

WasteZero, Inc.: Sample Consulting Projects

Statewide Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) Program Design: WasteZero designed a statewide PAYT program for Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation (RIRRC). This program is designed to reduce waste, extend the life of the RIRRC Central Landfill, and solve RIRRC's fiscal challenges. In phase II of the engagement, WasteZero was retained to brief municipal stakeholders on the program. Phase III (rollout) is currently under consideration. During the course of phases I and II, WasteZero:

- Designed the statewide program
- Projected its environmental and landfill lifespan impacts
- Projected its fiscal impact on RIRRC
- Projected its environmental and financial impact on each of RI's 39 municipalities
- Developed a model to project results under a range of different scenarios
- Provided a high-level implementation plan
- Met with senior elected and appointed local government officials to collect feedback and incorporate into program design, as appropriate

PAYT Program Evaluation on a Statewide Level: WasteZero completed multiple projects on behalf of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to evaluate the impact of bag-based and variable rate cart-based PAYT programs on each of 15 cities and towns. WasteZero:

- Projected the environmental and financial impacts
- Briefed municipal stakeholders, including senior elected and appointed officials
- Encouraged multiple municipalities to advance to public engagement on PAYT, and coordinated public outreach efforts with two municipalities (both of which are currently considering implementation)
- Summarized results for DEEP leadership
- Is now preparing to conduct PAYT analyses for 15 additional municipalities

PAYT Program Design, Curbside Recycling Analysis, and Co-Collection Assessment: WasteZero conducted a project for the City of Broken Arrow, OK to design a PAYT program that would enable the City to simultaneously reduce waste, increase recycling, and pay for a new curbside recycling program. This was challenging because in that region, it was cheaper to landfill all materials, rather than recycle. Nevertheless, a solution was devised that involved co-collection, which would dramatically reduce costs and enable the City to meet its objectives. Key project tasks included:

- Design a PAYT program and project its financial impact
- Analyze the financial and operational aspects of all key methods for implementing a curbside recycling program (automated carts, manual bins, bags, etc.) and select the most appropriate one for the City
- Assess the viability of a co-collection system in Broken Arrow
- Develop a model to enable the City to evaluate the impact of various decisions and scenarios
- Recommend the most appropriate course of action to move forward

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Numerous PAYT Program Analyses: Over the past 4 years alone, WasteZero has conducted more than 150 PAYT Program Analyses for various stakeholders. The vast majority of these analyses were conducted for municipal governments, primarily in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states, with a few in the Southeast and Midwest. Municipalities ranged from small towns to cities with populations in the millions. Analyses have also been conducted at the state or regional level for other stakeholders. Examples include the Penobscot Energy Recovery Company (PERC) in Maine and the Delaware Recycling Public Advisory Council (RPAC), in addition to the ones previously listed in Rhode Island and for the State of Connecticut.

Public Engagement Projects: As previously mentioned, WasteZero has either led or participated in dozens of public engagement projects to help facilitate public understanding and acceptance of PAYT-type programs. Most recently, the firm completed projects in West Hartford, CT and New Britain, CT. Both cities are moving towards program pilots or full-scale implementation.

Glass Separation & Recycling Program Design: WasteZero completed a project for the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) and the South Carolina Department of Commerce (DoC) to design a pilot program for separating glass from the municipal solid waste stream in the State of South Carolina. Broken glass was contaminating single-stream recycling, and the State sought a method for separating glass and recycling it. The State is now working with WasteZero to identify a material recovery facility (MRF) to help implement the pilot program.