

;;;BCC 180625

>>> APOLOGIES FOR THE SLIGHT
DELAY.

WELCOME TO THE CHRISTOPHER
IANNELLA CHAMBER HERE AT BOSTON
CITY HALL.

MY NAME IS MATT O'MALLEY.
I AM THE DISTRICT 6 CITY
COUNSELOR.

AND I AM DELIGHTED TO BE WITH
ALL OF YOU HERE TO DISCUSS
DOCKET NUMBER 0238, WHICH IS AN
ORDER FOR A HEARING AN
IMPLEMENTING A CURBSIDE
COMPOSTING PROGRAM IN BOSTON.
THIS IS AN INITIATIVE WITH WHOM
MY CO-SPONSOR COUNCILOR ANNA
PRESSLEY SADLY IS UNABLE TO MAKE
IT TODAY AND I WILL READ A BRIEF
LETTER FROM HERE.

DEAR CHAIRMAN O'MALLEY,
APOLOGIES FOR THE SHORT NOTICE,
BUT DUE TO A MINOR BUT ACUTE
MEDICAL EMERGENCY I WILL HAVE TO
MISS OUR HEARING REGARDING
CURBSIDE COMPOSTING THIS
MORNING.

THANK YOU TO ALL THE ADVOCATES
WHO ARE HERE TODAY.

I REMAIN FOCUSED ON BUILDING OUR
CAPACITY AS A CITY TOWARDS A
CITYWIDE CURBSIDE COMPOSTING
PROGRAM, BOSTON BOASTS SOME
AMAZING MODELS OF WORKER-OWNED
AND FOCUSED COMPANIES SUCH AS
BOOTSTRAP COMPOSTING AND SIRO
AND THEY ARE DOING FANTASTIC
WORK ACROSS THE CITY.

I WOULD BE REMISS TO SAY THAT AS
WE WORK TO BUILD OUR CAPACITY, I
WOULD LIKE TO SHARE MY FULL
SUPPORT OF A PILOT PROGRAM BASED
ON THE STRONG INTERESTS OF
NEIGHBORHOODS LIKE BAY VILLAGE
AND MATTAPAN.

I LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING
THIS CONVERSATION, AND STAND IN
LOCKSTEP WITH CHAIRMAN O'MALLEY
IN TAKING THE NEXT STEP TOWARDS
A SUSTAINABLE CURBSIDE
COMPOSTING SYSTEM.

I WILL HAVE STAFF PRESENT AT THE

HEARING AND LOOK FORWARD TO
REVIEWING THE TAPE.
ALL THE BEST, AYANNA PRESSLEY,
BOSTON CITY COUNCIL AT LARGE.
YOU KNOW, THIS IS AN ISSUE THAT
WE FIRST INTRODUCED PROBABLY SIX
OR SO YEARS AGO.
AND WE'VE REINTRODUCED IT NEARLY
EVERY YEAR.
THERE'S A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF
INTEREST IN THIS.
I KNOW, AND WE'RE GOING TO HEAR
FROM SOME AMAZING COLLEAGUES
FROM THE ADMINISTRATION ON
EFFORTS THAT WE'RE DOING TO GET
TO ZERO WASTE, BUT CURBSIDE
COMPOST IS THE NEXT LOGICAL
STEP.
THIS IS SOMETHING, I OFTEN SAY,
AND I SOUND LIKE A BROKEN
RECORD, THAT EVERY
ENVIRONMENTALIST, EVERY FISCAL
CONSERVATIVE OUGHT TO BE AN
ENVIRONMENTALIST, BECAUSE NOT
ONLY ARE ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES
OFTEN GOOD FOR THE ENVIRONMENT,
THEY'RE ALSO GOOD FOR THE RATE
PAYER, GOOD FOR THE TAXPAYER, AS
WELL.
WE HAVE SEEN HOW OTHER CITIES
HAVE IMPLEMENTED CURBSIDE
COMPOSTING PROGRAMS.
SPECIFICALLY I'M TALKING ABOUT
SAN FRANCISCO OR SEATTLE WHICH
HAVE DONE SOME GREAT THINGS.
ACROSS THE RIVER IN CAMBRIDGE
THEY BEGAN A PILOT PROGRAM IN A
SMALL SECTION IN CAMBRIDGE AND
WERE ABLE TO EXPAND IT CITYWIDE.
SO, I KNOW THAT WE'VE DONE SOME
GOOD THINGS AT THE CITY LEVEL AS
IT RELATES TO PROJECT OSCAR, AS
IT RELATES TO OTHER THINGS, BUT
TO TRULY GET TO ZERO WASTE, THIS
HAS TO BE THE LOGICAL STEP SO
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO HEARING
WHAT EFFORTS HAVE BEEN MADE.
THE WAY THIS HEARING WILL WORK
IS WE'VE GOT TWO PANELS,
STARTING WITH THE ADMINISTRATION
PANEL, THEN WE'LL HAVE SOME
EXPERTS FROM WHOM WE WILL HEAR
FROM SHORTLY, AND THEN WE'RE
GOING TO OPEN IT UP TO PUBLIC

TESTIMONY.

SO IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE TO
SPEAK, WHO HASN'T SIGNED IN
ALREADY, PLEASE DO.

THE SIGN-IN SHEET IS TO MY LEFT,
YOUR RIGHT.

AND WE WILL BEGIN SHORTLY.

BUT I WANTED TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND
THANK MY DEAR COLLEAGUE AND
FRIEND COUNCILOR ED FLYNN FROM
DISTRICT 2.

DO YOU HAVE ANY OPENING REMARKS
OR THOUGHTS?

>> THANK YOU COUNCILOR O'MALLEY
FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP ON THIS
ISSUE ALONG WITH COUNCILOR
PRESSLEY.

IT'S AN IMPORTANT ISSUE FACING
OUR CITY.

THANK YOU TO YOUR LEADERSHIP, TO
THE MAYOR'S LEADERSHIP, ON
TRYING TO DEVELOP A PLAN THAT
WORKS SO EVERY NEIGHBORHOOD OF
BOSTON WILL BE GOOD FOR THE
CITY, HEALTHY FOR OUR CITY, AND
I THINK YOU'RE LEADING US IN THE
RIGHT DIRECTION, WORKING CLOSELY
WITH THE MAYOR'S OFFICE TO COME
UP WITH A PLAN AND STRATEGY.

AND I KNOW SOME OF THE RESIDENTS
ACROSS OUR CITY HAVE GREAT
IDEAS, AND SUGGESTIONS THAT WE
ALL CAN LEARN FROM, AS WELL.

SO THANK YOU, COUNCILOR
O'MALLEY.

>> THANK YOU, COUNCILOR FLYNN.
YOU KNOW, THE -- JUST BEFORE I
GET INTO YOU CHIEF AND YOUR
PANEL, I WANT TO KNOW THAT THERE
ARE OVER 100 MUNICIPALITIES
NATIONWIDE THAT OFFER FULL
CURBSIDE COMPOSTING.

THESE INCLUDE PORTLAND, SEATTLE,
SAN FRANCISCO AND AUSTIN, TEXAS.
THESE CITIES HAVE HAD GREAT
SUCCESS WITH THEIR COMPOSTING
PROGRAMS, SAN FRANCISCO DIVERTS
MORE THAN 60% OF ITS WASTE FROM
LANDFILLS THROUGH COMPOSTING AND
RECYCLING.

IN THE FIRST YEAR OF CURBSIDE
COMPOSTING PORTLAND, OREGON,
DECREASED TRASH PRODUCTION BY
NEARLY 40%.

I BELIEVE THE CAMBRIDGE NUMBER SHOWED A 10% RIGHT OFF THE BAT REDUCTION, AS WELL.

THIS IS REAL MONEY THAT WE ARE SAVING.

THE TIPPING FEE FOR DEBRIS IS PROBABLY 86 OR CLOSE TO \$90. WE'LL GET INTO THAT AND WE'RE SAVING THIS BY MILLIONS OF DOLLARS COULD BE SAVED IF DONE PROPERLY.

SO, LET'S MAKE IT HAPPEN.

CHIEF, DO YOU WANT TO INTRODUCE YOUR PANEL AND WE'LL GET INTO SOME QUESTIONS?

>> SURE, COUNCILOR, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR CONVENING THIS HEARING FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP ON THIS, COUNCILOR PRESSLEY, COUNCILOR FLYNN AS WELL.

THANK YOU FOR IRLEADERSHIP ON THIS.

WANT TO DO THREE QUICK THINGS. ONE PROVIDE A JAERM OVERVIEW AND BACKGROUND ON SORT OF CURBSIDE OR RESIDENTIAL WASTE IN THE CITY OF BOSTON.

SECOND, TALK A LITTLE BIT ABOUT OUR CURRENT EFFORTS AND THEN THIRD TALK ABOUT NEXT STEPS.

JUST AS BACKGROUND, IN FISCAL YEAR '17 THE CITY OF BOSTON COLLECTED AT THE CURBSIDE AROUND 240,000 TONS OF EITHER RECYCLING OR TRASH.

OR YARD WASTE.

OF THAT, AROUND 50,000 WAS RECYCLABLES OR YARD WASTE.

LEAVING ABOUT 190,000 TONS THAT WAS TRASH.

BASED UPON SOME WASTE AUDITS THAT WE HAVE DONE AND SOME OTHER WASTE AUDITS THAT ARE OUT THERE, OF THAT 190,000 TONS PROBABLY AROUND A THIRD IS ORGANIC MATERIAL.

AND OF THAT A THIRD OF THAT 60,000 TONS, ROUGHLY, ABOUT 40,000 TONS IS FOOD WASTE AND ABOUT 20,000 TONS IS YARD WASTE. SO TO YOUR SORT OF POINT IN YOUR OPENING REMARKS THERE'S A HUGE OPPORTUNITY IN FRONT OF US IN MANY WAYS THE LOGICAL NEXT STEP

FOR US TO TAKE.
FIGURE OUT HOW DO WE ACTUALLY
REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF ORGANICS
GOING INTO THE WASTE STREAM AND
GETTING SENT TO WASTE ENERGY
PLANTS.
>> JUST SO I HAVE THAT RIGHT, SO
240,000 TONS OF TRASH RECYCLING,
OR YARD WASTE WERE PICKED UP
LAST YEAR.
150,000 TONS OF THAT 240 WERE
EITHER SINGLE STREAM RECYCLING
OR YARD WASTE.
>> CORRECT.
>> WHICH THANK YOU FOR
EXPANDING.
IT EXPANDED THIS YEAR, WE'RE
VERY PLEASED FOR THAT.
190K OF THAT WAS JUST TRASH.
AND A THIRD, SO ABOUT 60,000
TONS OF THAT TRASH WOULD EITHER
BE FOOD OR YARD WASTE THAT WAS
THROWN OUT WITH THE TRASH.
SO MORE FOOD OR YARD WASTE WAS
THROWN OUT THAN OUR TOTAL
COMBINED YARD WASTE AND
RECYCLING PICKED UP?
>> IT'S A HUGE OPPORTUNITY
THERE.
>> HUGE.
GREAT, THANK YOU.
JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE I HAVE
THOSE FIGURES RIGHT.
>> AND I'M USING SORT OF A WASTE
AUDIT DONE IN 2016.
>> YEAH.
>> BUT IT'S A BROAD,
GENERALIZATION, IN THE RIGHT
MAGNITUDE.
TO YOUR POINT, OBVIOUSLY YARD
WASTE IS AN AREA THAT IS OF
GREAT IMPORTANCE TO US, AND IN
THE MAYOR'S BUDGET AND THANKS TO
YOUR SUPPORT, WE EXPANDED FROM
16 YARD WASTE COLLECTION WEEKS
TO 18 YARD WASTE COLLECTION
WEEKS THIS YEAR.
MEANING BASICALLY EVERY
SINGLE -- EVERY OTHER WEEK FROM
THE END OF APRIL TO THE
BEGINNING OF DECEMBER WE ARE
DOING YARD WASTE COLLECTION IN
THE CITY.
AND EVERY WEEK IN NOVEMBER.

ALL OF THAT THEN GETS PICKED UP AND TAKEN TO THE AUDUBON NATURE CENTER, OUR CITY COMPOSTING FACILITY AT THE AUDUBON NATURE CITY AND IN COLLABORATION WITH OUR PARTNERS AT CITY SOIL LAST YEAR AROUND 8200 TONS OF YARD WASTE COLLECTION GOT CONVERTED TO ABOUT 1200 TONS OF COMPOST THAT WENT BACK TO THE CITY'S COMMUNITY GARDENS.

>> GREAT.

>> SO IT'S A HUGE EFFORT THERE. ONE OF THE THINGS WHICH BRIAN COUGHLIN OUR SUPERINTENDENT OF WASTE REDUCTION, SUSAN CASINO, CITY DIRECTOR OF RECYCLING POLICY AND THE ENTIRE WASTE TEAM ARE INTERESTED IN EXPANDING THAT AGAIN FROM 18 WEEKS, LOOKING AT AT LEAST 20 WEEKS OF YARD WASTE COLLECTION DOWN THE LINE.

>> GREAT.

>> PRIORITY FOR US.

OBVIOUSLY, IT IS NOT JUST ABOUT THE YARD WASTE IT IS ALSO ABOUT THE FOOD WASTE.

AS YOU SAID IN YOUR OPENING REMARKS, ONE OF THE PROGRAMS THAT WE'VE BEEN RUNNING FOR THE LAST COUPLE OF YEARS IS PROJECT OSCAR, WHICH IS FOR THOSE WHO DON'T KNOW, IS THROUGH A COMMUNITY COLLECTION SITE, PLACES THAT PEOPLE CAN ACTUALLY TAKE THEIR FOOD WASTE, WE HAVE PROJECT OSCAR BINS AT SIX DIFFERENT LOCATIONS ACROSS THE CITY.

WRITETON, JAMAICA PLAIN, GROVE HALL, CITY HALL, NORTH END AND EAST BOSTON.

AT THOSE SITES, AND THROUGH A CONTRACT, CURRENTLY WE COLLECT AROUND 34 TONS OF FOOD WASTE FROM HOUSEHOLDS EACH YEAR.

WE ALSO COLLECT FOOD WASTE THAT COMES FROM HAYMARKET, AND FROM HAYMARKET, WOE COLLECT AROUND 1100 TONS OF FOOD WASTE WHICH THEN GETS TAKEN TO ROCKY HILL FOR COMPOSTING.

OVER THE COURSE OF EVERY CALENDAR YEAR.

IN ADDITION TO PROJECT OSCAR,
AND THE WORK THAT WE'RE DOING AT
HAYMARKET THE CITY ALSO HAS A
NUMBER OF TOOLS AND TIPS IN
SERVICES ONLINE.

