \$25,000

Task 3: Execute a Feasibility Study Tailored to Food Scrap Pickup and Processing within the Organics Solid Waste Management Framework

- **Project Future Demand:** Utilize GIS-based land-use and population growth models to estimate future volumes of food scrap generation. This should include collaboration with experts proficient in DEC and EPA solid waste projection tools and Waste Characterization datasets.
- **Assess Routing and Logistics:** Apply GIS technology to model the most efficient pickup and drop-off routes specifically for food scrap collection, evaluating the logistical feasibility within existing or potential waste carting systems.
- **Evaluate Fleet and Equipment Needs:** Based on projected volumes of food scrap generation and route efficiency analyses, identify the types and numbers of vehicles, as well as equipment specifications, necessary for an effective food scrap pickup and processing program.
- **Identify Suitable Operational Sites:** Utilize GIS-based spatial analysis to pinpoint potential locations ideal for the siting of food scrap processing and management facilities, taking into consideration accessibility, land-use restrictions, and logistical constraints.

Estimated Cost: \$20,000 - \$30,000

Task 4: Create a Public Education and Outreach Strategy for Food Scrap Pickup and Processing

- **Develop a Targeted Public Education and Outreach Initiative:** Create a program to engage both governmental bodies and local communities in education and dialogue specifically about food scrap pickup and processing within the context of the Solid Waste Organics System (SWOS).
- **Identify Specialized Stakeholders:** Pinpoint key individuals and groups from state, county, and village governments, as well as community organizations, who have a vested interest or could have an impact on the successful implementation of a food scrap program.
- **Establish a Food Scrap Engagement Hub:** Create an online and/or physical center for community engagement that provides detailed information about the food scrap pickup and processing initiative. This hub should evolve over time into a comprehensive user manual that helps residents understand how to participate effectively in the food scrap program.

Estimated Cost: \$15,000

Estimated Total Cost: \$95,000