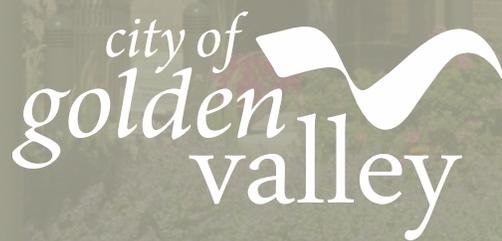


ORGANICS RECYCLING COMMUNITY INPUT REPORT



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Overview

Soliciting public input was a major component of the Golden Valley City Council's consideration of a curbside organics collection program in Golden Valley.

The City solicited input from the community through an online survey, social media, and a virtual open house featuring an online comment box regarding the possibility of creating a curbside organics collection program and how it could look in Golden Valley.

To promote the survey and virtual open house, the City published six online news stories and two *CityNews* stories between March 6, 2020 and May 21, 2020. The City further promoted these items through social media posts on Facebook and Twitter.

Virtual Open House

The City originally planned to host an in-person open house April 9 at Brookview, but the event was canceled due to COVID-19. Instead, City staff created a virtual open house.

The virtual open house featured an educational video that outlined the issues and options available for curbside organics recycling. It was published April 20 on the City website and Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube. After watching the video, residents were asked to submit questions or comments through an online comment form.

The comment form generated six questions and 10 comments. See Appendix A for all open house feedback.

As of June 1, 2020, the virtual open house had 87 views on YouTube and 230 views on Facebook.

Online Survey

The survey asked between nine and 15 questions on a variety of organics issues. Certain survey questions were added or removed based on respondents' answers (see survey responses on page 4).

The survey was active from March 14–May 21, was limited to one response per IP address, and had 240 responses.

Social Media Outreach

The City posted information and reminders about all public input opportunities eight times on Facebook and seven times on Twitter between March 6 and May 18. See Appendix B for reach and engagement details for each post.



City of Golden Valley, MN - Local Government

May 11 at 4:00 PM · 🌐

⋮

Watch this short Organics Recycling Open House and share your feedback or ask questions via an online comment box before it closes May 20.

Share your feedback here > goldenvalleymn.wufoo.com/.../organics-recycling-questions-or.../

www.facebook.com/cityofgoldenvalleymn/videos/233513074405062/



230 Views

City of Golden Valley, MN - Local Government

April 29 · 🌐

Watch the Organics Recycling Virtual Open House below here > goldenvalleymn.wufoo.com/.../organics-recycling

Learn more about what the City is doing to prepare for (<http://goldenvalleymn.gov/recycling/curbside/organics.p>



City of Golden Valley, MN

@GoldenValleyMN

⌵

The City of Golden Valley posted a virtual Organics Recycling Open House on YouTube that residents can watch on their own time.

[.goldenvalleymn.gov/newsarchive/in...](http://goldenvalleymn.gov/newsarchive/in...)



Organics Hauling Virtual Open House

Organics Recycling 0:00 Benefits of Organics Recycling 1:00

Organics Recycling Methods 1:50 Resilience & Sustainability ...

youtube.com

4:46 PM · Apr 20, 2020 · [Loomly](#)

453

People Reached

14

Engagements

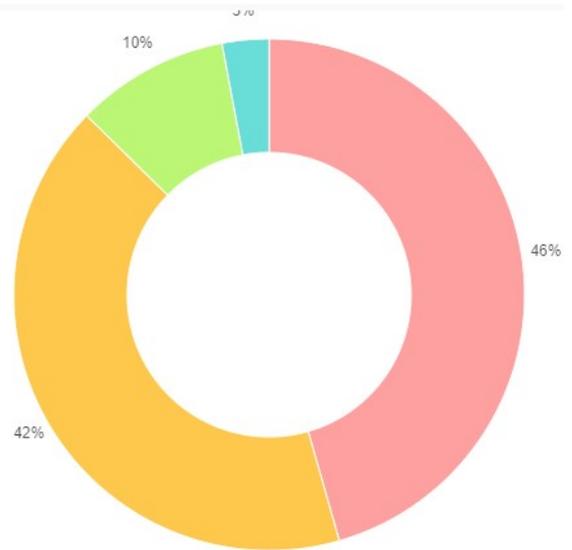
||| [View Tweet activity](#)

Background Information

How familiar are you with organics recycling?

Of the 237 responses to this question, 108 (46 percent) say they are very familiar with organics recycling, 99 (42 percent) answered “Somewhat,” 23 (10 percent) answered “Little,” and 7 (2 percent) answered “Not at all.”

Answer	Count
Very	108
Somewhat	99
Little	23
Not at all	7



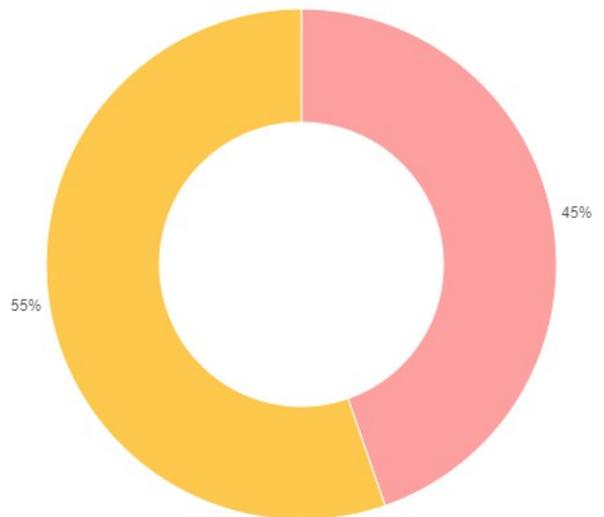
Organics Recycling In Golden Valley

Do you currently recycle your organic products at home through one or more of the following methods?

- Curbside Organics Recycling
- Organics Recycling Drop-off facility
- Backyard Composting

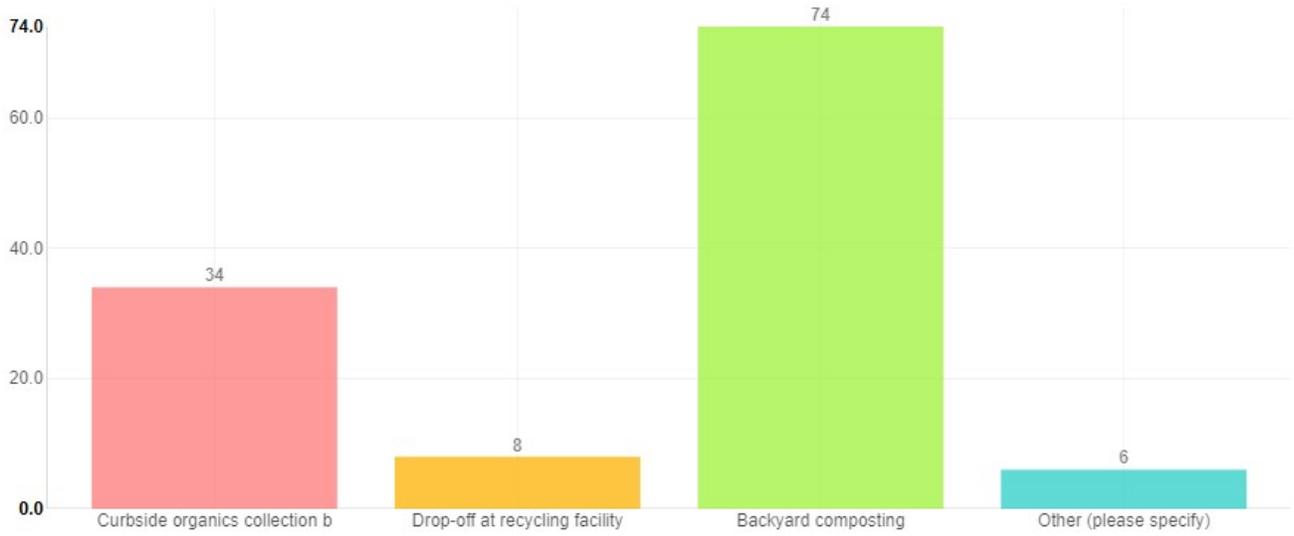
Of the 235 responses to this question 105 (45 percent) say they recycle organics at home using at least one of these methods and 130 (55 percent) say they do not.

