



ADAMS COUNTY WASTE DIVERSION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (WDIP) PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION

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INTRODUCTIONS



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Managing change
in a resource-
constrained world.



ORGANICS
MANAGEMENT



WASTE
RECOVERY



GLOBAL CORPORATE
SUSTAINABILITY

since 1986

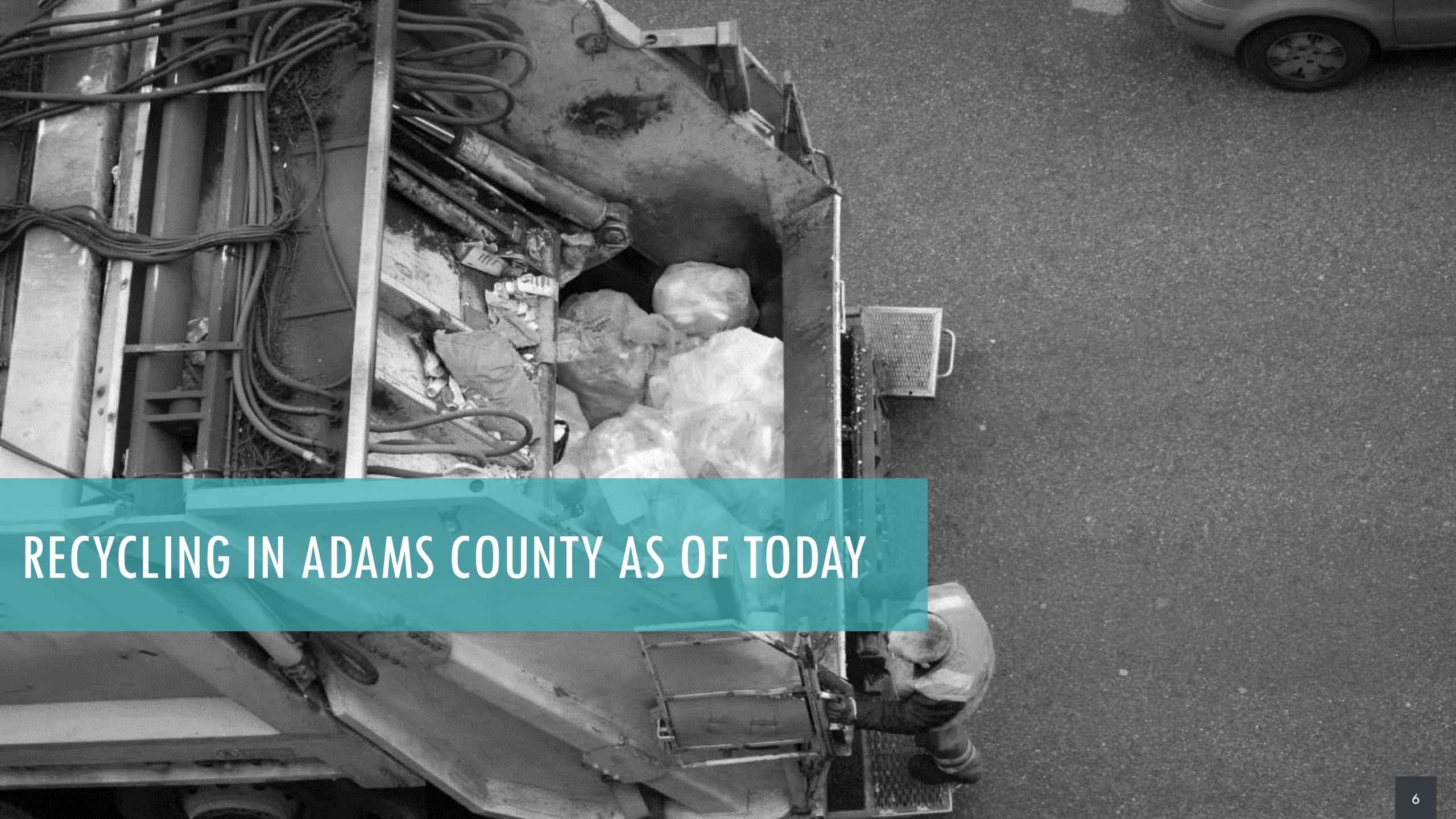
MEETING AIMS

- Inform residents about Adams County's Waste Diversion Improvement Project (WDIP)
- Share results of Adams County Residential Recycling Survey
- Share hauler licensing ordinance project, timeline, benefits, and next steps



TODAY'S AGENDA

ITEM	Minutes
Welcome & Introductions	0:05
County Aims and Background of Waste Diversion Improvement Project (WDIP)	0:10
Residential Recycling Survey Results	0:15
Hauler Licensing Ordinance & County Process	0:15
General Q&A	0:10
Meeting Closeout & Next Steps	0:05



