

**Recycling Resources Economic Opportunity Fund Grant Program
2012 - 2013 Project Application**

6.1 COVER SHEET

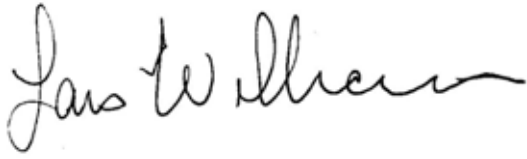
Attachment #1

Organization: City and County of Denver, Department of Public Works, Solid Waste Management
Project Title: Denver Recycling Drop-Off Center: Increased Access to Recycling and Composting
Address: 2000 W. 3rd Ave, 3rd Floor
City, State, Zip: Denver, CO 80223
E-Mail Address: Thomas.Strickland@denvergov.org **URL Address:** DenverGov.org/DenverRecycles
Phone Number: 303-446-3409
Fax Number: 303-446-3527
Federal Tax Identification Number: 84-6000580
Legal Tax Status (check one): ___ For-Profit ___ Nonprofit Govt. ___ School/University
Hub-and-Spoke Application: ___ Yes No
Did you attend Bidder's meeting? Yes, in person ___ Yes, on teleconference ___ No

By signing and submitting this application, the applicant agrees to operate the program as described in the Application for Funding and in accordance with the grant terms and assurances. The applicant agrees that the information provided in this application is, to the best of the applicant's knowledge and based on reasonable inquiry, true, accurate, and complete. The applicant understands that knowingly submitting any false information on this application could result in the project not being considered for funding or voiding any current or future contracts with the Department of Public Health & Environment.

Print name of Authorized Official: Lars Williams

Signature of Authorized Official:
Please insert electronic signature if submitting electronically or written signature if being sent by mail.



Date: 3/2/2012 Title: Director, Solid Waste Management

Project Director or Contact Person:

Name: Tom Strickland
Title: Recycling Program Administrator
Address: 2000 W. 3rd Ave, 3rd Floor
 Denver, CO 80223
Phone: 303-446-3409
E-Mail: Thomas.Strickland@denvergov.org

Financial Officer:

Name: Nancy Schnarr
Title: Sr. Accountant
Address: 201 W. Colfax, Dept. 611,
 Denver, CO 80204
Phone: 720-913-1761
E-Mail: Nancy.Schnarr@denvergov.org

Total Amount of Funds Requested: \$49,300
Total Matching/In-Kind Contributions: \$100,550
Total Project Cost: \$149,850

6.2 – PROJECT ABSTRACT

Denver Solid Waste Management (SWM) is seeking grant funding to establish the first, city-operated recycling drop-off center in Denver. The drop-off center is critically needed to provide a comprehensive recycling site in Southeast (SE) Denver and will greatly improve upon the existing recycling infrastructure in the City of Denver. RREO funding in the amount of \$49,300 will allow the City of Denver to begin implementation of this project that will have long-term economic and environmental benefits, and provide recycling options to a portion of the city that is underserved by current recycling infrastructure.

This project will take on two distinct strategies to achieve success. The **first strategy** will be site improvements at SWM's Cherry Creek Transfer Station (CCTS) to allow for placement of containers, and safe and easy access by the public who will use this site.

The **second strategy** will be to aggressively educate and market this recycling drop-off center to multi-family residents in Denver, a highly underserved population of our community with regards to recycling access.

The outcomes of this project will include easy access to recycling options in SE Denver, waste diversion data, and user feedback on education and marketing. Environmental benefits will include increased waste diversion and decreased greenhouse gas emissions. Economic benefits will include increased revenue generation and downstream job creation.