Answer	Count
Yes	105
No	130



If yes, what methods are you using? (select all that apply)

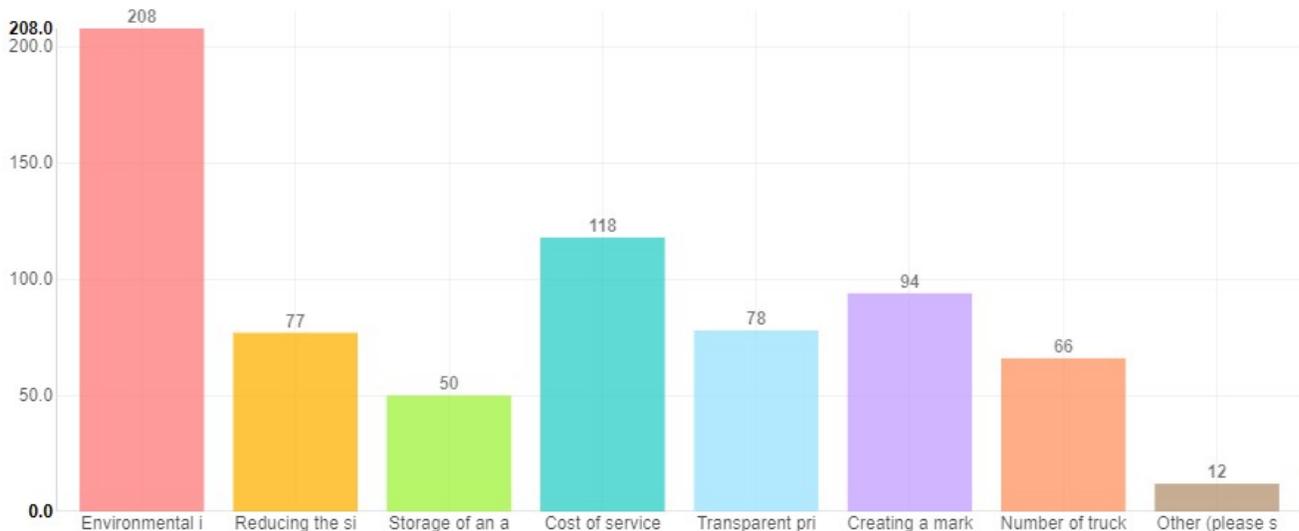
Respondents who answered “Yes” to the above question were given this follow up question. Of the 105 responses to this question, “backyard composting” (74) and “curbside organics collection by hauler” (34) were the top two responses. Six respondents answered “Other.” See responses below.



“Other” Responses	
Sarah Brooks	Backyard composting at relative’s house
Chris Mandravelis	Backyard composing of food scraps and some leaves only
Joan Evans	bring to a family members house where organics is already offered as part of their program
Ellen Brenna	Food scrap recycling at work in Ramsey County
Jeanne Rudelius	I put plant organic waste in my yard waste container
Trevor May	I just moved from Robbinsdale and did curbside collection there. Now that I've moved to GV I have to bring it to my work.

What aspects of organics recycling are most important to you? (select all that apply)

Of the 234 responses to this question, “environmental impact” (208), “cost of service” (118), and “creating a marketable product” (94) were the top responses. Twelve respondents answered “other.” See responses below.

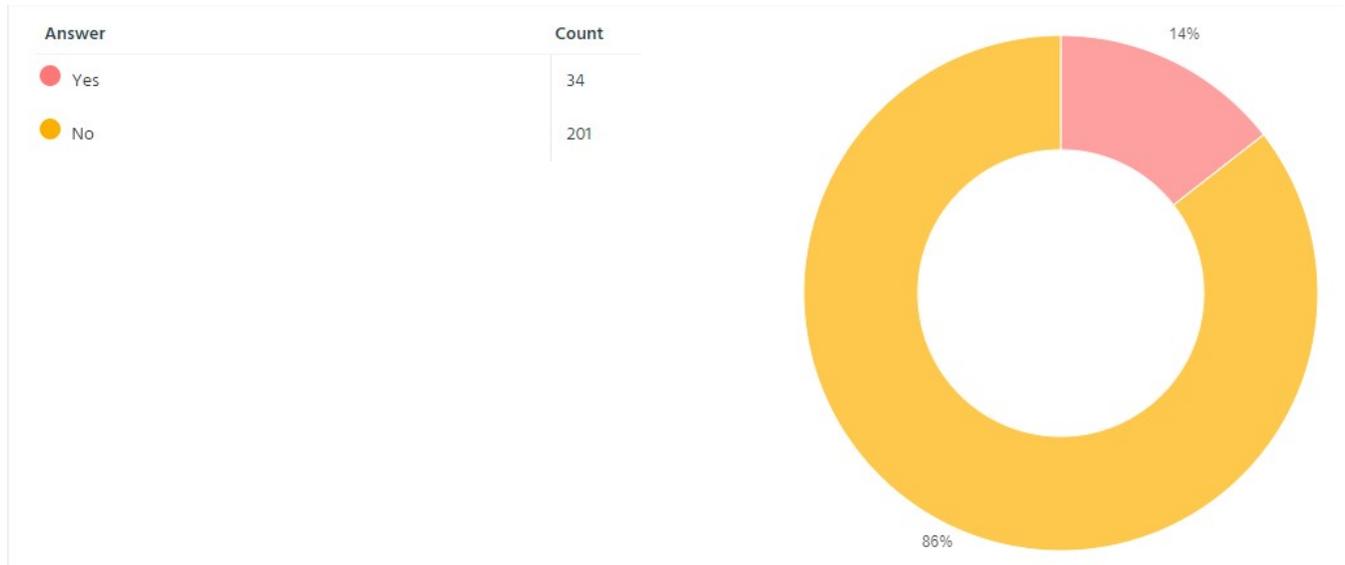


“Other” Responses

Ellen Johnson	We would not use an organics recycling service.
Vicki Coaty	Having space in my kitchen to separate out another waste receptacle
Jill Wisdorf	Convenient through Randy's. Barely ever use my disposal anymore. Also, the bag goes with the trash. I DO NOT have room for another bin in my garage.
Jessica Busse	Where is the product going or next steps to compost
Winchell	The environment
Madeline Elmhirst	I do not want to participate in an organics recycling program.
David Miller	NONE
Natalie Sadeghi	Having an organics program offered through the city ASAP - prior to Jan 2022 requirement
Joyce Sundrum	Additional trucks on the street shouldn't be necessary. All garbage haulers should be required to offer organics collection.
Larry Yochim	Our yards can't hold anymore, trash bins, we have three now and I have to leave my garbage bin in the garage, our street water drains are overrun with raccoons and they chewed the lid off of my garbage bin, I live on a corner lot and all I see on all four sides of my house are 3 bins sitting outside now, not a pretty sight, the city doesn't need anymore curbside collections
Andrey Alferov	ability to decide to participate vs being mandated to do so
Dawn Hill	reducing use of garbage disposal

Do you currently pay a hauler for curbside organics collection?

Of the 235 respondents who answered this question, 201 (86 percent) do not pay a hauler for a curbside collection service and 34 (14 percent) do.



If yes, what changes would you like to see with your current organics collection? (select all that apply)

A majority of those who answered yes to the above question say no changes are needed to their current organics collection service. "Frequency of pick up" (1) was the least popular answer, and eight answered "Other." See responses below.



