RRS

# North Central Texas Council of Governments

## Organics Document Library

STAKEHOLDER MEETING

3.27.2025

# Agenda

01. INTRODUCTIONS

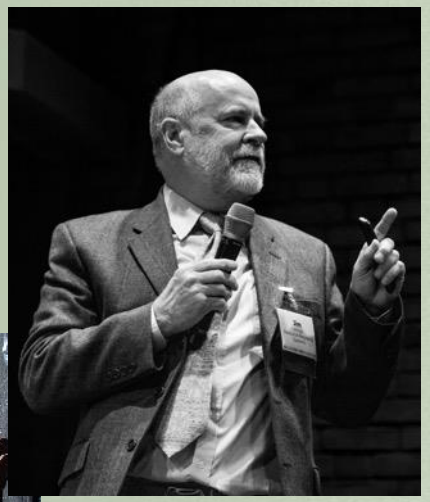
02. PROJECT GOAL

03. FEEDBACK ON STRUCTURE

04. QUESTIONS / COMMENTS

RRS

- 40+ Years Experience – 1500+ Project
- National leader with global outreach
- Interdisciplinary team
- Circular economy and organics experts- 190 organics and food scrap management projects
- Unique knowledge and experience in crafting sustainable, responsible, and impactful strategies

# Importance of Diverting Food Waste

Wasted organics compose approximately 46% of total residential waste generation in Texas

Benefits of composting organics include:

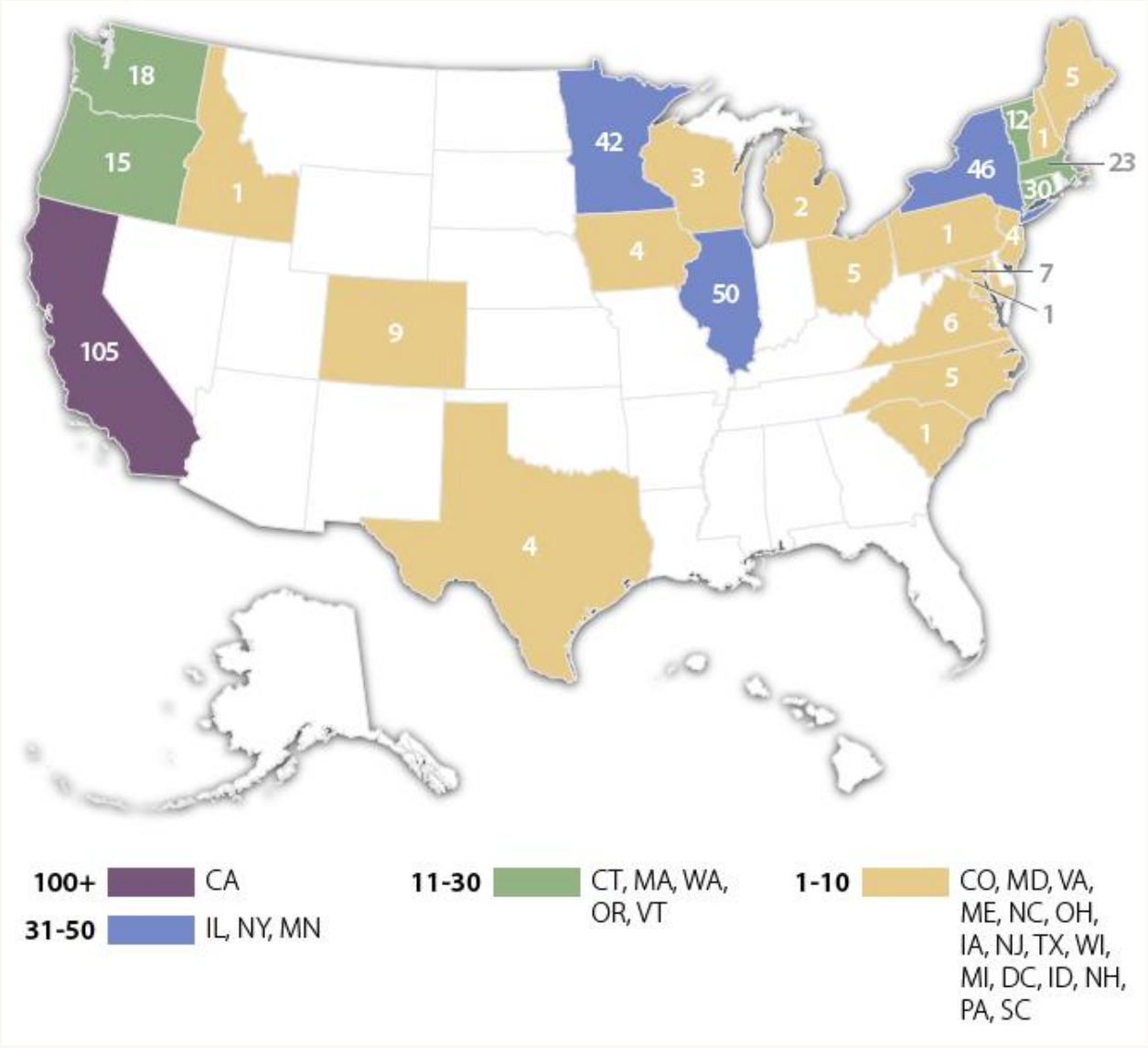
- Extend landfill lifetime
- Reduce methane emissions from landfill
- Recycle organic materials into compost, a valuable soil amendment
- Create green jobs
- Develop a localized circular economy