6.3 – APPLICATION NARRATIVE

A new recycling drop-off center in Denver will greatly increase the opportunity for residents to divert waste materials from landfills. Currently there are no City-owned or operated drop-off centers for the delivery of recyclable or compostable organics. The few recycling drop-off centers that do exist in Denver are primarily located in the northern and western parts of the city and operated by private companies. A publicly-run free recycling drop-off center in SE Denver will serve to augment the City's existing residential recycling collection service for single family homes, and provide multi-family residents, many of whom have limited or no recycling access, with increased access to recycling services. **This new recycling drop-off center would be unique in the community, as it would be the only free drop-off center to accept organic material for composting.** No such organic drop-off center currently exists in Denver.

6.3.1 – ECONOMIC IMPACT

Recycling & Composting	New Revenues	Jobs Created
Initial 8 months (Dec.'12 – Jun.'13)	\$49,400	4 – 6 FTE
Annually (12 months) at maturity	\$74,100	9 - 11 FTE

Job Creation. SWM estimates that the opening of a public drop-off center will have a significant impact downstream through the creation of recycling and composting jobs. Conservatively, successful implementation will result in the creation of 8-9 recycling jobs and 1-2 composting jobs.¹

New Revenues. Conservatively SWM expects to collect \$74,100 per year from the sale of recyclables and save an additional \$26,000 from avoided disposal cost.² Recycling processors and brokers will benefit from the increased sale of recyclables and composting processors will benefit from increased revenue.

¹ Job creation estimate based on recycling and recycling-reliant jobs measured by the Northeast Recycling Council in 2009 (i.e., recyclables collection/processing approximately 1 job/277 tpy and organics 1 job/942 tpy).

² Revenue estimate based on \$33/ton of 95% of recyclables and disposal savings based on \$16/ton trash disposal fees.

This new revenue is essential to the long term sustainability of this drop-off center as it will be used to support a full time on-site staff person to manage operations, pay for composting processing fees, host seasonal and special collection events, and cover operational costs of equipment and fuel.

6.3.2 – ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

Recycling & Composting	Total Tons Diverted	Total GHG Emissions Reduced in MTCO ₂ E
Initial 8 months (Dec.'12 – Jun.'13)	2,310	4,674
Annually (12 months) at maturity	3,465	7,011

Landfill Diversion. SWM expects the center at maturity will be capable of diverting an estimated 3,465 tons per year (tpy) of materials from landfills (2,365 tpy of recyclables³ plus 1,100 tpy of organics⁴).

Recovery of Valuable Materials. SWM already has in place contracts to process both single-stream recyclables and organic compostable organics. The end markets for these materials are well established.

Energy and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Benefits. Eliminating 3,465 tpy of mixed recyclables (single-stream recyclables) from landfills will annually reduce carbon emissions by 6,794 MTCO₂E.⁵ Composting 1,100 tpy of compostable organics (food waste, food-contaminated paper and yard waste) will annual reduce carbon emissions by an estimated 217 MTCO₂E.⁶

6.3.3 – INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT

Existing Infrastructure. Currently in Denver there is minimal recycling infrastructure in place for recycling drop-off and no existing infrastructure for compostable organics drop-off. The new drop-off center would be located at SWM’s Cherry Creek Transfer Station (CCTS), which is located on a half-acre property in Southeast Denver.

Development of Recycling Infrastructure. SWM’s objective is to develop a section of the CCTS property that will allow easy access for residents to drop off recycling and organic material for composting. The CCTS site is owned by Denver and is located on land that is relatively flat and cleared. Site development will include:

- Concrete slabs on grade with reinforced steel bars;
- Asphalt pavement for high auto traffic areas;
- Surrounding surface cover of crushed rock/gravel;
- Gating;
- Fencing;
- Lighting; and
- A small “kiosk” building for worker protection, storage, and record-keeping.

Mobile collection equipment designed for ease of use by residents will be placed on site. SMW will utilize existing collection equipment and service routes to transport materials collected to the appropriate processing facility.