“Other” Responses

Linda Jeske	Other (please specify): We compost through Randy's. Lower compost bag price would be a plus; Would like a large service provider cart/bin for pick up
Karla Stone	Other (please specify): I would rather have a separate
Sophia Ginis	Other (please specify): We do Blue Bag, which is a compostable beg that gets put with your regular trash then sperated. The begs are pretty big and typically we can't stand to fill them fully before they get too stinky. I worry that they won't get sperated out. A smaller option would be nice.
Lindsay Thompson	Other (please specify): Service later in the fall... often ends a few weeks too early
Sarah Bhimani	Other (please specify): I would like it organized through the city
Daniel Dobson	Other (please specify): transparency in where organics recycling goes and how it is disposed of, city supplied biodegradable bags
Gregory Fait	Other (please specify): More reliable compostable bags at a lower cost

Please explain why you would like these changes made to your current organics collection.

This question was open ended and gathered no statistical data. See responses below.

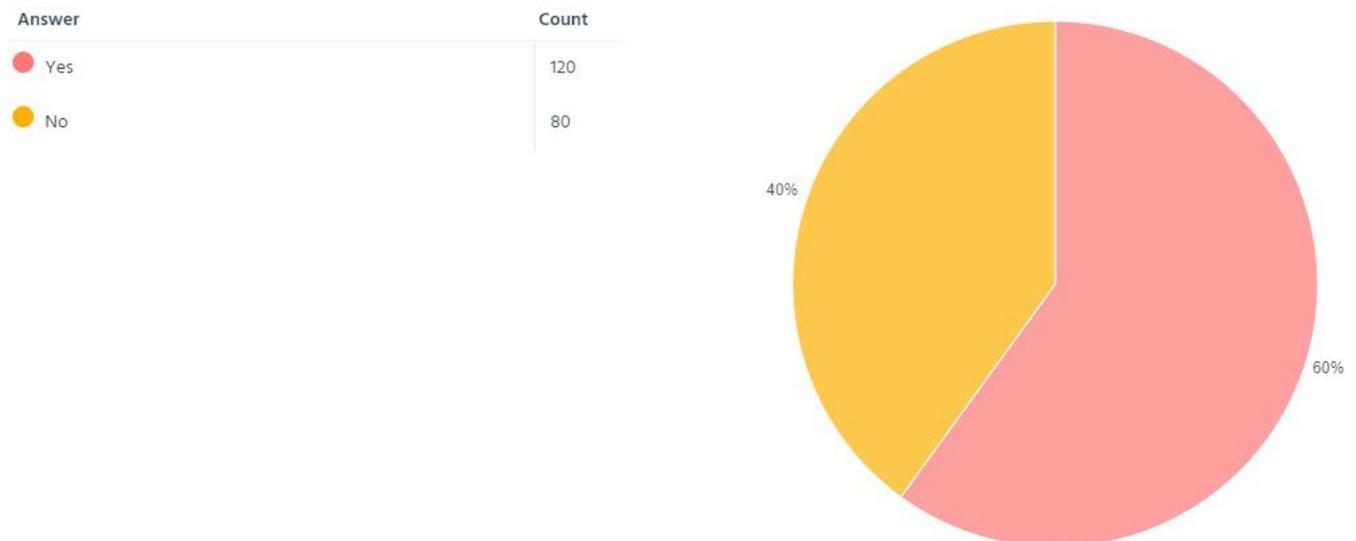
“Other” Responses

Jae Ijiyode	It's too expensive and I know it's a service that could be provided for free as done by the city of Minneapolis.
Nicole Macalena	Only change would be that more people participate. I'm amazed how few people are aware that Randy's currently offers curbside compost within the same bin as their weekly garbage collection.
Linda Jeske	Ease of use. We have a small c-top bin we empty into a larger one in garage that end of the week is put into blue bag that goes into garbage bin. Much easier to a specific use compost bin. Mpls does this.
Jen lang	I don't feel like it's possible that all the compost is getting composted based on the method of pickup. I would much prefer to have a separate bin for compost.
Caroline Jansen	I like the current blue bag program through Randys - my only concern is transparency in how the service works. Seems unlikely it works mixed in with all the garbage - wonder if what I'm paying for is actually being composted.
Karla Stone	Having a bin would avoid the blue bags in the regular trash
Tate Schoenbauer	Since we are asked to sort for them I'd like to see a more affordable price and more frequent pick up. Especially in the fall.
Eleanor lewis	Cheaper is always better.
Bonnie handzel	I currently use Randy's Blue Bag organics program. I can use one provided bag per week. I find that I easily fill one bag with a family of four.
Linden Weiswerda	Because organics greatly reduces the volume and weight of trash I want it wrapped into a total waste charge for all residents, not an add-on.
Lindsay Thompson	We have a lot of trees & leaves in the fall. It seems our collection ends a few weeks before the last leaves fall
Susan Ramlet	The blue bags that we have are really small, and kind of leaky. I think we could do better.

Rebecca Younk	They give us limited bags to use and when we ran out they were going to gouge us for mor bags so we started using a drop off service. We prefer the way Minneapolis does organics.
Sarah Bhimani	I think organics recycling is very important and should be made available to all residents of Golden Valley through the city. Only one hauler I know of offers it, and it's pretty pricey. We pay for it because it's the right thing to do, but it would be better if the whole city participated to spread the cost and make a bigger impact.
Joyce Sundrum	I feel curbside collection of organics for recycling should be city-wide and included in our taxes. It is time to be proactive.
Amanda Hallberg	We use Randy's blue bag organics program. I like the ease of use - we keep the blue bag in a container in our garage and then it gets tied up and put in our garbage can at time of trash pick-up. I do feel like it is an added cost to our trash hauling and I wish it cost less or nothing at all additional. Also, we are given one free bag of compost in May but we have to go pick it up and there are no pick up locations convenient to us so we have yet to take advantage of this free bag of compost for the last two years.
Jennifer Griffin-Wiesner	The organic waste is often wet and the bags leak fairly often and it's gross.
Daniel Dobson	Currently, we have to pay a quarterly basis out of our own pocket for something that is sustainable, benefits the earth, and the company probably makes money off of selling the compost. I feel as though I am being penalized for doing something to help the earth. Also, when I lived in St. Louis Park, I was extremely happy with how the city provided curbside trash, recycling AND organics recycling. They made it very easy for each resident to follow the guidelines and participate.
Stacy Pampuch	I use Randy's, only about 2 months in, but I love it. They would be an excellent partner for Golden Valley if they are looking to add households. A simple blue bag placed atop the other bags in my cart. Easy.
Bonnie Handzel	I use Randy's Sanitation Blue Organics program. Some weeks, I can easily fill my bag and have plenty of product left that I should compost.
Gregory Fait	Bags often split or leak before or while in bin

