



## **North Front Range Regional Wasteshed Planning Fall 2016 Public Forums**

### **Raw Data Report**

This report includes all the data collected at the following forums hosted by the CSU Center for Public Deliberation and the Larimer County Facilitation Team:

Loveland, September 15  
Fort Collins, September 17  
Wellington, September 21  
Estes Park, September 29

Compiled by Martín Carcasson and the staff at the CSU Center for Public Deliberation

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## Background on the North Front Range Regional Wasteshed Planning

Visit the **North Front Range Regional Wasteshed Planning** at <https://www.larimer.org/wasteshed/>

Representatives from regional public agencies concerned with waste and recycling have formed a coalition to collect information, listen to the public, and conduct long-term planning for the future of the regional wasteshed. The term “wasteshed” is used to describe an area where waste, much like water or air, does not adhere to boundaries. The regional wasteshed of Colorado’s north Front Range is an area in and around Larimer County consisting of all solid waste generated by residents and businesses from the cities, towns, and unincorporated areas. Current coalition members represent Larimer County, The City of Fort Collins, The City of Loveland, and The Town of Estes Park.

A new urgency for collaborative planning has been spurred by the inevitable, upcoming closure of the Larimer County landfill (expected around 2025) and by predictions of continued regional population growth.

In the north Front Range region, responsible solid waste management has long been a shared goal of the governing agencies within Larimer County. The sister cities of Loveland and Fort Collins collaborated with the County to open a jointly owned landfill (5887 N. Taft Hill Rd) in 1972 to ensure environmental regulations can be met for trash disposal in our region. With a closure date for the Larimer County landfill approaching (2025), these partners plus the neighboring community of Estes Park are once again working together, to evaluate waste management needs and develop guidance plans into the next 50-100 years.

The Coalition was formed in 2015 to address the future of solid waste management in light of the upcoming Larimer County landfill closure. The Coalition includes a Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) made up of elected officials from Fort Collins, Loveland, Estes Park, and Larimer County, and a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) made up of staff members from the same entities.

The quarterly meetings of the Policy Advisory Committee are open to the public and its members include:

- City of Loveland Councilmember, Leah Johnson (chair)
- City of Fort Collins Mayor, Wade Troxell (co-chair)
- City of Fort Collins Councilmember, Ross Cunniff
- Town of Estes Park Mayor Pro Tem, Wendy Koenig
- Larimer County Commissioner, Steve Johnson

## Overview of Forum's Process

The four forums were each identical. They began with a presentation summarizing the Wasteshed Coalition and the overall project, followed by a short keypad process to identify who is in the room. The first interactive session focused on reacting the presentation, data from the 2007 Waste sort, and a summary of the citizen survey, particularly in term of the barriers mentioned to increased recycling and composting. Then a second presentation focused on the Regional Wasteshed Planning Study, and the seven infrastructure options detailed in that report. The second interactive session focused on future strategies regarding the wasteshed.

## Initial Presentation

The initial presentation was given by Michelle Bird, the Larimer County Public Affairs Manager. She provided an overview of the Wasteshed Coalition, the current infrastructure in the wasteshed, the makeup of the Political Advisory Committee and Technical Advisory Committee, and the timeline for the overall process (see figure 1 below). She also highlighted the 2007 Wasteshed Sort Analysis (an analysis of what is taken to the landfill (see figure 2 for a graph that was provided at the event from the 2007 report), the ongoing 2016 Wasteshed sort, and the Regional Wasteshed Planning Study. Links to all these reports are available at the Wasteshed website at <https://www.larimer.org/wasteshed/>. The slides from the initial presentation are available online at <http://col.st/90Xps>

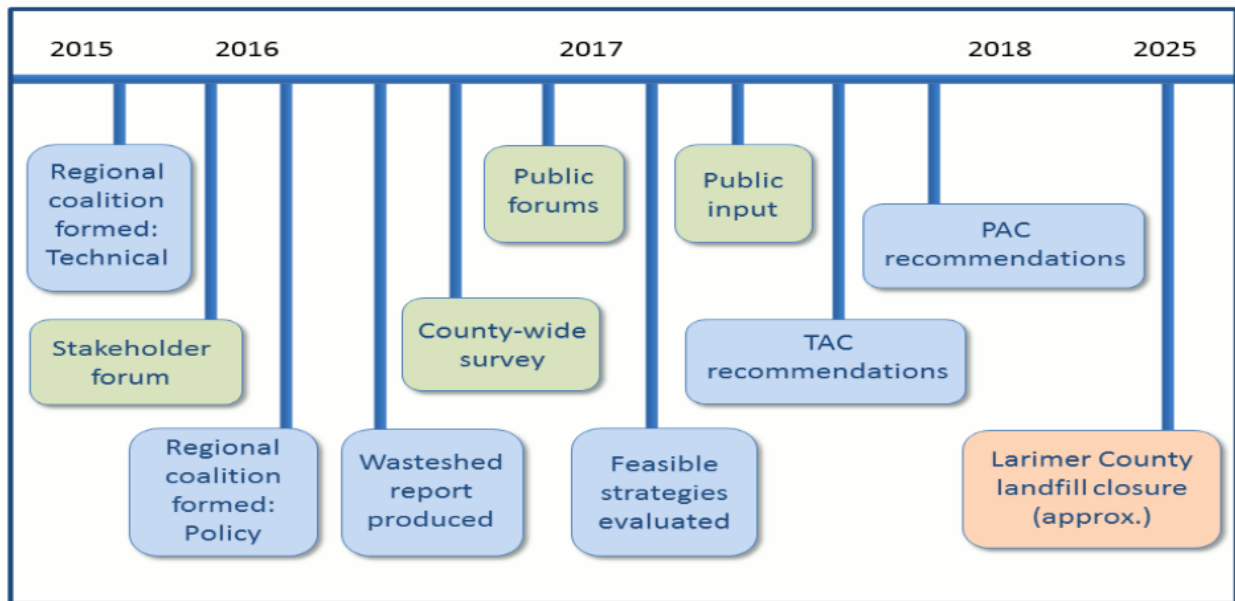
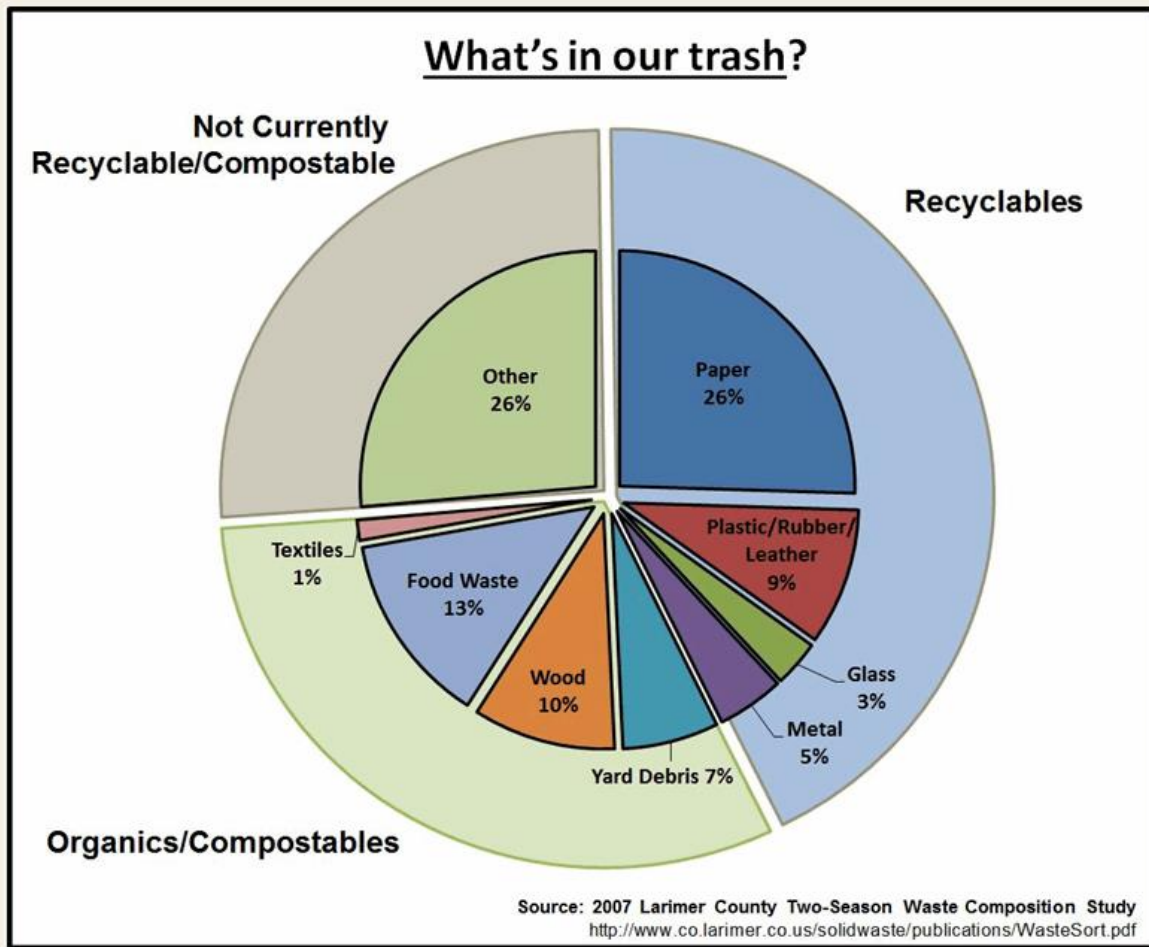


Figure 1: Project timeline presented at meetings

**Figure 2:** Graph from the 2007 Larimer County Two-Season Waste Composition Study (a handout that was provided at the event)



## Keypad Session Results

After the introductory presentation, CPD Director Martín Carcasson ran a short wireless keypad session, primarily to identify who was in the room. Participants were given keypads and responded to a series of questions. Compiled results across the four meetings are below:

### 1.) Where do you live? (multiple choice)

	Responses				%	Total
	Loveland	FC	Wellington	EP		
Fort Collins	5	18	4	0	50%	27
Loveland	1	0	1	0	4%	2
Estes Park	0	0	0	10	19%	10
Berthoud	0	0	0	0	0%	0
Wellington	0	0	9	0	17%	9
Other town in Larimer County	1	0	0	0	2%	1
Rural Larimer County	0	1	2	0	6%	3
Outside Larimer County	1	0	1	0	4%	2
	8	19	17	10		54

**2.) Where do you primarily work? (multiple choice)**

	Responses					Total
	Loveland	FC	Wellington	EP		
Fort Collins	6	16	8	1	67%	31
Loveland	1	0	0	0	2%	1
Estes Park	0	0	0	4	9%	4
Berthoud	0	0	0	0	0%	0
Wellington	0	0	3	0	7%	3
Other town in Larimer County	0	0	0	0	0%	0
Rural Larimer County	0	0	3	0	7%	3
Outside Larimer County	1	2	1	0	9%	4
	8	18	15	5		46