The recycling drop-off center will accept household quantities of materials (quantities that fit in a passenger car or pick-up truck). Drop-off center operator may refuse large loads of materials or loads of unaccepted materials, such as refuse, household hazardous waste or electronic waste. Full-time drop-off center operators would be on-site to

³ Recyclable estimate assumed 25 pounds/person-year based on available data from Colorado & US drop-site programs of combined populations of Single-Family Units (134,000) and Multi-Family Units (55,200) in Southeast Denver.

⁴ Compostable organics estimate assumed 16 pounds/person-year (Charleston County, SC ratio of 1.5 tons of recyclables to 1 ton yard waste) based on population of Single-Family Units (134,000) in Southeast Denver and minimal compostables expected from Multi-family Units.

⁵ Calculated using US EPA’s Waste Reduction Model (WARM) using baseline scenarios for mixed recyclables.

⁶ Calculated using US EPA’s Waste Reduction Model (WARM) using baseline scenarios for organics.

verify household-load sizes, oversee site operations and manage materials collected. This drop-off center would be open to residents a minimum of 40 hours per week (exact hours and days to be determined by SWM) and secured after hours.

Impact to Under-Served Residents. SWM anticipates high participation and usage of a CCTS drop-off center from the targeted under-served populations. There are **three primary populations in Denver that will benefit from the opening of a new drop-off center.** SWM will target these populations to recruit participation and usage of the new drop-off center.

- 1. Residents of Multi-Family Units.** The first target group is residents living in Multi-Family Units (MFUs), specifically in Southeast Denver. There are about 69,200 large property MFUs (properties with greater than seven units) in Denver that are classified as commercial properties and serviced by private sector collection companies.⁷ There are currently no regulations in place that require MFUs or private haulers to provide recycling services. As such, a large portion of the estimated 150,000 Denver residents living in large property MFUs have limited access to on-site recycling. Southeast Denver is home to approximately 24,000 of these MFUs which comprises about 55,200 residents.⁸ The potential for diverting recyclables from these MFU's is substantial.
- 2. Single Family Residents in Southeast Denver.** The second target group for this center is residents living in are Single Family Units (SFUs) in Southeast Denver who periodically generate more recyclables than their residential recycling cart can hold. SE Denver boasts some of the highest residential recycling subscription rates in the City, which is a strong indicator that these residents will utilize additional waste diversion resources such as this drop-off center. There are an estimated 48,000 households and approximately 134,000 residents in Southeast Denver.⁹
- 3. Residents in Denver without access to composting services.** Access to composting services in Denver is extremely limited, with no private or public drop-off centers for compostable organics (food waste, food-contaminated paper and yard waste) in the city. Access to composting collection in the city is currently limited to 3,000 households on a pilot basis. Additionally, the new drop-off center will accept large branches and limbs for composting/and or mulching, a service which is currently not available to residents in Denver for free. A new recycling drop-off center will give residents the ability to divert significant volumes of compostable organics from the waste stream and will be heavily utilized by Southeast Denver residents.

Future Improvements: The resulting infrastructure improvements will open the door for SWM to consider expanding drop-off materials beyond single-stream recyclables and organic materials. In time, the collection and recycling of scrap metal, tires and textiles would be likely additions to the list of acceptable materials at this drop-off center. Additionally, SWM will be able to take the lessons learned from opening this center and apply it to the open two more publicly-operated recycling drop-off centers in the City.

⁷ Reference "A Master Plan for Managing Solid Waste in the Mile High City" (October 2010) available online at <http://www.denvergov.org/trashrecycling/TrashandRecycling/Resources/SolidWasteMasterPlan/tabid/440800/Default.aspx>

⁸ Data received from City & County of Denver's Assessor's Office (February 2012).

⁹ Reference "A Master Plan for Managing Solid Waste in the Mile High City" (October 2010).

6.3.4 – FEASIBILITY OF SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION AND SUSTAINABILITY

SWM has outlined the following Goals and Objectives for this project as well as specific actions that will be taken to ensure successful implementation.