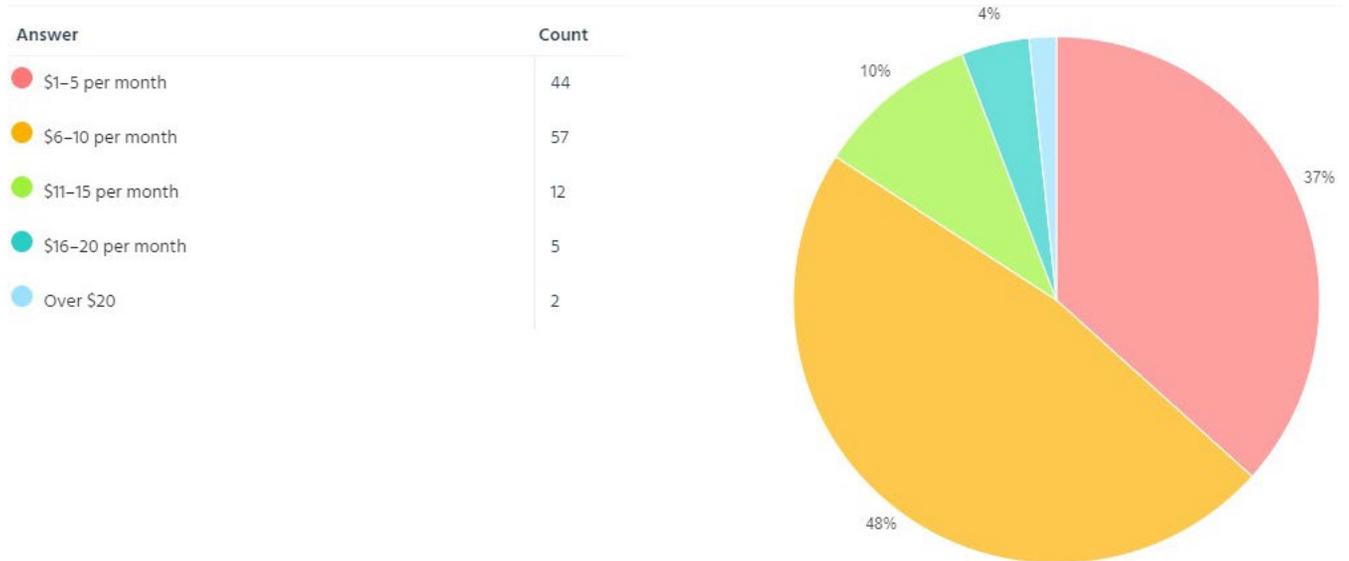
If no, would you be willing to pay for curbside organics collection?

Of those who said they don't currently pay a hauler for curbside organic collection, 120 (60 percent) say they would pay for the service and 80 (40 percent) would not.



If yes, how much would you be willing to pay per month for curbside organics collection?

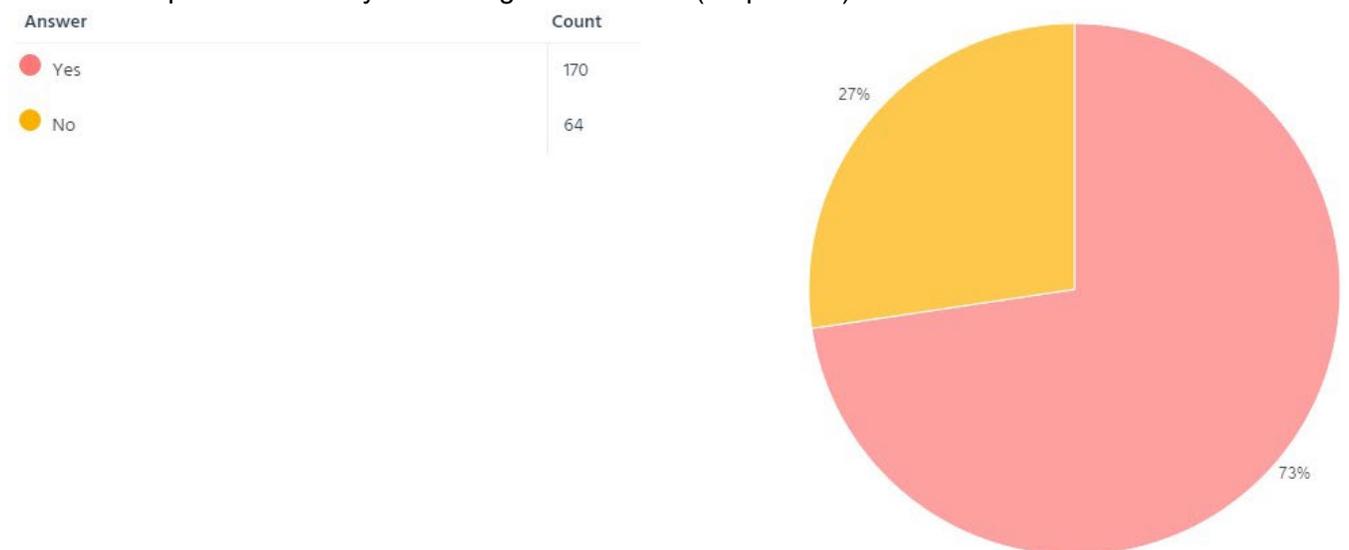
Those who answered yes to the above question, 57 (48 percent) would pay \$6–\$10 per month for curbside organics collection, 44 (37 percent) would pay \$1–\$5, 12 (10 percent) would pay \$11–\$15 per month, 5 (4 percent) would pay \$16–\$20, and 2 (1 percent) would pay over \$20.



Compost For Gardening

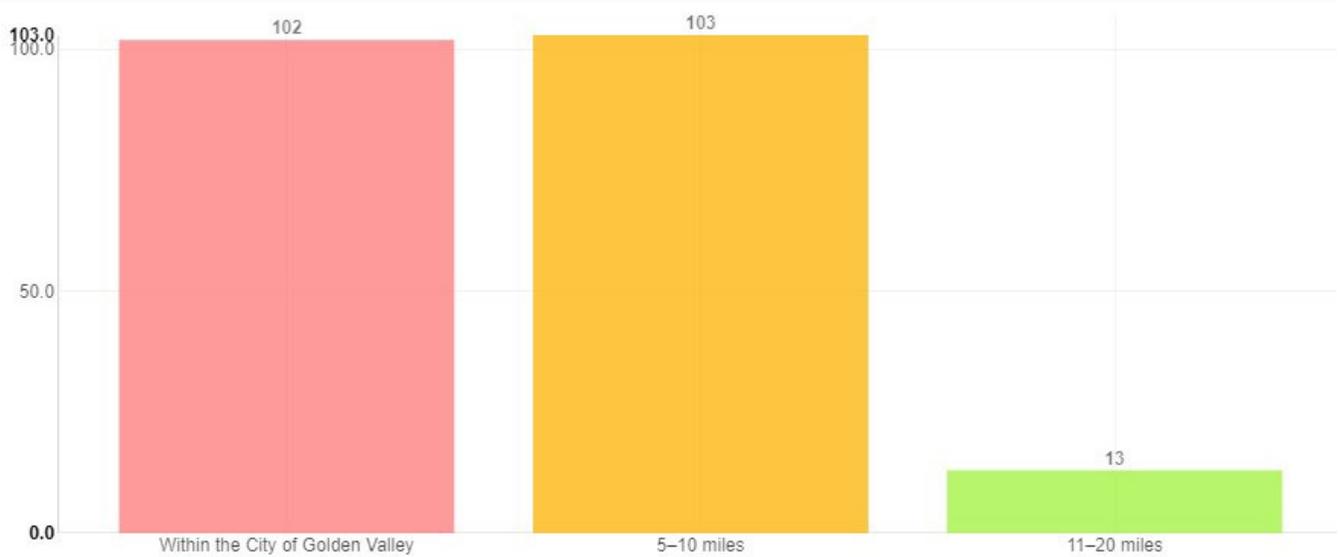
Would you be interested in picking up finished compost for use in yards and gardens if it were made available?

Of the 234 respondents who answered this question, 170 (73 percent) would be interested in picking up finished compost for use in yards and garden and 64 (27 percent) would not.



If yes, how far would you be willing to travel to pick it up? (select all that apply)

A majority of those who answered yes to the above question would travel within the City of Golden Valley (102) or within 5–10 miles to pick up finished compost for use in yards and garden.

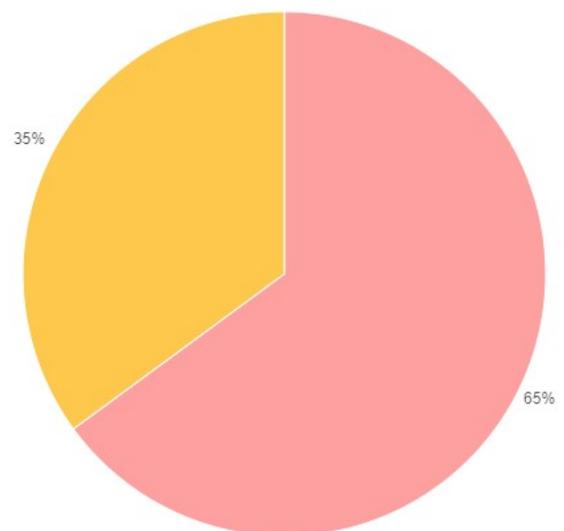


Storing Waste Bins

Curbside organics collection may require a small bin or cart for storage. Section 22-23 of the Golden Valley City Code states that all waste and recycling bins must be stored no more than 3 feet from the primary structure (house), and at all times must be behind the house and screened from view. Would you support the City changing the code to allow collection bins to be visible from the street at all times?

