



**To:** Zero Waste Advisory Commission

**From:** Ken Snipes  
Director  
Austin Resource Recovery

**Date:** February, 9th, 2022

**Subject:** Director's Monthly Report to the Zero Waste Advisory Commission

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#### **Universal Recycling Ordinance (URO) Enforcement Update:**

Austin Resource Recovery's (ARR) Commercial Compliance Unit (CCU) is comprised of 2 Code Compliance Officers who contact responsible parties and conduct site visits to properties or permit holders identified by City staff or by complaints as non-compliant with ordinances. The goal of the CCU is to support ongoing department public education, and when necessary, hold non-compliant businesses and permit holders accountable in municipal court.

The department hired its first CCU staff in 2020 and spent much of the past year creating internal procedures, developing a software system, and contacting potentially non-compliant properties. Prior to 2020, the City had limited opportunity to provide onsite visits from Code Compliance Officers and was reliant upon education alone to seek compliance.

CCU began URO inspections in early FY21. As of December 2021, CCU has conducted 742 site visits, responded to 5 complaints, and followed up on 86 denied waivers.

#### **Universal Recycling Ordinance (URO) Multifamily Update:**

In FY21, ARR's Business Outreach Team (BOT) notified all multifamily properties of the URO's capacity increase by mail and email in Oct. 2020 and again in June 2021. The BOT also took out print and digital ads March 2020 (FY20) through Dec. 2020 and hosted a joint webinar with Austin Apartments Association (AAA) in Nov. 2020.

In terms of compliance, 86% of multifamily properties (1,208) reported meeting the new capacity requirements by either providing at least a 1:1 ratio of landfill trash to recycling/organics services or 24 gallons/unit/week of recycling/organics services. Of the 14% of multifamily properties (201) that requested a waiver for not meeting the new capacity requirements, 13% (181 properties) were above the previous 6.4 gallons/unit/week requirement, but below the new 24 gallons/unit/week increase. Only 1% (20 properties) reported being below the 50% diversion requirement and of 6.4 gallons/unit/week. The BOT contacted all multifamily properties that requested a waiver for being below the new 24 gallons/unit/week requirement to let them know of the new capacity requirements and approved waivers with more than 6.4 gallons/unit/week according to the "implementation year" prescribed by the administrative rules (Administrative Rules Chapter 15-5 Section 8.12.3), but denied waivers below 6.4 gallons/unit/week.

So far in FY22, a third of multifamily properties (554) that have reported and 92% (509) have reported being compliant with the new multifamily capacity requirements. 8% (45 properties) reported being below the 50% diversion and the 24 gallons/unit/week requirement. Of the 23 waivers reviewed so far, 4 have been denied and 19 have been approved. Note that the FY22 reporting deadline is February 1, 2022.

## **U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation Expands ‘Beyond 34’ Circular Economy Initiative to Austin and Philadelphia**

*Building on success in Orlando and Cincinnati, the program will work with local stakeholders to help make their recycling and waste management efforts more sustainable*

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – The U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation today announced that Austin, Texas, and Philadelphia will join its multi-stakeholder initiative, [Beyond 34: Scaling Circularity for a Sustainable Economy](#). Exacerbated by the COVID-induced labor shortages, supply chain disruptions and shifting consumer patterns, America’s waste collection systems continue to face major challenges, with the U.S. recycling rate hovering in the mid-30% range in recent decades. To help address these issues, Beyond 34 provides a model for high-impact waste solutions that can be scaled for implementation in regions across the country.

“For five years, the Beyond 34 initiative has helped communities improve their local recycling, reuse, and recovery rates, and provided a collaborative platform for the business community to lead in developing solutions that advance the circular economy in the U.S.,” said Marc DeCoursey, senior vice president of the U.S. Chamber Foundation. “We welcome Austin and Philadelphia as the newest cities to join our movement and look forward to seeing the progress they achieve.”

Initially running in Orlando, Fla., and Cincinnati, Ohio, Beyond 34 helps communities and businesses build sustainable local economies through the application of a three-phased model: engage stakeholders across the waste management value chain; conduct analysis to identify areas of greatest impact; and empower communities to implement solutions.

Austin and Philadelphia were chosen because of their commitment to making their cities more sustainable and the opportunity that exists for significant economic and environmental impact through circular solutions.