Goals and Objectives: This project includes two strategies whose actions are expected to:

- Create a publicly-operated recycling drop-off center for recyclables and compostable organics in Southeast Denver.
- Increase waste diversion from both residents of Single Family and Multi-Family Units in Denver.
- Acquire Denver insight into successful operation of a recycling drop-off center.
- Educate MFU residents about local recycling drop-off options for all types of materials and how to actively recycle.

Strategy 1 – Recycling Infrastructure Improvements

Actions that will be taken to achieve the opening of the drop-off center:

- Develop operational budget, site plan and equipment needs.
- Determine staffing and contractor needs.
- Make site improvements.
- Create education and signage for on site.
- Collect data to support future planning.

Strategy 2 – Marketing recycling access and availability

Actions that will be taken to achieve the projects goals include:

- Promote use of drop-off center to residents of both Single-Family Units (SFUs) and Multi-Family Units (MFUs) utilizing multiple media and communication channels. Promotion strategies will include direct mail brochures, flyers, posters, local print advertising, electronic announcements (emails and social media networks).
- Host a Press Conference on opening day and work with local media to promote the center.
- Partner with local property management association to market the drop-off center to owners and operators of MFU properties.
- Work with City Council, Registered Neighborhood Organizations and other city agencies (like library branches and recreation centers) to help promote the drop-off center.
- Promote the center through schools in Southeast Denver.
- Utilize existing volunteers, such as Denver Master Composters, to promote the center at local Farmer's Markets and other public outreach events.

Challenges. SWM will manage the day-to-day operations of the recycling drop-off center, as well as all education and outreach. One expected challenge maybe in the marketing of this center to residents living in large property MFUs. SWM has never targeted this group in marketing campaigns before and there may be some trial and error in finding the most effective ways to successfully reach this audience. However, with our experienced public education staff and success in marketing recycling to SFU's, we are confident we will be able to effectively utilize our resources to reach MFU residents with our message.

With significant experience in operating recycling programs, seasonal drop-off program, and solid waste management facilities, SWM does not anticipate any operational challenges that cannot be overcome. With RREO funding of this project, SWM believes that the opening of a new recycling drop-off center at the CCTS can be practically implemented within a few month of grant approval. There are no anticipated circumstances that would cause the early termination of this project.

Sale of Recyclables and Costs of Processing Compostable Organics. SWM has a single-stream processing contract with Waste Management, Inc. (WMI) through 2020. The collection of single-stream recyclables will be integrated into existing SWM collection routes and delivered to WMI’s Franklin Street Materials Recovery Facility (MRF). WMI pays SWM for single-stream recyclables delivered to the MRF. The processing of compostable organics will be integrated into SWM existing contract with A1 Organics (A1) that is currently in use for compostable organics collected from the City’s residential compost collection pilot program.

Continuation of Project. The new recycling drop-off center is expected to be readily accepted and welcomed by the community. The recycling drop-off center will remain open to the public for the foreseeable future, and expanding the materials accepted at the center is a strong possibility as residents regularly ask for additional services. Community support is expected to be positive for the new drop-off center, as residents will associate this as an addition to existing services. Lessons learned from this project will be used by SWM to plan and add two additional drop-off centers in the future, and will be shared with other interested parties

Permits/Zoning. SWM will adhere to all regulatory requirements with regards to zoning and permitting a drop-off center.

Additional Background. This project will build on a great deal of work previously done and presently being conducted by SWM. In October 2010, Denver Public Works completed and released “A Master Plan for Managing Solid Waste in the Mile High City.” This 20-year plan serves to assess how to achieve waste management reduction goals and to establish short-term and long-term solid waste management policy direction for the City.¹⁰ A major component of Master Plan is to provide additional collection options for resident by opening recycling drop-off centers in the City. The opening of the recycling drop-off center would be a significant step in achieving the waste diversion goals as outlined in the Master Plan.