**3.) What decade were you born? (multiple choice)**

	Responses					Total
	Loveland	FC	Wellington	EP		
1920s	0	1	0	0	2%	1
1930s	0	0	3	3	11%	6
1940s	0	2	1	6	17%	9
1950s	3	7	4	1	28%	15
1960s	1	6	4	0	20%	11
1970s	1	1	3	0	9%	5
1980s	1	3	1	0	9%	5
1990s	2	0	0	0	4%	2
2000s	0	0	0	0	0%	0
Prefer not to answer	0	0	0	0	0%	0
	8	20	16	10		54

**4.) What best describes your home? (multiple choice)**

	Responses					Total
	Loveland	FC	Wellington	EP		
Apartment/condo	0	3	1	1	9%	5
Townhome/duplex	0	2	1	2	9%	5
Single family home	7	14	10	8	68%	39
Mobile home	0	0	0	0	0%	0
Ranch/farm	0	1	6	0	12%	7
Other	1	0	0	0	2%	1
	8	20	18	11		57

**5.) How do you primarily dispose of your garbage? (Garbage is waste that will go to a landfill). (multiple choice)**

	Responses					Total
	Loveland	FC	Wellington	EP		
I use a curbside pick-up service	8	17	10	9	76%	44
I take it to the dumpster/bin in my neighborhood/building	0	3	5	0	14%	8
I take it to a transfer station outside my neighborhood	0	1	1	0	3%	2
Other	0	1	2	1	7%	4
	8	22	18	10		58

**6.) How do you primarily dispose of your recyclable materials (select all that apply) (multiple choice)**

	Responses					Total
	Loveland	FC	Wellington	EP		
I use a curbside pick-up service	8	12	5	4	50%	29
I take it to a bin in my building/neighborhood	0	3	4	0	12%	7
I take it to a transfer/recycling center within the community	3	14	12	4	57%	33
Other	0	4	1	7	21%	12
	11	33	22	15		81

For this question, participants could choose all that apply, so % is the % of participants that chose that option

**7.) How do you dispose of your food scraps? (Select all that apply) (multiple choice)**

	Responses					Total
	Loveland	FC	Wellington	EP		
Down the sink into the garbage disposal	4	8	10	4	45%	26
Into the garbage can	6	16	10	10	72%	42
Into a separate bin for composting	3	5	4	0	21%	12
Other	1	4	1	0	10%	6
	14	33	25	14		86

For this question, participants could choose all that apply, so % is the % of participants that chose that option

**Session 1: Reacting to the current situation**

Participants were then placed in small groups for conversation. They were asked to introduce themselves, and then focus on three topics:

- (A) Their initial reactions to the presentation and information provided
- (B) Their reaction to the waste composition study (the graph displayed on Figure 2)
- (C) Their reaction to a worksheet that provided a summary to a key question on the survey focused on the obstacles to increased recycling and composting.

## 1.1 Summary of Barriers to Recycling and Composting Worksheets

Participants were provided a list of barriers to recycling and composting, derived from an analysis of the citizen survey. The list was divided into 5 categories, with a few specific arguments under each. Participants were asked to number the top 5 specific arguments, in order, they believed were the most important to overcome. The chart below shows how often each argument was labeled on worksheets (in some cases, participants “X’d” five arguments rather than numbered them in order, in which case we counted all X’s as 3’s). The points column was scored by giving 5 points if something was ranked 1<sup>st</sup>, 4 if ranked 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3 if ranked 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2 if ranked 4<sup>th</sup>, and 1 if ranked 5<sup>th</sup>.

<b>Lack of knowledge</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>5th</b>	<b>Points</b>
Don't know the importance of recycling	0	2	7	0	2	31
Confused about what can/can't be recycled	3	7	17	4	0	102
Doubts about recycling's efficacy	2	3	4	0	6	40
Total for this section	5	12	28	4	8	173
<b>Lack of interest/effort</b>						
Too busy	1	0	5	1	1	23
Not a priority	0	1	6	2	0	26
Cost & convenience more important than environmental concerns	2	2	13	2	1	62
Total for this section	3	3	24	5	2	111
<b>Lack of convenience / simple options</b>						
No curbside pickup	5	2	6	0	1	52
Collections are not frequent enough	1	0	1	0	0	8
Limited options in multi-family residences or businesses	1	2	4	1	3	30
Concerns about composting (doing it correctly, costs of materials, unsanitary, etc.)	2	2	7	1	1	42
Lack of space in your home or yard to recycle and/compost	2	2	7	1	0	41
Insufficient, inconvenient, or undesirable recycling drop-off locations	2	2	7	0	3	42
Total for this section	13	10	31	3	8	215
<b>Lack of incentives / penalties / regulations</b>						
Additional costs tied to recycling certain items	3	2	5	2	1	43
Additional costs of initial composting set up	0	5	5	2	0	39
Low cost of simply throwing things away	3	3	11	1	1	63
Too few material bans (Styrofoam, plastic bags, etc.)	1	1	3	0	2	20
Not allowed in my neighborhood due to HOA regulations or concern about wildlife	0	1	0	0	2	6
Total for this section	7	12	24	5	4	171
<b>Lack of infrastructure</b>						
Need composting options beyond backyard composting	7	1	12	1	3	80



## 1.2 Written comments on participant worksheets

Bold represents the main categories from the worksheets, italics the summaries from the survey analysis, and additional text are comments made from participants.

### **Category 1: Lack of knowledge:**

*Don't know the importance of recycling*

- Important to whom? they don't know importance or rather they don't agree or value it?
- Don't like phrasing- suggests recycling is important (some feel otherwise/ not black and white)

*Confused about what can/can't be recycled*

- Or how finding other alternatives for example where to donate fabric scraps”

*Doubts about recycling's efficacy*

- (No comments)

*Additional comments under Lack of Knowledge*

- No motivation in connection to their value
- Never be convenient- parallel collection to no extra fee
- “Not a problem for me
- Education into motivation, does it connect with their values only us recycling groupies not everyone is motivated by recycling for recycling's sake. Bad outreach.”
- contamination of recycling stream devalues recycling, purity across recycling/compost vs. trash costs
- we're beyond this!
- require deposit on bottles and cans (we tried in the 70s and 80s but big corporate killed it with \$\$\$). Coors was leading the opponents of deposit system)
- need signs at transfer station wish
- I knew why people don't recycle
- conflicting information

### **Category 2: Lack of interest/effort**

*Too busy*

- (No comments)

*Not a priority*

- (No comments)

*Additional comments:*

- I do recycle, doesn't apply

### **Category 3: Lack of convenience/simple options**

*No curbside pick up*

- Would like curbside pick up of yard waste
- Nowhere to recycle Styrofoam packing chunks near me (only Styrofoam peanuts)

*Collections are not frequent*

- (No comments)

*Limited options in multi-family residences or businesses*

- (No comments)
- Concerns about composting (doing it correctly, costs of materials, unsanitary, etc.)*

- (No comments)
- Lack of space in your home or yard to recycle and/compost*

- (No comments)
- Insufficient, inconvenient, or undesirable recycling dropoff locations*

- (No comments)
- Additional comments:*

- South end of Horsetooth Reservoir no longer has recycling service! (I think it is because of cross contamination in large dumpster, but why not CURBSIDE!?)
- I don't have a barrier because my garbage hauler picks up our small trash can of non recyclables and I have a large bin for recyclables
- Our glass is taken by us to the transfer station on Timberline and weeds and yard waste we take to Hagemans
- education should fix this
- no composting efficiently

### **Category 3: Lack of incentives/penalties/ regulations**

*Additional costs tied to recycling certain items*

- (No comments)

*Additional costs of initial composting set up*

- (No comments)

*Low cost of simply throwing things away*

- (No comments)

*Too few material bans (Styrofoam, plastic bags, etc.)*

- bans show leadership towards sustainable practices
- what to do with styrofoam from big boxes from China

*Not allowed in my neighborhood due to HOA regulations or concern about wildlife*

- (No comments)

*Additional comments:*

- It can be difficult in transporting metal items to a recycling location
- no price incentive likely
- Apartment complex relies on a DUMPSTER and is not required to have a recycling system!
- If town/county were more supportive, it would help

### **Lack of infrastructure**

*Need composting options beyond backyard composting*

- "This is improving- Timberline station accepts yard waste"
- I'm open to backyard composting but need more info and possible incentives
- 
- need curbside with cost embedded to make a real change.  
need a composting site nearby
- I currently backyard compost, but do think that city wide composting will be critical to diverting waste
- need transfer station for organics
- we need pickup compost down to industry compost
- Need somewhere to take compost
- need a clean recycling center with better signage

### **Participant comments regarding any additional barriers**

- More emphasis on reduce and reuse  
Create more reuse markets (like Goodwill for clothes)- for other materials that everyone will eventually know where to take certain materials  
More sorting of garbage to pull out recyclables
- The people here today are obviously already interested in Wasteshed issues. My answers above would be different if I was answering for my friends who don't care to make the effort! Massive amounts of education seems to be needed. I still know people who are not recycling. They have various stupid excuses. I think it is at least partly related to confusion about what is ok to recycle.
- My apartment complex relies on a dumpster, has no city requirement at this time to provide a recycle bin  
My complex has no composting. Currently, I bring my compost to my son's home
- Lack of advertising- The city and county could do a better job of educating through advertising when it comes to materials that can be composted and recycled
- Automatic provision of recycling and organics collection  
Waste, organics, recycling parity
- Require manufactures to pay for disposal and product packaging  
Interest in more bio degradable packaging development
- How many pyramids of Gaza can be fit into current landfill on basis of cubic volume?
- standardization would help  
charge every household and business a recycle fee like Loveland- or tax like Boulder
- water bottles? beer/soda cans?- what can we do?
- -better signage at transfer station  
-clearer and healthier transfer station  
- to simplify recycle "codes" to know what can be recycled  
-try to limit amount of styrofoam that is put into landfill  
- try to work on making recyclable "new" materials  
-increase efficiency so that less needs to be recycled  
-work on legislation to minimize packaging materials  
-charge people for the "true" cost of materials including cost of recycling the "waste" materials of the packaging
- I don't have barriers for what EP transfer station takes. Paint residues and toxic substances are a problem. I have taken pain to FC, but batteries etc can be a problem. Pine needles, cones could be ground up by a matching and people could pay to have this done and give this back to people to put the nutrients back in the soil. The bigger picture is to get small farmers to form co-ops to take manure and vegetables to a large facility that combines these ingredients to make methane and capture and sell that fuel. Large agriculture is doing it because quantity makes it cost effective
- Charge individuals on the basis of their use
- Thank you for listening to my ideas!
- The current recycling center in EP is a disgrace- dirty/poorly signed/covered with pigeon poop. This discourages people from using the facility

### 1.3 Table Notes from Session 1 - Reactions to waste composition graphic

(Each box is a different table)