Source: *United States Environmental Protection Agency*

# National Trend Toward Food Waste Collection

According to a 2023 BioCycle Nationwide Survey, the number of households in the U.S. with access to food waste collection **grew by 49% since 2021.**

## Residential Food Waste Collection Programs by State




Source: *2023 BioCycle Nationwide Survey on Residential Food Waste Collection*

# Alignment and Adoption of Waste Diversion Goals

### AUSTIN, TEXAS

- Zero Waste Strategic Plan: Divert 90% of waste from landfills by 2040
- Implemented Universal Recycling Ordinance requiring all food-permitted businesses offer recycling and composting services

### DALLAS, TEXAS

- Zero Waste Plan: Divert 80% of organic waste by 2050
- Piloting an organics collection and processing service for businesses and events

### HOUSTON, TEXAS

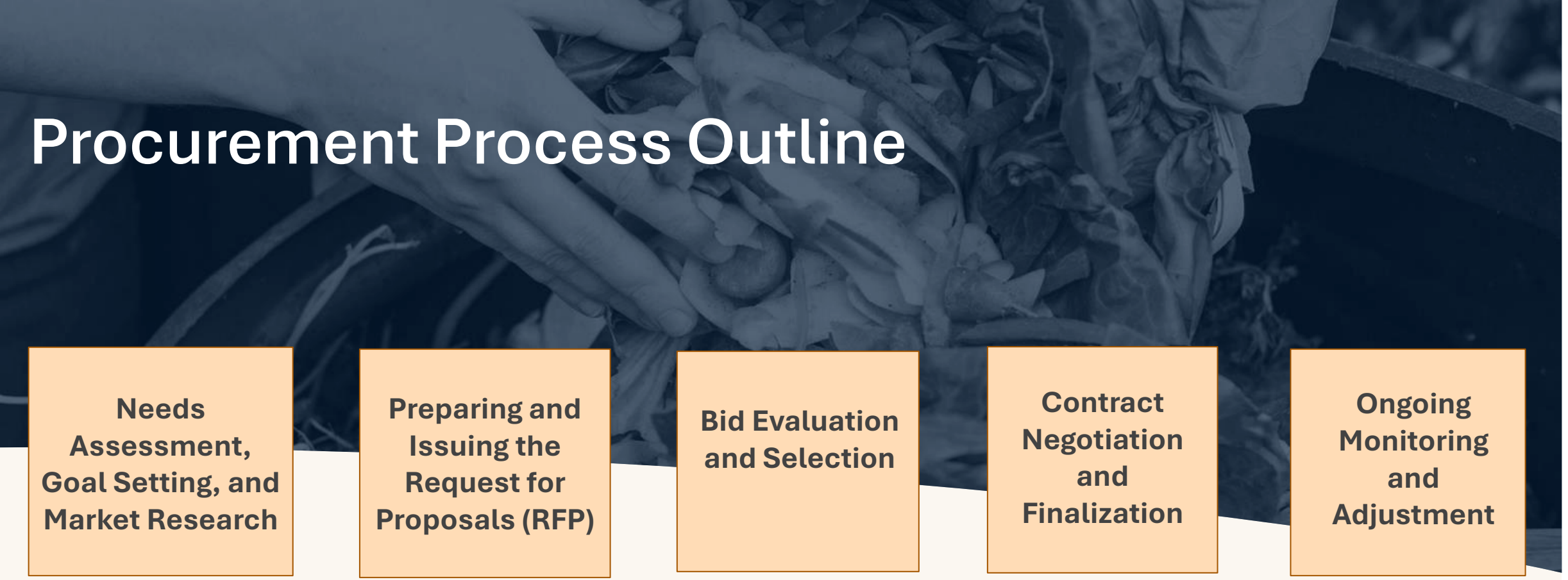
- Integrated Resource Recovery Management Plan: Divert 45% of waste by 2040
- Completed Food Waste Drop-Off pilot program for residents and conducts Annual Pumpkin Composting Drop-Off program

### SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

- Resource Recovery Comprehensive Plan: Divert 90% of waste by 2040
- Implemented Organic Material Collection Code and a Pay-As-You-Throw pricing structure for residential trash, recycling, and organic waste collection

# Objective

Develop a library of documents including but not limited to template requests for proposals (RFPs), template contracts, model ordinances, and other resources that communities may need when establishing or modifying collection and hauling services that accommodate organic materials management.



# Procurement Process Outline

**Needs Assessment, Goal Setting, and Market Research**

**Preparing and Issuing the Request for Proposals (RFP)**

**Bid Evaluation and Selection**

**Contract Negotiation and Finalization**

**Ongoing Monitoring and Adjustment**

*Anything missing?*

# Needs Assessment, Goal Setting, and Market Research

> Identify Current Waste and Recycling Activities & Attitudes
> Assess Organic Material Production
> Evaluate Infrastructure of Regional Service Providers
> Alignment with Local, County, and State Regulations
> Goals and Targets
> Organics Services Requirements
> Single or Multiple Haulers

# Key Components:
## Needs Assessment, Goal Setting, and Market Research


- Wasted organics accounts for 3.3 million annual tons of material going to landfills in the NCTCOG region
- 10 facilities exist in the NCTCOG region that have food waste processing capacity
- Establish goals to guide work:
  - > High diversion & zero waste
  - > Universal provision or access to services
  - > Mandatory subscription
  - > Residential opt-in or opt-out service

# Preparing and Issuing the Request for Proposals (RFP)

- Key components of an organic waste collection RFP
  - Contract Terms
  - Subcontractors
  - Performance Metrics
  - Incentives & Penalties
  - Right to Direct Changes
  - Pricing Structure
  - Fees (administrative, contamination)
  - Purchasing Preferences
- Scope of Hauler Services
  - Materials Accepted
  - Collection Containers, Vehicles, & Frequency
  - Customer Support
  - End-Market Use

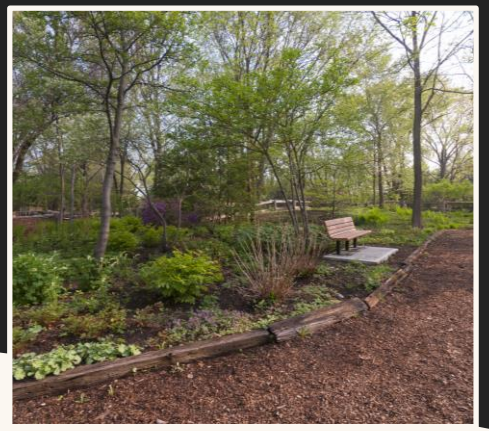
# Key Components:
## Preparing and Issuing the Request for Proposals (RFP)


- Pay-as-you-throw (PAYT) pricing structures can incentivize recycling and organics diversion
- Promote behavior change through education & outreach:
  - > Bin tags
  - > Kitchen pails
  - > Presentations & workshops
  - > Website development
  - > Brochures & newsletters
- Diversion & contamination rates can guide the work of haulers