Compliance. The City-operated CCTS meets all state and local regulatory requirements and SWM is in compliance with all applicable regulatory requirements. The City will ensure that all work on this drop-off center will be in compliance with applicable regulatory requirements and aligns with the City’s Environmental Management System.

6.3.5 – MEASURABLE RESULTS AND OUTREACH

Metrics. Measurements used will include the quantities of recyclables collected; quantities of compostable organics collected; use of SWM staff time and vehicle time; participation (measured by the number of residents using the drop-off center); all project costs (e.g., labor, equipment, site improvements, etc.); evaluation of hauling costs; three periodic surveys of drop-off center users to learn how they heard about center; and conversion of diverted tons to environmental benefits. These measurements will be calculated, tabulated and reported to CDPHE.

Materials.

- **Single-stream recyclables:** Mixed paper, newspaper, cardboard, glass bottles and jars, steel cans, aluminum, milk cartons and mixed plastics.
- **Compostable Organics:** food waste, food-contaminated paper and yard waste including large branches and limbs.

¹⁰ Reference “A Master Plan for Managing Solid Waste in the Mile High City” (October 2010).

6.3.6 – EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS

SWM has been providing residential trash collection to Denver homes from more than 50 years and residential recycling for 20 years. SWM oversees all operations for these services as well as education and outreach to Denver residents on how to participate in programs. SWM has a fleet of 120 collection trucks and employs 186 people to run the operations, administration and management of the agency.

SWM has a skilled staff to manage and implement this project. Combined SWM staff has more than 200 years of experience in managing waste and diversion programs, community education and outreach for recycling, composting programs, and local government affairs. The overall project director will be Mr. Tom Strickland, Recycling Program Administrator, with operational support and oversight done by Ms. Charlotte Pitt, Operations Manager. Mr. Strickland and Ms. Pitt will be supported by the remainder of the Denver Solid Waste Management Senior staff team (Mr. Mike Lutz, Mr. Lars Williams and Mr. Dave Peachey), operations team (Mr. Rich Villa, Mr. Jason Roybal and Mr. Ken Arguello), planning and education team (Mr. Tom Strickland and Ms. Becky Goyton). Mr. Strickland and Ms. Pitt’s resumes are included in Appendix B. Other resumes are available upon request.

SWM has considerable resources available to ensure the success of this project. SWM has trucks, equipment and personnel to fully roll out the operations of a new drop-off center. Education resources will be supported by a professional graphic designer, and a network of neighborhood organization that support our education programs. SWM also has support from various City agencies including Denver Public Works, GreenPrint Denver, City Assessor’s Office, City Council, Mayor’s Office and many others who can provide expertise for this project.

SWM will be working to engage partners in the construction and operation phases of this new drop-off center. For example, utilizing City’ Street Maintenance paving crews may help to reduce construction costs. SWM will also engage other partners as needed to ensure the success of this drop-off center.

6.4 – METHODOLOGY AND WORK PLAN

6.4.1 – PROJECT SCHEDULE/TIMELINE

Work Plan. The following three goals comprise the Work Plan for this project assuming a contract start date of July 1, 2012:

Goal 1: Recycling Infrastructure Improvements			
Objective	Deliverable/ Product	Responsible Party	Completion Date*
1. Confirmation of final site plans and permits	Approval to begin construction at site	Charlotte Pitt and Tom Strickland	10/1/12
2. Site construction and secure equipment	Site clearing completed, concrete/asphalt laid, fences installed, gates installed, site and equipment placed	Charlotte Pitt	11/15/12
3. Create and order signage	Install signage	Tom Strickland	11/15/12
4. Staff assignments	Hire and training site operator	Rich Villa	11/1/12
5. Open Site	Press conference to open site	Tom Strickland	11/15/12

*Completion date must end on a regular business day (exclude weekends and holidays). Project time frame is July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013.