<p>Composition of what goes into landfill confusing. Thought it was recycle. (Last slide) Shocked by numbers in presentation Concern that greenhouse gases increase with landfill Food waste and green waste should be composted Numbers on recyclables confusing. Where does composting go? New facility in Weld County We could have a transfer station to get composting to the facility in Weld Hard to keep styrofoam and plastic out of composting Composting is nasty. It gets smelly really fast Need to transport stuff daily to keep odor down A-1 Organics: Organic waste taken to Las Vegas Composting at CSU expanding to academic buildings</p>
<p>Part 2: -compared to CA, information is inaccessible -Larimer County website's list of recyclables is very generic -there needs to be a focus on materials that can't be recycled -state has very little authority over recycling -local policies need to have designated council members overseeing process; better oversight -education is not enough to get the public to act, policies must be instated V.S. -change starts with education -waste paper prices -how do we keep costs low while doing what's best for the environment? -people do not know the importance of recycling -construction creates more waste - new homes = more waste</p>
<p>During this time our table was talking with Steven about some questions: 1. Are large appliances recyclable? Steven: Yes, place with other appliances. There is a charge because commodity markets are down. 2. Possible to refuse items? Steven: On website we notify them that they cannot bring these things - they ultimately make a choice. 3. Landfill bans? Steven: If you ban something - it ends up in ditches etc.</p>
<p>- "Staggering" when describing the amount of recyclables ending up in the landfill. - Noted the lack of knowledge within the community surrounding what can be recycled. +Value the need to separate glass -Participant noted they did not like that it has to be transferred all the way to Denver + Interested in the glass recycling centers in Fort Collins and were curious how it is free. ~ Recycling needs to be more convenient for businesses and home owners. We have to reduce our footprint and we cannot sustain this rate. We will just fill up another landfill, especially with our population growth. ~ A participant noted the difference of needs between rural homes and suburban households. -There has been a disappearance of rebates for restaurants for recycling and there should be incentives for them.</p>
<p>• where is the cardboard included on the pie chart? o We find out it is in the paper category, which is confusing to them because of the ordinance to separate cardboard o Cardboard takes up a lot of room in landfills • How do you recycle cardboard in Wellington? Other than driving to Fort Collins o Timberline has an option, but you still have to go somewhere out of the way</p>
<p>want more places that are closer fro recycling wood, and concrete. one couple from the east coast is shocked at the lack of recycling in Colorado. this brought up value tension between the couples, the younger couple tried stressing the importance of recycling while the older couple expressed why should we when land fill is so cheap. high value of money .</p>
<p>Does anything surprise you from this information? • I don't like when people present old information. We should have had more current information presented o If it was more current, I definitely think less recyclables would be going into the trash • Schools are doing fairly well on education • 75% of what's in the land fill doesn't need to be there • There has to be another land fill, but it may be smaller Do the results concern you? • Wood has probably increased • If things are going to places other than Fort Collins, the wood may not be getting recycled Any other comments: We visited the landfill in buffalo NY was created where they collect the methane gas and they use it to grow tomatoes. They built it with that in mind. With a smaller land fill will that</p>

be more possible then Reach out and see what others are doing. Re-purposing and rein-  
visioning

Part 2: • Surprise and concern - paper: It's the easiest to recycle! Why is this still a problem?!  
This may be an easy one to tackle because it could be remedied quickly! (from the politician) •  
Negative stories/rumors about recycling going to waste - Issue of trust- do we trust the places to  
do what they say with what we are recycling? - If it goes into a landfill anyway, then why do we  
even try to recycle? - Education needed because people don't trust the data. We need to trust  
the data and if we can't people are going to continue thinking they can't make an impact. - We  
need to make sure what is supposed to be happening with our recycling IS happening. -  
THEME: MISCOMMUNICATION. How do we handle this miscommunication? Clearly the  
advertising and education were doing now isn't working. What might work? Work on building  
trust. - People need to understand the process and unless they do they wont think they are  
making an impact. - A lot of concern about the truths/misconceptions about glass. What do we  
do with it? Why does some go to the land fill? (expert came over to explain the difference  
between recycling broken glass vs. glass in one piece). - When a cost is added to something  
like recycling (which is good for the environment and people should e doing as members of  
society) people become distrustful because they are mistrustful of where that money is going  
to/if it going to what it needs to be. DISTRUST.

Concerns about plastic bags, plastic bottles. Want separate recycling area for Estes Park

#### **1.4 Table notes on reaction to the barriers on the survey worksheet. What items do you agree or disagree with from the list?**

Convenience is a problem Outside Larimer County haulers don't have to offer recycle bins At  
CSU recycle bins are everywhere Cost is a problem Trip fees (landfill fees) are greater than  
recycle fees. Landfill fees are ridiculously high Cost/value of items varies. Paper worth more  
than aluminum. Paper is easy to recycle because it's clean. Paper holds its value well Public  
Participation is a problem Cans found in garbage all the time Recycling is an "evolution". 20's  
more carefree. Students don't always participate. College age kids don't generally care. People  
don't care Past experience can affect participation. For example, people who grew up in rural  
farming communities burned their trash Lack of Education is a problem Need to start teaching  
kids early. Then kids will prompt parents People should know aluminum (cans) are recyclable  
Collection Issues are also a problem Single stream now - easier to collect, but you lose a lot. A  
lot gets damaged. Paper and glass gets damaged If we went back to separate trucks are no  
longer suited. It would have to be manual collection. Drivers would have to go to both sides of  
the truck. Compartment trucks aren't made. Switching back to separate equals more cost. Lack  
of incentives is a problem Penalties needed Suzy Gordon tried in Fort Collins and it didn't work  
People pay for bags in Boulder Lawsuit pending in California re: ban on plastic bags In Europe  
you can get a bag but you have to pay for it

~The lack of incentives, penalties, easier to not recycle. +Identified the need to have compost  
options, besides backyards, because we have dogs, schools, raccoons. Added that we need  
both compost and recycling options. - We have curb side recycling, but no curb side  
composting. ~ One barrier is the low cost of throwing everything in the trash, we must mandate  
composting or no one will do it.

• People don't understand the blue sheet and how it works • Cost is very, very important! o Not  
important to the people in our forum, but to people they have talked to • People are lazy and we  
are never going to be able to do anything about that • You can tell people to recycle, but they  
don't end up doing it anyway • Used to be a place in Wellington that was really good for  
recycling, but people abused it so they took it away • There is a lack of knowledge that is very

evident • The problem is that it is so much easier and so much less expensive to landfill • It is confusing what can be recycled and what can't be o Plus, people do not see it as a priority • Even though recycling bins say to separate things a certain way, people pay no attention • Recycling electronics—where do we take them? • There are private residents that will pick certain items up • The people at the transfer center can't do everything • We should have people that go around and pick unwanted things up o Community servants are a good workforce to utilize o The pickup has to be free or reasonably priced or people won't care at all

The most important item from this section to the group was Convenience. The three that lived out in the country area stated that it is harder for them to separate their waste. This is because they have to take their non waste items to transfer stations. It is not economically feasible to have trash pick-up in their area. They also mentioned that they are not willing to pay twice for the trash pick-up. Recycling then becomes more of an inconvenience because they have to sort and haul their own trash. The matter of having infrastructure to provide for more convenience is a big thing for them. The others in the group agreed with this, but had not commented.

frustrated that they take the time to sort when other do not. not enough room in recycling bins, little bins don't encourage a lot of recycling. younger couple said they would be happy to pay more for more recycling opportunists and convenience.

- Green sheet - Believe that more people want to recycle but don't have the means to. Brought up multi family homes/ apartments and how they don't have the ability to choose their waste options like someone in a house does. - Brought up the distrust again and miscommunications/rumors and how that effects how far people are willing to go out of their way to recycle. - Disagree that people don't care. They do care they just don't know what to do. - Is this a generational issue? Disagreement over if younger gen's are more into recycling or if its older gen's that are doing it and the younger ones don't care. Couldn't find consensus.

**1.5 Table notes on reaction to the barriers on the survey worksheet. Which are most important for us to address?**

Facilitator asked what are the top barriers relevant to YOU: Lack of infrastructure Lack of incentives People are too busy. Not a priority Lack of motivation Confusion about what can and can't be recycled Facilitator response: Group seems to be split between infrastructure and education. All agreed. Everyone also agreed that if it's easy, people will do it. What are the second barriers from the worksheet in terms of priorities Lack of convenience Lack of space for composting Lack of incentives Some disagreement over need for incentives or regulation Some pointed out that Incentives have been used in the past and they didn't work NOTE: Some people completed the worksheet based on what they think and some completed it based on their perspective of what others think. Need for clarification.

-if the goal is to reduce waste, we need more compost facilities -education doesn't mobilize to action -must mandate/regulate recycling policies -need a way for public to know recycling fees instead of hiding them in HOA fees -if fees aren't known, people aren't conscious -need an incentive to increase recycling because people pay attention to money -problem with people throwing waste in recycling bin when their trash bin is full -more enforcement is need but how? - small trash can needs to subsidize for trash AND recycling fees -fees for trucks/gas/labor - bigger trash can costs make up for the smaller ones, isn't fair/equal -we need to change the culture surrounding waste and recycling -currently, we think nothing of what we do and how we do it -Seattle has good system because it's enforced with fees and policies -Europe's "garbage by the pound" is a good idea -we need to spend political capital on something that will make a difference -marketing the idea that recycling is cheap is bad for waste industries -can't say it's free and then charge for it -this issue is a catch 22

<p>F: Anything that should be added to the barriers? +Not knowing where to take resources +If recycling took more styrofoam - just having more resources and making it easier. +Add talking about reduction/reuse rather than throwing stuff away - focus more on reuse than the process of throwing away. +Everybody knows that you can donate old clothes to Goodwill - why can't we make other places like that? We should make it commonplace/a given that certain things should go in a recycling plant. There should be more markets. +Lack of advertising about options - they just don't know.</p>
<p>+ Need to advertise the importance of recycling.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inconvenience is a big issue <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o If we had a place to drop stuff off, it would have to be opened 24/7</li> <li>• There needs to be cameras monitoring it and a fence completely surrounding it.</li> <li>o There had to be someone monitoring it at all times too</li> <li>• If we want a clean county, we are going to have to pay for it</li> <li>• We should move the recycling container in Wellington two times per week instead of one</li> <li>• DO they have a place at the landfill where people put perfectly usable things that get thrown out so other people can pick up what they want.</li> <li>o If not, we need it.</li> <li>• Harvest Farm does Mom's closet, but it is not open on Sunday or during October</li> <li>• People have a lot of things they do not realize could be repurposed</li> <li>o Mover especially</li> <li>• It is hard to tell what other people are thinking</li> <li>o Probably that they don't care</li> <li>• Alexis: is Wellington working well for recycling?</li> <li>o No, we are as individuals.</li> <li>o Improvements would be a fenced in facility for all and someone to run it</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>lack of convenience and opportunity for recycling in rural areas, wellington recycling dump is sometimes too full to dump, both couples said they went with recycling and were told they could not dump.</p>
<p>B. Which are most important for us to address? • Not enough resources to recycle what we want to recycle</p>
<p>Must address the infrastructure problem (agreed by everyone) - Must address lack of knowledge around the subject (how is everyone getting their information and how do we correct incorrect info) - Is there a way to do it without patronizing? Does law from the "powers that be" need to be put into place across the board so there's little questioning or confusion based on the area? - Address it from a county standpoint instead of by city/town. Make one ruling for all of Larimer.</p>
<p>Reacting to Survey Results: 1. Cost and convenience more than environment All cost – need to increase cost of depositing stuff in the landfill 2. Cost and convenience recycling should be on par with disposal 3. Commercial kitchen worker commented that confusion of what can be recycled, apts have little access to recycle bins 4. Additional cost 5. Too much stuff, people don't know how to sort, lack of space -do not think people know what can be recycled, others think recycling has been around since the 90's people do know – countered with often people think things are recyclable that are not plus there is always some new type of packaging that confuses them. le: so many different types of plastic</p>
<p>The most important factor that the table wanted to address was education. They talked about how people need to be more educated about this issue. They need to know where things need to be taken. Know what is actually recyclable, know how these items need to be recycled, and know what to do with hard to recyclable materials. This is about as far as we got for this section. We were not given that much time to talk, so I was not able to get that many notes.</p>