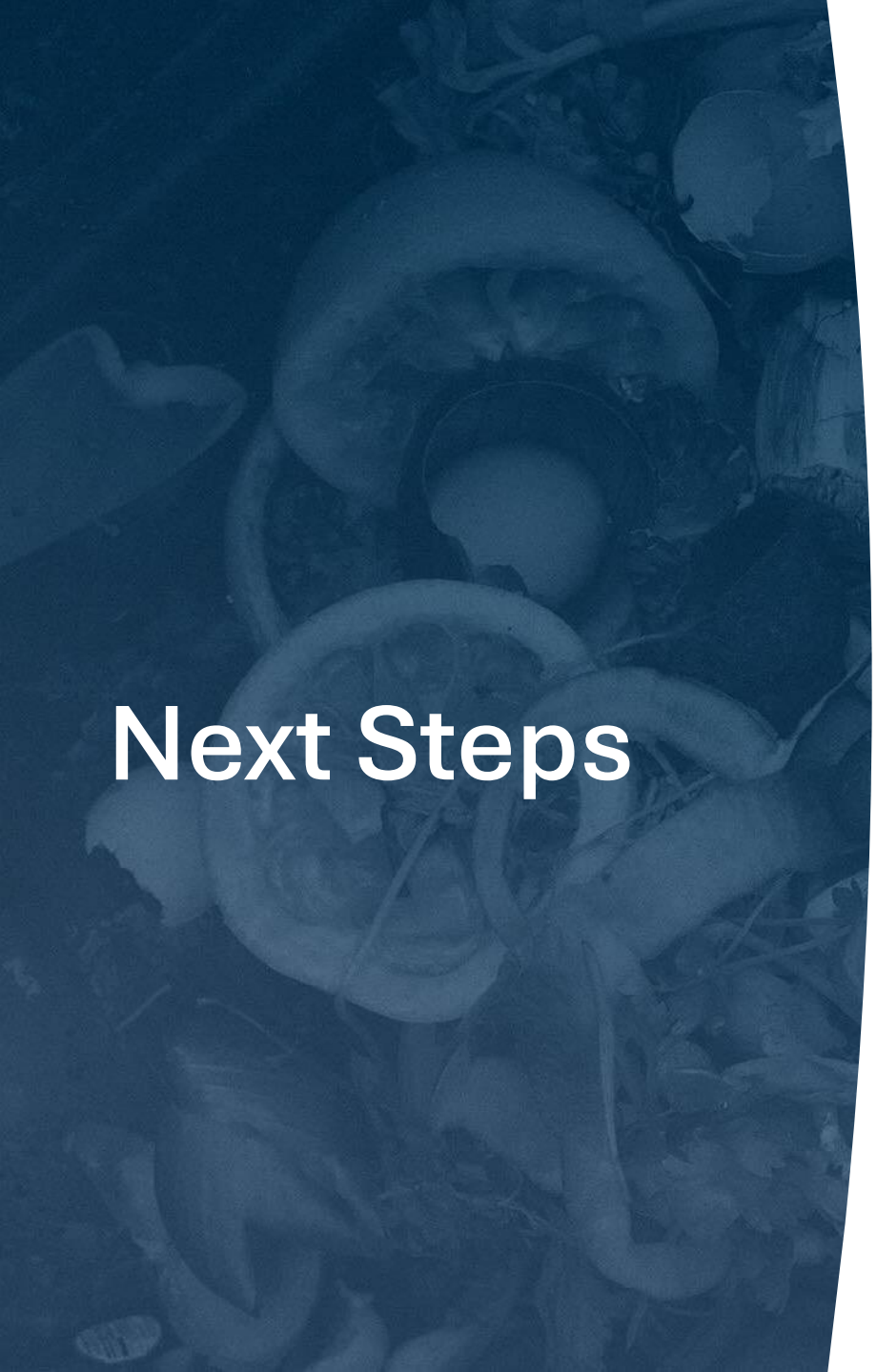
# Bid Evaluation and Contracting

- Bid Evaluation and Selection
  - > Experience
  - > Processing Capabilities
  - > Sustainability Practices
  - > Pricing
  - > Compliance with Local Laws
  - > Customer Service
  - > Community Engagement
- Contract Negotiation and Finalization
- Ongoing Monitoring and Adjustment

# Key Components:
## Bid Evaluation and Contracting



- Ensuring all contract components and services are delivered at the highest quality, while also weighing in cost
- Ongoing education and monitoring of waste goals
- Ability to update or amend contract with changing landscape
- End-market use of compost and/or mulch



# Next Steps

- Finalize content for resource guide
- Identify model RFPs, contracts, and ordinances
- Develop templates
- Compile additional guidance
  - > Guide for growing organics processing infrastructure
  - > Pros/Cons of incorporating yard waste with food scraps collection
  - > Incentivizing participation, i.e., PAYT
  - > Other ideas?

# Questions, Comments, Adjustments?


# Thank you!

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