Of the 231 respondents who answered, 150 (65 percent) would support the City changing the City code to allow collection bins to be visible from the street at all times and 81 (35 percent) would not.

Answer	Count
Yes	150
No	81



If no, what are your concerns?

This question was open ended and gathered no statistical data. See responses below.

"Other" Responses

Richard Saxton	It looks untidy
Barbara Krenn	Yards will start looking trashy. (No pun intended!)
	I don't want the neighborhood to begin to look like a garbage dump.
Linda Jeske	on the fence with this idea. understand storage space is an issue for most of us but compost bins are much narrower & smaller than garbage/recycle bins so shouldn't be an issue.
Lorna Reichl	Bins being dumped. Attracting animals.
Rachel Zylstra	Not interested. Dirty, smelly
Jen Chen	Aesthetics, potentially unsanitary.
Chloe Briel	Visual
Ellen Johnson	I've already been disappointed by how my neighborhood is beginning to look. Bins out front would just make it worse.
Kelsey Miner	I don't want visible trash in front of every house in the city
Matthew Handegaard	Looks matter.
Marti Edwards	Visual
JamieHolm	Unsightly neighborhood
Melissa Caulfield	I don't understand why the bins would need to be visible from the street at all times.
Vicki Coaty	There are already people who do not follow this rule. It makes the neighborhood look unkempt and trashy. I would rather NOT have curbside organics if that is the outcome.
Jill Wisdorf	Makes the neighborhood look trashy. No pun intended.
Shaun Jansen	Hey make an exception for organically? Why not follow the process as it is for trash and recycling?
Nicole Nelson	I am not clear in the reasons this would need to change. I like that it keeps houses looking nicer.
Wendy	Looks junky
Shawn Braith	All trash bins are unsightly.
	The look
Paul Steinman	Bins are messy looking. People are finally applying this code and screening their bins, why change it now?
Winchell	I actually wanted to answer, Not Sure. I need to consider this more. However, unsightly bins to be seen is not good.
Nate norling	The shabby look
Bonnie handzel	The unintended consequences of a "cart for every service" means some residents have multiple carts. Allowing carts to be visible in the front of a home means our neighborhoods will be overflowing with unsightly trash/ recycling containers. Some residents will have 4 containers- garbage, recycling, yard waste and organics. It needs some camouflaging.
Joe Gellman	The code states that the carts must be "behind the FRONT of the primary structure," not behind the house. Mine, and many others, are on the side. Would need to hear more about proposed changes.
	Rodents, raccoons
Jeff piper	I wouldn't support it - wouldn't necessarily oppose it either.

Judy Madden	Live in a town home complex and no outdoor can/bins can be visible.
Kara kal	Looks terrible.
Susan Eckhoff	I would have concerns about various critters such as raccoons, squirrels, crows, and even opossum trying to get into compost bins. As it is, I already occasionally have this problem with them and my garbage bin.
Mark Schulte	Bins can be unsightly. If so it for organics then all bins may end up visible.
Sophia Ginis	We don't have alleys. I think we would still want guidelines about storage...like they can't stay out on the curb....you can't store them by your neighbors window, you still need to put them away. I rather the rule be for a year people have time to figure out where to store their organics.
David Miller	Just as with regular recycling, more products more trucks. I do not want any extra collection trucks on the streets. Secondly, as with recycling people throw in all sorts of stuff that is garbage and will never be recycled. I am tired of paying for other people's trash collection with my water and property tax bills. Third, compost can get very stinky and I suspect that will be an issue.
Judy Swanson	Don't want bins visible to clutter already compact neighborhood spaces between units.
	I don't see why the bin couldn't be placed by other waste bins.
SharonBovie	It's already too hard to get garbage & recycles to the curb during winter and one more bin is way too much effort for seniors!
Nicki Murphy	I don't wish to see bins.
Barbara Burrets	Visual clutter. Ugly People would let them get filthy and the look like hell. Absolutely NOT.
bonnie creason	While I'm indifferent to the city taking over waste hauling, my main concerns are that 1) we'd be forced to pay for services we may not want and 2) that prices will increase and quality will go down. As of now, I assume Republic will be one of our 4 vendors, and they're not quality-oriented. I TRULY do not appreciate that the recyclables end up all over the street after pickup. If that were my vendor - SWS - they would be conscious and pick it all up, assuring our bin was upright back in our driveway, not overturned on the street. FYI I don't bother to complain, it's so obvious that I'm shocked it still happens and I don't get home to see it until after they're closed.
Paul Engelen	I would like the city to enforce the current code.
Kelly Chapman	Our city presents a clean & well-maintained appearance in our communities, parks and residences - the cartons/containers parked curb side distract from this. Storms/high winds are more likely to knock bins over in the street than when they're protected near the house.
Helen Stefan	I don't think they need to be behind the house but screening them gives neighborhoods a better appearance
Terese hagstrom	Ugly
Liz Danielson	Looks. Property values.
maria meredith	would not like how this would look.
Pete Duelo	Aesthetics and lack of placement procedures.
Mary Beseres	Could become unsightly. We try as best as we can to diminish the visibility of our trash and recycling cans in an enclosed fence area.
Raymond Troyer	I think too many of the bins are currently visible from the street. The current code isn't enforced to the degree it could be.
Wende Pemrick	It's no different from garbage or recycling bins so should have the same requirements. It's unsightly to the neighborhood to have these in view all the time.
jesseka doherty	seeing garbage bins is unsightly in my opinion
Sheri sheeks	Clutter. Can people legally set their trash out and leave it visible?

Christine Hazel	Difficult to legislate responsible behavior.
Michelle Tufts	If there were some requirement to have a nice surround to hide the bins, I might consider this ok. But I don't want people to just leave junky trash piles that are visible from the street.
Melissa Noel	Ugly. Keep them hidden.
Mark Noel	This would impact property values, make our neighborhood more cluttered, and detract from the aesthetics of our neighborhood. Find a way to make the new bin unobtrusive.
Janet Tolzmann	The organics recycling container should be kept with a household's garbage and recycling bins. We hope to reduce the size of our garbage bin with organic waste recycling.
Doug Weldon	Judging by the number of bins that are visible in our neighborhood, the City isn't interested in enforcing the the current code so why waste the time and money needed to change it. ENFORCE THE CURRENT CODE.
Kristen Shedd	Aesthetics
Rachel Larrea	Unsightly, stinky street, draw bugs
John Breczinski	Ugly, and animals will get into it and make a mess, causing some of it to blow around the neighborhood. Keeping it in the backyard or in a garage will keep it more under control. However, the containers need to seal tight to keep the odor at a minimum.
Susan Silver	That bins will attract animals.
Patricia Harwell	Don't want to have to see from the street. This looks like a slippery slope.
Peggy Leppik	Depending on how many pick-ups/month there would be, it's hard to imagine a residential accumulation would require a large bin. It should be possible for small to medium size bins to be stored out of sight. If a change simply allowed storage toward the back and to the side, I might support that.
Ann Christiansen	This is a matter of the common good for the community. Leaving trash or organics exposed to view is not necessary and should be avoided.
Zoe Cunniff	Everyone should have room for one more bin behind the house or in the garage. They are unsightly and shouldn't be visible from the street.
Kathie Zettervall	Unsightly
David johnson	Messy neighbors, encourage animal scavengers
Matt Dellwo	I don't want to end up with houses with piles of trash and other unsightly things showing from the street.
Larry Yochim	Your city is going to end up looking like a garbage dump, our area which is close to Crystal, & Robbinsdale, is full of dogs, people will dump their dog crap in whatever bin you put by the street, I've seen some throw it down the water drains, in the winter months I find it thrown under my evergreen trees, I live next to a park and they turns their dogs loose over there, lot of them have 30 foot leases and let their dogs run into the yards also.
Bonnie Ostlund	Hulking bins are unsightly. No GV neighborhood needs that eye pollution. Living in a Townhouse development as I do, our Rules disallow outside storage of hulking bins for trash and recycling. That Rule is wise. Our driveways and homes are packed tightly together, and our neighborhood appearance is "cleaner" for it.
Carolyn Anderson	Too many people are already breaking the code. Many garbage cans are already outside the garage and in view of the street.
Jim Nepp	Bins are an eyesore. Is the City able/willing to provide incentives for screening bins?
lisa jacobson	Esthetics - view.
Andrey Alferov	You don't even enforce the current code.
Suzanne Herberg	People wouldn't bother to keep a tidy look.
Tracy Anderson	Because this would make the neighborhood look tacky..believe I know from experience I'm my own neighborhood!