### 1.6 Any additional table notes from Section 1


<p>Facilitator Question: Does anyone here live in a townhouse or apartment? No. But discussion followed: In Fort Collins very little recycling in these locations Denver offers recycle bins for condos Loveland "pay as you throw". 4 different trash can sizes and 3 recycle bins. You pay for what you choose to use. Curbside: \$7 for 98 gallon green cart. In the Fall, residents get 2 bags. Truck drivers empty bags into truck Fort Collins offers 3 trash can sizes By 2020, multi-family units must be offered recycling. At CSU, local apartments are provided with a trash container and a recycle container</p>
<p>Section 1 Part 3: -don't know the importance of recycling -confused about what can/can't be recycled -need more people in the community involved -there aren't enough compost facilities or they're too far</p>
<p>Travis asked thoughts about the new landfill? ~We need a more centrally located facility, the new landfill is too far for majority of haulers. ~We need transfer facilities because it will save gas and time. + We have the need for a landfill and the participant hopes for a transfer station in the place of the old landfill. + We need a compost station in Fort Collins.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• People order a lot online instead of buying it in stores which creates a lot of waste</li><li>• Practical examples of reducing waste from the source?</li><li>• People want a copy of the land fill study</li><li>• Concern about the electric line that runs through the new location</li><li>• Is there room for a MRF at the current landfill? Yes</li><li>• Do waste to energy facilities show up in more urban centers where they can afford it?</li><li>• How much waste comes from outside?</li><li>• Concern about why we can't move the landfill south</li><li>• Why/prove that groundwater makes that much of a difference</li><li>• C and D waste</li><li>• Other people dumping in our landfill</li></ul>
<p>During this section, the idea of financial penalties was brought up. This was to give people more of a reason to actually recycle or separate their trash. The primary reason for all the change is economic. The table came to a consensus that this was all driven by economic reasons. The topic of Urban vs Rural was also brought up. There was a question about who contributes more to the watershed. An expert answered with that urban areas tend to contribute more to the watershed. So it was stated that it would be unfair to penalize the rural areas if they do not contribute as much as urban areas. There as also a notion that commercial companies should be penalized for the waste that they are failing to sort.</p>
<p>New waste energy plant why not? Boston has a fantastic recycling: only 8% (Harvey and Sons) to landfill which is incinerated (20 acres). We could take the acreage and build something like this. Why can't we do it like this? Cost effective-Having a MRF would be more expensive Materials Recovery Facility: How is there no rail that will go by? By the old Coloradan and Burthad Lack of transportation- If they only go to western they have no transfer stations Opportunity to pair with independent contractors and their connections. Independent contracts have so many connections and information about grants and partnership. Why aren't they used as a resource? Why can't partnership be more prevalent in our community? Bringing glass back to previous users in our own community.</p>
<p>One person talked about how there was not composting allowed in Estes because of the wildlife factor. She also stated that she would pay money to have someone pick up composting and take it to a facility.</p>
<p>Ways to increase recycling compliance: Try giving people points that they could redeem for something good Offer tax breaks and incentives Fort Collins energy efficient program has done pretty well and its voluntary EPA Waste-wise program is a "feel good" program but it presumably increases business too</p>
<p>more focus on creating the infrastructure for better and more recycling opportunities.</p>



## Session 2: Future strategies and infrastructure options

After the small group discussions on the barriers, Honore Depew from the City of Fort Collins and the Technical Advisory Committee gave a presentation to summarize the Regional Wasteshed Planning Study, with a particular focus on the seven potential infrastructure options outlined in the approach. CPD Director Martin Carcasson then explained another worksheet that outlined various options for future strategies to address wasteshed issues, particularly in terms of reducing the amount of material that ends out at the landfill. The worksheet included the table shown below. Participants we asked to “star” the boxes they most preferred, and add any additional comment or ideas below the chart. The rows represent steps in the material management process, while the columns highlight categories of strategies: Education/Motivate, Incentives/Penalize, Mandate/Regulation, and Design/Engineer (which would include the infrastructure options outlined in the report). The chart below shows the results of the worksheet. We were unable to do the exercise at the Estes Park, so the numbers represent the number of stars at Loveland, Fort Collins, and Wellington, in order, and then the sum.

### 2.1 Summary of worksheet exercise results

Strategy areas	Educate/ Motivate	Incentivize/ Penalize	Mandate/ Regulate	Design/ Engineer	Total
 <b>Materials management process</b>	Provide information or targeted campaigns to encourage particular attitudes and behaviors	Provide financial incentives (or penalties) to encourage particular attitudes and behaviors	Create new rules, requirements, expanded services, or bans	Invest in new infrastructure to create new options for our community	
Reduce waste from source	6, 7, 6 = <b>19</b>	1, 5, 8 = <b>14</b>	2, 8, 5 = <b>15</b>	0, 4, 2 = <b>6</b>	54
Reuse/Repurpose	2, 8, 6 = <b>16</b>	1, 5, 4 = <b>10</b>	1, 1, 3 = <b>5</b>	2, 6, 9 = <b>17</b>	48
Recycle	3, 10, 7 = <b>20</b>	5, 8, 9 = <b>22</b>	4, 5, 3 = <b>12</b>	1, 6, 8 = <b>15</b>	69
Compost	3, 8, 4 = <b>15</b>	3, 3, 2 = <b>8</b>	2, 2, 2 = <b>6</b>	5, 11, 2 = <b>18</b>	47
Capture energy value	0, 4, 0 = <b>4</b>	1, 1, 0 = <b>2</b>	1, 1, 0 = <b>2</b>	3, 7, 2 = <b>12</b>	20
Dispose to Landfill	0, 1, 0 = <b>1</b>	4, 3, 2 = <b>9</b>	1, 3, 1 = <b>5</b>	0, 2, 1 = <b>3</b>	18
Totals	75	65	45	71	

We were unable to do the exercise at the Estes Park, so the numbers in the boxes represent the number of stars on worksheets from Loveland, Fort Collins, and Wellington, in order, and then the sum.

## 2.2 Written comments on future strategies worksheets

Any specific suggestions of tactics relevant to the areas above?

- Spend serious time and effort to come up with a waste to energy plan. (arrow pointing to 5. Capture energy value column D. Design/Engineer. Invest in a new infrastructure to create new options for our community)
- Hunger, food insecurity is a problem in our community and in surrounding communities. Support food donation over composting.
  - Culture of waste reduction, recycle is a symptom of consumption.
  - More 'libraries' for items such as tools, bikes, necessary items that may be needed one time.
  - Reinvent a location like Restore
- C and D recycling
- raise cost of trash to consumers to encourage more recycling
- add C and D to table
  - "Kind of no because you can't educate your way out of this"
  - "Won't gain much change, I'm assuming the goal is change and effectiveness"
  - "Mandated bans cause change and drive better cost-effectiveness at facilities and collection"
- change behavior by changing economics. People respond to cost of service. If they are rewarded to minimizing disposal, they are more likely to do it.
- Update any pertinent health codes to allow stores and restaurants to allow customers to bring in own containers to avoid disposable packaging. Develop a universal method to teach stores and restaurants for when customers use their own containers that matches health codes"
- Make landfilling more expensive than diverting recyclables and organics.
- If we have a regional watershed, we need consistent policies in all cities instead of disjointed management"
- I would like to see a change in shipping goods. I work for a company that receives a semiloading of goods per week and the items are packed in foam and plastic within the cardboard boxes. Only the cardboard boxes can be recycled."
- It would be great to see more education in schools and even HOAs
- May not be cost effective. Simple solutions work better
- In regards to reducing waste, I think that creating incentives for companies to use compostable packaging is important.
- Developing more products that are made from 100% post consumer waste and providing incentives to companies like TerraCycle to collect and process waste.
- Regional approach to education/outreach for common material list and common yes/no list
- Solid waste authority- regional approach to planning, funding, education
- Compost needs the same level of policy as recycling to succeed
- It sounds like an integrated approach would be desirable
- I have a hard time limiting this to 5 options. I would put stars in all of the first 4 material categories for all strategies. I think a multi-level approach allows capture of more actions- different people react to different "incentives"
- Reach people who could care less about recycling/reusing/reduce
- National campaign to reduce waste from packaging. Encourage national education by manufacturing companies. They use lots of packaging and don't have to account for the results of the over packaging. Even encourage them to promote recycling (what a concept)

- Education- educating the public on reducing, reuse, composting, and recycling is key to the city being more successful in managing and diverting waste
- Creating a “family friendly” MRF section, in which families/children can more freely participate

## **2.3 Table Notes on discussion of potential strategies**

### **Notes on A1 Educate/Motivate to Reduce waste from source**

- Need choices and education about things not to do and change suppliers products. Suppliers need to develop biodegradable packaging and we need to hold manufacturers responsible. Incentivize not mandate and move towards getting paid to recycle or compost. The school gets paid to recycle certain things and if companies received this maybe they would recycle more as well.
- Education will only work if they want to be educated, which some people just don't want • It is nice to educate, but how?
- There were a few comments for this section. It was stated that there needs to be more education around packaging. A member stated that why is there a need for excess packaging.
- Teach importance from a young age - Make sure to make education accessible to older generations - focus on misconceptions about how to reduce waste from source

### **Notes on A2 Educate/Motivate to Reuse/Repurpose**

- Education is difficult because there are two groups of people who care and don't care.
- Motivate people to reuse and repurpose. they felt very strongly about making mandates or incentives or policy to make people do this. also pulling this out of land fill that can be sold in a good will fashion organization
- Focus on misconceptions about glass recycling - fines possibly? People react to monetary threats. - Will people be angry or react well?

### **Notes on A3 Educate/Motivate to Recycle**

- Need to advertise and inform in a fun, engaging way. Get schools and students involved to get the next generation to buy into recycling and composting.
- very important, again more opportunities, it should be required of people
- Pairs with convenience and is imperative to actually get people to do things.

### **Notes on A4 Educate/Motivate to Compost**

- My table didn't know much at all about composting. - What does that include? - Does it smell? Would it effect housing?