As one of the fastest growing cities in America, Austin is prioritizing sustainability as a path to prosperity. The city is working toward its [goal](#) of reducing the amount of trash sent to landfills by 90% by 2040 and has a number of [programs](#) that help residents grow the local circular economy. For example, Austin engaged zero waste “block leaders” to educate neighbors on recycling and composting, the plastics recycling system, and more.

“We know our ambitious goals for a circular economy here in Austin can’t be reached alone. We need the support of our nonprofit partners, businesses who share our values, and other cities that can pass along their own wisdom – we’re all ears and we want to learn,” said Steve Adler, mayor of Austin. “That’s why we jumped at the chance to be a part of the U.S. Chamber Foundation’s exciting work in the Beyond 34 initiative.”

Philadelphia is committed to achieving [carbon neutrality by 2050](#), and is working toward a goal to become [90% zero waste and litter-free](#) by 2035. Philadelphia is also a leading smart city, utilizing data through its SmartCityPHL program to help the city become more efficient and improve quality of life for its residents.

“We are working diligently to make ‘smart city’ an overarching planning paradigm in Philadelphia, much like the term ‘sustainability’ has become,” said Mark Wheeler, chief information officer at the City of Philadelphia. “We need innovative tech, quality data, and partnerships—especially partnerships like the ones through the Beyond 34 initiative—to achieve a local circular economy that will provide equitable job opportunities, create resilient communities, and support global climate goals.”

Through tools like Beyond 34’s [Recycling and Recovery Resources Hub](#), cities across the country can learn from other regions that are addressing barriers and driving action toward waste elimination.

Since its launch, The Coca-Cola Company, Coca-Cola Consolidated, Kroger Co., Dow, PLASTICS Industry Association, Procter and Gamble, Republic Services, Target, Walgreens Boots Alliance, and the Walmart Foundation have supported the Beyond 34 program, with Walmart.org and Walgreens funding the expansion to Austin and Philadelphia.

“The Beyond 34 model provides important insights and resources to cities and regions around the country. The Walmart Foundation is proud to support the expansion of Beyond 34 to Austin and Philadelphia. Strong policy and public sector activities to reduce waste are critical supplements to private sector investments. Shifting to behaving and operating in a circular economy will require everyone to work strategically together – exactly the kind of systemic change we are working to enable at the Walmart Foundation,” said Chelsea Scantlan, sustainability program officer at Walmart.org.

“We recognize that creating some waste is unavoidable. Beyond 34 is a perfect way to bring like-minded problem solvers together to deal with things like waste, recycling, and problematic plastics. By collaborating with members of the communities we serve and other businesses in those communities, we are certain that we can make an impact. By lending our support, we are not only doing our part, but hopefully inspiring others to do their part as well,” said John Kotlarczyk, senior director, waste reduction, Walgreens Boots Alliance.

Those interested in bringing Beyond 34 to a new city or region should contact [Peter Fadoul](#) for instructions on how to apply. For more information on Beyond 34 and how it’s working to solve U.S. waste management issues, visit our website [here](#).



ARR Solicitations Update  
As of January 28, 2022  
ZWAC Meeting February 9, 2022

**Upcoming Solicitations and Agreements Under Development (in alphabetical order):**

1. Household Hazardous Waste and Recycling Collection Services: ILA – The City will provide household hazardous waste, recycling, and other collection services for Travis County households located outside the incorporated limits of the City.
2. Mattress Recycling Program: RFP – Contractors will develop and implement a mattress and box spring collection and recycling program. No existing contract.

**Solicitations Expected to be Posted Within the Next 90 Days:**

1. Lead Abatement Services: IFB/CCO – The Contractor shall provide removal, encapsulation, and disposition of lead. No existing contract.
2. Solid Waste Industry Consulting Services: RFQS – The Consultants shall provide professional solid waste industry consulting services, including delivering industry knowledge, technical advice, and recommendations on solid waste industry marketing indexes and definitions on an as needed basis. No existing contract.
3. Vehicle Wrap and Installation Services: IFB - Contractors shall provide vehicle wrap and installation services on various vehicles.

**Published Solicitations:**

NO UPDATES

**Solicitations in Evaluation or Negotiation:**

1. Truck Wash New Equipment and Maintenance: [IFB 1500 DCM1042](#) – This solicitation was posted on August 30, 2021 and closed on October 7, 2021. Contractor to deliver and install new truck washing equipment, including routine monthly preventative maintenance, inspection, repairs, and replacement parts, as well as on-call and emergency repairs for the equipment.

**Definitions:**

CCO (Capital Contracting Office): Administers the procurement of professional and construction services.