Bonnie Handzel	There are already too many bins. I don't want to see my neighbors 4-5 different bins when I look out my front window.
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Additional Thoughts

Additional thoughts on a curbside organics program for the City of Golden Valley:

This question was open ended and gathered no statistical data. See responses below.

"Other" Responses	
	i already use a compost bin and use the compost in my garden
Cassie Sitzman	It's a great service I'd be willing to pay for. Reducing the amount of trash we contribute to landfills is something all cities should strive for.
Nicole Macalena	Perhaps make it more clear when selecting a garbage hauler from the listings on the GV website which services each offers.
Michelle Drake	Please do this.
Margaret Macneale	Let's do it! Even though we compost some of our organics, our little bin can't take all the volume, nor does it get hot enough to handle everything. We would love to be able to do full organics recycling.
Jessica Greenblatt	I previously used organics recycling and would take advantage of the program.
	Not at all interested in participating in this type of service. By no means do I wish to pay an additional trash bill to provide for the service. If people want this they should create their own compost receptacle.
Linda Jeske	All for it.
Jen Chen	We would love to have a seasonal option. We have a backyard compost bin that is less convenient to access in the winter, and we would love a curbside composting option for those months.
Molly rутten	We just moved from Minneapolis where we had curbside organics collection. We loved it and miss it very much.
Maggie Sutton	I used to live in St. Louis Park and their organics recycling program was EXCELLENT!!! Please work with them to try to mimic what they do. It was a great program but I think there was small buy-in from residents. I think education of what the impact is for organics recycling as well as informing them of the costs in relative terms will help participation.
Arianna Pittman	I would love this program to come to Golden Valley and made available to apartment complexes and single family homes.
Jen lang	I would love to see a curbside organics program in Golden Valley!
Matthew Handegaard	Keep it simple.
JamieHolm	We loved it while living in SLP. We had a very small garbage bin.
Stacy Thompson	I am very open to this idea! Would there be a way for people to opt out if they do set up their own composting in their backyards?
Vicki Coaty	It's a good idea if it is simple and relatively inexpensive. However, putting 3 cans out one a single day will be challenging for many to navigate their driveways (esp in the winter)

	and I suspect we will see even more cans in the road (instead of at the end of their driveway).
Jill Wisdorf	Randy's has a good system. Talk to them.
Shaun Jansen	Thanks for considering the option
Karla Stone	I am so happy this is in the works!
Julie Matzek	Include very detailed guidelines on what can and cannot be composted. At work people are very uninformed therefore don't participate.
Nancy Johnson	Thanks for looking into this! We would love to have this in Golden Valley.
Rebecca Sanders	Please provide!!
Sydney Winters	Great idea!
Winchell	We need to do it. St. Louis Park and Minneapolis does it. Our forward thinking city should absolutely do this. Actually, so surprised we weren't one of the first.
Eleanor lewis	We are so behind! This is a no brainer.
Linden Weiswerda	Waste storage bin laws are ridiculous. The City should control the type and sizes through centralized single vendor supply instead. Make the colors uniform and neutral then let residents do what they need on their own property.
Joe Gellman	Glad this is finally happening. (SLP has had curbside organics pick-up for 6-1/2 years!) Cost could be relative to "garbage" pick-up. Also cost could be eased with availability to everyone - as recycling is now. If organics was weekly, traditional trash could be every two weeks (without organic matter and less volume.)
Jeff piper	My family has been composting for decades. Curbside organic composting seems completely unnecessary and even wasteful
Madeline Elmhirst	I do not think we should be collecting organics for recycling.
Michelle Bigelow	It would be nice if the city provided wood chip and mulch like St. Louis Park. Also can the city talk to home owners that park many cars in their yards during the snow parking ban. This isn't Blaine but sure looks like it.
Kara kal	We should do it.
Susan Eckhoff	For the most part, I think it's a good idea and environmentally needed.
Sarah Schulte	We compost in our backyard but only in warmer months simply because of convenience. I would love to see this service added to waste collection. I'd ALSO like to see recycling offered at business in downtown Golden Valley.
Lisa Donahue	We need this for apartment buildings!
Sophia Ginis	Very important to do, strongly encourage efforts.
David Miller	I will not participate. Adding more taxpayer subsidized recycling programs just encourages people to throw their trash in the recycling to keep their trash bills down. I see it when people have two recycling bins always overflowing yet only a single trash receptacle.
j valorose	Organics should be mandatory, as should recycling. In fact, I'd like to see these two picked up frequently and trash picked up less frequently. We should be doing all we can to reduce waste in our landfills.
Judy Swanson	Only very small bins would be necessary for so many to participate. Is there a "piggy back" type bin that could be added (with hooks) to existing recycle bins, to minimize storage needs and accommodate small organic collections?
	I'm for it if the price is right.

Nicki Murphy	I don't know that I need this because I have been composting for years. With that said, I do think it is a good idea, because it will encourage so many other people to compost. I wonder if providing people with backyard composters would be more cost effective and keep more unsightly cans and trucks off of our streets.
Lindsay Thompson	Please do it! We have so many trees and large yards. It only makes sense.
Barbara Burrets	Do not let the bins remain out at the curb.
bonnie creason	I appreciate the opportunity to give feedback and hope we receive flexibility on waste options.
Kelly Chapman	My workplace provides full service organic recycling and I have yet to make the change at home because my current provider doesn't offer it. This is definitely something I support and also believe it will be a necessary component of our future. Thank you for collecting neighborhood input.
	Focus on a place to drop off leaves and branches that is not 45 minutes away like the Maple Grove site. That is by far the biggest issue that keeps being pushed aside.
Susan Ramlet	I would like an organics bin that's picked up. My hauler has a blue bag that is fussy, and not terribly useful. We have our own compost bins in our backyard, but they're not as useful in the winter.
Helen Stefan	Long overdue. Minneapolis does it, so can Golden Valley.
Terese hagstrom	None
John Herbeck	It's hard to decide on these things without the cost. The impact of another round of heavy trucks on roads is huge. I don't trust haulers as they tend to be predatory with their business practices. I do like the idea of composting. Maybe we should market and promote the concept/practice to residents for their backyard, instead of hauling away and then picking up. With some keen marketing we could probably get residents to start making a serious effort to just facilitate composting or organics in their own yards. No bins. No impact on roads. No extra cost. Efficient and effective.
Forest Eidbo	Section 22-23 needs to be changed big time
Dana Knopic	I already pay too much for things I don't use or need. Please do not add another cost burden to the residents of Golden Valley.
Barbara hillesland	Have organic recycling at work in Minneapolis. Works great and very easy.
Wende Pemrick	Great idea, although I'm already doing this with my garden composter
Wendy Lazear	I've been waiting a long time for organics recycling to come to Golden Valley. Hope it passes soon!
Sheri sheeks	Love the idea!!!! I think it's great
Christine Hazel	Unless organic recycling can be picked up by one of the 2 haulers along with current pick-up, the benefits don't seem to outweigh the the add'l carbon emissions. I want to do my part. However the constraints of the collection systems don't appear to be worth it.
Nathan Koepsell	Removing all, or a large percentage of organic waste from inorganic waste has been proven to greatly slow the breakdown of inorganic waste due to the reduction of microorganisms that speed breakdown. Simply put. This policy slows landfill decomposition rates by reducing organic aids to the decomposition process.
Michelle Tufts	For us, since we compost ~Mar-Oct; would only pay for curbside organics during the winter months (Nov - Feb). So a seasonal or quarterly option would be appreciated. Yay, Golden Valley - thank you for considering the environment like this!