### **Notes on A5 Educate/Motivate to Capture energy value**

- We need to create motivation to change behavior.
- They very much so like the idea of this, wasn't a lot of discussion on it because it was a little to complex but they all liked it

### **Notes on A6 Educate/Motivate to Dispose to Landfill(1 response)**

- its been working but not the most effective way - If we can change it to be more efficient its not a bad plan but we need to focus on recycling and taking things out of the landfill that don't need to go in

### **Notes on B1 Incentivize/Penalize to Reduce waste from source(3 responses)**

- People don't get the newspaper anymore so they are not getting news about the landfill or the community forums
- It is good to have this forum o Maybe it will give people incentive o Need to take the information home and give it more consideration
- yes like this very much
- Money is key - not currently afraid of any penalty because it isn't enforced

**Notes on B2 Incentivize/Penalize to Reuse/Repurpose**

- again liked this a lot

**Notes on B3 Incentivize/Penalize to Recycle**

- yes liked alot

**Notes on B4 Incentivize/Penalize to Compost**

- n/a

**Notes on B5 Incentivize/Penalize to Capture energy value**

- liked this

**Notes on B6 Incentivize/Penalize to Dispose to Landfill**

- liked this

**Notes on C1 Mandate/Regulate Reducing waste from source**

- An absolute no other mandates and regulations because it does not work and therefore is a complete waste of our time
- liked this
- Starting small with mandates/regulations would be good. - Industrial waste- not sure if this is realistic?

**Notes on C2 Mandate/Regulate to Reuse/Repurpose**

- A few comments for this section. There needs to be a way for managing volume. A suggestion was a pay as you throw away. Also providing for incentives to increase the motivation for sorting trash.

**Notes on C3 Mandate/Regulate Recycling**

- liked this

**Notes on C4 Mandate/Regulate Composting**

- liked this
- More areas to do this would be important - Would we split them up or would the workers? - If we went with the above approach, would we run into the same problem with lack of sorting?

**Notes on C5 Mandate/Regulate Capturing energy value**

- n/a

**Notes on C6 Mandate/Regulate Disposing to Landfill**

- Same thing different day - How do we regulate something so big? - hasn't worked in the past - who would be in charge of regulating? Believe the city should but it would need to be county wide to be effective.

**Notes on D1 Design/Engineer a way to Reduce waste from source**

- Some sort of way to reduce packaging
- There isn't a way to guarantee people will do this - Would have to "lead the horses to water" but couldn't necessarily make them drink

**Notes on D2 Design/Engineer to Reuse/Repurpose**

- You can put stuff on your front lawn with a "free" sign on it. But eventually it has to go somewhere
- There as a good discussion on the implementation of a MRF. It was said that this will cut down on the cost and transport of waste. There was also a discussion on the accountability of people to actually get materials to a MRF. However if a dirty MRF was to be built it might actually be more feasible. It was also mentioned that this facility needs to be in a place that is accessible to the public. It was suggested that this were to be built on the land that will not be used by the current landfill. It was also stated that this is an opportunity to have economic profit from other states/counties. Since there is an increase of technology there should be more of a push for having these kinds of facilities.
- liked this

### **Notes on D3 Design/Engineer to Recycle**

- We need larger containers around the city for citizens to bring their recycling to.
- liked this

### **Notes on D4 Design/Engineer to Compost**

- This option would be good for a low effort people and it wouldn't be as expensive. Have a family friendly composting/recycling facility (having kid participation just like in grocery stores)
- It was briefly mentioned that it would be beneficial to have a facility to compost. There was not anything said about how that process would look like.
- How would this effect the area? - would it lower the value of homes because of the smell? - Combine with C recycling options? A good balance of both ideas could solve some major problems relatively quickly

### **Notes on D5 Design/Engineer to Capture energy value**

- liked this

### **Notes on D6 Design/Engineer to Dispose to Landfill**

- yes

### **Any other random notes on Strategies**

- The facilitator referred the group to the strategies form. Then she asked that we go around the table, state our top priorities and indicate which of the change agents seem most important to each of our chosen priorities. No one rated the change agents in terms of high, medium or low priority. Each person just picked one or more that stood out to them. At my table the form wasn't used the way that it was designed to be used, so the format of the notes doesn't fit well with the sections on this form. Here are the results from my table. One person left the table and didn't participate in this part. Person 1 Priority 1: Recycle A, B, C (Educate/Motivate, Incentive/ Penalize, Mandate/Regulate) Person 2 Priority 1: Reduce waste from the source No agents Identified Priority 2: Recycle Person 3 Priority 1: Reduce waste from the source C (Mandate/Regulate) Person 4 Priority 1: Compost A, C, D (Educate/motivate, Mandate/Regulate, Design/Engineer
- All of them had A-D as super important. We need to have rules and inform the people pf the importance of recycling.
- There was another talk about the financial side of this issue. Again the notion of penalizing and having incentives was brought up. They talked about having some sort of tax deduction for sorting waste. They all agreed the incentives would work over penalizing people.
- salvage sellable items from landfill and sell them
- Need more clear data on how these would work. Feelings that there isn't clear data/ambiguous data of what is going into landfills and what these impacts are other than just filling up the landfill faster. Need real numbers, not guesses. People respond to facts and it feels in the dark still.
- Exploring Community strategies (we did not discuss green sheet) 7- go for Gold 4 – ease of use (two people) 5 – makes sense (after discussion many wanted to change their choices) 7 – can use paper, plastics and construction material. Plant must have large capacity and lots of constant material. Japan uses. Maybe here if we gathered all of Front Range. More research here if we want to determine feasibility for NoCo
- Like MRF but how to get people to come
- Compositing: a need that is not being fulfilled currently
- Policy changes needed • More education done well • Consistency County wide – need one system • Don't send conflicting messages

## 2.4 Written comments responding to infrastructure options

The final session asked participants to respond to the infrastructure options from the Regional Wasteshed Planning Study (available at <http://col.st/hUruX>). They were once again provided a worksheet, and a chance to interact in small groups. The worksheet simply listed the options and had spaces with three questions: What do you like about this option? What concerns do you have? Any additional questions or comments?

The feasible options were (details available on pages 25-45 of the study)

1. Status Quo (No Action Taken Upon Closure of County Landfill)
2. Central Transfer Station
3. New County Landfill
4. Material Recovery Facilities (MRF) – Single-stream or Mixed Waste
5. Organics Composting Facility
6. Construction and Demolition Debris (C&D) Processing Facility
7. Waste-to-Energy Facilities (Conversion Technology)

### **Feasible Option 1: Status Quo (No Action Taken Upon Closure of County Landfill).**

#### **What do you like about this option?**

- no
- nothing
- Where to go with TRASH
- Will probably increase cost of disposal and incentive to reduce
- Nothing
- Location that enables convenient location for dropping off. Includes C+D, organics.
- NO!
- No landfill in wellington
- yes
- Not an option
- Let the free market take over
- Not an option
- DON'T LIKE
- all too easy to not make a decision
- most people in town take garbage and recycle to the transfer station so confused what status quo means
- It is the political default and doesn't move us forward
- crazy option, no foresight
- I don't
- nothing
- NO

#### **What concerns do you have?**

- Greenhouse gas input of haulers going to other landfills farther away, no change to people's mentality on waste
- more traffic and pollution
- cost and hauling to outlying areas
- what will be the cost and is there any incentive to recycle? what control do cities have?

- Where will our trash go? - expensive - energy use to transport
- Not really feasible. Must do something. Landfill greenhouse gas emissions CO2 emissions
- Cost of going to Weld landfill.
- Ability to recycle materials not just trash.
- Where is waste going?
- costs will be higher and unpredictable
- trash will be dumped in unwanted places.
- will help fill other landfills too fast
- without a plan, there will be more pollution and much higher cost
- must NOT do this
- When will the stuff go? true cost of taking materials other places
- residents wouldn't have disposal options for hazardous waste and other services available
- do the right thing

**Any additional questions or comments?**

- allowing others to monitor, does not allow us to track our use/reduce/recycle

**Feasible Option 2: Central Transfer Station**

**What do you like about this option?**

- uses monitoring our actual waste= damaging our environment
- same as MRF
- If we did have a transfer station it could send organic waste elsewhere
- Capacity for trash, compost, organics, and recycling exist elsewhere. Reduces cost for county or creates cost sharing opportunities
- not much for our area
- a chance to sort material, cleaner, safer
- No mud clear floors
- Less stuff in landfills that shouldn't be , reduction of emissions?
- Still close enough to keep it cost efficient.
- Like if it's at current location.
- It's an option so the new landfill in wellington doesn't happen
- good
- Makes sense
- minimize traffic to remote landfill
- Keeps county clean
  - with sorting facility
- Like-but have two streams on trash and one single stream recyclables
- wise choice for food waste, recycling, to haul single stream to MRF that pays best rebate
- good way to move waste if single stream is included
- Just passes the trash along
- OK for EP but needs enlargement especially for recycling
- Yes
- local disposal would still be available without excess travel

### **What concerns do you have?**

- private haulers may not be on board. sorting recyclables and organics could be difficult
- smell?
- cost of trash disposal
- is there enough space? odor could be concerning, a busy road may not handle trucks and traffic (ex. Taft Hill)
- Like this because it helps Recy and organics.
- More vehicles
- It will be built in wellington.
- not dealing with our own waste
- would require pickup
- whoever handles the waste has complete control over cost
- Increased cost of getting trash to landfill
- that this option wouldn't happen
- can be too far away?

### **Any additional questions or comments?**

- my question is which is more feasible, building a transfer facility or an organic waste compost facility (STARRED)
- if individuals must take trash (landfill or recycle) out of the valley- much of it will go to Boulder County. Is this fair?

### **Feasible Option 3: New County Landfill**

#### **What do you like about this option?**

- What do you like about this option?
- (with MRF) It could be designed to include a family friendly safe section in which parent/kids distribute recyclables/yard debris
- We will have to do this, but also pursue many options to improve recycling/composting and reduce amount going into it
- Infrastructure exists to support this
- We need to be responsible for our own waste. Hauling to other communities seems wrong
- the county can raise money for other ways to dispose of trash
- we need a place for non-recyclables and non-compostables and the land is already there
- long term solution, policies already in place
- Same competition
- Maintain current benefits
- We need a landfill in Laramie Country to keep cost down for customers.
- Nothing!
- Nothing!
- NO
- NO!
- Necessary, but not appealing
- probably inevitable
- sorting facility closed
- Keeps in government and not neocon corporate
- A landfill is still needed for trash that cannot be recycled
- create a new landfill that captures methane to use W2E



- needed but better if less material is landfilled
- if arranged correctly, this is the best option. Transportation costs could be more manageable
- Transportation very expensive and site development very expensive
- It is so much needed in Larimer County

#### **What concerns do you have?**

- Time-limited capacity
- growth of Wellington area
- travel time
- with no change of policy, will end up closing this one also
- I would like to see a more sustainable option
- Flow control. Location. Costs impacts
- Hard to say - lots of space available but counties sometimes like to have control of their policies so "maybe their own waste"...
- It's too far from most of county. Might be a better option to serve Cheyenne/Laramie
- Still lots of trash, recyclables, compostables going in landfill. No diversion. Higher emissions (CO2) because of handlers having to go further.
- You are going to build it regardless of what anyone thinks!
- Everything - don't. Little guy gets screwed.
- Impact on neighbors
- How it's going to effect the farms up north and property values. Trash control
- Too far from population
- Expanding recycle so less is landfilled
- Transportation costs
- Assumes we can just keep dumping

#### **Any additional questions or comments?**

- I feel that this will happen no matter other options are undertaken
- A certain percentage of waste can be diverted- no compostable waste and no recycling waste. Haulers would be held responsible for assuring percent
- This could be ran with deputies from county jail
- Regardless of where the landfill is, transportation is the ISSUE. Collection

#### **Feasible Option 4: Material Recovery Facilities (MRF) – Single-stream or Mixed Waste.**

##### **What do you like about this option?**

- Recycles more and takes more material out of landfill stream
- This sounds like a strategy to recover vulnerable materials and reduce costs of transferring to Denver
- Diverts large amount of waste from landfill and can handle single stream recycling
- it could or should augment option 7 biomass
- Great option for compost material
- it's going to be the future to reuse
- One truck to handle it all
- Already love this infrastructure
- Increase in recycling. Reduced CO2 emissions
- Not shipping it to Denver.
- Better market value.

