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## Appendix 5 Planned Strategies and Actions

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### Strategy 1.1 Encourage waste reduction.

#### **Actions:**

- Educate residential customers about personal waste reduction strategies. Provide technical assistance on waste reduction to commercial waste generators, including businesses, government agencies and other institutions.
- Educate the public and City staff on the impacts of and alternatives to the use of pesticides and harmful chemicals so they can be eliminated over time (Resolution M-1621).
- Establish a green business awards program and promote winners.
- Create a moderated Internet discussion group about how to reduce waste.
- Participate in national and regional product stewardship activities, promoting producer responsibility during the entire life cycle of a product, “from cradle to cradle.”

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### Strategy 2.1 Optimize recycling of residential waste by diverting additional curbside recyclables from the garbage.

#### **Actions:**

- Deliver education campaign about how and why to reuse and recycle.
- Require a recycling rate of 65 percent in multi-family and mixed-use buildings. (Includes technical assistance, education, dealing with space constraints and right-sizing recycle containers.)

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### Strategy 2.2 Increase recycling of commercial waste by diverting additional curbside recyclables from the garbage.

#### **Actions:**

- Provide technical assistance to encourage recycling by commercial garbage customers.
- Facilitate collection of recyclables in public areas and at public events.
- Evaluate whether curbside collection is feasible for more than one service provider.
- Require a recycling rate of 65 percent by commercial garbage customers.

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### Strategy 2.3 Increase diversion of organics, including yard debris, food debris and compostable paper, to composting.

#### **Actions:**

- Expand backyard composting program.
- Provide curbside organics collection to residential customers within one to three years.
- Provide curbside organics collection to commercial customers within two to four years.

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**Strategy 2.4 Improve recycling of construction and demolition (C&D) debris.****Options:**

- Provide technical assistance, information and education to contractors.
- Partner with Thurston County and other jurisdictions and agencies to bring a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) to the South Sound to process C&D debris.

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**Strategy 3.1 Ensure that recyclable materials collected at curbside or drop-off sites are actually recycled, and that operations are effective .****Options:**

- Explore the feasibility of collecting additional recyclable materials at curbside (e.g. additional hard plastics, plastic film and other metals).
  - Establish a centrally located drop-off collection center for additional materials, products and/or reusable materials.
  - Re-evaluate single-stream recycling for residential customers. (With current technology, single-stream recycling results in contamination of recyclable paper with glass shards; however, Olympia's single-stream system is more convenient for customers and allows for more operational efficiency. New technology may solve the contamination problem.)
  - Require recyclers and haulers to report to the City on the types and quantities of recycled materials they collect. (This data is reported to Washington State Department of Ecology by county, not by city, so Olympia can only estimate tonnage.)
  - Perform a statistically valid study of Olympia's waste disposed as garbage at the WARC in coordination with Thurston County's four-year waste sort cycle.
  - Prepare a contingency plan for waste management in local emergencies.
  - Consider other system efficiency and effectiveness improvements in the City and countywide waste management system. Examples include equipping collection vehicles with Global Positioning System (GPS) technology, and continuing to evaluate the feasibility of charging customers by actual weight as new technology is developed.
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