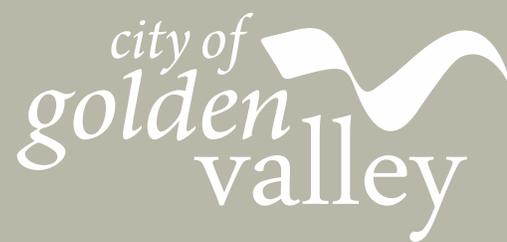
Janet Tolzmann	Organic waste recycling in Golden Valley is long overdue, and we would like to see it implemented asap.
Kathy Smith	I strongly support this move by our community for the environment and greater sustainability. I would really like to see a facility within the bounds of Golden Valley for the composting facility but realize that may not be possible.
Joan Evans	I would like to see the city offer recycled containers for organics for homeowners to purchase at reduced rates too. These can be expensive and thus a deterrent for the beginner.
Doug Weldon	Why wait until 2022. Get ahead of the curve and start as soon as possible.
Devan Futterer	Let's do it!
Sarah Bhimani	Please institute a curbside organics program. It's the right thing to do for our environment. Changing the code about bin visibility would be nice as well (and make having 3-4 bins much easier since we have a tiny garage).
Kristen Shedd	Organic should be offered through the city and should be included with recycling ie minimal to no additional fee
Maria Milillo	very important to do. It is a no brainer in terms of moving forward for the short term and long term benefit to our community as a model for others. Cannot imagine a strong resistance to a process of great value to us all and made very easy for us as residents to carry out. A must to start soon. Thank you.
Ellen Brenna	A blue bag program like they are considering in Ramsey County would be great. But all haulers there need to take trash to a single location (R&E center) do that may not be an option here. I think an organized collection model would be best for GV residents. A city contract at least. Thank you.
Jennifer Travers	When my family moved from Minneapolis to Golden Valley, the organics program was one of things I missed! I'd be very happy to have it back!
James Brickwedde	Bins that are animal proof, bins that are easy to clean, bins that a modest in size as this would be the fourth bin to store (Trash, Recycling, Yard Waste, Organics)
Patricia Harwell	I am excited about this service.
Natalie Sadeghi	Please make this option available before Jan 2022! Also particularly interested in hearing about access to finished compost as part of the program.
Toni Pangborn	Once organic pickup is implemented and the volume of my regular garbage is reduced, will there be a reduction in the cost for my current garbage pickup service?
Leslie Blessing	can hardly wait - it's a great idea!
Peggy Leppik	I'd travel 5-7 miles to collect compost, but 10 is too far.
Ann Christiansen	Can't wait for it to start in Golden Valley. Thanks!
Joyce Sundrum	I currently use a wastebasket in my garage with the compostable liner supplied by Randy's for weekly pickup. This is put into my garbage container (small size). A larger bin (like the blue one for current city-wide recycling) is not necessary. In the Ewald neighborhood, most homes have driveways opening onto the street where garbage and recycling is picked up. It is difficult to keep garbage and recycling bins away from street view.
Myriah Hrdlicka	St Louis Park introduced this program for free when we lived there about three years ago and we loved it! We hardly ever had any other trash to throw away and it was really nice to be contributing to a greater good in an easy way.

Zoe Cunniff	I used to live in Salt Lake City and we had this service there. It was a great way to reduce our trash volume. I don't want to pay another fee for it.
Heather ROse	WAY past time to have this service available in GV. The only current option through Randy's is questionable since the compost bags travel in the truck with the trash.
Larry Zettervall	All my grass is composted into my lawn. All leaves are brought to recycling in the fall. The small amount of brush I have is picked up in the spring. Most food goes down the disposer or in the dog. I don't know all of what is considered compostable, but I don't see enough left to pay for weekly pickup.
Amy Ward	I want this program to be accessibly to those living in apartments, condos, etc
Anne May	Can't wait for this!
Claire deBerg	Let's do this! Golden Valley is so awesome.
Sue Weisenburger	Please start this program prior to the deadline if possible.
Debra Neher	You didn't ask if we would participate. The answer is yes! Other cities around us are already doing this. It's past time to add Golden Valley to the list of cities with an organics program.
Ruth Paradise	In the Israeli city Zichron Yaakov each house has a small container for recycling compost that can be hung on a fence or maybe other garbage container. We are a two person household and have one to one and a half gallon size containers of compostable materials a week, unless we have out of town guests. I've always wondered why household organic compost (not including paper) can't be included with yard waste during the period when yard waste is collected.
Jennifer Griffin-Wiesner	I think it's a very important contribution the city can make to decreasing our collective negative environmental impact and increasing awareness of waste-reduction strategies.
Larry Yochim	No need for it
Bonnie Ostlund	Living in a Townhouse development, we don't have private yards or gardens. And with many apartment and townhouse developments in Golden Valley, this program doesn't fit a number of citizens. We don't have space to store a third bin, and we have no use for compost. GV leadership needs to think about organics idea's suitability for all multi-family residents.
Melissa Dellwo	I strongly support immediate organics options. Minneapolis already offers this service. I would like Golden Valley to be on the leading edge of innovation, not following behind. It's good for our community and good for the environment.
Trevor May	I got very comfortable using the curbside organics pickup in Robbinsdale and found that I miss it. We cook a lot and I feel much better about being able to use the organic waste rather than filling a landfill. Also, my garbage stinks way less. I'm not a typical "tree-hugger" but I've come to see how much waste I produce, and multiplied by millions of people throughout the country, it makes me feel neglectful and even unethical. I hope to see organics curbside in GV as soon as possible, and I hope to see manufacturers invest more in recyclable packaging in general. I look forward to being part of this community, it's a wonderful place to be!
Carolyn Anderson	It would be useful to have organic pick up service.
Christine Kellogg	I think curbside organic collection should be mandatory
Daniel Dobson	Copy or heavily mimic how St. Louis Park does it. It works very well and is easy for all residents to comply with.

Joan Evans	GV belongs on the front end of efforts such as this to support sustainable practices in our community. I see this as part of our support for safe/accessible biking and walking paths and varied recreational activities within the city. Let's make this happen!
Julie Teran	I prefer the idea of a City-managed program, not hauler managed, and would like to see it mandated so everyone pays the same. I live in a condominium association and would like a City-managed program to be required for multi-family buildings as well.
Stacy Pampuch	This is a must to be added for the progressive nature of Golden Valley and what its residents want. I don't plan to replace my garbage disposal when remodeling my kitchen, plus it's very hard on plumbing and not a good solution long-term. Randy's is an expert in handling this type of benefit. I love them!
Andrey Alferov	It should not be mandatory or if it is then It should be free for residents
Madelyn Shafer	We've been discussing with neighbors the idea of a compost pile the past few weeks and the timing of this survey could not come sooner. We think this is a fantastic idea and would love to help in any way we can to move this idea forward.
Suzanne Herberg	I support option 1.
Tracy Anderson	This is a complete waste of time and \$\$!
Gregory Fait	Seems like this should be a new normal
J Mistrick	Loved having curbside organics pickup in Minneapolis, would love it in Golden Valley now too!