WE OFFER WAYS OF BEING ABLE TO
FOCUS, LEARN HOW TO COMPOST AT
HOME, PURCHASE INFRASTRUCTURE,
PURCHASE COMPOSTING BINS AND
THINGS LIKE THAT TO MAKE AT-HOME
COMPOSTING FEASIBLE.

>> DO WE SELL THOSE THROUGH THE
WEBSITE?

>> THE CITY OF BOSTON BUILDING,
RESOURCES CENTER, AND MISSION
HILL.

>> GREAT.

THANK YOU.

>> TO YOUR POINT, THOUGH, THIS
IS JUST THE START.

AND SO, WE HAVE BEEN LOOKING
AFTER THE MAYOR'S ZERO WASTE
EFFORT, LOOKING AT HOW DO WE
ACTUALLY REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF
WASTE THAT WE ARE GENERATING IN
THE CITY, AND THAT WE ARE
THROWING AWAY AS A CITY.

ORGANICS IS A HUGE OPPORTUNITIES
THERE, SO WE HAVE CHARGED OUR
CONSULTANT PARTNER ON THE ZERO
WASTE EFFORT TO BASICALLY LOOK
AT FOUR DIFFERENT WAYS OF
ADDRESSING ORGANICS IN OUR CITY.
ONE WOULD BE EXPANDING THE THE
NUMBER OF GARBAGE DISPOSALS IN
HOMES.

THE SECOND IS TO EXPAND SERVICES
LIKE PROJECT OSCAR, COMMUNAL
COMPOSTING SITES.

THE THIRD OPTION WOULD BE TO
BETTER SUPPORT SMALL BUSINESSES
THAT ARE ALREADY DOING SOME FORM
OF CURBSIDE COMPOSTING, AND THE
FOURTH OPTION WOULD BE RUNNING
SOME FORM OF CITY SUPPORTED OR
CITY-LED CURBSIDE COMPOSTING
PROGRAMS.

THAT FOURTH OPTION, THE CITY-LED
PROGRAM COULD EITHER LOOK
SOMETHING LIKE WHAT WE DO WITH
YARD WASTE RECYCLABLES WHERE
IT'S EVERY HOUSEHOLD EVERY WEEK
OR EVERY OTHER WEEK OR SOMETHING
MORE AKIN TO BULK PICKUP WHERE

YOU CALL FOR A PICKUP AND WE
COME AND PICK UP THAT SERVICE.
THEY'RE GOING THROUGH THE WORK
RIGHT NOW OF ESSENTIALLY PUTTING
TO THE THE COST/BENEFIT OF EACH
OF THOSE OPTIONS.

THEY'RE NOT MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE.
JUST GIVING SORT OF THE
DIVERSITY OF RESIDENTIAL
BUILDING TYPES.

THERE MIGHT BE SOMETHING THAT
WORKS BETTER IN A LARGE
MULTIDWELLING UNIT, SOMETHING
THAT WORKS BETTER IN A TRIPLE
DECKER ROW HOUSE NEIGHBORHOOD.

THERE MIGHT BE SOMETHING THAT
WORKS BETTER IN A SINGLE FAMILY
HOME NEIGHBORHOOD.

SO WE'RE LOOKING AT ALL OF THOSE
OPTIONS, AND AS PART OF THAT
ALSO LOOKING NOT JUST AT WHAT'S
THE COST OF RUNNING AND THE
BENEFIT OF SORT OF REDUCTION OF
FOOD WASTE IN CURRENTLY IN TRASH
CANS BUT ALSO LOOKING AT THE
VALUE OF THE END PRODUCT ITSELF
AS SOMETHING THAT WE'D BE
WEIGHING IN TO MAKING A DECISION
ABOUT HOW WE WOULD EXPAND FROM
THERE.

THE ZERO WASTE EFFORT IS
ONGOING.

WE ARE ROUGHLY HALFWAY THROUGH
THE ZERO WASTE PLANNING.
OUR NEXT MEETING IS JULY 16th,
FOR ANYBODY WHO IS INTERESTED
AND WANTS TO COMMENT ON THIS AND
DOESN'T GET A CHANCE TO IN THIS
HEARING THEY CAN ALSO GO ONLINE
OR COME TO ONE OF OUR ZERO WASTE
MEETINGS, AND LEARN MORE ABOUT
WHAT WE'RE DOING SO WE CAN
FIGURE OUT HOW TO DO EXACTLY
WHAT YOU SAID.

HOW DO WE ACTUALLY REDUCE THE
AMOUNT OF ORGANICS THAT ARE
BEING THROWN AWAY AND INSTEAD
GIVE OUR RESIDENTS A BETTER
OPPORTUNITY TO BE ABLE TO
COMPOST THEM THROUGHOUT THE
CITY.

>> IS THAT THE BROAD OVERVIEW OF
WHERE WE ARE?

>> BUT I'LL BE HAPPY TO TAKE ANY

QUESTIONS.

>> THAT WAS MUSIC TO MY EARS.
I DON'T KNOW WHO SAID IT THE
WELL WORN THAT THE DEFINITION OF
INSANITY IS DOING THE SAME THING
OVER AND OVER AGAIN AND
EXPECTING A DIFFERENT RESULT.
WE'VE DONE THIS NOW FIVE TIMES
AND THAT IS THE FIRST TIME THAT
I HEARD THE CITY IS ACTUALLY
LOOKING AT RUNNING A CITY-LED
CURBSIDE COMPOSTING.

WELL DONE.

TO OUR ADVOCATES HERE, THAT'S
MUSIC TO MY EARS, AND I SUSPECT
MY COLLEAGUES, AS WELL.

WHEN -- SO THEY'VE CONSULTANT
PARTNER RIGHT NOW LOOKING FOR
ITEMS YOU'VE MENTIONED.

THE FIRST THREE ARE ALL GOOD.
WE SHOULD BE DOING THOSE ANYWAY.
THE FOURTH IS WHAT I WANT TO
DRILL DOWN ON, I'M EXCITED
ABOUT.

WHEN WILL YOU HAVE THAT SORT OF
COST/BENEFIT ANALYSIS AND WHEN
WILL THE DECISION BE MADE?

>> SO, MY GUESS IS WE'LL HAVE
THE COST/BENEFIT ANALYSIS --
WE'LL CERTAINLY KNOW DURING THE
COURSE OF THE SUMMER THEY'RE
GOING TO BE DOING THE MAJORITY
OF THIS WORK.

>> THIS SUMMER?

LIKE WITHIN THE NEXT COUPLE
MONTHS?

>> CORRECT.

THAT WAS FOR THE ZERO WASTE PLAN
TO BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF
THIS YEAR.

AND IT MAY BE LIKE SOME OF THE
THINGS THAT WE HAVE DONE, THERE
IS SOME -- COMMENTS AND THE
COMMENTS FROM COUNCILOR
PRESSLEY.

WE MAY HAVE ANY OF THESE THINGS
LOOK AT HOW YOU PILOT AND HOW
YOU SCALE.

>> YEAH.

>> SO WE WILL PROBABLY HAVE THAT
PLAN IN PLACE BY THE END OF THIS
YEAR, IN PART WITH AN EYE
TOWARDS THE REBID OF ALL THE
CITIES, RECYCLING AND TRASH

CONTRACTS WHICH ALL EXPIRE JUNE
30th OF NEXT YEAR.

>> OH, OKAY.

INTERESTING.

THAT'S GREAT.

THAT'S REAL EXCITING.

JUST BECAUSE PROJECT OSCAR IS
GOOD BUT I HAVE LIKE YOU SAID
SORT OF AT THE SIX SITES, 34
TONS EACH YEAR.

>> CORRECT.

ACCUMULATED WHERE OF JUST FOOD
WE'RE LOOKING AT 40,000 TONS, SO
YOU KNOW, SIGNIFICANT -- IT'S
JUST A BLIP IN THE BUCKET SO
THAT'S VERY, VERY INTERESTING.
SO, WHAT WOULD -- I GUESS THE
FIRST QUESTION WOULD BE, AND I
WANT TO THANK MY DEAR COLLEAGUE
AND FRIEND DIRECT 1 COUNCILOR
LYDIA EDWARDS FOR JOINING US,
WOULD YOU NEED TO EXPAND YOUR
STAFF IF WE WERE TO, I ASSUME
THIS WOULD ALL BE PART OF THE
COST/BENEFIT ANALYSIS?

>> CORRECT.

NOT JUST BE THAT, BUT BE LOOKING
AT ESSENTIALLY, IF WE WENT
CURBSIDE A SIGNIFICANT SORT OF
ONE-TIME COST OF BUYING BUCKETS
FOR KITCHENS, BUCKETS FOR CURBS,
LINERS, AND WE'RE PROBABLY
LOOKING AT -- IT WOULD BE A
MULTIMILLION DOLLAR EFFORT.

>> YEAH.

>> EVERY HOUSE IN THE CITY OF
BOSTON FROM AN INITIAL ESTIMATE
WOULD PROBABLY BE AROUND \$14
MILLION.

>> 1-0 OR 14?

>> 1-4.

>> WHAT'S THE CURRENT TIPPING
FEE?

>> TRASH?

>> WHAT ARE WE AT?

>> AVERAGE ABOUT \$70.

>> OKAY.

SO JUST 40,000 TONS OF FOOD
TIMES \$70 IS \$2.8 MILLION.
SO, THAT'S PRETTY, YOU KNOW,
THAT'S PRETTY INTERESTING, AS
WELL.

OKAY.

AND THEN, TELL A LITTLE BIT

ABOUT -- CAN YOU TALK, MAYBE
SUSAN, THIS WOULD BE A GOOD
THING FOR YOU, BRIAN IF YOU WANT
TO JUMP IN, HOW DO WE DEAL WITH
THE COMPOSTED MATERIALS RIGHT
NOW?

THE ORGANICS FROM PROJECT OSCAR?
YOU MENTION THEY GO TO -- IS
IT -- TELL US.

>> SO, WE'RE CURRENTLY WORKING
WITH SAVE THAT STUFF, THEY DO
THE COLLECTION FROM THE SIX
SITES AND BRING IT TO THE CORE
FACILITY IN CHARLESTOWN.

>> AND HOW DO WE STUMBLE UPON
SAVE THAT STUFF?
WAS IT AN RFI?

>> IT WAS A WQC.

SO WRITTEN PRICE QUOTE.

>> OH, WRITTEN PRICE QUOTE.
I'VE JUST NEVER HEARD THAT TERM
BEFORE.

>> SO YOU ARE REQUIRED TO DO
WRITTEN PRICE QUOTES FOR THINGS
THAT YOU THINK SERVICES THAT
ARE -- YOU THINK ARE GOING TO
COST BETWEEN \$10,000 AND
\$25,000.

>> OKAY.

>> SO YOU HAVE TO GET THREE
WRITTEN PRICE QUOTES.
AND THEN TAKE THE LOWEST
RESPONSIBLE BIDDER.

>> OKAY.

>> AND JUST IT'S A SIGNIFICANTLY
SMALLER CONTRACT SO YOU DON'T
HAVE TO GO THROUGH THE SAME
ONEROUS PROCESS.

>> CORRECT.

>> OKAY, GREAT.

AND WOULD CHARLES, IF WE WERE
TO, YOU KNOW, EVEN BEGIN THIS
SORT OF EITHER AS A PILOT AND
THEN TO SCALE, WOULD CHARLESTOWN
BE ABLE TO HANDLE IT?

OR WOULD WE LIKELY HAVE TO GO TO
A LARGER FACILITY?

>> THEY COULD HANDLE IT.

>> THEY COULD HANDLE IT?

>> YEAH.

>> THAT'S GREAT.

>> DEPENDING ON HOW LARGE A
SCALE YOU'RE TALKING.

THE PILOT VERSUS FULL-SCALE

CITYWIDE.

YOU KNOW, NATURALLY, INCREASED
THE TONNAGE, INCREASED THE
CAPACITY.

SO --

>> DO WE KNOW WHICH NEIGHBORHOOD
HAS THE MOST, I GUESS WE
WOULDN'T NECESSARILY KNOW, BUT
ANECDOTALLY FROM MAYBE PROJECT
OSCAR, WHICH BIN GETS FILLED THE
MOST?

I MEAN, YOU KNOW, TWO OF YOU
LIMP IN JAMAICA PLAIN.

>> TO YOUR CONSTITUENCY, BUT
YES, JAMAICA PLAIN HAS THREE
CONTAINERS, AND THEY ACTUALLY
HAVE TO GET PICKED UP TWICE A
WEEK.

THE REST OF THE CONTAINERS ARE
PICKED UP WEEKLY, AND SOME ARE
JUST SINGLE CONTAINERS IN EAST
BOSTON AND NORTH END THEY HAVE
TWO CONTAINERS.

SO, JAMAICA PLAIN IS
OUTSTRIPPING THE --

>> THAT'S BRILLIANT.

AND WHAT'S, REFRESH MY MEMORY
AND FOLKS IN THE CHAMBER AS
WELL, THE STATE PASSED A LAW ARE
LARGER RESTAURANTS A COUPLE
YEARS AGO ON COMPOSTING.

THAT'S BASED ON SQUARE FOOTAGE I
THINK, THOUGH?

NOT ALL RESTAURANTS HAVE --

>> IT WAS PASSED IN OCTOBER OF
2014.

IT'S A WASTE BAN FOR FOOD WASTE
FOR GENERATORS THAT GENERATE
MORE THAN A TON PER WEEK OF FOOD
WASTE IN THEIR COMMERCIAL
ENTERPRISE.

>> YEAH.

AND THEN DO THEY -- DOES THE
CITY DOESN'T PICK UP FOR THEM?
THEY ALL HAVE TO --

>> WE DON'T PICK UP ANY
COMMERCIAL.

>> OF COURSE, THAT MAKES SENSE.

AND THEN, I KNOW, IN --

>> HAYMARKET IS THE ONE.

>> I'M SORRY.

>> AND THEN, IN TERMS OF SORT OF
THE DISPOSALS, HOW MANY -- DO
YOU KNOW A PERCENTAGE OF HOUSES

THAT HAVE DISPOSALS, VERSUS
THOSE THAT DON'T?

>> GREAT QUESTION.

WE DON'T.

THEY RAN IT, A PILOT PROGRAM A
COUPLE OF YEARS AGO ON GARBAGE
DISPOSALS AND IT DID
SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE THE AMOUNT
GOING INTO THE WASTE STREAM BUT
IT WAS A SMALL PILOT A COUPLE OF
YEARS AGO.

>> YEAH, THAT WAS IN, A
MULTI-FAMILY BUILDING ON BLUE
HILL AVENUE IN DORCHESTER, 48
UNITS AND WE DID A SIX-MONTH
PILOT.