RECYCLING IN ADAMS COUNTY AS OF TODAY

RECYCLING SNAPSHOT — UNINCORPORATED ADAMS COUNTY



- Adams County population is 522,515; population of unincorporated Adams County is 98,889
- ‘Open market’ for waste collection service
- Many haulers, many choices
- Trash haulers may or may not offer recycling services
- Recycling rate for unincorporated Adams County is unknown (assumed to be ~16%)
- National recycling rate is 32%
- Recycling infrastructure: one of two metro single-stream recycling facilities is in Adams County



ADAMS COUNTY WDIP PROJECT AIMS

COUNTY AIMS AND BACKGROUND



- Front Range Waste Diversion (FRWD) grant for Waste Diversion Improvement Project
- Sustainable Adams County 2030 Plan
 - Supports Goal 5 (increase access to recycling for residents of unincorporated Adams County)
 - Investigate mechanisms to increase access (such as hauler licensing ordinances)
- State goals for Front Range waste diversion:
 - 39% by 2026
 - 51% by 2036



RESEARCH FINDINGS

- 90+ waste haulers operating in unincorporated Adams County
- Estimated 121,000 tons of MSW generated (2021) in unincorporated Adams County
- Peer communities w/ hauler licensing:
 - 4 of 9 cities within or partially within Adams County already have hauler licensing
 - Arvada, Aurora, Federal Heights, Westminster
 - County peers include Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Larimer, Pitkin, Summit
- No two hauler licensing ordinances are the same



CONSIDERATIONS FOR ADAMS COUNTY ORDINANCE

Adams County aims to adopt a waste hauler licensing ordinance that:

- Maintains open market for waste haulers
- Creates level playing field for all haulers
- Ensures community health and safety
- Collects waste data and tracks diversion progress
- Provides equitable and expanded access to recycling
- Increases diversion and waste reduction

ORDINANCE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

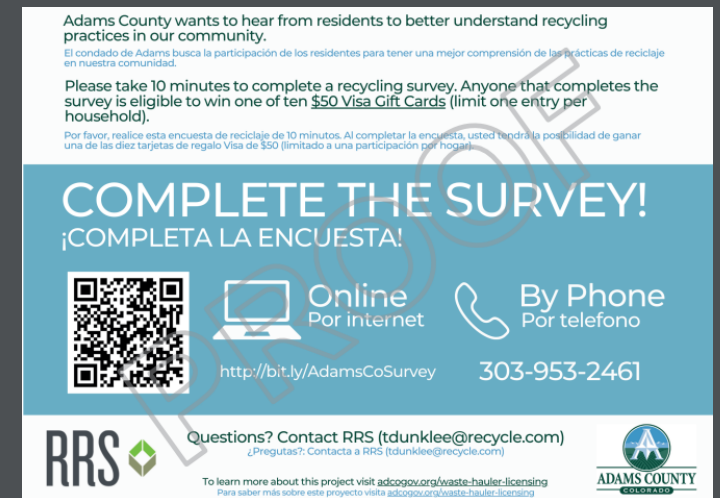




RESIDENTIAL SURVEY

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

- Survey postcards were mailed to randomly selected residential addresses in unincorporated Adams County
- Statistically valid survey
 - 90% confidence level
 - Margin of error +/- 7%
- English and Spanish survey option
- Out of all complete responses:
 - Residency: 47% have lived in Adams County 15+ years
 - Home Ownership: 93% own their homes, 7% rent
 - Home Structure: 88% live in single-family homes, 5% in mobile homes
 - Gender Identity: 54% of respondents identify as women
 - Age: 24% of responses are 65+, 23% were 35-44



METHODOLOGY (CONTINUED)



- Survey included questions related to:
 - Demographic information
 - Trash/Recycle/Compost services provided to household
 - Access to services
 - Opinions/beliefs about recycling
 - Barriers
 - Willingness to pay for services



RESULTS

- When asked if residents have convenient access to recycling, more respondents disagreed than agreed.
- Most survey respondents (87%) report that they believe recycling helps conserve natural resources and the environment.
- Most respondents (80%) support increasing access to recycling in unincorporated Adams County.
- Only 51% of respondents indicated having recycling collection service at their homes.
 - East of DEN*, only 25% of respondents reported having recycling service.

*DEN = Denver International Airport



RESULTS (CONTINUED)

- Largest barriers to recycling reported by survey respondents:
 - Knowledge, knowing what to recycle
 - Cost
 - Uncertainty, citing that recycling guidelines often change
- Largest barriers to recycling reported by survey respondents located east of DEN:
 - Knowledge, knowing what to recycle
 - Recycling guidelines often change
 - Trash service providers don't offer recycling
- Largest barriers to recycling reported by those that do NOT have service:
 - Cost
 - Service not offered
 - Inconvenience



RESULTS (CONTINUED)

- When asked if the respondent's trash service provider offers recycling collection service:
 - 27% of respondents were unsure
 - 54% of respondents east of DEN were unsure

OPEN-ENDED QUESTION:

What are the largest challenges to recycling for residents in unincorporated Adams County?