CO-OP (Cooperative Contract): A contract that has been competitively bid and issued by another government or purchasing alliance with the intention of sharing it with other governmental entities.

ILA (Interlocal Agreement): A collaborative contract between local government entities (for example, ARR and a county, state, or school district) to provide more efficient and less costly services, where any payments are made from current revenues.

IFB (Invitation for Bid): Formal bidding documents inviting suppliers to submit pricing for goods or services.

RFI (Request for Information): Used to obtain industry input, feedback, or reactions from potential suppliers prior to issuing a solicitation.

RFQ (Request for Quotation): Informal request to suppliers to provide quotes on specific goods or services.

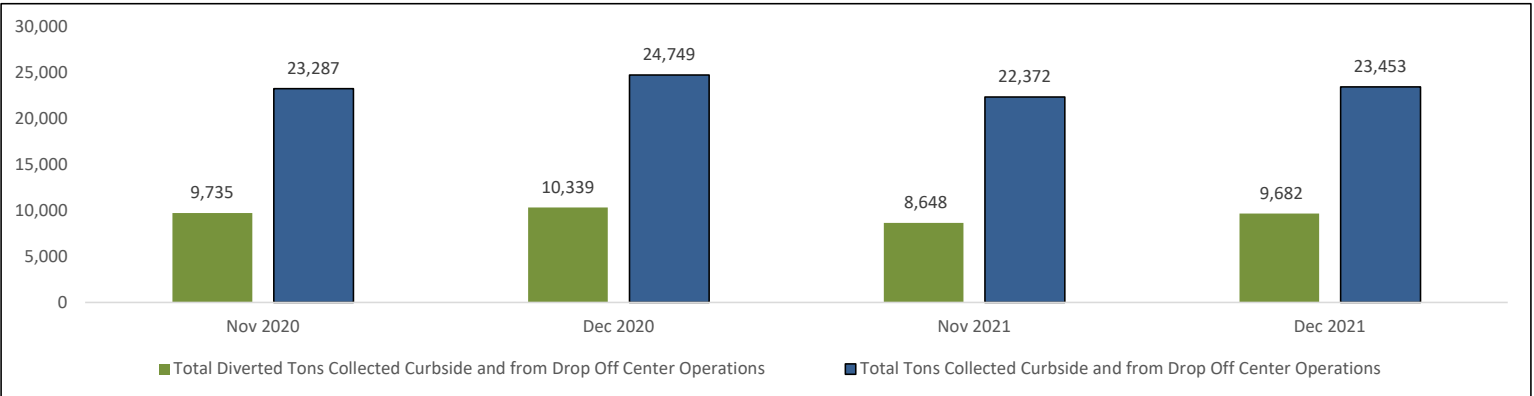
RFQS (Request for Qualifications): Formal solicitation used when qualifications are the main criteria for professional services.

RFP (Request for Proposals): Formal request for a supplier to provide a solution and cost estimate to a complex need.

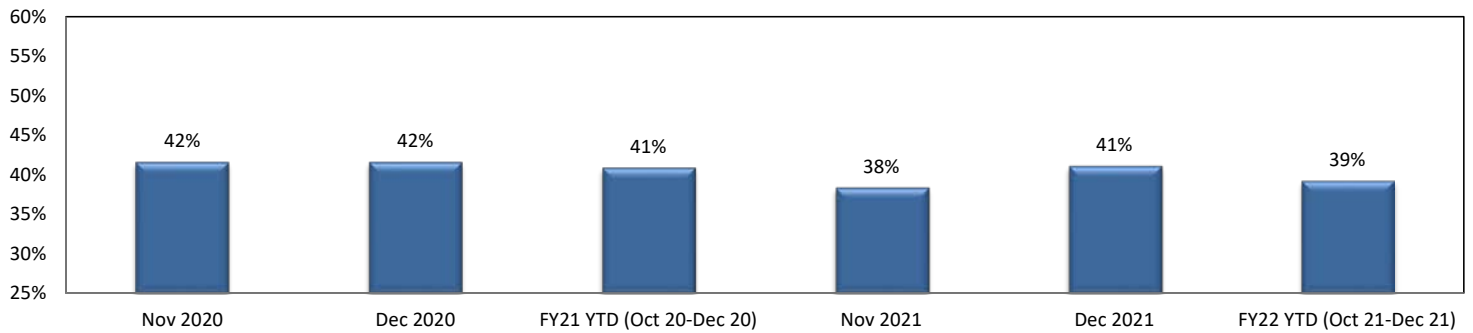
# Austin Resource Recovery Curbside Collection and Drop Off Center Operations