AND THEY HAD NO DISPOSERS
BEFOREHAND, AND WE WORKED WITH
'N SYNCERATOR, THEY PAID FOR THE
DISPOSALS, INSTALLED THEM, AND
DURING THE SIX MONTH PERIOD WE
REDUCED THE AMOUNT OF TRASH BY
30%.

>> REALLY?

THAT'S FANTASTIC.

OKAY.

VERY, VERY INTERESTING.

I THINK THAT'S ALL I HAVE FOR
THIS ROUND.

COUNCILOR EDWARDS DO YOU HAVE
ANY QUESTIONS?

>> I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR
COMING OUT HERE TODAY.

AND I APOLOGIZE IF YOU HAD
ALREADY ANSWERED SOME OF THESE
QUESTIONS.

BUT YOU KNOW, I SEE THIS AS AN
OPPORTUNITY NOT JUST FOR THE
ENVIRONMENT BUT ALSO BUILDING A
TRUE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE
CITY, AND REALLY BEING ABLE TO
INVEST IN, I THINK A GREEN
INFRASTRUCTURE IS REALLY WHERE
OUR FUTURE IS.

AND THAT, YOU KNOW, NOT ONLY IS
HOW WE BUILD HOUSES BUT
LITERALLY HOW WE GET RID OF
WASTE.

AND MY -- I GUESS I'M SUGGESTING
TO YOU AS PART OF YOUR THOUGHT
PROCESS IN BUILDING THIS
INFRASTRUCTURE BEYOND THE PILOT,
IS REALLY LOOKING AT THE SUPPLY
CHAIN AND HOW YOU MOVE FROM THE

HOUSEHOLDS, TO WHETHER IT'S
CASTILLA IN CHARLESTOWN OR
WHEREVER YOU'RE GOING AND PART
OF THAT IS UNDERSTANDING SOCIAL
JUSTICE, NOT JUST HOW WE COMPOST
BUT HOW THE WORKERS ARE PAID
ALONG THE ENTIRE SUPPLY CHAIN.
I THINK THAT THE CITY SHOULD BE
RESPONSIBLE FOR AS YOU'RE
WORKING WITH SUBCONTRACTORS, AS
YOU'RE TALKING TO THEM, THAT
WHEREVER THE WASTE LANDS THAT
THERE'S AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THOSE
WORKERS TO UNIONIZE, TO GET
PAID, TO OWN THEIR OWN FUTURE,
TO OWN -- OR TO OWN THE BUSINESS
IF NECESSARY.

I WOULD LOVE FOR THE CITY TO
ALSO LOOK AT POSSIBLY FAVORING
THOSE ORGANIZATIONS THAT ARE
LOCALLY OWNED, IN PART OF BEING
THE SUPPLY CHAIN.

I THINK MY BIGGEST CONCERN IS
THAT WHILE WE MIGHT BE DOING
RIGHT BY OUR ENVIRONMENTAL
FUTURE THAT WE COULD BE WITH
CITY DOLLARS SUPPORTING MAYBE
POTENTIALLY -- NOT SUPPORTING
WORKERS AS WE COULD BE, AND A
LIVING WAGE.

I'M PROUD TO HAVE BEEN A
SUPPORTER, AND SOMEONE WHO WORKS
WITH A GREAT DEAL OF
COOPERATIVES.

I SEE THERE'S SOME INCREDIBLE
PEOPLE FROM THE CO-OP HERE
TODAY.

AND I STAND WITH THEM, AND THEIR
ABILITY TO COMBINE WORKERS'
RIGHTS WITH ALSO ENVIRONMENTAL
JUSTICE.

AND I THINK THAT THIS IS AN
OPPORTUNITY FOR THE CITY TO
AMPLIFY THAT.

I'LL SAY THAT.

NOW I ALSO REPRESENT THE NORTH
END.

HAPPILY, AND PROUDLY.

SOMEONE FROM HYDE PARK RECENTLY
SAID THEY HAVE THE BEST ITALIAN
FOOD.

I LOVE HYDE PARK, BUT THERE'S NO
WAY.

BUT SINCE WE'RE ON THE TOPIC OF

ORGANIC WASTE I KNOW THAT RESTAURANTS, COMMERCIAL ENTITIES PROBABLY PRODUCE MORE THAN RESIDENTIAL, AM I CORRECT?

>> YES YES.

>> SO HOW ARE WE BRINGING THEM TO THE TABLE?

I UNDERSTAND THAT THE CITY DOES NOT PICK UP THEIR STUFF, THEY HAVE PRIVATE ENTITIES.

BUT HOW DO WE BRING THE COMMERCIAL ENTITIES WHO ARE THROWING OUT FOOD ON A DAILY BASIS TO THE TABLE?

WHAT WOULD -- WE HAVE TO, I THINK THE INFRASTRUCTURE, YOU CAN'T IGNORE THEM.

SO WHAT WOULD BE THE CITY'S SUGGESTIONS?

I HAVE SOME BUT I WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.

>> YOU KNOW, ZERO WASTE EFFORTS ARE ESSENTIALLY TWO GROUPS.

ONE IS THINKING ABOUT RESIDENTIAL.

AND THE OTHER IS THINKING ABOUT THE COMMERCIAL SIDE.

COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL, AND INSTITUTIONAL.

AND SO, AS PART OF THAT COMPONENT OF ZERO WASTE EFFORT THEY'RE CERTAINLY LOOKING AT HOW WE ENCOURAGE OR SUPPORT INSTITUTIONS AND RESTAURANTS TO BE ABLE TO ACTUALLY ADDRESS FOOD WASTE, AND I HAVE SPECIFICS IF YOU WANT TO GET INTO THAT.

>> I THINK THE BIGGEST ONE FOR THE RESTAURANTS IS THE FOOD DONATION, AND I GUESS THERE HAVE BEEN SOME BARRIERS TO THOSE OUTLETS BEING ABLE TO GIVE AWAY THEIR FOOD.

SO, THE -- THAT'S PART OF WHAT WE'RE LOOKING AT AT THIS PLAN TO WORK WITH THE BOSTON PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION TO ADDRESS THOSE BARRIERS SO IT'S MORE EASY -- IT'S EASIER FOR THOSE --

>> I BELIEVE A PREPARED FOOD.

I MET WITH THE WOMAN WHO RUNS OR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF LOVING SPOONFULS, AND THE FACT THAT WHEN IT'S PREPARED AND SITTING

UNDER A HOT LAMP THAT THAT FOOD ITSELF IS THE HARDEST ONE TO GET ACCESS TO TO DONATE.

SO THE CITY'S ALREADY WORKING ON THOSE REGULATIONS TO SEE HOW THAT COULD BE UPDATED?

>> IT'S PART OF THE PLAN.

>> OKAY.

>> YES.

I MEAN, WE HAVE IDENTIFIED THAT AS A BARRIER.

I DON'T KNOW IF WE CLEARLY HAVE A SOLUTION YET.

>> MM-HMM.

>> BUT, THAT'S DEFINITELY ONE OF THE AREAS THAT THE RESTAURANTS HAVE ASKED ABOUT.

>> I THINK ALSO ONE OF THE CITY YOU KNOW, POSITIONS OF BARGAINING WHEN IT COMES TO INCENTIVIZING BUSINESSES TO DO THINGS.

WHETHER THAT'S THROUGH TAXES OR THROUGH LICENSING.

SO REALLY, AS RESTAURANTS ARE COMING ON BOARD, OR AS THEY'VE BEEN THERE, AND THEY'RE RENEWING THEIR LICENSES, YOU KNOW, FIRST THAT'S THE TOUCH THAT THE CITY WILL AUTOMATICALLY HAVE WITH THEM.

BUT ALSO LETTING THEM KNOW THAT AS YOU'RE COMING FORWARD THESE ARE CERTAIN, IF YOU WERE TO USE A LOCAL COMPOSTING COMPANY TO HELP WITH PICKING UP YOUR TRASH, YOU KNOW, THE CITY WOULD LOOK AT THAT AS PART OF YOUR LICENSING APPLICATION OR PART OF REDUCING SOME OF YOUR TAXES OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

I FEEL THERE'S A CERTAIN POINT, I UNDERSTAND WHEN IT COMES TO COMMERCIAL YOU'RE IN AN INTERESTING POSITION VERSUS RESIDENTIAL.

BUT THAT WE SHOULD LEVERAGE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE TO GET THEM TO THE TABLE WITHOUT, YOU KNOW, MANDATING, BUT REALLY INCENTIVIZING IN A HUGE WAY.

IT'S JUST ONE OF THE BIGGEST ISSUES I'VE HAD IN OUR DISTRICT IS ABOUT, YOU KNOW, RATS.

AND I HEARD THAT PICKING UP
COMPOST OR BEING ABLE TO MOVE
THAT ORGANIC ORGANIC WASTE
REGULARLY WOULD REDUCE ONE OF
THE OTHER PROBLEMS THE CITY ENDS
UP PAYING FOR WHICH IS PEST
CONTROL.

I'M REALLY EXCITED ABOUT THIS
CONVERSATION.

I THINK WE'RE HEADED IN THE
RIGHT WAY.

I THINK BEYOND THE PILOT I THINK
WE NEED TO BE TALKING OF THE
STRUCTURE IN A HUGE WAY.

>> TO THAT POINT, I THINK THAT
THERE IS -- I FULLY EXPECT THAT
IT WILL BE IN THE CITY'S
FINANCIAL INTERESTING AND ALSO
OPERATIONAL INTEREST, IT ALSO
HELPS CREATE LOCAL JOBS.

I THINK RIGHT NOW IT IS
PERMANENT AROUND 43 DIFFERENT
PLACES ACROSS THE STATE TO
PROCESS ORGANICS.

VERY FEW OF THEM ARE WITHIN 20
MILES OF THE CITY OF BOSTON.
THE MORE THEY CAN BE CLOSE TO
THE CITY THE EASIER IT IS FOR US
AND THE MORE AFFORDABLE IT IS
FOR US TO BE ABLE TO COLLECT AND
PROCESS ORGANICS THAT ARE PICKED
UP AT CURBSIDE OR PICKED UP FROM
A RESTAURANT.

SO, I THINK THERE WILL BE, AS WE
PURSUE THIS PATH I THINK YOU'RE
GOING TO SEE MORE OF A LOCAL
INDUSTRY DEVELOP AROUND THAT.

>> WONDERFUL.

AND THEN I JUST HAD A CLARIFYING
QUESTION.

\$14 MILLION YOU MENTIONED,
THAT'S A ONE-TIME COST?

>> YEAH.

>> IT'S NOT GOING TO BE ANNUAL.

>> THAT'S JUST FOR THE COTS AND
KITCHEN BINS.

THAT DOESN'T INCLUDE THE BAGS
AND ROLLS OF BAGS THAT
CONSTITUENTS WILL HAVE TO GO AND
GET.

THAT'S JUST A BALL PARK NUMBER
FOR INITIAL ROLLOUT OF THE
PLASTIC BINS.

>> BUT IT WOULD BE A ONE-TIME

CAPITAL INVESTMENT.

>> FOR THAT.

>> AND THEN I'M SURE THE CITY IS GOING TO LOOK AT PRIVATE AND PUBLIC PARTNERSHIPS EITHER TO HELP DEFRAY THE COST, WORK WITH SOME NONPROFITS.

>> PART OF THE ANALYSIS IS HOW DO WE ACTUALLY DO THIS IN A WAY THAT IS AFFORDABLE AND REALLY GETS US AT THE END THAT WE ALL WANT TO BE ABLE TO GET TO.

BY ONE TIME WE MEAN ESSENTIALLY ONCE EVERY TEN YEARS.

>> WHAT WE HAVE TO LOOK AT IF YOU'RE GIVING EVERYBODY A RECYCLING COT YOU HAVE TO MAKE SURE THEY'RE GOING TO USE IT CORRECTLY.

RIGHT NOW WE HAVE A SERIOUS PROBLEM WITH THE RECYCLING. PEOPLE ARE STARTING TO UNDERSTAND A LITTLE BIT MORE ABOUT RECYCLING AND THE PROBLEM WITH THE INDUSTRY RIGHT NOW. A LOT OF IT HAS TO DO WITH THE CONTAMINATION LEVELS THAT ARE IN THE BINS.

YOU KNOW, A LOT OF --

>> WHAT IS THE CONTAMINATION LEVEL IN THE BINS?

>> OURS?

IT COULD VARY FROM AREA TO AREA.

>> OF COURSE.

BUT BALL PARK.

>> RIGHT NOW, IT'S A LITTLE UNDER 15%.

>> BUT THAT'S --

>> THAT'S AN IMPROVEMENT --

>> I KNOW WE'VE BEEN DOING THE SINGLE STREAM NOW FOR ABOUT TEN YEARS.

IS THAT AN IMPROVEMENT?

>> IT'S ALWAYS BEEN ABOUT THE SAME.

WE'VE BEEN KIND OF FLAT.

SO WE'RE DOING ABOUT 3,000 TONS A MONTH CITYWIDE.

THE CONTAMINATION -- WE'RE JUST GETTING TIGHTER ON HOW CLEAN IT IS OVER AT THE FACILITY.

SO ALL THE STUFF THAT'S GOING ON IN CHINA THAT EVERYBODY'S BEEN LIKE KIND OF READING ABOUT, YOU

KNOW, SO IT'S KIND OF -- IT'S
POPPED UP AS A BIG ISSUE.
SO PEOPLE ARE REALLY, YOU KNOW,
THE PEOPLE ARE REALLY TRYING TO
HELP CLEANERS OVER THERE TO GET
RECYCLED AND USED PROPERLY AND
WE NEED TO GIVE THEM A CLEANER
PRODUCT.

IF WE'RE HAVING SUCH A PROBLEM
WITH THE RECYCLING CITYWIDE
GIVING PEOPLE THE 96 GALLON COT
OR 64 GALLON COT IT'S SOMETHING
THAT WE'RE REALLY CONCERNED
ABOUT IS GIVING EVERYBODY A 23
GALLON GREEN BIN FOR COMPOSTING
AND WHAT'S THE CONTAMINATION
GOING TO BE THEN.

YOU KNOW, BECAUSE WE NEED TO
REALLY IRON OUT BEFORE, YOU
KNOW, PUTTING THE CART BEFORE
THE HORSE.

YOU KNOW, YOU HAVE TO REALLY
KNOW THAT WE'RE GOING TO DO THE
RIGHT THING, AND GET EVERYBODY
ON THE SAME PAGE, AND SCHOOLING,
EDUCATION, OUTREACH, ALL THAT.
LIKE IT'S NOT THE QUESTION IF WE
WANT TO DO IT.

WE DEFINITELY WANT TO DO IT.
I'D LOVE TO SEE THE TRASH CUT IN
HALF SOME DAY.

BUT HOW DO WE GET TO THAT POINT
THE RIGHT WAY?