"Unincorporated areas don't offer collection."

"Knowing recyclables will actually be recycled."

"No community drop-off areas & pick-up service is expensive."

"HOA manages trash service and does not offer recycling."

"The 'why' and 'how' need to be clearly understandable."

"The recycling that's available is limited."

"I'm not certain we could afford adding recycling pick-up."

OPEN-ENDED QUESTION:

What, if anything, do you think Adams County should do to help support increased recycling or composting?

“Make it easily accessible to everyone.”

“Nothing.”

“Provide a drop-off location.”

“Provide composting options, provide more recycling options.”

“Provide more info on what is done with the recyclable materials and where they go for processing.”

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- ✓ Only ~50% of households report having recycling collection service.
- ✓ Many respondents (25%+) are unsure if recycling services are offered at their home.
- ✓ Respondents are supportive of recycling and are in favor of expanded access.



QUESTIONS



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HAULER LICENSING ORDINANCE



COUNTY ORDINANCE AUTHORITIES

The board of county commissioners (BoCC) may adopt ordinances for control or licensing of those matters of purely local concern {C.R.S. 30-15-401(1)}:

- Provide for and compel removal of rubbish, trash, junk, and garbage from lots and tract of land, and alleyways;
- Inspect vehicles proposed to be operated in the conduct of the business of transporting ashes, trash, waste, rubbish, garbage or industrial waste products or any other discarded materials;
- To contract with persons in the business of transporting said materials to provide such services within unincorporated area of the county;
- **To regulate the activities of persons in the business of transporting ashes, trash, waste, rubbish, garbage, or industrial waste products or any other discarded materials within the unincorporated area by requiring each such person to secure a license from the county**

WASTE HAULER LICENSING IN ADAMS COUNTY

- Created by ordinance
- Ordinance adoption by board of county commissioners (BoCC)
- Requires waste haulers to apply for annual license to operate in unincorporated areas
- Includes standards and requirements deemed necessary by BoCC to protect health, safety, and welfare
- Requires waste tonnage data reporting from licensed haulers
- Requires trash collection haulers to 'offer' recycling services

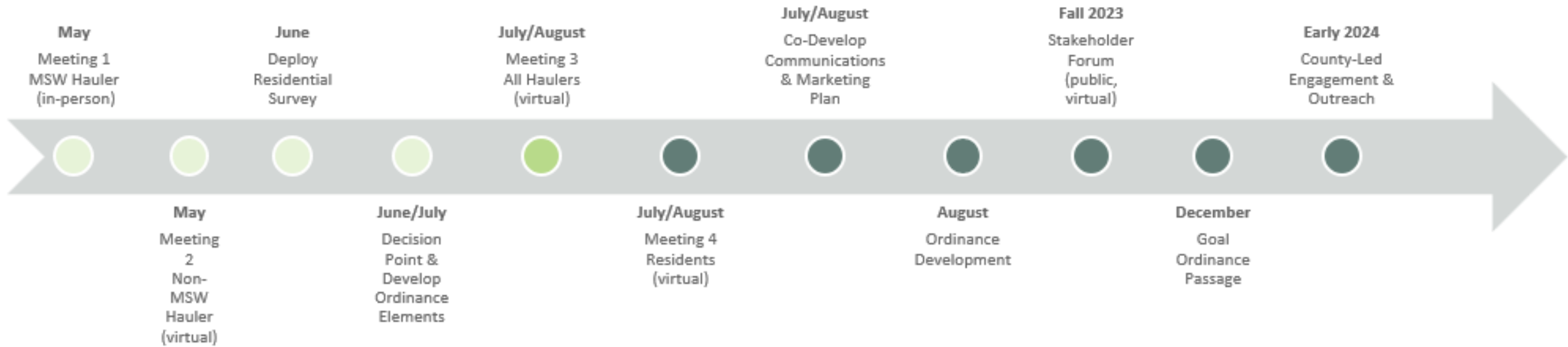


ONCE IMPLEMENTED, WHAT WILL THIS MEAN TO YOU AND OTHER RESIDENTS OF UNINCORPORATED ADAMS COUNTY?

- Recycling will be offered by all trash haulers, likely for an additional fee, and haulers will be required to notify customers of this offering.
- Recycling guidelines will be provided annually.
- Ordinance provides assurance that materials collected as recycling are delivered to recycling facility.
- Residents will be able to keep their existing haulers.



WASTE HAULER LICENSING ORDINANCE DEVELOPMENT



QUESTIONS



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