|  |  | LAST FISCAL YEAR |         |          |          |                             | CURRENT FISCAL YEAR |          |                             |                 |
|--|--|------------------|---------|----------|----------|-----------------------------|---------------------|----------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Description of Services  |  | FY 2020          | FY 2021 | Nov 2020 | Dec 2020 | FY21 YTD<br>(Oct 20-Dec 20) | Nov 2021            | Dec 2021 | FY22 YTD<br>(Oct 21-Dec 21) | FY 2022<br>Goal |
| Tons Disposed  | Tons of curbside Trash   | 136,709          | 138,955 | 11,553   | 12,300   | 35,185                      | 11,951              | 12,073   | 34,670                      | 133,800         |
|  | Tons of Curbside Bulk Disposed   | 5,379            | 11,651  | 1,027    | 1,036    | 2,465                       | 722                 | 564      | 2,181                       | 11,220          |
|  | HHW Operations Tons Disposed   | 347              | 765     | 48       | 40       | 142                         | 47                  | 57       | 149                         | 530             |
|  | Estimated Tons of Curbside Recycling Residuals*                            | 11,302           | 11,321  | 924      | 1,035    | 2,915                       | 1,003               | 1,077    | 2,938                       | 10,803          |
|  | Total Disposed Tons Collected Curbside and from Drop Off Center Operations | 153,737          | 162,693 | 13,551   | 14,411   | 40,707                      | 13,723              | 13,770   | 39,937                      | 156,353         |
| *Estimated tons of curbside recycling processed by vendors as residual - based on bi-annual sample route audit |  |                  |         |          |          |                             |                     |          |                             |                 |
| Tons Diverted  | Tons of curbside recycling   | 52,122           | 51,709  | 4,313    | 4,845    | 13,474                      | 4,084               | 4,329    | 12,347                      | 51,197          |
|  | RRC Tons Recycled/Reused   | 1,218            | 1,323   | 135      | 127      | 357                         | 147                 | 113      | 382                         | 2,200           |
|  | RRC Tons of Brush Collected  | 1,722            | 563     | 27       | 54       | 149                         | 4                   | 0        | 8                           | 2,000           |
|  | HHW Operations Tons recycled/reused  | 247              | 222     | 18       | 18       | 52                          | 15                  | 31       | 63                          | 470             |
|  | Tons of Drop Off Center Collections Recycled/Reused                        | 3,060            | 1,784   | 146      | 139      | 453                         | 148                 | 135      | 415                         | 4,415           |
|  | Tons of Curbside Yard Trimmings  | 48,105           | 56,481  | 4,809    | 4,802    | 12,970                      | 3,827               | 4,696    | 11,557                      | 50,000          |
|  | Tons of Curbside Bulk Recycled   | 127              | 323     | 34       | 60       | 105                         | 18                  | 8        | 38                          | 255             |
|  | Tons of Curbside Brush Collected   | 3,323            | 8,339   | 413      | 473      | 1,392                       | 550                 | 485      | 1,614                       | 6,872           |
|  | Tons of Curbside Textiles Collected  | 25               | 42      | 3        | 3        | 9                           | 3                   | 3        | 8                           | 75              |
|  | Tons of Carts Recycled   | 193              | 163     | 17       | 16       | 33                          | 18                  | 26       | 62                          | 200             |
|  | Total Diverted Tons Collected Curbside and from Drop Off Center Operations | 106,955          | 118,841 | 9,735    | 10,339   | 28,436                      | 8,648               | 9,682    | 26,041                      | 113,014         |
| Tons of Curbside Compost Collected**   |  | 38,711           | 53,455  | 4,008    | 3,989    | 10,727                      | 3,827               | 4,696    | 11,557                      | 50,000          |
| ***Tons of Curbside Compost Collected" is included in the "Tons of Yard Trimmings Collected"                   |  |                  |         |          |          |                             |                     |          |                             |                 |
| Total Tons Collected Curbside and from Drop Off Center Operations  |  | 260,692          | 281,534 | 23,287   | 24,749   | 69,143                      | 22,372              | 23,453   | 65,978                      | 269,367         |
| Estimated Percent of Curbside Collected Materials Diverted from Landfills by ARR                               |  | 40.38%           | 41.96%  | 41.52%   | 41.51%   | 40.82%                      | 38.33%              | 41.04%   | 39.18%                      | 41.07%          |
|  |  |                  |         |          |          |                             |                     |          |                             |                 |
| Pounds of Trash collected per customer per pickup  |  | 25.57            | 25.52   | 25.68    | 27.25    | 26.04                       | 26.14               | 26.38    | 25.27                       | 24.32           |
| Number of Trash and Recycling Customers  |  | 205,670          | 209,419 | 207,654  | 208,307  | 207,862                     | 211,019             | 211,210  | 211,087                     | 211,603         |
| Pounds of Recycled materials collected per customer per pickup (every other week)                              |  | 19.61            | 19.10   | 19.28    | 21.60    | 20.06                       | 17.97               | 19.03    | 18.10                       | 18.74           |
| Pounds of Yard Trimmings collected per customer per week   |  | 9.05             | 10.43   | 10.75    | 10.70    | 9.66                        | 8.42                | 10.32    | 8.47                        | 9.15            |
| Number of Yard Trimmings/Organics Customers  |  | 204,506          | 208,209 | 206,464  | 207,074  | 206,657                     | 209,775             | 209,973  | 209,846                     | 210,128         |
|  |  |                  |         |          |          |                             |                     |          |                             |                 |
| Total tons of Dead Animals Collected from COA rights-of-way and the animal shelter                             |  | 34               | 31      | 4        | 3        | 10                          | 3                   | 5        | 11                          | 30              |