- Like it.
- Sure
- Very good
- Way of the future
- This would be great if we could utilize the current land and not truck to Denver. Possibly get other business from Northern Colorado.
- This will recycle and keep county clean
- yes
- similar to option 2 above
- good option and seems to be effective
- build one so county and cities can get their own 'best prices' on recycled commodities
- excellent way to be sure less goes to the landfill
- If we all work to separate our waste, we all do better
- It is the future
- great idea
- It is going to help you reduce the amount of recyclables going in the landfill
- It looks like a good option

#### **What concerns do you have?**

- Make 2 sections- clean and dirty - clean for immediate recycle, dirty to pull out anything else that can be recycled or composted
- what happens to trash and recycling commodity prices?
- 100% against mixed waste processing as an option
- cost will be high
- cost ,moving recycling to a central facility when individuals could do more, dirty facilities NOT desirable
- cost
- Getting those recycled materials to an end market may be difficult
- Markets
- Who pays for it.
- Don't have volume in Larimer to support - use existing facilities elsewhere
- but don't get too high tech, simple words better
- none
- sooner the better
- cost??
- cost to build
- does everything get recycled?

#### **Any additional questions or comments?**

- near landfill to educate people coming into it 2) away from landfill to make it more appealing for moms with kids to bring material to recycle
- This can be operated with deputies from Larimer County Jail
- sort (and keep sorted) for the trip down the mountain is better

#### **Feasible Option 5: Organics Composting Facility.**

##### **What do you like about this option?**

- useful for families who do not have compost facilities/apartment dwellers
- Create this definitely! Much needed!

- This would greatly reduce organic waste, further fees for haulers and provide a local solution to divert a lot of organics
- There is no question about the amount if would divert and the methane it would prevent from being released
- love this idea!
- a need to limit the amount of food trash that goes into landfills
- That maybe more organics would be utilized instead of filling up land
- reduces materials in landfill
- Keeps organics out of landfill
- Increase in waste diversion. Better infrastructures, motivation to compost. End market use. Reduction of emissions.
- Local options for food.
- Could remove 31% of what is shipped to landfill.
- It would be ok.
- Yes, everything helps to keep it out of landfill
- reduce much material that is currently filling up the landfill
- good addition to MRF
- I would love to see this become a possibility
- I LOVE this option as organic and local farms can benefit
- attractive but smelly
- great idea
- It reduces a large portion going into landfill
- Looks like a good way to go

#### **What concerns do you have?**

- lack of policies and regulations to enforce collection
- cost
- would it be cost effective? space and locations concerns
- may remove incentive to do so at point of generation (backyard)
- Critical if you want tons out. But the economics is not there. Your choice.
- Costs? Can consumers drop off?
- People may not want to do it because is smells around the facility. Keeping a compost bin at home could be smelly.
- Costs
- To move waste away from landfill.
- Location and negotiation reaction for recyclables.
- No one would want to separate.
- don't mix food and yard waste because it loses value
- being sure to have good sorting
- practicality?
- cannot be easily done in Estes because of bears. how can we safely get this compost stream down to where it can age safely?
- wildlife problem
- Won't be in Larimer county
- safe composting due to bears

**Any additional questions or comments?**

- Why not partner with CSU to bring a local composting facility? This would decrease the cost to the city
- private haulers need to encourage incentivizing landfill diversions
- create T/F station to take the foodwaste to Heartland
- Bears of course. Interior up here in the valley or collect and transport down the mountain
- I will do my own compost if I am able to build one indoors growing space

**Feasible Option 6: Construction and Demolition Debris (C&D) Processing Facility.****What do you like about this option?**

- Maybe create this as a third stream at MRF
- This would be beneficial in a county where the growth and development is continuing to increase
- Seems like we do a good job at this already
- to reuse material
- good idea but where?
- same as 5
- Increase in diversion of large solid waste. Increase in reuse instead of buying new. Reduction of emissions. Incentive for large businesses to dump C+D debris for reuse.
- Use in addition to another solution, such as number 2.
- Should be done.
- Yes everything helps.
- good
- Opportunity to educate and incentivize.
- Reduce much material that is currently filling up the landfill
- good separation from other material
- Will there be recycling effort for this stuff? I'd be more inclined to like this option if there were
- could sieve out valuable parts of trash
- Reduces large amount of wood waste
- excellent idea!
- looks like a good idea

**What concerns do you have?**

- This is important- when resource had to close, we lost a great place for this material to be recycled. FC should have honored their verbal agreement to help Resource find another place to locate
- cost
- costly, should be done at point of generation
- Critical but after compost? You can get some C and D from dump and that might help.
- It sounds like this isn't an option at all right now? Could this be paid by fees?
- May not be useful for the regular public.
- Reduce odor to landfill.
- Cost- who pays?
- Mandates -
- none
- cost?
- not a highest priority

### **Any additional questions or comments?**

- Incentivize and make plan and expectations realistic on builders. One more added cost contributing to cost of housing.
- it's important

### **Feasible Option 7: Waste-to-Energy Facilities (Conversion Technology).**

#### **What do you like about this option?**

- useful
- Not a fan- would rather reduce reuse recycle first as much as possible
- Really simple once implemented and maintains "landfill" similarities for consumers and customers
- more of this please!
- to reuse material
- good idea but do we have the funds?
- I like the idea of energy coming from the waste
- simplifies waste stream processing, sanitizes waste
- Waste diversion. Reusable energy/reduction of fossil fuels.
- Good long-term solution to supply energy and preserve the land
- Would help reduce waste
- Don't know enough regarding this to comment.
- yes
- See it as the future
- YES!
- we need energy- we need to get trash into a very compact mode
- great idea
- nothing
- Yes! Is our landfill currently generating energy? It should be! Methane from landfill to home energy (WM- Milan IL landfill)
- complicated but worth while

#### **What concerns do you have?**

- dangers?
- We already have the Hentlam Facility that is fairly close
- Dirty. Do you like breathing Hg and other toxins?
- scalability, local energy market
- cost
- cost
- some materials may have more value re-used, generates concentrated waste, hazardous?
- non-starter. Councils need to get smart enough to reuse their highly skilled mechanics.
- May not be as "green" as we might hope - unpredictable output. Low return in investment. People may not be willing to invest in this infrastructure.
- Public participation
- pollution
- Cost
- Complex, expensive
- Too expensive

- impractical
- Dirty
- must be nonpolluting
- too expensive

**Any additional questions or comments?**

- (none)

**Any final thoughts or comments?**

- GREAT JOB! student facilitators were great
- there will always be need for a landfill
- would like neighborhood P.A.Y.T options, can/bottle deposits reconsidered
- I think the most important is figuring out which option can best keep organics and recyclables out of the landfill. The options I most connected with were 5, 2, and 4. Cost is less important. Waste reduction + reduction of greenhouse gases are very important and need to be priorities.
- Central recovery Park w/ transfer station next to landfill - single location
- I'm a real person that own land directly south and adjacent to the land subject to the "new" landfill - what happens to my value of my property w/ this proposed possible landfill - what compensation will Larimer county will provide if this does happen?
- With good communication, we can teach our public the joys of recycling: more money for use, perhaps longer landfill life. By incentivizing better packaging, we can also lower the mass of waste that is not recyclable and also reduce toxics that are dumped
- Education! Education! Education!

## **2.5 Table notes on Feasible Options**

**Table Notes on 1. Status Quo (No Action Taken Upon Closure of County Landfill)**

- The status quo doesn't mean we don't have to do anything. Things will change if we do nothing . Ultimately costs will go up. The status quo isn't really "status quo" . In the presentation before session 2, someone commented about this. She wanted to know what the cost of doing nothing is. There was some confusion. She said that as an economist she was looking for figures to compare each of the options. Obviously, costs are going to go up. My group felt this option is not acceptable.
- No benefit to this option. - Cost will go up no matter what. - There will be additional truck exhaust by hauling and that is not worth it.
- no
- If other areas could accommodate us, why should we do/ change anything? - A lot of cost goes into other options, would doing nothing be cheaper? Look into this more.
- Lots of inertia in system as it stands

**Table Notes on 2. Central Transfer Station**

- The group felt this is a good option
- did not talk about
- Could take out many birds with one stone - Like the idea of a central recovery park- take it all to one place! - very easy and user friendly - 4 peoples favorite option

### **Table Notes on 3. New County Landfill**

- Have one place that provides resources (not a transfer station) in Fort Collins. I feel like we have to have a combination of all facilities in one place.
- Just a landfill won't do anything if it does not have an element of separation • We should include a MRF. Landfill ok if there are sorting facilities. Enclosed. Non-Larimer county dumpers should be charged double, including breweries that have out of state license plates. Our tax dollars shouldn't support others. LF would have to have a completely new design • New knowledge and new material. Surprising how much is ending up in different places • Is our landfill and other places kind of like a check and balance to one another? Are we taking the brunt of the landfill filling up because other people are dumping there? How long had the current landfill been there? 1963
- They all came to the conclusion on the fact that the new land fill will open anyway. Regardless if some other types of infrastructure would be built, the new landfill seemed to be inevitable.
- hate it
- Table split half and half--> half thumbs down and half neutral about the idea. - Would need more information on it. -Could we combine with another option? - Why fix something that has relatively worked?
- Repeated earlier comment that should make sending things to the landfill a bigger penalty, make it less convenient and more expensive

### **Table Notes on 4. Material Recovery Facilities (MRF) – Single-stream or Mixed Waste**

- Having a MRF and an Organics Composting Facility would be idea - but is it feasible? I think we should build/use at least one. I would like to see 2 sections - clean and dirty. All of the recycling can go and the only thing that comes out would be garbage. F: Drawbacks? Financial Time and effort with a Dirty MRF seems like more effort than it would help. If we had a clean MRF that would greatly reduce recyclables.
- We need one! o Trained people running it would be a good solution. Jail workers could be trained and utilized, effective use of prisoners and trash o Guards
- MRFS were said to be beneficial. More lean toward having a mixed waste MRF. This seems to be most liked because it is easier for people to actually do. More information about this in D2 section.
- did not talk about it
- Consensus- having this onsite would be more popular than having it down in Denver. - Generate revenue?
- Centralizing in Northern Colorado not necessarily just Larimer County (Discussion on MRF how you lose paper and even other things slip) • Brought up good point that you will lose some in a dirty MRF but would increase overall recycled as the MRF would get a lot of recyclables that would have gone to landfill, would like to see numbers on this
- For the brief discussion that our group had, the MRF was focused on a lot. The group agreed that we are in dire need of a MRF, dirty or clean. The problem, they said, with having a dirty MRF is that the restaurant business ruins that kind of thing. They did not say why as they all left at this point.