APPENDIX A

Open House Feedback



Organics Recycling Open House Q&A And Feedback

Q&A

Q1. Could there be an option for people “pay for their neighbor”?

ANSWER

A “pay for your neighbor” program could be explored for feasibility after the City Council gives direction as to which type of program the City will be implementing. The City would like to make organics recycling accessible and affordable for all residents.

Q2. Could we create neighborhood volunteers who could educate their neighbors and create buzz about the program?

ANSWER

Once the City Council gives direction on a program, the City will explore public education campaigns for residents to learn more about organics recycling. Volunteers could be part of that effort.

Q3. How much of what I put in the recycling bin actually gets recycled?

ANSWER

Recycling Material Recovery Facilities (MRF) are required to recover a minimum of 85 percent of recyclable materials that enter the facility. The State of Minnesota has strict requirements for MRFs and does not allow the landfilling of recyclable materials.

Q4. Why is the resident responsible to pay for disposal of organics?

ANSWER

The State of Minnesota places responsibility for waste disposal on waste generators and producers. The resident would be considered a waste generator and therefore responsible for the cost associated with managing that waste. To incentivize waste reduction, recycling, and organics recycling over landfilling, the State and County tax landfilling services but not recycling and organics recycling services. Waste reduction is the best practice but is not always feasible for every scenario. The City’s Environmental Commission has considered exploring limitations on certain types of packaging and may evaluate this issue in the coming year.

Q5. What efforts are being done to reduce waste in the City?

ANSWER

Golden Valley has a City-contracted recycling program to encourage participation in recycling and reduce waste. They also hold seasonal clean up events to give residents opportunities to correctly dispose of difficult items such as Mighty Tidy Day, Spring Brush pick up, and the Fall Leaf Drop. In addition the City annually promotes initiatives by Hennepin County like the Zero Waste Challenge, to help provide residents with resources and methods to reduce their waste generation. As a part of the Environmental Commission 2020 work plan, the Commission is exploring options to reduce the use of single use plastics and containers. The City is working with event coordinators to transition towards zero waste events in the future

Q6. Will compost be locally available?

ANSWER

Once a recommendation from Council is made, the City will explore feasibility of providing local compost.

Comments

- C1.** I believe it should be required of all Golden Valley residents to recycle their organics. I do worry about another fee for those on fixed or low incomes. Could there be an option for people to “pay for their neighbor?” This allows neighborhoods to add an additional fee to their account and that money goes into a pot to allow for those on a fixed or low income to waive the fee. People could request this fee waiver.
- Put time and energy into education. Could we create neighborhood volunteers who could educate their neighbors and create buzz about the program?
- C2.** Yes! Let’s get this going in GV! We’d prefer the all pay in model like recycling where everyone has a cart that gets picked up regularly. Our family composts in our backyard but only in the summer. This pick-up would provide more options for what can be composted and year-round service the coming year.
- C3.** I currently compost and take my compostables into Minneapolis to compost. I would LOVE to have a City-managed mandated program with all residents paying the same amount. I live in a condo association and would like to have the program mandated for all multi-family units as well.
- C4.** I have been composting on my own for years. Though to make it available city wide would be helpful to be able to encompass even more of the materials I do not place in my own compost bin, such as meat by products, bones etc. Do whatever necessary to get this program launched!
- C5.** Hello. My comment is: I live alone and I already have the smallest cart for a regular trash. On top of that the trash bags are not even completely full for a weekly pick up. During the winter I don’t even bother to take the cart out every week since the trash freezes anyway and do it bi-weekly instead. With recycling similar story - I put the cart out every 4-6 weeks. So you see, I don’t make that much trash already and just basically paying for air. So probably does my single old granny neighbor. My point is that I don’t want to pay more \$ for organics recycling since I already pay for hauling away the trash I don’t actually produce. See, you are saying that recycling is beneficial - less landfill space, more jobs, etc. BUT! How much of what I put into recycling bin actually gets recycled? REDUCE was on the top of that pyramid in your video. So where is the city ban on plastic bags? Or where is the city ban on carry out containers and single use plastics? Now organics - why is the resident getting charged for recycling programs rather than getting paid by the composting companies? They are making money by selling compost. To summarize: I’m against mandated organics recycling. I’m for organic recycling only if it free to the residents or on opt in basis. Thank you Andrey Alferov
- C6.** Hello- I am in favor of organics recycling for GV residents and thank you all for exploring. Sara Garry
- C7.** We already compost through Randys. I like that it is a bag that goes in with the regular trash. If we had to have a separate compost bin, we would not do it. We don’t have room in the garage.
- Put time and energy into education. Could we create neighborhood volunteers who could educate their neighbors and create buzz about the program?
- C8.** If we could recycle organic waste (our development doesn’t allow open composting), we would have less than one bag of garbage per week - please start a program!
- C9.** Great idea. If composted will it be locally available?
- C10.** 100% behind the idea of curbside organics collection. We currently pay for Randy’s Blue Bag Organics but are very limited in what we can compost because we are only supposed to use one blue bag per week. I would love to see curbside pickup like they do in Minneapolis. It should be done as a weekly pickup and organized by a single hauler much the way that recycling is currently collected in the city.

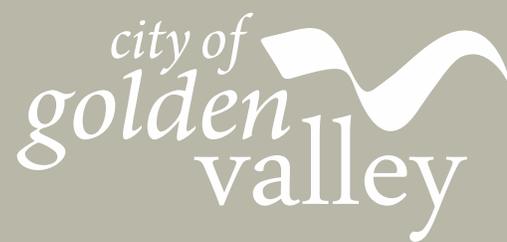
Thank you!

Matt Chapman

4901 Glenwood.

APPENDIX B

Social Media Reach and Engagement



SOCIAL MEDIA REACH AND ENGAGEMENT

Title

Reach = Number of people who saw the post

Engagement = Number of people who interacted with the post

March 6, 2020					
PLATFORM	REACH	ENGAGEMENT	LIKES	SHARES/RETWEETS	COMMENTS
Facebook	646	14	2	1	0
Twitter	219	9	0	0	0
March 14, 2020					
PLATFORM	REACH	ENGAGEMENT	LIKES	SHARES/RETWEETS	COMMENTS
Facebook	1507	181	13	3	2
Twitter	291	20	2	1	0
Comments					
NAME	COMMENT				
Lindsay Gerten	Brian J Gerten Angela Murphy Higgins				
Joe Gellman	Glad this is finally going to happen!				
March 18, 2020					
PLATFORM	REACH	ENGAGEMENT	LIKES	SHARES/RETWEETS	COMMENTS
Facebook	515	7	1	0	0
Twitter	640	9	2	2	0
April 20, 2020					
PLATFORM	REACH	ENGAGEMENT	LIKES	SHARES/RETWEETS	COMMENTS
Facebook	634	25	5	0	0
Twitter	134	2	1	0	0
April 29, 2020					
PLATFORM	REACH	ENGAGEMENT	LIKES	SHARES/RETWEETS	COMMENTS
Facebook	738	47	2	1	0
May 5, 2020					
PLATFORM	REACH	ENGAGEMENT	LIKES	SHARES/RETWEETS	COMMENTS
Facebook	455	11	3	2	0
Twitter	176	5	2	2	0
Comments					
NAME	COMMENT				
@BradSchaeppi	Great use of media to advance organics recycling.				
May 11, 2020					
PLATFORM	REACH	ENGAGEMENT	LIKES	SHARES/RETWEETS	COMMENTS
Facebook	451	14	0	0	0
Twitter	184	3	1	1	0

May 18, 2020

PLATFORM	REACH	ENGAGEMENT	LIKES	SHARES/RETWEETS	COMMENTS
Facebook	454	18	2	1	0
Twitter	152	4	2	0	0