## Austin Resource Recovery Curbside Collection and Drop Off Center Operations



### Estimated Percent of Curbside Collected Materials Diverted from Landfills by ARR

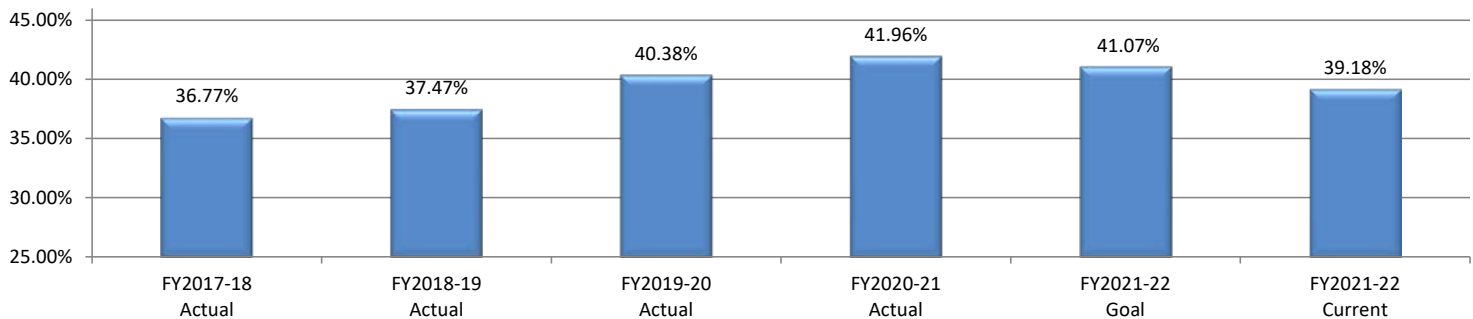


#### Reporting Status and Diversion Results for All Categories of Waste Generation

| Category of Waste Generation                                | FY2017-18 Actual | FY2018-19 Actual | FY2019-20 Actual | FY2020-21 Actual | FY2021-22 Goal | FY2021-22 Current |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| <b>Residential Waste Diversion (city serviced accounts)</b> | 36.77%           | 37.47%           | 40.38%           | 41.96%           | 41.07%         | 39.18%            |
| <b>Community Diversion Rate</b>                             | *                | *                | *                | *                | *              | *                 |

\*As prescribed in the Austin Resource Recovery Master Plan, the Department will conduct a detailed waste assessment study every five years to determine progress toward our Zero Waste goal. The first such study was published in 2015 and is titled Austin's 2015 Community Diversion Study. The study focused on estimating diversion from both ARR-serviced properties and commercial properties. Commercial properties include retail businesses, food service establishments, professional offices, industrial properties, institutional facilities, government facilities, and multifamily properties five units and larger. According to Austin's 2015 Community Diversion Study, Residential Waste Diversion Rate (city serviced accounts) represents approximately 15% and the Community Diversion Rate (accounts serviced by private waste haulers) represents approximately 85% of the total citywide wastage.

