

**2018-2023 SBP Update
Reduction Option Template**

Cost Reduction: Pet Waste & Diaper Composting Program #2	Owner: Susan Fife-Ferris
Focus Area: Protecting Environmental & Public Health	Sponsor: Ken Snipes
Risk Level: MEDIUM	Rate Path Option: 5.3

1. Short summary of the cost reduction (suitable for using with Customer Review Panel and other members of the public, plus additional specifics required for clarity of action).

This reduction option would defer \$7.6 million for the Pet Waste & Diaper Composting (PWDC) Program beyond 2023. This would allow SPU the opportunity to evaluate if there is a more effective way to meet the environmental objectives identified in the 2011 Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan (SMWP.) This review would include reevaluating various programs and measures.

2. What are the impacts or risks of this cost reduction? How will you mitigate these risks?

At the end of 2015, the City had a recycling rate of 58%, an increase of 0.9% points over 2014, and an increase of 19.8% points since 2003's recycling rate of 38.2%. In February 2013, the City Council adopted revised recycling goals of 60% by 2015 and 70% by 2022. This delayed the City's recycling goal, set in the 2011 Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP), of achieving 60% by 3 years, but kept the goal of achieving 70% by 2022. The Pet Waste & Diaper Composting Program is projected to divert approximately 8,000-9,000 tons per year to composting. This would result in avoiding the costs of hauling, and increasing the recycling rate by about 1% point towards the 70% goal.

This delay and evaluation puts SPU at risk of not reaching the 70% recycling goal by 2022.

There is also additional risk that the public will perceive SPU as not committed to meeting its environmental objectives. If SPU defers this program, it will be important to have active messaging that this action does not change SPU's environmental objectives, but may slow the progress towards achieving the 70% recycling goal.

SPU plans to review the progress and success of all waste prevention and recycling programs included in the 2011 SWMP as part of the SWMP Update in 2017. This review will include both programmatic evaluations. It will also determine whether there are more meaningful ways to measure progress towards meeting environmental objectives other than the 70% recycling goal, without additional funding increments.

3. Implementation plan and timeline.

Funding for the PWDC Programs would be deferred beyond 2023. SPU will review and update the 2011 SWMP starting in 2017, with a goal of adoption (by the Mayor and Council) and approval (by Department of Ecology) by the end of 2018 to early 2019. If the PWDC Program is not removed as a program under the SWMP Update, then implementation is anticipated to roll out in 2021, at which time funding would be needed.

4. Budget and FTE changes

Changes (relative to baseline)

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
O&M (Non- Labor) Budget Change	-	(100,000)	-	(1,500,000)	(3,000,000)	(3,000,000)
CIP Budget Change						
FTE Change						

- 5. Identify possible race and social justice implications for this reduction. How will it impact service equity and how will you resolve this impact?**

None.

- 6. Describe your plan for evaluating the impacts of this reduction. Include any metrics you have.**

SPU will review and update the 2011 SWMP starting in 2017, including reviewing the impacts of changes to planned programs, such as the PWDC Program. Impacts will also be reviewed as part of targeted analysis done for the updates to the Recycling Potential Assessment.