NOT GET CHARGED FOR
CONTAMINATION AND STUFF LIKE
THAT.

SO, THAT'S A BIG ISSUE WE HAVE
TO LOOK AT.

>> OKAY.

>> IF WE WERE TO IMPLEMENT THIS
YOU'D HAVE A BLUE BIN FOR THE
CURRENT SINGLE STREAM, A GREEN
BIN FOR THE COMPOST, AND THEN
MAYBE A REGULAR BIN FOR JUST
OTHER TRASH?

>> TRASH, YEAH.

>> SO THAT'S THREE BINS, AND
THAT'S ADDING A TRUCK.

SO, YOU KNOW, ADDING ANOTHER
TRUCK TO THE STREET, THAT'S
ANOTHER ISSUE, ENVIRONMENTALLY
YOU WANT TO LOOK AT HOW MANY
VEHICLES ARE ON THE STREET.
TRYING TO CUT BACK.

YOU KNOW, THERE'S A LOT OF
TANGIBLES, INTANGIBLES.
BUT ANOTHER THING TO THINK
ABOUT, AS WELL.
EMISSIONS IS ANOTHER.

>> OKAY.

THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU, JUST FOLLOWING UP
ON THAT, SO BECAUSE I THINK YOU
HIT A VERY IMPORTANT POINT THAT
I NEGLECTED TO UNDERSCORE IN MY
FIRST LINE OF QUESTIONING, IS
THAT PUBLIC EDUCATION IS
ABSOLUTELY KEY TO THIS.
YOU KNOW, IT'S DISAPPOINTING TO
HEAR THAT SORT OF OUR
CONTAMINATION RATE HAS STAYED SO
STABLE WHEN YOU WOULD THINK
THERE'S A BETTER AWARENESS OF
WHAT'S GOING ON.

BUT MAYBE IT'S ON US.

MAYBE AS COUNCILORS WE NEED TO
DO A BETTER JOB TALKING TO OUR
CONSTITUENTS, MAYBE IT'S OUR
TEAM, AND NOW WORKING WITH, YOU
KNOW, CHIEF COOK AND HIS TEAM IN
TERMS OF JUST A BETTER PUBLIC
AWARENESS.

BUT IT'S ALSO MAKES ME THINK
THAT THERE IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO
SORT OF DO IT ALL AT ONCE, AND
USE THE RESOURCES THAT WE HAVE.
OUR PROPERTY TAXES YOU KNOW,
QUARTERLY, SOMETHING.

THIS IS HOW DOUGH WOO USE
PUBLIC -- WE GET CERTAIN AMOUNT
OF FREE AD SPACE ON MBTA BUSES
AND INSIDE THE TRAINS.

BUT I THINK THERE IS AN
OPPORTUNITY HERE TO ADDRESS SORT
OF THE CONTAMINATION IN OUR
RECYCLING AS WELL AS RAMPING OUT
CURBSIDE, AND WHAT THAT MEANS.

>> GREAT.

>> I LEARNED NOT TOO LONG AGO
THAT YOU CAN PUT NAPKINS IN
COMPOSTING.

I HAD NO IDEA THAT YOU COULD DO
THAT BEFORE.

I'M GRATEFUL THAT BECAUSE OF THE
EFFORTS OF THIS BODY, INSPIRED
BY MAYOR WALSH THAT PLASTIC BAGS
WILL BE LESS PREVALENT IN OUR
RECYCLE BINS NEXT YEAR.

I KNOW THAT HAS BEEN A SIGNIFICANT COST, AS WELL. SO MAYBE THE IDEA, I MEAN I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING WHAT THE CONSULTANTS SORT OF COME BACK WITH, BUT I KIND OF LIKE THE IDEA OF EVEN BEFORE WE GET TO THE PILOT PROGRAM, MAYBE WE DO A PERIOD WHERE YOU CAN CALL, YOU KNOW, ANY RESIDENT OF BOSTON OR WE FIGURE IT OUT COULD CALL TO JUST SORT OF HAVE THEIR COMPOSTING -- THEIR COMPOST PICKED UP.

MAYBE WE START THAT AND THEN SORT OF RAMP IT OUT, MAYBE IT'S A CONTEST TO SEE WHICH NEIGHBORHOOD HAS THE MOST SORT OF EARLY ADOPTERS ON THEIR OWN AND THAT LEADS THE WAY TO GET TO THE PILOT.

I KNOW THERE WILL BE A FIGHT AMONG MY EIGHT DISTRICT COLLEAGUES AND MYSELF WHICH NEIGHBORHOOD GETS TO START. AND THEN SORT OF GO FROM THERE. SO I THINK THE APPETITE IS CERTAINLY THERE.

AND WE'RE GOING TO HEAR FROM SOME FOLKS LATER. AND, THE OPPORTUNITY IS THERE, AS WELL, TO MAYBE HELP EDUCATE MORE PEOPLE.

AND YOU KNOW, I PUT MYSELF AND MY COLLEAGUES IN THAT, AS WELL. AND THEN MY LAST QUESTION FOR THIS ROUND IS, WHAT DO WE DO WITH THE -- CURRENTLY WHAT DO WE DO WITH THE 34 TONS COMPOSTED FROM PROJECT OSCAR?

AND WHAT COULD WE DO IF WE WERE TO EXPAND THIS SIGNIFICANTLY? DO WE USE THIS IN OUR PARKS? IN OUR PLAYGROUNDS OR MULCH, FOR YOU KNOW, FERTILIZER, OR ANYTHING?

>> THE STUFF THAT IS ACTUALLY RETURNED TO THE CITY OF BOSTON IS THE YARD WASTE WHICH IS GOING TO OUR COMPOSTING FACILITY ON AMERICAN LEGION HIGHWAY.

>> YES.

>> THE MATERIAL THAT GOES TO CORE AND COMES RIGHT BACK TO THE

CITY.

AND THE HAYMARKET FOOD WASTE
THAT GOES TO ROCKY HILL, THAT
BECOMES ESSENTIALLY A COMPOST
ADDITIVE FOR ORGANIC PURPOSES.

>> DO WE USE IT THOUGH?

>> THE ONLY THING WE USE IS FROM
THE YARD WASTE.

>> AND SO THAT BRUCE FULFORD
OPERATION ON AMERICAN LEGION
HIGHWAY AND WE'D USE THAT IN
PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS.

>> AND COMMUNITY GARDENS.

>> COMMUNITY GARDENS.

AND HAVE WE EVER HAD AN
INDIVIDUAL, YOU KNOW, SWING BY
AND SAY I'D LOVE SOME FOR MY
GARDEN --

>> HE'S NOW -- WE'LL SELL IT ON
A RETAIL BASIS.

THERE ARE CERTAIN LIMITS, AND I
DON'T REMEMBER.

>> OKAY THERE ARE CERTAIN LIMITS
OF HOW MUCH YOU CAN PURCHASE,
AND I'M FORGETTING WHICH
DIRECTION IT IS BUT I CAN GET
THAT FOR YOU.

>> BUT I THINK IF WE WERE TO
RAMP IT UP AND GROW IT THAT
COULD BE A GREAT RESOURCE THAT
WE HAVE THAT COULD MAYBE HELP
OFFSET SOME OF THE COST.
SELL IT AT COST BUT ENOUGH TO
INCENTIVIZE, YOU KNOW, AN
AMATEUR GARDENER SUCH AS MYSELF
TO, YOU KNOW, SUPPORT THIS
PROGRAM, SUPPORT THE CITY, AND
BE ABLE TO PICK IT UP IN A
CLOSED SPACE.

>> WE'D HAVE TO CHECK WITH THE
STATE ON THAT.

WITH THE AUDUBON.

IT'S THEIR LAND THAT WE USE FOR
THE PROGRAM.

>> YEAH.

>> SO AGAIN, YOU KNOW,
INFRASTRUCTURE, AND LAND, AND
EVERYTHING IS VERY IMPORTANT
BECAUSE THERE'S NOT MANY PLACES
THAT WE CAN DO THIS.

WE'RE FORTUNATE TO HAVE THAT
SPACE.

>> YEAH.

>> THAT WE CAN USE, AND YOU

KNOW, DO WHAT WE DO THERE.
>> I WOULD EVEN ARGUE AND AGAIN
I WANT THIS TO HAPPEN SO I WANT
TO THROW UP AS FEW ROADBLOCKS AS
POSSIBLE, BUT PERHAPS LOOK AT
SOME OF THE DPW YARDS AS
OPPORTUNITIES WHERE, YOU KNOW,
WE COULD SHIP A FINITE AMOUNT OF
COMPOST THAT PEOPLE COULD PICK
UP AND USE AND MAYBE PAY A
NOMINAL AMOUNT FOR.
BUT I THINK THIS IS A REAL
EXCITING OPPORTUNITY.
SO, YOU KNOW, I AM VERY DELITED
TO HEAR, AND CHIEF OSGOOD THANK
YOU, AND YOUR TEAM, BRIAN AND
SUSAN, FOR SPENDING A LITTLE
TIME WITH US THIS MORNING.
I'M DELIGHTED TO HEAR, YOU KNOW,
THAT THIS SEEMS LIKE THIS IS
SOMETHING YOU ALL ARE TAKING
VERY, VERY SERIOUSLY.
IN TERMS OF SORT OF THE FOUR
NEXT STEPS, EXPANDING DISPOSALS,
EXPANDING PROJECT OSCAR, BETTER
SUPPORT FOR SMALL BUSINESSES,
AND THEN RUNNING A CITY-LED
CURBSIDE COMPOSTING PROGRAM.
IN ADDITION TO, YOU'RE SAYING,
INCREASE THE YARD WASTE PICKUP
TO 20 WEEKS.
BUT THAT'S DIFFERENT.
IT SEEMS LIKE THAT'S LIKELY TO
HAPPEN NEXT YEAR, WHICH IS
GREAT.
THIS COULD BE TERRIFIC.
THIS GOD WILLING COULD BE THE
LAST TIME WE DO A CURBSIDE
COMPOSTING HEARING.
AND I THINK YOU GUYS WOULD LOVE
THAT AS MUCH AS I WOULD.
SO I'M GOING TO THANK YOU FOR
YOUR TIME.
I HAVE NO FURTHER QUESTIONS.
COUNCILOR EDWARDS HAS NO FURTHER
QUESTIONS.
IF YOU ARE FREE I INVITE YOU TO
JUST STAY.
WE'RE ACTUALLY MOVING PRETTY
QUICKLY SO JUST TO HEAR FROM THE
NEXT PANEL, AND MAYBE IF SOME
FOLKS TESTIFY THAT WOULD BE
GREAT.
THANK YOU ALL, REALLY APPRECIATE

YOUR TIME.

THAT'S REALLY EXCITING.

THANK YOU.

I'D NOW LIKE TO INVITE CHRISTINE
PECCHI, LAURA HOLMES, AND
DR. LAURA ORLANDO TO PLEASE JOIN
US AT THE DAIS.

>> GOOD MORNING.

>> LAURA IF YOU JUST WANT TO
INTRODUCE YOURSELF, NAME AND
TITLE AND THEN GO DOWN --
ACTUALLY, IF YOU HAVE AN
OPENING, INTRODUCE YOURSELF,
OPENING STATEMENT AND THEN WE'LL
GO DOWN TO YOUR RIGHT.

>> GOOD MORNING.

>> GOOD MORNING.

>> I'M LAURA HOLMES, GENERAL
MANAGER AT SERA CO-OP.
AND THANK YOU, COUNCILOR
O'MALLEY AND COUNCILOR EDWARDS
FOR BEING HERE.

THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE FOR
CONVENING THIS HEARING ABOUT A
VERY IMPORTANT TOPIC, AND A VERY
IMPORTANT MOMENT IN TIME.

I'M A WORKER OWNER AND GENERAL
MANAGER AT SERO COOPERATIVE,
BOSTON ONLY COMMERCIAL COMPOST
SERVICES COMPANY.

WE DIVERT MORE THAN 50 TONS OF
COMPOSTABLE WASTE EVERY WEEK FOR
MORE THAN 60 BUSINESS AND
INSTITUTIONAL CUSTOMERS.

THAT'S 50 TONS OF MATERIAL
THAT'S NO LONGER BEING BURNED IN
WASTE TO ENERGY PLANTS.

THAT'S GREEN WASHED BRANDING NOW
USED FOR WHAT ARE REALLY TOXIC
INCINERATORS.

WE'RE CURRENTLY ALL OF BOSTON'S
WASTE GOES UP IN SMOKE, WE'RE
PROUD TO BE GROWING A BUSINESS
THAT PROVIDES GOOD, GREEN JOBS
AND WORKER OWNERSHIP IN OUR
COMMUNITY WHILE CREATING A
SUSTAINABLE ALTERNATIVE FOR THE
CITY'S ORGANIC WASTE.

I FIRST TESTIFIED BEFORE THIS
COMMITTEE AT YOUR HEARING IN
2014.

SINCE THAT TIME, SIGNIFICANT
DEVELOPMENTS SHOULD INFORM OUR
POLICY, AND BUDGETARY

DELIBERATIONS NOW.
THE ORGANICS WASTE BAN HAS GONE
INTO EFFECT ENCOURAGING MORE
BUSINESSES TO PARTICIPATE IN
FOOD WASTE DIVERSION.
THERE'S BROAD RECOGNITION ACROSS
THE PLANET, THAT ORGANIC WASTE
IS THE MOST OBVIOUS EARLY TARGET
FOR REDUCING ALL WASTE.
ORGANIC WASTE IS INCREASINGLY
RECOGNIZED AS A VALUABLE
RESOURCE.
WHEN PROCESSED PROPERLY
COMPOSTED FOOD WASTE ALONE CAN
REPLENISH ALL OF THE DEPLETED
SOIL ON EARTH.
IN THE SOIL IT ACTS AS A SPONGE
SUCKING UP CARBONS AND
MITIGATING CO-2, THE GREENHOUSE
GAS THAT CONTRIBUTES MOST TO
CLIMATE CHANGE.
YOU'RE SEEING A WHOLE NEW BIOGAS
INDUSTRY DEVELOP AROUND FOOD
WASTE THAT'S DEMONSTRATING THE
GREAT PROMISE FOR THIS RENEWABLE
FUEL.
WHAT A GREAT ALTERNATIVE TO
FRACKED GAS.
CITIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY,
INCLUDING BOSTON ARE
IMPLEMENTING ZERO WASTE PLANS.
THIS IS GREAT.
AT THE SAME TIME IT MEANS THAT
LEADERS LIKE YOU ALL WILL BE
MAKING CRITICAL POLICY DECISIONS
WITH FAR-REACHING FUTURE IMPACT.
BECAUSE DIVERSION AND RECYCLING
ORGANIC WASTE IS SO NEW IN THIS
COUNTRY, AND THE AMOUNTS ARE SO
LARGE, WE NEED TO SCALE ORGANICS
PROCESSING INFRASTRUCTURE
SIGNIFICANTLY.
HERE'S WHERE WE NEED TO BE
REALLY CAREFUL, AND DO OUR
HOMEWORK.
BECAUSE HOW WE DISPOSE OF THE
ORGANICS MATTERS SO MUCH.
ORGANIC PROCESSING TECHNOLOGIES
ARE EVOLVING DYNAMICALLY.
AND THEY VARY ENORMOUSLY.
THE OLDEST FORMS OF COMPOSTING
HAVE UNDERGONE MAJOR
MODERNIZATION.
AND WE DON'T HAVE NEARLY ENOUGH

WIND-ROW CAPACITY AS THE CITY FOLKS SAID, ESPECIALLY WITHIN REASONABLE PROXIMITY TO THE CITY.

