



# Proposed Changes to Director's Rules for 15-6

## Zero Waste Advisory Commission 08/08/2012





# Purpose of Changes to Rules

1. Last Updated in 1999
2. Update Sections 1-7 to reflect current procedures for COA customers
3. Implementation of Universal Recycling Ordinance (URO)
4. Clarification of generator and hauler requirements through Stakeholder process



# AGENDA

1. Review the Sections 1-7: City Provided Services
2. Overview of Section 8: Universal Recycling Ordinance (URO)
3. Overview of Section 9: Service Provider Requirements Related to URO
4. Overview of Updated Definitions
5. Next Steps in Rules Adoption Process



# Sections 1-7: City Provided Services

1. Updates to Rules to reflect Single-Stream
2. COA customers defined as <3 unit residential properties, smaller properties on cart service
3. Clarify processes for COA customers
  - New Cart Sizes and Replacement Process
  - Recycling, Bulk, Brush, HHW and Organics Guidelines
4. Complete update of the Rules to reflect current terms, policies, and procedures



## Section 8 - Universal Recycling Ordinance (URO)

Rules related to the URO include the following requirements:

1. Collection Capacities
2. Annual Recycling Plans
3. 5-Types of Materials
4. Proper Signage
5. Annual Education



# Universal Recycling Ordinance (URO)

1. Clarification of property owner as ultimately responsible party
  - Individual businesses may not control collection
  - Ordinance requirements reflect total building square footage, properties often sub-divided by tenants
2. Property owners required to ensure recycling capacity available.
  - Owner does not necessarily have to pay for services
  - Owner has no legal responsibility to ensure recycling is done correctly by tenants



# Universal Recycling Ordinance (URO)

1. Multi-Family Capacity Requirements
  - 64-gallons per 10 dwelling units (no change)
  - Capacity requirements re-evaluated in 2-years
2. Commercial Office Building Capacity
  - Recycling=25% of total weekly capacity (1:3 ratio of recycling to landfill trash capacity)
  - In 2-years, on 10/1/2014, recycling capacity requirements increase to 50% (1:1 ratio)
  - 2-year study period and will re-evaluate



# Universal Recycling Ordinance (URO)

1. Recycling Plan forms due:
  - Annually on or before Feb. 1
  - 90 Days after Effective Date (1/1/2012 for Phase 1 properties)
2. Information included:
  - Contact Information – onsite manager/owner
  - Site Overview - #units, #square feet
  - Service Information – materials, frequency
  - Waiver Request – Substitute or Alternate Materials





# Universal Recycling Ordinance (URO)

1. 5-Types of Materials
  - Paper (including Mixed Paper and Office Paper)
  - Plastic Bottles Grades 1 (PETE) and 2 (HDPE)
  - Corrugated Cardboard
  - Aluminum Cans
  - Glass Bottles and Jars
2. More than 75% diversion proven by waste assessment, waiver from 5 materials.
3. Recycling Plan form provides options for alternate material waivers.



# Universal Recycling Ordinance (URO)

## Exterior Containers:

1. Decals “Recyclables” and “Landfill Trash”
  - Indicate materials accepted
  - Bilingual (English and Spanish)
  - Front of the container
  - Placed near opening, or point-of-use for compactors

## Location of Containers:

- Exterior recycling containers should be within 25 feet of landfill trash containers (required)
- Common area/interior recycling containers paired with existing landfill trash containers (best practice)



# Education Requirements

1. Annually for all tenants or employees:
  - Newsletters
  - Email communication
  - Posters
  - Trainings/Events
2. Within 30 days of move-in or employment
3. Bilingual in at least English and Spanish
4. Educational materials must include:
  - List of Materials Recycled
  - Explain container colors and materials accepted
  - Location of containers



# Next Steps – New Rules Process

1. **Notice of Proposed Rule:** 32-day public comment period + Affordability Impact Statement (AIS)
2. ZWAC recommendations
3. Prepare responses to public comments
4. **Post Notice of Rule Adoption:** Contingent upon Council approval under 15-6-3(B), includes comments and responses.
5. 30-day appeal period after Notice of Rule Adoption
6. **Council for Approval** or modification
7. Rules Effective: Late October?



# Education and Outreach

1. Awareness and Marketing
  - Austin Business Journal (ABJ)
  - Austin American Statesman: Print/Web Ads
  - Public Radio: KUT
  - Spanish Newspapers
  - Events and Presentations (Businesses and Trade Groups)
  - Cooperate with other COA Departments
2. Onsite Assessments (Free)
3. Respond to Questions from Community

# ATTENTION PROPERTY OWNERS AND MANAGERS IN AUSTIN:

New Recycling Requirements Begin Oct. 1, 2012

Affected properties include:



75  
units+

Multifamily residential properties  
with 75 units or more



100,000  
sq. ft.+

Commercial office buildings  
100,000 square feet or larger

These properties must provide recycling of all 5 materials:



OFFICE PAPER



PLASTICS #1 & #2



CARDBOARD



ALUMINUM



GLASS

In the next four years, the Universal Recycling Ordinance will  
require all Austin properties to recycle.

[www.austintexas.gov/commercialrecycling](http://www.austintexas.gov/commercialrecycling)