### **Notes on 5. Organics Composting Facility**

- The group felt this is a good option. In the presentation before session 2 there was some discussion about the lack of infrastructure making composting a big problem. Comments highlighted transporting problems. Someone commented, "Over 50 miles, forget it".
- One member in particular thought that this was the best solution

- One person only stated that this would be nice to have. No discussion on what this would look like. No discussion on future plans.
- did not talk about
- Thinking it could be the most dramatic and fast effect seen - What is the influence on communities? - Would this be readily accessible to everyone? LOCATION. Smell?
- Organics compost – need to mandate – really need to divert also would make dirty MRF cleaner Thinks impact would be great •Incentive to haulers to pick up organics

#### **Notes on 6. Construction and Demolition Debris (C&D) Processing Facility**

- No discussion
- They discussed that it would be less costly to have a specific facility for this kind of waste. Agreed the C&D wastes can have other purposes. Because of this there should be a facility specific to this type of waste. No further discussion.
- want more convenience
- C&D waste is huge problem in northern CO. We have a lot of construction - Could this deter construction projects because of the hassle? - Not very clear data on where this falls in the landfill.

#### **Notes on 7. Waste-to-Energy Facilities (Conversion Technology)**

- No place wouldn't benefit from this. Having schools compost was life changing. - The initial cost will be a lot, but the individual cost is minor. Long term composting needs somewhere for all the fertilizer to go and do we have the need for that amount of fertilizer? ~ Could there be a curbside program for this? It would need to be easy for people to participate in.
- like this
- Expensive! Where do we get this money? - Not as good out here, more east coast. - Maybe a good long term solution? Look into funding and future projections. - Combine with MRF

#### **Any other notes on Infrastructure**

- The top choices for the group were a transfer station, a composting facility, and a clean MRF. When I asked which option MRF belonged in they said recycle. Someone asked if it's cost effective to have MRF and the group wasn't sure. The group did agree however, that the composting facility would be cost effective because there are no other options available unless you go to Eaton and driving that far isn't practical. Someone asked about compost pick up in Fort Collins. Could the city require optional compost pick up? People could pay a fee if they wanted it. Could a container be provided like the recycle bins, but for compost? Could it be built in to pay as you throw? One advantage is it would reduce the amount of solid waste. (reduce waste from the source) Is there an option to combine the 7 options? Landfill + transfer station + composting facility? Transfer station + clean MRF + composting facility on existing facility plus additional landfill (new) ? It would be nice to have a recycling center here instead of in Denver. Incentives? Fees will go up regardless of choice Is a clean MRF + composting facility feasible?
- Combining approaches is the best thing to do - Combining is expensive though, where do we get the money? - How do these approaches effect private companies? Afraid of losing private jobs.
- How can we make it more convenient yet keep the costs down. Group liked idea of having overseer of recycling like a recycling district Feel we really need to force levels of



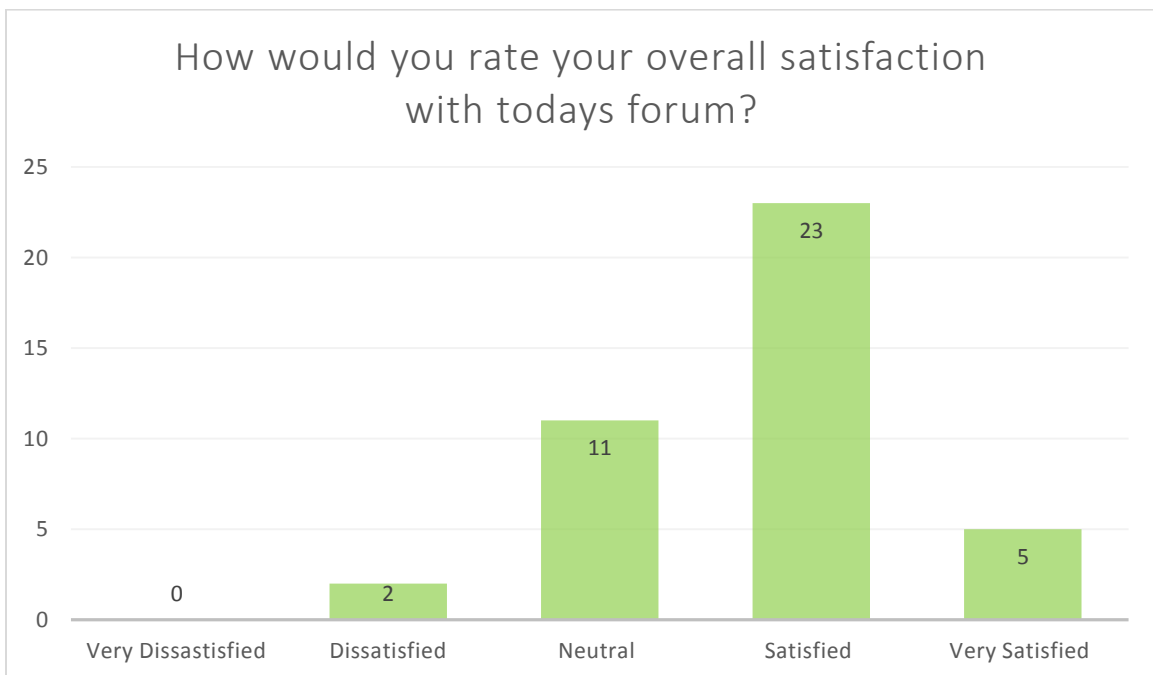
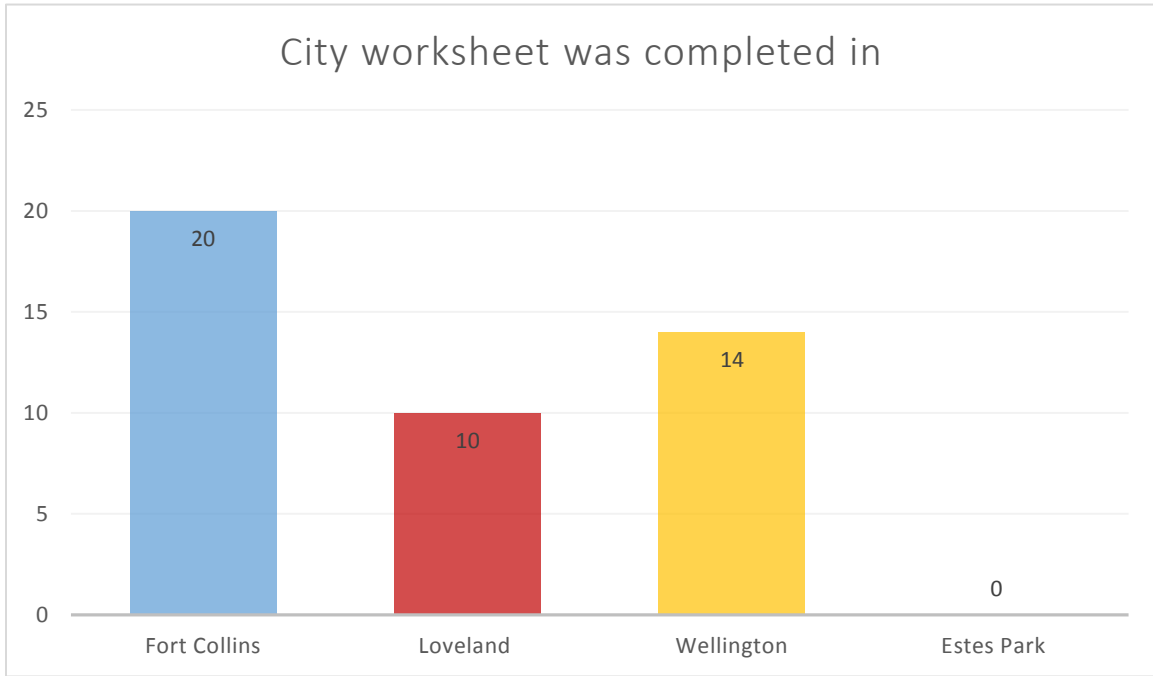
service Neighborhoods/HOAs should have to address garbage/recycling and have whole neighborhood with same service on same day and enforce/enable everyone to cycle. Maybe each neighborhood/HOA have a piece of common land for a joint compost bin. Again, believe we need an authority or regional district for garbage or just recycling. Also maybe authority would help reduce packaging and the creation of waste