BIG WASTE TO ENERGY INCINERATORS AND AN AEROBIC DIGESTERS HAVE MOVED IN TO GOBBLE UP LARGE AMOUNTS OF ORGANICS BUT THEY'RE BAD ALTERNATIVE.

JUST AS OVER INVESTMENT IN FOSSIL FUELS MEANS THERE'S BEEN UNDERINVESTMENT IN RENEWABLE ENERGY, BURNING ORGANICS IN INCINERATORS OR MIXING FOOD WASTE WITH SEWAGE, WHICH IS WHAT HAPPENS IN DIGESTERS, ARE FRAUGHT SOLUTIONS.

IF THAT'S WHERE OUR ORGANICS ARE GOING WE MIGHT AS WELL JUST FLUSH OUR FOOD WASTE DOWN THE TOILET.

IF WE CHOOSE BURNING AND FLUSHING AS THE PRIMARY ORGANIC SOLUTION WE SQUANDER THE PHENOMENAL RESOURCES ORGANIC WASTE OFFICE.

INSTEAD OF EXTRACTING THE ORGANICS FOREVER AWAY FROM THE FOOD GROWING CYCLE, WE SHOULD VIEW DEVELOPMENT OF AN ORGANICS INFRASTRUCTURE AS A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY TO ACHIEVE POSITIVE ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT.

WE APPLAUD THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE FOR ROLLING OUT A CITYWIDE CURBSIDE COMPOST COLLECTION PROGRAM.

AT THIS HEARING IN 2014, I REMEMBER HEARING ABOUT THE PILOT THEY HAD BEGUN IN NORTH CAMBRIDGE.

THE PILOT DEMONSTRATED THAT RESIDENTS DO WANT TO COMPOST. IT SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED OVERALL TRASH AND THE ORGANIC WASTE IS BEING PROCESSED AT AN EASTERN MASS WINDROW FACILITY WHERE FOOD WASTE WAS RECYCLED INTO HEALTHY SOIL PRODUCTS.

THE CHALLENGE FACING CAMBRIDGE NOW IS AN ACUTE LACK OF INFRASTRUCTURE.

WHICH IS NEEDED TO COMPOST FROM

THE 25,000 HOUSEHOLDS NOW
ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
PROGRAM.

THE ONLY PROCESSING FACILITY
THEY HAVE FOUND PREPARED TO
HANDLE THE VOLUME IS BY TRUCKING
TO THE CHARLESTOWN SLURRY PLANT
YOU'VE BEEN HEARING ABOUT WHERE
WATER IS ADDED TO MAKE IT INTO A
SLUSH THAT THEY THEN PUMP INTO
MORE TRUCKS, AND DELIVER TO
LAWRENCE.

THERE IT'S PUMPED INTO AN
ANAEROBIC DIGESTER AND MIXED UP
WITH WASTEWATER FROM THE SEWER
SYSTEM.

I'M NOT SURE HOW THE FERTILIZER
BY-PRODUCT IS APPLIED IN
AGRICULTURE BUT I DON'T THINK
I'D WANT TO PUT IT ON MY GARDEN.
STILL, I DO APPLAUD CAMBRIDGE
FOR MAKING THE COMMITMENT TO
DIVERT ORGANICS, AND I'M GLAD
IT'S SHINING THE LIGHT ON THE
NEED FOR BETTER ORGANICS
PROCESSING INFRASTRUCTURE.

BOSTON CAN HELP TO BUILD THAT
INFRASTRUCTURE AND LET'S DO IT
THE RIGHT WAY.

WHEN WE BUILD A COMPOSTING
INFRASTRUCTURE THE RIGHT WAY, WE
WILL PRIORITIZE HIGHEST POSSIBLE
USE SOLUTIONS.

HIGHEST USE SOLUTIONS MAXIMIZE
THE VALUE, AND ENVIRONMENTAL
BENEFIT AVAILABLE IN COLLECTING
ORGANIC WASTE.

ALL COMPOSTING MITIGATES METHANE
AND PRODUCES ENERGY.

NOT ALL COMPOSTING TECHNOLOGIES
RECYCLE THE ORGANIC MATERIAL IN
THE WAYS THAT ARE BEST FOR SOIL
HEALTH, FARMING AND GROWING
FOOD.

PLACES TO START SHOULD SUPPORT A
DIVERSITY OF SYSTEMS SO WE CAN
KEEP LEARNING AND AVOID
UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES BY
MAKING HASTY CHOICES IN A
RAPIDLY EVOLVING INDUSTRY.
WE SHOULD LIFT UP HIGHEST USE
APPROACHES THAT AS VALUE, SUCH
AS LOCAL EMPLOYMENT, MICROGRID
CONNECTIONS, AND THE BEST

PRODUCTS FOR LOCAL AGRICULTURE.
FROM THE MOMENT WE STARTED
BUILDING CERO COOPERATIVE IN
2012 WE PARTNERED WITH CITY
SOIL, WHICH HAS COMPOSTED
THOUSANDS OF TONS OF BOSTON'S
YARD WASTE FOR MANY YEARS.
INCORPORATING FOOD SCRAPS INTO
THIS EXISTING SYSTEM WOULD BE
THE CHEAPEST, FASTEST, AND MOST
LOGICAL FIRST STEP THE CITY
COULD TAKE TO BUILD LOCAL
ORGANICS INFRASTRUCTURE.
UNFORTUNATELY, THE ENVIRONMENT
AND PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENTS
HAVE NOT YET MOVED TO ALLOW THAT
TO HAPPEN.
AS A RESULT, CERO IS EXPORTING
THE BEAUTIFUL ORGANICS THAT WE
COLLECT, MORE THAN 50 TONS EVERY
WEEK, AND GROWING.
LOSING THE VALUE THAT COULD BE
SO BENEFICIAL RIGHT HERE IN THE
CITY.
WE SUPPORT BOSTON TO TAKE ON
RESIDENTIAL CURBSIDE COMPOSTING
AND LET'S DEDICATE OURSELVES AS
A CITY, AS RESIDENTS, AND AS
WORKERS TO FIGURING OUT HOW TO
DO ORGANICS RIGHT.
I'M HAPPY TO ANSWER ANY
QUESTIONS, AND GIVE YOU ANY MORE
INFO THAT MIGHT BE HELPFUL.
AND THANK YOU FOR HAVING THIS
HEARING.
>> THANK YOU, LAUREN.
THANK YOU FOR BEING ONE OF THE
ORIGINALS WHEN WE FIRST STARTED
THIS.
I'M GOING TO DO OTHER OPENING
STATEMENTS THEN I'LL GET TO SOME
QUESTIONS FOR THE PANEL.
SO THANK YOU.
ANDY, WELCOME.
>> THANK YOU SO MUCH.
GOOD MORNING.
THANK YOU COUNCILOR O'MALLEY,
THANK YOU COUNCILOR EDWARDS.
I'M THRILLED TO BE HERE.
THANKS, EVERYBODY FOR COMING
OUT.
I ALSO FEEL WOEFULLY ILL
PREPARED FOR THIS MEETING.
I GOT MARRIED LAST SATURDAY.

>> CONGRATULATIONS.

>> AND I GOT A KID ON THE WAY,
AND NBA DRAFT JUST HAPPENED.

[APPLAUSE]

>> I GOT A LOT ON MY PLATE BUT
I'M GOING TO TRY TO DO THE BEST
JOB THAT I CAN WITH WHAT I KNOW.
WHICH IS QUITE A BIT ABOUT THIS
AREA.

I STARTED MY COMPANY IN 2011 IN
JAMAICA PLAIN USING A HAND TRUCK
TO PICK UP ORGANICS FROM HOMES,
USING A FIVE GALLON BUCKET
SYSTEM.

THE WORD SPREAD PRETTY QUICKLY.
I GOT SOME REALLY NICE MEDIA
COVERAGE AND IT JUST SORT OF HAS
BEEN, YOU KNOW, GROWING EVER
SINCE.

TODAY WE HAVE 2200 RESIDENTIAL
ACCOUNTS THROUGHOUT THE CITY.
AND 200 COMMERCIAL ACCOUNTS
THROUGHOUT THE CITY, AS WELL.
WHICH IS PRIMARILY OFFICES,
WHICH IS AN INTERESTING SEGMENT
OF OUR CUSTOMER BASE.

TO DATE, SINCE 2011, WE HAVE
MANAGED TO DIVERT 3 MILLION
POUNDS OF ORGANICS FROM THE
WASTE STREAM.

THAT REPRESENTS APPROXIMATELY
1.5 MILLION POUNDS OF COMPOST.
THAT 1.5 MILLION POUNDS OF
COMPOST IS EITHER STAYED ON SITE
TO THE FARMS WHERE WE WORK.
WE WORK WITH ROCKY HILL FARM AND
WE WORK WITH SOME SMALLER
COMMUNITY FARMS THROUGHOUT THE
CITY.

SO WE BRING OUR ORGANICS TO
THESE LOCATIONS, AND THEN THEY
SORT OF BENEFIT FROM THAT
PROCESS.

WE'RE ABLE TO USE THOSE FEED
STOCKS, ADD CARBON AND MAKE A
PREMIUM SOIL AMENDMENT FOR THEIR
BENEFIT.

SO THAT'S WHERE THE MAJORITY OF
THE FINISHED COMPOST STAYS.
THE REST IS DISTRIBUTED TO OUR
2200 HOUSEHOLDS.

SO THAT IS A BEAUTIFUL THING
THAT I AM SUPER PROUD OF, WITH
BOOTSTRAP COMPOST IS WE'RE NOT

JUST MAKING COMPOST BUT WE'RE ALSO REDISTRIBUTING IT TO THE COMMUNITY, DOING A LOT OF WORK WITH SCHOOLS, COMMUNITY GARDENS, BIKE PATHS, THAT SORT OF THING, TO GET THE MATERIAL ACTUALLY OUT THERE SO PEOPLE CAN UNDERSTAND THE BENEFITS OF NUTRIENT SUCH SOIL AMENDMENT.

>> WHAT WAS THE NAME OF YOUR COMPANY?

>> BOOTSTRAP COMPOST.

>> THANK YOU.

>> SO I GUESS, I MEAN THERE'S 1,000 THINGS I COULD TALK ABOUT. I'LL TRY AND FOCUS HERE A LITTLE BIT.

THE WAY I SEE IT IS COMPOSTING IS A NECESSARY EVIL, WITH TREMENDOUS BENEFITS.

RIGHT?

THERE'S A LOT OF BENEFITS THAT CAN BE HAD IN TERMS OF MITIGATING CARBON, CREATING, AGAIN, THIS BEAUTIFUL SOIL AMENDMENT FOR IMPROVING YIELDS, AND FIGHTING PLANT DISEASE, THAT SORT OF STUFF.

SO THERE IS NO DOUBT A LOT OF BENEFITS TO COMPOSTING.

WITHOUT QUESTION.

BUT I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT THAT WE START TO TACKLE THE ROOT OF FOOD WASTE.

RIGHT?

WHY, AND THIS IS A HARD THING TO LEGISLATE, BUT PERHAPS WE SHOULD BEGIN HAVING A CONVERSATION ABOUT THE AMOUNT OF MATERIAL -- THE AMOUNT OF GROCERIES, THE AMOUNT OF -- THE SIZE OF PORTIONS, WHATEVER IT IS, THERE'S TOO MUCH FOOD WASTE BEING GENERATED.

PEOPLE ARE OVERBUYING.

WE NEED TO REEL THAT IN.

THROUGH MY JOB, YOU KNOW, BEING THE C.E.O. OF ABOUT BOOTSTRAP COMPOST I'VE HAD THE PLEASURE OF VISITING MANY SCHOOLS.

BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS, PRIVATE SCHOOLS, SCHOOLS THAT HAVE INVITED ME IN TO TALK, TO DO AUDITS, THAT SORT OF THING.

AND ONE THING THAT I'VE NOTICED
IS THAT THESE SCHOOLS ARE
GETTING LUNCHESES AND SNACKS THAT
THE STUDENTS DO NOT WANT.
THEY'RE TELLING ME POINT-BLANK,
MR. BROOKS, I DO NOT WANT THIS
APPLE.
THIS APPLE IS NOT GOOD.
RIGHT?
SO THEY'RE GETTING THIS STUFF,
PRESUMABLY THROUGH CONTRACTS,
THROUGH THE CITY OF BOSTON, AND
THIS IS JUST FOOD THAT THEY DO
NOT WANT.
IT DOESN'T LOOK APPETIZING.
AND IT BREAKS MY HEART THAT WE
HAVE THIS CHAIN THAT IS SO
WASTEFUL.
SO YOU HAVE A SCHOOL THAT WANTS
TO COMPOST BECAUSE THEY HAVE TOO
MUCH FOOD THAT THEY'RE NOT EVEN
INTERESTED IN EATING.
IT'S JUST A REALLY WEIRD
PROBLEM.
AND I THINK WE NEED TO ADDRESS
IT.
I KNOW IT'S A DROP IN THE BUCKET
IN TERMS OF WHAT THE CITY OF
BOSTON IS GENERATING.
BUT I THINK IT'S A GOOD PLACE TO
START.
AND SORT OF, YOU KNOW, BEGIN THE
CONVERSATION.
SO, AGAIN, I'LL BE HERE.
I'M HAPPY TO TALK.
THIS IS AN EXCITING, YOU KNOW,
MORNING, AND THANK YOU AGAIN SO
MUCH FOR HAVING ME.
>> THANK YOU.
THANK YOU.
>> GOOD MORNING.
MY NAME IS LAURA ORLANDO.
THANK YOU, COUNCILORS EDWARDS
AND O'MALLEY FOR HAVING THIS
HEARING, AND LETTING ME SPEAK.
I'M A CIVIL ENGINEER.
I'M THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF A
SMALL NONPROFIT CALLED RILED AND
I'M AN ADJUNCT PROFESSOR AT THE
BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC HEALTH.
I'VE SPENT THE PAST 30 YEARS
LOOKING AT WHAT GOES IN THE
SEWER, AND WHAT COMES OUT OF IT,

THE END PRODUCTS, WHICH ARE
TREATED WASTEWATER, AND SEWAGE
SLUDGE.