Goal 2: Marketing recycling access and availability			
Objective	Deliverable/ Product	Responsible Party	Completion Date*
1. Marketing to large MFUs, SE Denver and residents without access to composting services	1a. Direct mail brochure 1b. Advertisements 1c. Email & social media promotions	1a. Tom Strickland 1b. Tom Strickland 1c. Tom Strickland	1a. 10/20/12 1b. 10/20/12 1c. 10/20/12

*Completion date must end on a regular business day (exclude weekends and holidays). Project time frame is July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013.

Goal 3: Prepare Grant Report (and all Project Reporting and Controls)			
Objective	Deliverable/ Product	Responsible Party	Completion Date*
1. Collecting and Reporting Project Information	1a. Electronic Quarterly reports to CDPHE 1b. Final Grant Report - Electronic	1a. Tom Strickland 1b. Tom Strickland	1a. 9/30/12, 12/30/12, 3/31/13 & 6/31/13 1b. 8/31/13

*Completion date must end on a regular business day (exclude weekends and holidays). Project time frame is July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013.

Project Schedule. SWM has outlined project schedule below.

Objective	2012					2013								
	JULY-1-2012	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV-15-2012	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG
CHPHE Effective Start Date	X													
Recycling Infrastructure Improvements														
Confirmation of final site plans and permits		X	X											
Site construction and secure equipment				X	X									
Create and order signage				X	X									
Staff assignments				X	X									
Open Site					X									
Marketing recycling access and availability														
Education Outreach				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Prepare Grant Report														
Draft final report (by 30 th of month)											X			
Final report (by 30 th of month or before)														X
Quarterly Reports (by 30 th of month)		X			X		X		X			X		

6.5 BUDGET

6.5.1 – ITEMIZED BUDGET

Budget Category (July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013)	RREO Funds Requested	Matching/In Kind Amount	Total Amount
PERSONNEL EXPENSES: SUB-TOTAL		\$56,000	\$56,000
Drop site Operator: 1,400 hrs. (8 months) for SWM employee with fringe benefits @ \$40/hr.		\$56,000	\$56,000
EQUIPMENT: SUB-TOTAL		\$11,000	\$11,000
Containers (dumpsters, carts, roll-offs)		\$11,000	\$11,000
CONTRACTORS/SUBCONTRACTORS¹¹: SUB-TOTAL	\$49,300		\$49,300
Concrete slabs: 2,000 PSI concrete, w/ #4 reinforcing bars, 6" deep, includes material, labor & equipment. 70 cu. yd. @ \$180/cu. yd.	\$12,600		\$12,600
Access platforms and signage:	\$4,000		\$4,000
Gravel surface cover: 900 sq. ft., 6 in. deep base, compacted and to grade, includes material, labor & equipment @ \$8.50/sq. yd.	\$7,650		\$7,650
Gates: 4 cedar swing gates doors, each at 8 ft. high x 10 ft. long, post set in concrete, with locking poles, includes material & labor @ \$800/gate door	\$3,200		\$3,200
Fencing: 50 ft. of cedar fencing, 8 ft. high, post set in concrete, includes material & labor @ \$40/linear ft.	\$2,000		\$2,000
Asphalt Paving: 500 sq. yd. @ \$20/sq. yd.	\$10,000		\$10,000
Lighting & Electricity/Utilities:	\$3,500		\$3,500
Kiosk building: Pre-built 8 ft. x 6 ft. wood shed, painted, roofing, includes material & labor @ \$1,500/shed	\$1,500		\$1,500
Utilities/Electricity for kiosk building:	\$1,100		\$1,100
Site clearing: 50 hrs., includes labor & equipment @ \$75 hr.	\$3,750		\$3,750
MARKETING/ADVERTISING: SUB-TOTAL		\$10,000	\$10,000
Printing and mailing		\$10,000	\$10,000
OPERATING COSTS: SUB-TOTAL		\$23,550	\$23,550
Hauling Costs (fuel, vehicle maintenance, transportation, etc.)		\$5,000	\$5,000
Composting processing: 700 tons @ \$26.50/ton		\$18,550	\$18,550
PROJECT COSTS: SUB-TOTAL	\$49,300	\$100,550	\$149,850
INDIRECT COSTS:	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS:	\$49,300	\$100,550	\$149,850

