

City of Revere, Massachusetts



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Juan Pablo Jaramillo

Councillor-at-Large

Office of the City Council

To: The President and Members of the Revere City Council
From: City Councillor Juan Pablo Jaramillo, Chairman
Committee on Climate, Sustainability, & Workforce Sub-Committee
Subj: Committee Meeting
Date: May 23, 2024

Please be advised that the Climate, Sustainability, & Workforce Sub-Committee will hold a meeting on **Monday evening, June 17, 2024 from 5:30PM-6:00PM** in the City Councillor Joseph A. DelGrosso City Council Chamber, Revere City Hall, 281 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151 for the purpose of discussing the following Council Order(s):

24-174 Motion presented by Councillors Jaramillo and Guarino-Sawaya: That the City Council order to a public hearing, An Ordinance Further Amending the Revised Ordinances of the City of Revere Establishing a Program to Divert Waste from Landfills and Incinerators to Offset Waste Disposal Costs. (ordinance attached)

An Ordinance Further Amending the Revised Ordinances of the City of Revere Establishing a Program to Divert Waste from Landfills and Incinerators to Offset Waste Disposal Costs

Be it ordained by the City of Revere, MA as follows:

Section 1. The Revised Ordinances of the City of Revere is hereby amended by inserting the following new Chapter, Chapter 8.10 Composting Programs

- Section 8.10.010 Preamble
- Section 8.10.020 Definitions
- Section 8.10.030 Program Design
- Section 8.10.040 Enrollment
- Section 8.10.050 Metrics
- Section 8.10.060 Revolving Account

SECTION 8.10.010 PREAMBLE

Whereas, 30% of all waste which otherwise end up at landfills or incinerators is compostable,

Whereas, burning or landfilling said waste comes at a health and economic cost to the taxpayers of the City of Revere,

Whereas, landfilling said waste creates methane that is 56 times more potent than carbon dioxide over a 20-year period emitting over 108 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent,

Whereas, the City of Revere recognizes that carbon emissions and its carbon footprint contribute to climate change which is eroding our city's coastal landscape and putting homeowners and residents at a disparate risk of displacement due to loss of dwelling, caused by exacerbated flooding,

Whereas, compost by-products can replace harmful synthetic chemical fertilizers that deplete soil, produce nitrous oxide, cause a formation of smog and respiratory problems and lung damage, and kill fish and other sea life,

Whereas, diverting 30% of all waste from traditional waste disposal mechanisms can potentially save the city millions of dollars in traditional waste disposal,

The city council resolves to direct the mayor invest no less than \$125,000 a year from a mix of mitigation money, including mitigation monies from the traditional waste disposal programs, the general fund, or state, federal, or private grants, offsetting funds, toward creating and maintaining a partially or fully subsidized curb-side composting program for residents of Revere.

SECTION 8.10.020 DEFINITIONS

- A. Composting - the natural process by which organic matter such as leaves and food scraps, are recycled into compost.
- B. Compost - a dark, crumbly, earthy-smelling, biologically stable soil amendment produced by the aerobic decomposition of organic materials.
- C. Compostable material - organic material that may be turned into compost.
- D. Curb-side composting - programs that are fully or partially subsidized by the city, via general fund appropriations, offsetting funds, or mitigation monies for regular pick up of compostable material from resident's homes.
- E. Traditional waste - trash or non-organic recycling picked up regularly at residents' homes by the city or one of its contractors.
- F. Offsetting funds - monies saved because of the diversion of compostable material from the city's traditional waste programs.
- G. Community partners - non-profit organizations, residents, or community leaders with a particular emphasis on organizations or groups who operate in the food security space in the city.
- H. Low-income applicants - for the purposes of this act shall mean any resident with a household income less than or equal to 60% of the area median income (AMI) or a fixed household income of no more than 75% of AMI.

SECTION 8.10.020 PROGRAM DESIGN

The mayor shall design a curb-side composting program, said composting program must include at-least the following:

- A. Compostable material shall be picked up at least as regularly as traditional waste is picked up.
- B. The mayor shall advertise enrollment into the composting programs via the same methods as traditional waste programs are disseminated and at the least pursuant to the city's language access ordinances or regulatory framework,
- C. The program enrollment shall prioritize including an equal number of participants from each ward in the city,
- D. Exploration of potential regional curb-side composting programs or partnerships with neighboring municipalities

SECTION 8.10.030 ENROLLMENT

The mayor shall create an enrollment process and fee schedule by which residents wishing to participate in the composting program can sign up for the composting program.

- A. Said enrollment process and fee schedule shall include a fee schedule for subsidized participants or a fee waiver for low-income applicants and residents over the age of 65 years of age.

- B. Enrollment outreach shall happen in a manner pursuant to the city's language access plan and or language access ordinances.

SECTION 8.10.040 METRICS

The mayor in consultation with the city's chief financial officer and the department in charge of implementing the composting program shall create a data tracking program to track the metrics of the program and those metrics shall include but shall not be limited to:

- A. City wide enrollment by residents and out-of-pocket expenses for residents enrolled,
- B. Tonnage diverted from traditional waste programs and city dollars save as a result of said diversion,
- C. Demographic enrollment of residents in the program

SECTION 8.10.050 REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The mayor shall create and solicit a request for proposal (RFP) for the purposes of executing the goals of the composting program. Said RFP shall be aligned with the expiration of the traditional waste disposal programs and explore and include at least the following in its scope:

- A. Compostable material disposal costs per tonnage,
- B. An outreach plan,
- C. Start-up cost analysis for consumers and city,
- D. Contractors or operators of a composting program shall have experience of successful implementation and municipal partnership in at least one other municipality,
- E. A tiered schedule of per household cost relative to city wide enrollment and potential subsidies for residents looking to enroll,
- F. Any other items deemed necessary by the mayor in consultation with their staff, city departments, city council, or community partners.
- G. A plan for the city to make use of or monetize compost.
- H. Any considerations in subsections B through D of this new section
- I. An RFP pursuant to this section shall be solicited no later than 90 after the approval of this ordinance.

SECTION 8.10.060 REVOLVING ACCOUNT

A revolving account shall be created where any savings are created in the traditional waste program from the implementation of the curbside composting program or Section 8.10.050(G) of this chapter shall be deposited for the purpose of funding or expanding the curbside composting program to more residents of the City of Revere.