I'D LIKE TO SPEAK TO
CONTAMINATION ISSUE, WHICH IS
ADDING -- WHICH IS THE SEWAGE
SLUDGE.

AND I'VE WRITTEN TESTIMONY, GOT
TECHNICAL INFORMATION IN IT.
I'M NOT GOING TO READ IT.
BUT I'LL LEAVE IT FOR YOU.
BUT I'D -- I SUPPORT THE, AND AM
ADVOCATE FOR CURBSIDE COMPOSTING
OF FOOD WASTE, AND I'M HERE TO
TELL YOU THAT IT IS NOT
COMPOSTING WHEN ONE ADDS FOOD
WASTE TO SEWAGE SLUDGE.
PUTTING FOOD IN THE SEWER IS NOT
AN ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE
ACT.

IT'S NOT GOOD FOR PUBLIC HEALTH.
AND IT'S AN ENVIRONMENTAL
JUSTICE ISSUE.

SINCE THE RULES WERE PROMULGATED
IN 1993, FEDERAL RULES THAT
ALLOW THE SO-CALLED LAND
APPLICATION OF SEWAGE SLUDGE,
COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY
HAVE PUSHED BACK.

WHY?

BECAUSE SEWAGE SLUDGE IS A
HITTERO GENUS MIX OF TOXINS.
EVERYTHING THAT GOES DOWN THE
SEWER IS NOT WHAT'S FLUSHED DOWN
THE TOILET, IT'S HOSPITAL WASTE,
IT'S ROAD RUNOFF, IT'S
INDUSTRIAL WASTE, IT'S
EVERYTHING THAT GOES INTO THAT
PIPE ENDS UP IN THE SEWER.
AND THE SEWAGE TREATMENT PROCESS
IS MEANT TO ADDRESS THE
ORGANICS.

IT DOESN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO
WITH THE TOXICANTS THAT GO INTO
THE SEWER.
THE FLAME RETARDANTS, PFAS, IT'S
A LAUNDRY LIST OF THOUSANDS OF
CHEMICALS THAT GO INTO THE
SEWER, DEPENDING ON WHETHER
THEY'RE HYDRO PHOBIC OR HYDRO
PHILIC, WHETHER THEY LIKE WATER,
WHETHER THEY DON'T LIKE WATER,
THE TREATED WASTEWATER WHICH
GOES OUT IN BOSTON'S CASE INTO

THE ATLANTIC OCEAN, THEY END UP
IN THE SEWAGE SLUDGE.
NOTHING ABOUT THE ANAEROBIC
DIGESTER DETOXIFIES OR OTHERWISE
TREATS OR MITIGATES THAT LAUNDRY
LIST OF CHEMICALS.
AND THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF
PURITY PAPERS THAT WILL
DEMONSTRATE, OR THAT SHOW, YOU
KNOW, IT'S A TOXICOLOGISTS DREAM
THAT WILL SHOW WHAT CHEMICAL OR
WHAT CHEMICALS, IF YOU LOOK FOR
IT, YOU'LL FIND IT.
YOU KNOW, ESTRODIAL FROM BIRTH
CONTROL RETARDANTS.
SO -- I BROUGHT PROPS.
WE KNOW WHAT THIS IS.
YOU CAN AND THIS OVER TO ANDY.
THEY CAN COMPOST THIS.
WE KNOW THAT THAT COMPOST IS NOT
CONTAMINATED AND I CAN PUT IT IN
MY GARDEN AND MY CHILDREN CAN
PLAY IN IT AND IT'S NOT A PUBLIC
HEALTH THREAT.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SIT HERE AND
TALK ABOUT WHAT LEVEL OF
CONTAMINANTS IS OKAY FOR OUR
KIDS, OUR FOODS, THIS IS SEWAGE
SLUDGE.
IT'S BEEN DRIED, IT'S BEEN MIXED
WITH TWO PARTS WOOD CHIPS.
IT LOCKS INNOCUOUS.
WE DON'T KNOW WHAT IS IN IT.
WE DO KNOW THAT IT HAS TOXINS IN
IT.
IF YOU MIX THIS WITH THIS, IT
BECOMES SEWAGE SLUDGE.
WE'LL SIT HERE AND HAVE
DISCUSSIONS ABOUT HOW MUCH
POISON IS TOO MUCH POISON.
YOU KEEP IT SEPARATE, YOU DON'T
HAVE TO HAVE THOSE DISCUSSIONS.
THIS IS AN ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
ISSUE.
SLUDGE GOES TO THE POOREST
COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY.
FOR A LONG TIME, NEW YORK CITY
SENT THEIR SLUDGE BY TRAIN TO
THE POOREST COUNTY IN TEXAS.
THAT'S JUST ONE EXAMPLE.
VIRGINIA, NEW HAMPSHIRE, YOU CAN
JUST FOLLOW THE SLUDGE AND IT'S
DUMPED WHERE THERE'S NOT A
STRONG PUSHBACK.

WHETHER ONE DRIES SEWAGE SLUDGE,
PUTS IT IN AN ANAEROBIC
DIGESTER, ADDS WOOD CHIPS TO IT
OR OTHER WHYS TRIES TO COMPOST
IT, IT HAS CONTAMINANTS IN IT.
SO I'M HERE TO ENCOURAGE YOU NOT
TO BUT IT IN WASTE WATER
TREATMENT PLAN.

I THINK THE PEOPLE OF JAMAICA
PLAINS WILL BE INTERESTED IN
THAT THE BINS AT CURTIS HALL
THAT SAYS COMPOST ON IT, THAT
THE FOOD WASTE IS NOT BEING
COMPOSTED.

THE PEOPLE OF CAMBRIDGE ARE
BEING TOLD THAT THEY HAVE A
CURBSIDE COMPOST PROGRAM.
THERE'S NO COMPOSTING INVOLVED.
AND THERE'S A TREMENDOUS WASTE
OF RESOURCES AND IT'S MOVING ONE
HAZARDOUS WASTE PROBLEM TO
ANOTHER PLACE.

IT'S NOT FIXING ANYTHING.
AND SO I'LL LEAVE MY TESTIMONY
WITH YOU.

I'M HAPPY TO ANSWER ANY
QUESTIONS THAT YOU HAVE.
THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU, LAURA.

>> GOOD MORNING.

THANK YOU FOR HAVING ME.
MY NAME IS KISTY PETTY.
I'M FROM THE CONVERSATION LAW
FOUNDATION.
WE USE THE LAW AND SCIENCE AND
THE MARKET TO PROTECT HUMAN
HEALTH.

MAKE SURE THAT THE ENVIRONMENT
IS PROTECTED AND PROTECT HUMAN
HEALTH.

THANKS FOR CALLING FOR THIS
HEARING.

I'M VERY EXCITED ABOUT THIS.
THANK YOU FOR ALL THE GOOD WORK
THAT THE CITY OF BOSTON HAS
DONE.

CHRIS AND BRIAN HAVE WORK HARD
ON THIS PLANNING PROCESS.

I THINK THIS WILL BE A
TREMENDOUS OPPORTUNITY FOR THE
CITY OF BOSTON TO SAVE MONEY,
CREATE JOBS AND ALSO PROTECT THE
ENVIRONMENT AND NOT SEND ITS
WASTE TO INCINERATORS BUT

INSTEAD CAPTURING ENERGY IN THE MATERIALS BUT REDUCING, REUSING RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING.

THANKS FOR YOUR HARD WORK ON THAT.

LOOKING AT THIS PROCESS AND LOOKING AT COMPOSTING, I WOULD ADVISE YOU VERY STRONGLY -- I'VE BEEN TO CITIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY AND GLOBE.

IF YOU DON'T GO BIG, IT'S NOT GOING TO WORK.

WHAT I MEAN BY THAT, YES, WE HAVE TO ROLL THIS OUT CAREFULLY, YES, WE HAVE TO HAVE PILOT PROGRAMS AND DO EDUCATION. BUT TO SEE SAVINGS, TO SEE SAVINGS AND MAKE SURE THAT THIS WORKS AND PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT, WE HAVE TO DO A FEW THINGS VERY WELL.

ONE OF THEM IS YOU NEED TO GET YOUR FOOD WASTE OUT OF THE TRASH SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO PICK UP THE TRASH AS OFTEN.

WE NEED TO GET THE WASTE, THE FOOD WASTE, THE EXCELLENT FISH THAT WE ITALIANS ARE SO WELL-KNOWN FOR, WE NEED THAT OUT OF THE TRASH.

THEN YOU CAN PICK UP YOUR TRASH LESS OFTEN.

THAT'S A HUGE SAVINGS.

COUNCILLOR O'MALLEY, YOU TALK ABOUT THE 30% THAT WE TALKED ABOUT, THE FOOD WASTE.

THE 30% OF THE TRASH RIGHT NOW, INSTEAD OF PAYING THE \$70, \$80 TIPPING FEE, WE COULD BE CHARGING MUCH LESS FOR COMPOSTING.

THAT WILL ONLY WORK IF THE SYSTEM WORKS THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE CITY SO YOU DON'T HAVE SPOTTY PICK UP AREAS.

YOU NEED TO BE EFFICIENT ABOUT YOUR PICKUP.

YOU NEED TO PICK UP TRASH MUCH LESS.

I KNOW I'M A BROKEN RECORD, BUT THE CONTRACTS THAT YOU ENTER INTO NEED TO CAPTURE THE VALUE. YOU HAVE TO SAVE MONEY BASED ON PICKUP AND TONNAGE SO THE

COMPOSTING WORKS.

THE OTHER THING TO BE CAREFUL OF AS MY COLLEAGUES HAVE SPOKEN ABOUT, IS WHAT WE'RE DOING.

ARE WE GOING TO BE REPLACING ONE DANGEROUS SYSTEM WITH ANOTHER.

IS IT A FAULT SOLUTION OR REAL COMPOSTING OR REAL DIGESTION OF MATERIALS SEPARATE FROM SEWAGE SLUDGE AND OTHER TOXINS.

IF YOU ARE PUTTING FOOD WASTE DOWN YOUR WASTE DISPOSAL SYSTEM IN YOUR HOME, IT'S THE SAME AS FLUSHING IT DOWN A TOILET AND MIXED WITH SEWAGE SLUDGE.

YOU'LL NEVER GET CLEAN COMPOST THAT CAN BE ADDED TO A FARM OR A CHILDREN'S FIELD, BALL FIELD IF YOU DO THAT.

IF YOU PROCESS IT THROUGH AN ANAEROBIC DIGESTER, A TANK SYSTEM, CAPTURED AND BURNED AROUND THEN THAT -- WHAT IS LEFT FROM THAT IS COMPOSTED OR WHETHER YOU DO WIND COMPOSTING WHERE YOU INCORPORATE AIR IN THE SEASON AND YOU HAVE A COMPOST. THE COMPOST AT THE END IS WHAT WE WANT.

WE WANT THE CLEAN SYSTEM.

YOU WANT TO SAVE MONEY BY HAVING A MUCH LESS -- A SMALLER TIPPING FEE, BY BEING EFFICIENT AND TRUCKING.

IF YOU USE AN ANAEROBIC DIGESTER USING METHANE AND THEN SOMETHING THAT YOU CAN SELL AS A CLEAN PRODUCTS AND ADD IT TO SOIL. THEN IT WILL DO THE THINGS THAT THESE INTELLIGENT FOLKS HAVE SAID.

IT WILL SUPPLEMENT OUR SOIL SO IT CAN CONTINUE TO GROW FOOD FOR US AND ALSO WILL PREVENT THE PRODUCTION OF METHANE AND THE WASTE OF FOOD.

WE HAVE TO GO BIG OR GO HOME.

IF YOU HAVE A SYSTEM THAT IS SPOTTY, IT WILL BE EXPENSIVE AND WON'T WORK.

I'D LIKE TO ADDRESS A FEW OTHER POINTS THAT CAME UP.

ONE OF WHICH IS WE DO HAVE A RECYCLING PROBLEM.

THE RECYCLING PROBLEM IS THAT WASTE COMPANIES TRY TO DO THIS AS CHEAPLY AS POSSIBLE AND COLLECT EVERYTHING IN SINGLE STREAM, THE IDEA THAT THEY'LL COLLECT MORE, BUT IN ACTUALITY IT WAS CHEAPER TO COLLECT IT THAT WAY AND SEND IT TO CHINA. IN CHINA, THEY WERE BURNING IT. NOW WE'RE FINDING YEAH, THE MATERIAL WAS NEVER A GOOD QUALITY.

THAT'S NEVER CHANGED.

COMPOSTING HELPS YOU WERE YOUR SINGLE-STREAM PROBLEM.

FOLKS ARE SEPARATING OUT THE RECYCLABLES ON.

WE DON'T HAVE THE BAGS.

THAT WILL HELP A LOT.

SEPARATING OUT THE RECYCLABLES AND FOOD WASTE AND REALIZE THAT IT'S WORKING AND A LOT LESS INTIMIDATING FOR PEOPLE AND THEY GET A HANDLE ON IT.

WHEN YOU INSTITUTE THE RECYCLING PROGRAM, THE RATES IMPROVE, THE CONTAMINATION RATES GO DOWN.

THAT'S ONE THING.

THE OTHER THING IS COMPOSTING LIKE RECYCLING HAS TO BE UNIVERSAL ACCESS.

IN OTHER WORDS, IF I COME INTO THIS BUILDING, IF I GO TO MY OFFICE, IF I'M HOME, IF I'M AT MY DOCTOR'S OFFICE, THERE HAS TO BE RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING AVAILABLE EVERYWHERE.

IF I GO TO THE PARK, IT HAS TO BE EVERYWHERE.

UNIVERSAL ACCESS IS THE ONLY WAY THIS WILL WORK SO YOU HAVE A PROGRAM LIKE SAN FRANCISCO WHERE YOU DIVERSE 80% OF THE WASTE FROM YOUR LANDFILL.

IN THIS CASE, INCINERATORS. WE HAVE TO BE AGGRESSIVE ABOUT THAT.

THAT SPEAKS TO A POINT THAT COUNCILLOR EDWARDS MADE EARLIER. WE NEED TO MAKE SURE THAT BUSINESSES, THE INSTITUTIONS, INDUSTRIAL AND COMMISSIONER SECTOR, ARE ALSO COMPOSTING AND RECYCLING.