### Residential Waste Diversion (city serviced accounts)



| Category of Waste Generation        | CY 2018   | CY 2019   | CY 2020   |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>Commercial Tons Landfilled**</b> | 1,079,312 | 1,401,619 | 1,359,207 |
| <b>Commercial Tons Recycled**</b>   | 402,292   | 470,786   | 435,875   |
| <b>Commercial Organics Tons**</b>   | 80,906    | 102,215   | 81,436    |

\*\* Numbers reported here are compiled from self-reported data submitted by licensed private waste haulers via semi-annual tonnage reports required under Section 15-6-3 of the City Code on a calendar year basis and as such, ARR does not attest to the accuracy of these amounts. These numbers reflect data from 100-200 licensed haulers (number of haulers varies over time), and include haulers servicing dumpsters, roll-offs, construction and demolition debris, landscaping debris, and metal scrap. These numbers do not reflect all data sources included in Austin's 2015 Community Diversion Study.

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| <p align="center"> <b>Zero Waste Advisory Commission Meeting - February 2022</b><br/> <b>Single Stream Recycling Statistical Report</b><br/> <b>FY22: October thru December</b><br/> <b>Texas Disposal Systems (TDS) and Balcones Resources, Inc. (BRI)</b> </p> |
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| Month and Year  | Contractor  | Tons Delivered | Contractor Payments |                 |            |                         | Net Value to the City | Landfill Cost Avoidance |              |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------|---------------------|-----------------|------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
|                 |             |                | Revenue             | Processing Cost | Net Value  | Net Amount Due/(Owed) * |                       | \$ per ton value        | Cost Per Ton |
|                 |             |                |                     |                 |            |                         |                       |                         |              |
| October 14 2021 | TDS         | 1,008.56       | \$95,968            | \$91,275        | \$4,693    | \$4,693                 | \$4.65                | \$23.89                 | \$24,094     |
|                 | BRI         | 1,286.17       | \$86,775            | \$101,607       | (\$14,833) | (\$14,833)              | (\$11.53)             | \$23.89                 | \$30,727     |
|                 | Total       | 2,294.73       | \$182,743           | \$192,882       | (\$10,139) | (\$10,139)              |                       |                         | \$54,821     |
|                 |             |                |                     |                 |            |                         |                       |                         |              |
| October 31 2021 | TDS         | 1,002.72       | \$24,782            | \$50,136        | (\$25,354) | (\$25,354)              | (\$25.28)             | \$23.89                 | \$23,955     |
|                 | BRI         | 1,494.60       | \$235,970           | \$146,470       | \$89,500   | \$67,125                | \$44.91               | \$23.89                 | \$35,706     |
|                 | Total       | 2,497.32       | \$260,752           | \$196,606       | \$64,146   | \$41,771                |                       |                         | \$59,661     |
|                 |             |                |                     |                 |            |                         |                       |                         |              |
| November 2021   | TDS         | 2,549.49       | \$58,468            | \$127,475       | (\$69,007) | (\$69,007)              | (\$27.07)             | \$23.89                 | \$60,907     |
|                 | BRI         | 2,538.05       | \$367,601           | \$248,729       | \$118,872  | \$89,154                | \$35.13               | \$23.89                 | \$60,634     |
|                 | Total       | 5,087.54       | \$426,068           | \$376,203       | \$49,865   | \$20,147                |                       |                         | \$121,541    |
|                 |             |                |                     |                 |            |                         |                       |                         |              |
| December 2021   | TDS         | 2,058.14       | \$42,423            | \$102,907       | (\$60,484) | (\$60,484)              | (\$29.39)             | \$23.89                 | \$49,169     |
|                 | BRI         | 3,347.23       | \$444,099           | \$328,028       | \$116,071  | \$87,053                | \$26.01               | \$23.89                 | \$79,965     |
|                 | Total       | 5,405.37       | \$486,522           | \$430,935       | \$55,587   | \$26,570                |                       |                         | \$129,134    |
|                 |             |                |                     |                 |            |                         |                       |                         |              |
|                 |             |                |                     |                 |            |                         |                       |                         |              |
|                 |             |                |                     |                 |            |                         |                       |                         |              |
|                 | FY22 Totals | 15,284.96      | \$1,356,085         | \$1,196,627     | \$159,458  | \$78,348                |                       |                         | \$365,158    |

\* Net /Due(Owed) for TDS = (Revenue % X Value of Material) - Processing Cost

\* Net /Due(Owed) for Balcones = Net Value of Material = Gross Value of Material - Processing Cost  
then Net Value of Material X Revenue %