6.5.2 – Budget Narrative

SWM is requesting RREO funds in the amount of \$49,300 to cover the costs of making necessary site improvements to the CCTS that would allow the City to open a recycling drop-off center. Site improvements will include, but are not limited to pouring of concrete slabs on grade with reinforced steel bars; surrounding surface cover laying of crushed rock/gravel; asphalt paving for high auto traffic areas; building of access platforms and

¹¹ Construction estimates calculated using "Costs Estimate Guides" from www.Get-A-Quote.net.

signage; installation of a new access gate and signage; placement of a small kiosk building; and installation of surrounding lighting.

The City will provide the in-kind funding for staff time to plan and manage the project; collection equipment/trucks for materials; collection containers; printing and mailing costs, as well as all the additional education costs.

The budget table defines a total project value of \$149,850 of which 67% will be donated as in-kind services from SWM. The grant request for this project is \$49,300. These are all direct costs, as no indirect costs will be charged to the grant.

6.6 – FACILITIES REQUIREMENTS

The staff within SWM will manage all operations, existing or new contracts, vehicles and drop-off center facilities that will be used in this project. SWM and City of Denver resources include the Cherry Creek Transfer Station, communication infrastructure, training resources, sign shop, printing, administrative support, and so on.

The City and County of Denver acknowledges its ability to provide proof of self-insurance and compliance history and to obtain any needed permit or regulatory licensing, if funded.

6.7 – APPENDIX

- A. Letter of Support: Councilman Chris Nevitt
- B. Resumes: Charlotte Pitt & Tom Strickland
- C. Reference: “A Master Plan for Managing Solid Waste in the Mile High City” Executive Summary (October 2010). Complete report available online at: <http://www.denvergov.org/trashrecycling/TrashandRecycling/Resources/SolidWasteMasterPlan/tabid/440800/Default.aspx>

CITY COUNCIL
City and County of Denver



Chris Nevitt

Councilman – District 7 / Council President

Email: Chris.Nevitt@DenverGov.org

City & County Building • Room 451

Denver, Colorado • 80202

720-337-7777 FAX: 720-865-9540

February 29, 2012

RREO Grant Review Group
for the Pollution Prevention Advisory Committee
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Dear Members of the RREO Grant Review Group:

I am writing in support of the Solid Waste Management (SWM) grant application to enhance waste diversion and recycling in Denver, as a mechanism to reduce Denver's overall carbon footprint. I believe the ability to implement this project is critical to the City of Denver's effort to achieve greater waste diversion. Colorado lags behind the nation in its waste reduction and recycling efforts, and despite its best effort to advance, Denver still faces many challenges. This project balances improving recycling infrastructure in Denver and educating residents on the availability of recycling services.

Most important to me is the increased recycling access to multi-family property residents, as these have been our most underserved residents, many of whom still do not have adequate and affordable access to convenient recycling. I will support Solid Waste Management by providing my expertise, advice and participation during this project and in their efforts to educate our residents on the new drop-off center.

By taking steps to increase efficient waste diversion and make recycling collection services more accessible to all demographics in Denver, this project will:

- Notably reduce materials disposed in the local landfill
- Reduce greenhouse gases through increased waste diversion
- Increase accessibility to composting services to Denver residents who do not have access to curbside service
- Provide a model that will lead to enhanced services in Denver as well as other communities

I support Denver's grant application, and strongly encourage the RREO Grant Committee to fund it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Nevitt", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Chris Nevitt
Denver City Councilman, District 7
Denver City Council President