I KNOW THIS IS OUTSIDE THE SERVICE OFFERED BY THE CITY SUFFERED CURBSIDE GOES BUT WE'VE SEEN IN CALIFORNIA AND OTHER PLACES THAT WHEN YOU DON'T JUST HAVE A WASTE BAND, WHICH IS WHAT WE HAVE IN MASSACHUSETTS, THEY WORK TO A POINT IF ENFORCED. IF YOU HAVE A REQUIREMENT THAT ALL LANDLORDS, WHETHER COMMERCIAL OR INSTITUTIONAL, THAT ALL BUSINESSES ARE REQUIRED TO COMPOST AND RECYCLE, THAT'S WHEN WE SEE THE REAL PAY-OFF. IT HAS TO BE SOMETHING THAT PEOPLE DO EVERYWHERE THEY'RE AT. SO I WOULD ENCOURAGE THE CITY AND I THINK THAT THE EXCELLENT TEAM THAT THE MAYOR'S OFFICE HAS ASSEMBLED, THE CONSULTANTS, ARE LOOKING AT THIS IN A BIG AND GLOBAL WAY AND WILL BE COMING FORWARD WITH A LOT OF GOOD IDEAS.

I ENCOURAGE YOU TO UNDERSTAND THAT UNLESS WE GO BIG, IT'S NOT GOING TO WORK.

IT HAS TO BE UNIVERSAL ACCESS. YOU HAVE TO MAKE SURE WHEREVER YOU GO, THERE'S A COMPOSTING VENDOR.

THAT'S WHEN THE EDUCATION PIECE WILL WORK AND WE HAVE TO GO BACK, HAVE ENOUGH PEOPLE WORKING ON THE SYSTEM.

CAN'T ENFORCE OR EDUCATE BODIES TO DO IT.

HAVE TO MAKE SURE THAT THE CITY HAS THE STAFF THAT THEY NEED TO DO AS WELL.

THOSE ARE THE BIG HIGH POINTS THAT I'D SAY GOING THROUGH.

I THINK THAT THIS IS A REALLY SOLVABLE PROBLEM.

WE HAVE TO BE CRITICAL OF THE SOLUTIONS JUST LIKE THE PROBLEM AND COME THROUGH AND DO THIS RIGHT.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

>> THANK YOU.

THANK YOU ALL.

REALLY APPRECIATE IT.

IT'S INTERESTING -- I TOOK TO HEART EVERYTHING THAT WAS SAID.

I AGREE WITH MUCH OF IT IF NOT ALL OF IT.
SEEMS TO ME THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THIS AND OUR FIRST HEARING SIX YEARS AGO, PREDATES -- YOU TWO WERE HERE, BUT MANY OF MY COLLEAGUES IN THE ADMINISTRATION WERE NOT. WE WERE GETTING PUSH BACK FROM THE PRIOR ADMINISTRATION ON IMPLEMENTING THIS. NOW WE'RE HEARING FROM EXPERTS SAYING WE WANT THIS. NOW IT SEEMS TO ME WE'RE HEARING A WILLINGNESS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION TO ACHIEVE THIS. A LOT OF WHAT I SHARE FROM EXPERTS AND ADOPTERS SAYING WE WANT TO MAKE SURE WE DO THIS RIGHT. THE INFRASTRUCTURE IS KEY. THE PRACTICE IS KEY ITS ONE OF THE THINGS I FOUND DIFFICULT WE'RE NOWHERE WHERE WE NEED TO BE AS MUCH AS IT RELATES TO THE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE. HAVING SAID THAT, I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD DELAY PRACTICE OR IMPLEMENTATION BUT SOMETHING THAT SHOULD BE COMING HAND AND HAND. I JUST BEGIN WITH THIS. LAURA, YOU MENTIONED THAT PROJECT OSCAR RIGHT NOW IS NOT -- YOU WOULD NOT CONSIDER THAT COMPOSTING, WHAT IS HAPPENING. >> NO. >> AS IT GOES -- MIXED WITH -- >> TWO WAYS TO COMPOSE ORGANIC WASTE. WITH OXYGEN AND WITHOUT OXYGEN. COMPOSTING IS AN AEROBIC PROCESS. WHEN ORGANICS GO INTO AN ANAEROBIC DIGESTER, IT'S AN ANAEROBIC PROCESS AND PRODUCES UNLIKE THE AEROBIC, IT PRODUCES METHANE WHICH CAN BE CAPTURED OR USED AS A FUEL. WHEN IT'S NOT CAPTURED, IT'S A GREENHOUSE GAS AND CAUSES PROBLEMS. SO TECHNICALLY IT'S NOT

COMPOSTING.
ON TOP OF THAT, IT'S THE
PRODUCT, THE END PRODUCT IS
SEWAGE SLUDGE, WHICH IS NOT
COMPOST AND IT'S LOADED WITH
TOXINS.
>> DO YOU WANT TO ADDRESS THAT?
OKAY.
SORRY.
>> I'D LIKE TO CLARIFY.
>> JUST COME TO THE MIC.
WE ALL WANT THE SAME THING.
IT'S NOT A CONTENTION MEETING.
IF YOU WANT TO ADDRESS THAT.
>> SO A CLARIFICATION ON THE
ANAEROBIC DIGESTING.
THE PRODUCT IS NOT CONSIDERED
COMPOST?
>> NO.
SEWAGE SLUDGE IS NOT COMPOST.
>> NOT MIXED WITH THE SLUDGE.
>> A SLURRY FROM AN ANAEROBIC
DIGESTER I WOULDN'T CONSIDER
COMPOST.
A SLURRY FROM AN ANAEROBIC
DIGESTER THAT HAS SOURCE
SEPARATED THE MATERIAL SO IT'S
JUST FOOD WASTE IS A USEFUL
FERTILIZER.
>> SO CLARIFICATION ON THAT.
THE CORE FACILITY IN CHARLESTOWN
IS A SLURRIED FACILITY.
THEY TAKE IT, THE FACT THAT
THEY'RE TAKING IT TO A WASTE
WATER TREATMENT FACILITY MAKES
IT -- MIXED WITH SEWAGE.
>> THAT'S RIGHT.
>> BUT YOU KNOW, IT COULD GO
ELSEWHERE.
DOESN'T HAVE TO.
OTHER CONTRACTED RIGHT NOW WITH
WATER TREATMENT FACILITY.
BUT THEIR FACILITY IS JUST A
SLURRY FACILITY FOR FOOD WASTE.
>> WASTE MANAGEMENT, IN MY
UNDERSTANDING, WASTE MANAGEMENT
INC., IN HOUSTON, TEXAS, A
MULTIBILLION DOLLAR INDUSTRY IS
TAKING THAT SURRY, THE FOOD
WASTE FROM CAMBRIDGE, FOR
INSTANCE AND PROJECT OSCAR,
GRINDING IT UP.
ADDING WATER TO IT, PUTTING IT
IN TRUCKS AND BRINGING IT TO THE

GREATER LAWRENCE SANITARY
DISTRICT.
THAT IS THE PROCESS THAT WASTE
MANAGEMENT IS PURSUING.
THEY DON'T HAVE -- THEY DON'T
HAVE DEDICATED ANAEROBIC
DIGESTERS.
I'M NOT SAYING THAT CAN'T
HAPPEN.
IT'S A CHOICE.
THAT COULD BE A FINE CHOICE FOR
THE CITY OF BOSTON.
THE KEY HERE IS SEPARATION.
KEEPING THE FOOD SCRAPS AND FOOD
WASTE SEPARATE FROM SLUDGE AND
OTHER TOXINS.
>> I'M SORRY.
SOMEONE SAID THEY WANT TO
CLARIFY.
I DON'T KNOW IF IT WAS YOU,
LAURA.
>> SOMEBODY TAKE CARE OF IT.
I WANTED TO CLARIFY ANAEROBIC
DIGESTION IN ITSELF IS NOT BAD.
IT'S MIXING IT WITH SLUDGE.
SO PURSUING AN ANAEROBIC
DIGESTER THAT IS SMALL COMMUNITY
SCALE AS A DECENTRALIZED SYSTEM
SO WE CAN BE COMPOSTING CLOSER
TO WHERE WE PRODUCE THE WASTE.
THESE ARE VERY SMALL SYSTEMS
THAT ARE SOURCE SEPARATED AND
ONLY TREATING ORGANIC FOOD WASTE
AND GRASS AND LEAVES, IF YOU
WANT TO.
>> CAN YOU COMBINE GRASS AND
YARD WASTE WITH FOOD WASTE?
>> YES.
>> ABSOLUTELY.
>> YOU JUST DON'T WANT TOXIC
STUFF IN THERE.
>> SO RIGHT NOW -- MAYBE WE'LL
AGREE TO DISAGREE ON DIFFERENT
INTERPRETATIONS OF THINGS.
WE'RE ALL ON THE SAME PAGE ON
THIS STUFF AND WANT THE SAME
THINGS.
RIGHT NOW THE PANEL WOULD AGREE
THAT THE YARD WASTE PICKUP,
WHICH IS CONTRACTED OUT TO --
FOR GET THE NAME OF THIS
COMPANY -- IS CONSIDERED WHAT --
SORT OF PURE COMPOSTING.
>> NO.

IT'S NOT -- WELL, THEY'RE
COMPOSTINGS.
ONLY WITH YARD WASTE, WHICH IS
GREAT.
>> AND YOU WOULD BE COMFORTABLE
USING CITY SOILS PRODUCTS IN
YOUR PLAYGROUND --
>> YES.
>> I'M NOT AN ENGINEER OR
SCIENTIST.
AS WE TALKED ABOUT WAYS TO GROW
THIS AND PILOT IT, INCLUDE THE
CITY SOIL-TYPE BUSINESSES OR I
ASSUME THE YARD WASTE AND FOOD
COMBINED PICKUPS?
>> LET ME GIVE YOU AN EXAMPLE IN
REAL TIME.
I TOLD YOU WE'RE EXPORTING THIS
MATERIAL.
ONE OF THE TWO PLACES WE GO TO
IS THE NEEDHAM TRANSFER STATION.
THEY OPERATE A YARD WASTE
COLLECTION, COMMERCIAL SIZE
COMPOSTING FACILITY LIKE CITY
SOIL.
THEY ONLY ACCEPT FOOD WASTES
FROM CO-OPS BECAUSE WE GO TO
GREAT MEASURES TO MAKE SURE THE
STUFF THAT WE COLLECT IS
UNCONTAMINATED.
WE WORK WITH BUSINESSES.
WE DO TRAINING AND MAKE SURE
THAT THE SOURCE SEPARATION --
THE EASIEST WAY TO KEEP CLEAN
COMPOST.
WE DELIVER 35 OR 40 TONS A WEEK
TO THE NEEDHAM TRANSFER STATION.
THE SUPERINTENDENT THAT RUNS
THAT GIVES TOURS.
HE TALKS ABOUT ADDING THE
ORGANIC FOOD WASTE BEING THE
SECRET SAUCE.
WHEN YOU BRING IN FOOD WASTE AND
COMBINE IT WITH THE LEAST,
YOU'RE ADDING NUTRITION,
MOISTURE, INGREDIENTS THAT HELP
BREAK DOWN THAT YARD WASTE MORE
EFFECTIVELY AND COMPLETELY AND
WITH THE RESULTING COMPOST
PRODUCT THAT IS MUCH HEALTHIER.
>> LIKE PUTTING EGGSHELLS IN A
ROSE GARDEN.
>> YOU CAN PUT MEAT IN IT.
IT'S GOTTEN SO SOPHISTICATED

NOW.

THESE PILES ARE SO HOT.
PEOPLE ARE WORRIED ABOUT PESTS
AND ALL THESE KINDS OF
COMPLAINTS.

COMPOSTING DOESN'T HAPPEN ON
THESE COMMERCIAL SCALE
FACILITIES BECAUSE THEY
GENERATE -- THE ORGANICS FROM
FOOD WASTE IN PARTICULAR HELPS
THOSE PILES GET TO A HIGH HEAT
THAT HELPS THEM BREAK DOWN
QUICKLY AND MAKES THE PROCESS
OPERATE SMOOTHLY.

IN FACT, WHEN WE STARTED
COLLECTING FOOD WASTE, WE PAID
\$50 A TON TIPPING FEES.
WE'RE PAYING BETWEEN 0 IN SOME
CASES, \$15 A TON IN SOME CASES
AND THE HIGHEST IS \$35 A TON FOR
PEOPLE TO TAKE OUR FOOD WASTE
BECAUSE THEY WANT THAT MATERIAL.

>> SO THE HIGHEST YOU'RE PAYING
IS \$35 PER TON TIPPING FEE?

>> CORRECT.

>> WE JUST HEARD THE TIPPING FEE
FOR REGULAR WASTE IS DOUBLE
THAT.

>> YES.

>> THAT SEEMS ON THE LOWER END
IT COULD GET AS HIGH AS 80.

>> YES.

>> REMARKABLE.

>> I WANT TO SECOND THAT MOTION.
WE WORK WITH A PLACE IN SAUGUS.
A COMMERCIAL FACILITY THAT
ACCEPTS MATERIAL FROM
LANDSCAPERS, ET CETERA.
WE WORKED WITH THEM FOR SEVEN
YEARS.

THEY GIVE US A SWEETHEART DEAL
OF \$25 A TON FOR THE SAME REASON
THAT SHE HAS A GOOD RELATIONSHIP
WITH THE NEEDHAM TRANSFER
STATION.

IT'S BECAUSE THE MATERIAL WE'RE
BRINGING THEM IS FREE OF
CONTAMINATION.

WE GO THROUGH OUR MATERIAL AND
PULL OUT ANYTHING UNACCEPTABLE.
THEY LOVE OUR STUFF.

OUR STUFF, WHICH IS ABOUT A TON
A DAY IS GOING TO HELP THEM
GENERATE A RICHER MORE POTENT,

BETTER SOIL.
>> SO JUST WALK ME THROUGH THIS.
THIS IS HELPFUL AND AMAZING HOW
YOUR BUSINESS HAS GROWN, ANDY.
YOU HAVE 2,500 CUSTOMERS, 200
COMMERCIAL, MOSTLY OFFICES.
HOW BIG IS YOUR TEAM?
>> WE'RE A STAFF OF 18 RIGHT
NOW.
>> WOW.
WHAT WERE YOU WHEN YOU FIRST
CAME HERE?
DO YOU KNOW?
PROBABLY TWO OR THREE.
>> PROBABLY THREE PEOPLE.
>> REMARKABLE.
I KNOW YOU HAVE A SIGNIFICANT
FOLLOWING IN JAMAICA PLAINS.
WHAT OTHER --
>> WE'RE THINKING OF GREATER
BOSTON.
SOMERVILLE IS HUGE.
CAMBRIDGE WAS UNTIL THEY STARTED
THEIR PROGRAM.
BACK BAY, SOUTH END.
>> ANOTHER BIG THING YOU HAD,
YOU PICK UP A LOT OF YOUR TEAM
MEMBERS.
THEY RIDE THEIR BIKES --
>> THAT'S HOW WE STARTED, USING
BIKES AND TRAILERS AND THE
DEMAND NECESSITATED US TO USE
VEHICLES.
>> THEN YOU GO THROUGH THE STUFF
BEFORE YOU SEND IT --
>> YES, WE DO.
>> WHAT HAPPENS -- I'M ASKING
THIS NOT FOR PROPRIETARY SECRETS
BUT THINKING THREE STEPS AHEAD
WHEN WE BEGIN PILOTING THIS.
IF YOU HAVE A CUSTOMER THAT
THROWS THE WRONG THINGS IN,
WOULD YOU SAY HEY, THIS IS A
REMINDER.
>> I DO SPOT CHECKS WHEN I DO
PICKUPS.
SEE IF THERE'S ANYTHING FUNKY IN
THERE.
95% OF THE TIME THERE'S NOT.
WHICH IS SORT OF AN INTERESTING
POINT.
CONTAMINATION IS LOW WHEN YOU
PAY FOR IT.
PEOPLE WANT TO DO THIS.