### **Any other notes not tied to the specific options**

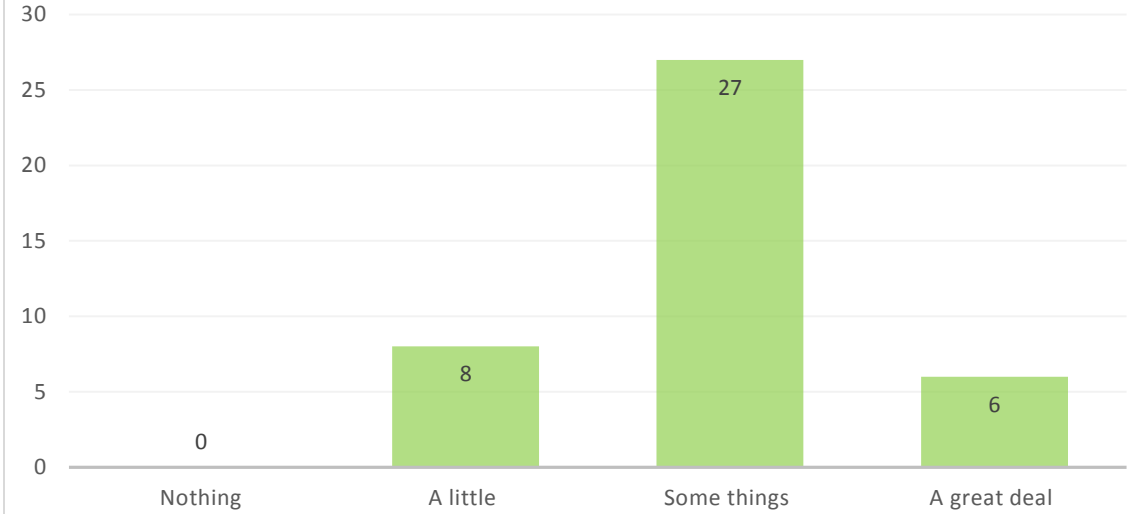
- Landfill fees are very high. Zero waste isn't really zero waste. Should be called "approaching zero waste" because 10% still goes to the landfill. Someone said we should make the landfill fees really high like they are in San Francisco and people will be forced to recycle. One person talked about the trouble she had trying to dispose of an old waterbed. No one would take it. The question about whether or not it could be taken apart and at least some of it recycled was discussed. (for example the wood). We don't do anything like that here, but she felt that we should. Someone said it is being done in California. Someone from Landfill stopped by the table just as the session was ending. He told us the current recycle center was built in 1993 and it is still highly subsidized.
- If there is only policy without education, these programs won't work -need motivation for people to believe in policies -Seattle is closest to having the best market; community participates b/c they have to -social norms drive everything -problems arise when we assert our values on the public -people should be able to choose -bottom line = solutions cost a lot of money -Boulder vs Colorado -a redemption system is a way for the public to regain what they've paid -creates value where there is no value
- Incentive is both key and lacking • All I want is my trash gone in the right way to the right places where people who know what they are doing take care of it • If we want people to do something, we have to make it free • This is a national and international problem, why are we trying to solve it here only? o Changing it here won't matter o There needs to be a national change o We need to get rid of non-recyclables materials altogether o We have a stop gap situation here dealing with it locally • A bug that eat Styrofoam • Most people (even in this room) don't know all the rules/regulations that go into a landfill
- A random conversation that came up during the discussion was about the involvement of the City of Fort Collins. A member of our table was concerned why so many people who work for the City of Fort Collins were at a forum for Wellington residents He said that this was a Larimer County problem not just a Fort Collins problem. So why was Fort Collins so prevalent in this forum. Mentioned the most of the population growth will be from Loveland and Winsor area. This was a random conversation that happened to spark at the beginning of this section.
- Schools to educate about caring about what we throw away. Students and student house may need their own garbage governing body
- Ten years ago there were other forums in Fort Collins about building a super-landfill and people laughed; now we are in need of it more than ever and they wish something had been done before. Here they go back to talking about how you are not going to get people to do anything without convenience and education. They also talked about how goals are good to set up, but without the programs to reach those goals, they are nothing. They discussed how the school districts (not in Estes) dropped the compost program because it was too expensive, bringing it back to the convenience and cost issue

## Results from Assessment of the Meeting

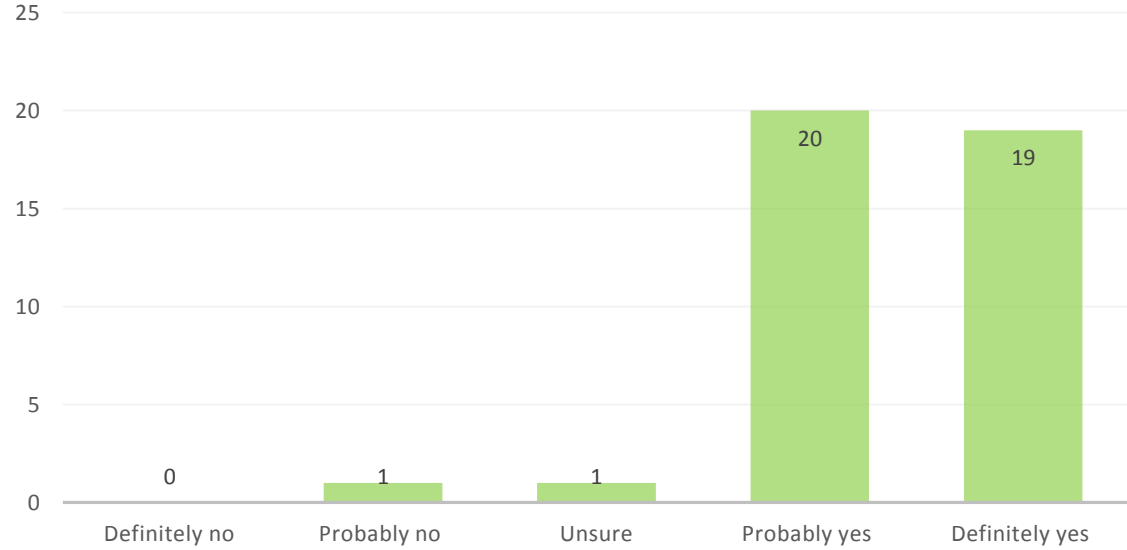
At the end of the meeting, participants were asked to complete a one page assessment form. All the data from those forms are below.



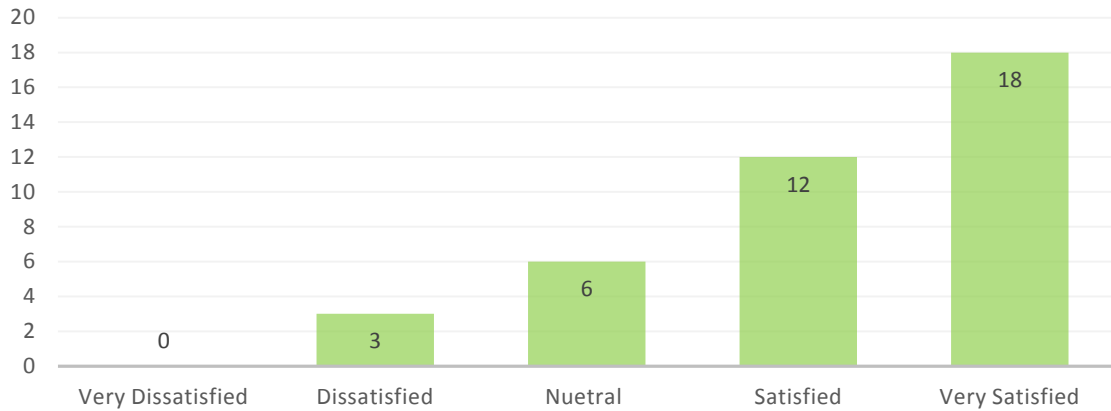
How much did you learn from participating in today's forum?



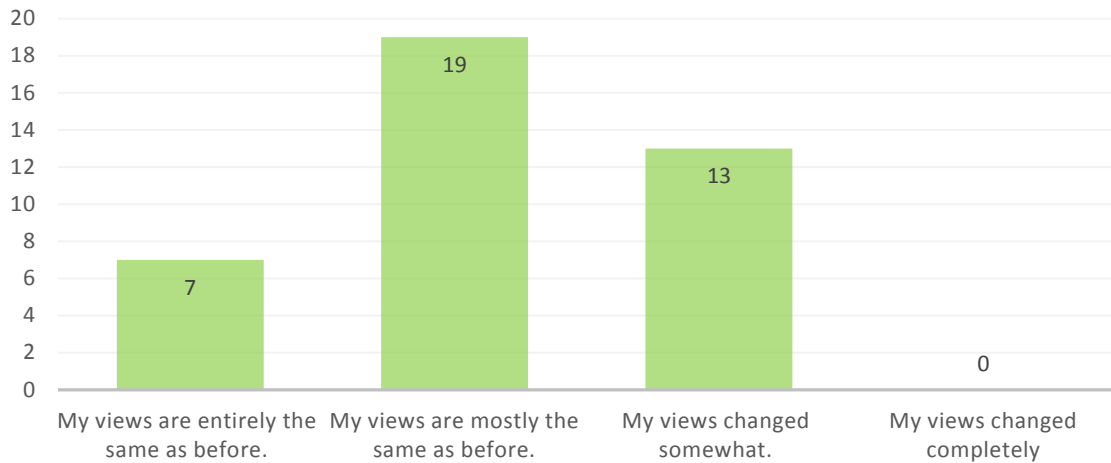
Would you say you had sufficient opportunity to express your views today?



One of the aims of this process is to have the staff and facilitators conduct the forum in an unbiased way. How satisfied are you in this regard?



Did you change your opinion on this issue as a result of the discussion, or are your views mostly the same?



### **What is the most important thing you heard or said today?**

- 10 years will go by fast- no time to waste. all agree!
- I was struck by the 43%/31% of recyclables/food that is currently going into the landfill
- last value into landfill
- The authors stats of materials (recyclables and compostables) of what is being put in landfills is very sad
- The number of years left in the landfill  
amount of recyclable materials still going into landfill
- Available options and considerations in the region
- I realized we need to step up with policy because those who don't care about recycling, reduce, reuse in 2016 are probably not going to change
- Interested in a comprehensive approach that puts recycling and organics on an equal footing as trash. Dispell the myth that recycling is free
- People seem genuinely interested in topic
- The options we have once the landfill closes
- Good discussion on options from different viewpoints- city, county, haulers etc
- 9 year deadline for landfill
- no more landfill at current location once full
- I expressed my opinion about composting and clean MRF at the landfill site where it closes.
- The "What's in our trash?" pie chart
- Economics and Mandates Rule
- Waste composition - waste sort. 2. Feasible options
- Manage C+D. Organics process is key. Mandates cost effectiveness.
- Trash from other states/counties charge double or more -
- Can't read.
- We could have a MRF facility
- The process continues and there will be better options for input
- Just a lot of "IP's"
- WTE facilities
- Lots of questions unanswered.
- There are going to be more opportunities for input
- I am curious on the breakdown/numbers of \*waste from other/outside Larimer

### **Any suggestions to improve the process?**

- Excellent presentations Michelle, Martin, and Honore: BRAVO
- clearer about what to do with each color sheet
- I appreciate how well the meeting was organized and well thought out and well run. I appreciate having facilitators and note taking done for us and I think I may be spoiled now for future meetings. Thank you for your organization. i definitely don't feel like my morning was WASTED
- Make sure there is a way for citizens to provide follow-up views. I would like to study this stuff some more. I might have more comments.
- Quieter rooms and more time
- Multi-faceted approach
- good facilitators- good job
- present updated studies, show all facilities, some missing (Alpine MRF) and Western Disposal Composting Facility
- Explaining the surveys better

- More stake holders.
- National problems to be sorted out - needs to be easy to sort
- Better organization at beginning - crowded, chaotic, tough to get to tables, tough to see screen, no explanation of food.
- Happy with forum.
- Give the "bottom line answer"
- A lot of information to process in a short time
- moderators not from waste sector...

### **Any final suggestions?**

- Any final comments or questions?
- rename/reframe "issue" to "energy recovery" rather than "trash or waste" hauling
- very knowledgeable presentations  
complex material was broken down and presented in very "doable" sections, and was easy to follow
- advertising and educating the public is key to truly reducing our waste stream. Utilize social material, billboards to illustrate and educate on these topics
- Great job! I'm glad you/we are all thinking about this more
- Solid waste district to regional authority. central station makes sense too
- need more time (5-10 minutes) on green sheet (consolidate somewhat)
- the ability to drop off (perhaps with fees) old electronics, old non flat screen tvs, 8 tracks etc
- thank you for having these forums
- Go forward with MRF facility at present location
- I think you will do what you want for the county not the people.
- Well done!
- Keep digging