THAT TO ME IS A WHOLE OTHER
LARGER QUESTION.
SHOULD WE DO CITYWIDE
COMPOSTING?
IF YOU DON'T KNOW IF SOMEBODY
WANTS IT.
LIKE MY DAD GOT ME TENNIS
LESSONS WHEN I WAS A KID.
I DIDN'T WANT TENNIS LESSONS.
MAKE SURE THAT THE PEOPLE THAT
YOU'RE PROVIDING THE
INFRASTRUCTURE FOR WANT THE
INFRASTRUCTURE.
THEY'RE GOING TO USE IT.
SO I DON'T KNOW IF YOU DO
SURVEYS AND FIND OUT THERE'S TEN
PEOPLE THAT WANT IT.
GIVE IT TO THE TEN PEOPLE.
WHY SHOULD ALL 30 PEOPLE GET IT
IF THEY DON'T WANT IT?
IT'S A WASTE OF MONEY.
THE INFRASTRUCTURE IS \$14
MILLION.
I USE -- GIVE ME \$1,400.
CUT ME A CHECK FOR \$1,400 TODAY.
I'LL GO TO MAKE FLYERS AND GET
PEOPLE EDUCATED ABOUT FOOD WASTE
AND HOW TO COMPOST PROPERLY.
\$14 MILLION.
GO FOR IT.
I'M ALL FOR IT.
THIS IS A GREAT DIRECTION, BUT
IT SEEMS LIKE THERE'S A BETTER
WAY TO ALLOCATE OUR FUNDS HERE.
>> YOU WANT TO SAY SOMETHING?
>> COUPLE THINGS.
THE CITY IS GOING TO BE PAYING
FOR THE RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM
ABOUT \$50 MILLION A YEAR.
THE \$14 MILLION SOUNDS LIKE A
LOT.
IF YOU SAVE A THIRD OF YOUR
TIPPING FEES, IT COULD BE
SIGNIFICANT.
I AGREE THAT PEOPLE SHOULD BE
PAYING FOR A SYSTEM ALWAYS WHERE
YOU WANT PEOPLE ALWAYS TO BE
UNDERSTANDING THAT THEY'RE
PAYING FOR IT AND NOTICES
SOMETHING FREE THAT SHOWS UP
BECAUSE OF THE TENNIS LESSONS
LIKE ANDY SAID.
IT'S TRUE.
BUT BRING UP THE SEAT BELT

EXAMPLE.

NOBODY WANTS TO WEAR SEAT BELTS.
IF THEY KNOW THEY'LL GET A
TICKET, THEY'LL WEAR IT.
WE'VE SEEN THAT.

SO YOU NEED INCENTIVES AND YOU
NEED TO CARRY A CARROT AND THE
SLUDGE.

IT'S IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND
THAT THIS IS HAPPENING ACROSS
THE COUNTRY.

THE NATIONAL FOOD WASTE
CONFERENCE IS TOMORROW AT
HARVARD LAW.

AS WAS REFERENCED, WE NEED TO
REDUCE OUR FOOD WASTE AND IF THE
PROGRAMS ARE SET UP SO THAT YOU
ARE REWARDED, IF YOU HAVE LESS
TRASH, LOST COMPOST AND LESS
RECYCLING, THAT SAVES EVERYBODY
MONEY.

SO MAKE SURE YOU PUT IN A REALLY
GOOD PAY AS YOU GO PROGRAM THAT
REDUCES ALL OF THIS.

IT'S BETTER TO PAY ZERO THAN PAY
HALF THE TIPPING FEE WE HAVE
NOW.

IT'S IMPORTANT THAT THE CITY IS
DOING THE FULL ZERO WASTE
PROJECT PLANNING BECAUSE YOU
CAN'T DO ONE LITTLE PROGRAM AND
HAVE IT ALL BE IN A VACUUM.
THE EDUCATION AND THE INCENTIVES
AND UNDERSTANDING CONTAMINATION
HAS TO WORK THROUGHOUT THE
SYSTEM.

THE OTHER THING IS, I WANT YOU
TO KNOW WHAT IS HAPPENING
THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF
MASSACHUSETTS, WHICH IS SINCE
THE COMMERCIAL FOOD WASTE BAN
WAS PUT IN PLACE, THE STATE OF
MASSACHUSETTS HAS DECREASED THE
AMOUNT OF FOOD WASTE GOING INTO
ITS LANDFILLS BY ABOUT 150,000
TONS A YEAR.

SO THAT'S A PROGRAM THAT HAS NOT
BEEN IN FORCE THAT MUCH.

THERE'S BEEN A FEW PEOPLE GOING
OUT TO THE LARGE FOOD WASTE
PRODUCERS, THE COLLEGES, THE BIG
BUSINESSES, THE RESTAURANTS,
LARGE SCHOOL.

FOR INSTANCE, B.C. HAS SAVED

TONS OF MONEY BY REDUCING FOOD WASTE.

BECAUSE PEOPLE TAKING TOO MUCH ON A TRAY AND IT GETTING THROWN OUT.

FIRST OFF, WE NEED TO REDUCE. THEN YOU NEED TO FEED PEOPLE. THAT'S REALLY IMPORTANT. THEN WE NEED TO FEED ANIMALS. THEN WE NEED TO COMPOST AND THEN WE NEED TO PROTEST IN AN ANAEROBIC DIGESTER AND COMPANY THE TEAM AFTERWARDS SO LONG AS YOU'RE NOT MIXING WITH IT SEWAGE SLUDGE.

PAY A PAY AS YOUR GO PROGRAM IN PLACE SO PEOPLE REDUCE AS LITTLE TRASH AS POSSIBLE, WHETHER IT'S FOOD WASTE OR RECYCLING AND THEN I'D SAY MAKE SURE YOU PUT THAT AS EDUCATION IN PLACE, PUT STAFF IN PLACE.

ALSO UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING AND A UNIVERSAL REQUIREMENT THAT ALL BUSINESSES AND COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISES RECYCLE AND COMPOST.
>> CAN YOU BREAK DOWN THE STAGES?

>> PAY AS YOU THROW CAN BE DONE A NUMBER OF DIFFERENT WAYS. ONE WAY OF DOING IT IS GIVING PEOPLE SMALL TRASH BINS. GIVING THEM A LARGE RECYCLING BIN, A LARGE COMPOSTING BIN AND THE TRASH BIN BEING HALF THE SIZE.

ONE WAY OF DOING IT IS SAY YOU WANT TO THROW THIS TRASH OUT, IT HAS TO GO IN THIS BAG. THAT WORKS IN A LOT OF COMMUNITIES.

THE CITY OF WORCESTER, FOR INSTANCE, HAS SAVED \$20 MILLION THE LAST TEN YEARS DOING THAT. ANOTHER WAY TO DO IT, PASS OUT BAGS AND SAY THESE ARE HOW MANY BAGS OF TRASH THAT YOU GET TO THROW AWAY FOR FREE. ANYTHING MORE, YOU NEED TO PAY FOR IT.

LOTS OF DIFFERENT WAYS OF DOING IT.

THE POINT IS THE INCENTIVIZE

TRASH REDUCTION.
WHEN YOU INCENTIVIZE IT AND KEEP
PUSHING THE ENVELOPE, YOU'LL SEE
YOU'RE REDUCING THE WASTE ACROSS
THE BOARD BY 20 TO 50% WITHIN A
YEAR OR TWO.
IT'S AMAZING.
IT WORKS.
THAT'S THE BEST WAY FOR THE CITY
OF BOSTON TO SAVE MONEY.
SO COMPOSTING IS A TREMENDOUS
COST SAVER AND TREMENDOUS JOB
CREATOR.
5 TO 20 TIMES MORE JOBS THAN

INCENTERATING.
THERE'S GREAT EXAMPLES OF
BUILDING BUSINESSES.
THAT'S ONLY GOING TO WORK UNLESS
YOU GET THE FOOD WASTE OUT OF
THE SAME.
YOU HAVE TO MAKE SURE YOU'RE
REDUCING.
THE CITY OF BOSTON SHOULD BE
PAYING \$50 MILLION A YEAR FOR
THE FOOD WASTE.
IT'S NOT EVEN TOUCHING THE
COMMERCIAL SECTOR.
IT'S A TREMENDOUS WASTE.
>> I APPRECIATE THAT.
I JUST WANT TO STAY FOCUSED ON
THE CURBSIDE COMPOSTING HERE.
MY LAST QUESTION WOULD BE, AND
ANY ONE CAN JUMP IN HERE, YOU'RE
EXPERTS, BUT ASIDE FROM THE
ANAEROBIC DIGESTION AND SORT OF
THE CAMBRIDGE SYSTEM NOW THAT WE
GOT INTO, JUST OPERATIONALLY AND
PRACTICELY, WHAT DID CAMBRIDGE
DO WELL WHEN THEY WRAPPED UP
THEIR SYSTEM AND WHAT SHOULD
THEY HAVE DONE DIFFERENTLY?
I'M TALKING ABOUT IDENTIFYING AN
AREA, NORTH CAMBRIDGE AND DO TO
EXPAND IT.
WHAT WORKS AND WHAT DIDN'T, IF
ANYBODY WANTS TO TOUCH ON THAT.
>> I DON'T WANT TO DISS THEM.
IT'S GREAT THEY'RE TRYING TO
FIGURE THIS OUT.
I TALKED TO MICHAEL AND SOME OF
THE PEOPLE OVER THERE.
FIRST OF ALL, IT WASN'T

TRANSPARENT.
THEY DIDN'T LET PEOPLE KNOW WHAT
THEY WERE DOING WITH IT.
WHEN I TALKED TO MICHAEL, IF I
COULD COMPOST IT, TELL ME A
PLACE TO TAKE IT.
YOU KNOW, THEY HAVE NOT FOUND A
PLACE THAT THEY COULD TAKE THE
VOLUME THAT THEY WERE GOING TO
COLLECT.
>> SORRY TO CUT YOU OFF.
MORE SPECIFICALLY, JUST
OPERATIONAL.
WHEN THEY FIRST CHOSE A
LOCATION, HOW DID THEY ALERT
RESIDENTS THAT IT WAS GOING TO
HAPPEN?
HOW DID THEY PICK IT UP?
TO ANDY'S POINT, THE TENNIS
LESSON IS NOT LOST ON ME BUT NOR
IS THE SEAT BELT POINT LOST.
I --
>> MY UNDERSTANDING IS THEY
CHOSE A NEIGHBORHOOD THAT THEY
HAD INDICATIONS THAT WOULD BE
EARLY ADOPTERS AND THEY HAD A
VOLUNTARY PROGRAM.
MIGHT NOT HAVE BEEN EVERY HOUSE
IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD THAT
PARTICIPATED INITIALLY.
IT GREW AS INTEREST GREW IN IT.
I THINK THEY MUST HAVE -- I
DON'T KNOW HOW THEY COLLECTED
THEIR DATA TO KNOW IT WAS TIME
TO GO CITYWIDE.
BUT SEEMS TO BE VERY POPULAR
UNTIL PEOPLE FOUND OUT THAT IT
WAS BEING MIXED WITH SEWAGE.
I KNOW PEOPLE THAT LIVE IN
CAMBRIDGE THAT HAVE STOPPED
PARTICIPATING AND DONE BACK TO
TURNING COMPOST IN THEIR BACK
YARDS BECAUSE THEY'RE
DISAPPOINTED ABOUT THAT.
>> INTERESTING.
THANK YOU.
WE'VE BEEN JOINED BY A ANNISSA
ESSAIBI-GEORGE.
COUNCILLOR?
>> THANK YOU.
I FOUND YOUR TESTIMONY BEING
INFORMATIVE.
I WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT I
UNDERSTAND THE ROAD BLOCKS THAT

YOU'RE POINTING OUT AND ALSO
MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE I DON'T WORK
IN THIS INDUSTRY.

I WANTED TO TALK ABOUT YARD
WASTE AND ORGANIC FOOD WASTE.
WHEN I THINK OF YARD WASTE, I
THINK OF YARDS, CHEMICALS TO
PRUNE, ALL THE THINGS THAT YOU
USE RIGHT NOW ON OUR YARDS TO
MAKE SURE TO LOOK THE BEST THEY
WILL.

MANY ARE TOXIC.

MANY OF THEM ARE NOT ORGANIC.

PEOPLE DON'T CARE.

THEY GO TO HOME DEPOT, GRAB WHAT
THEY GRAB AND SPRAY IT AND DO
WHATEVER.

SO IS THERE A CONCERN ABOUT THE
MIXTURE OF FOOD WASTE WITH THOSE
THINGS AS WELL?

I UNDERSTAND MISSING WITH THE
RAW SEWAGE.

AND YOU WROTE DOWN THE TOXINS
WITH THAT.

>> I CAN SPEAK TO THAT.

SURE, THERE'S A CONCERN BUT
I'M -- IT'S SIMILAR TO THE
CONCERN THAT I HAVE OF THE AIR
THAT I BREEZE WHEN I WALK OUT ON
TO CITY HALL PLAZA.

YOU KNOW, IT'S A LOT DIFFERENT
THAN AIR THAT I BREATHE ON CITY
HALL PLAZA THAT HAS PARTICULATE
MATTER THAT IS NOT GOOD FOR ME
BECAUSE OF THE INCINERATORS THAT
ARE BURNING IS A LOT DIFFERENT
THAN IF I WALK INTO AN
INDUSTRIAL FACILITY WHERE IT'S
JUST LOADED WITH TOXINS.

IT'S A MATTER OF DEGREE.

WE PICK UP YARD WASTE.

THERE MAY BE PESTICIDES, MAY BE
THINGS IN IT.

THIS ARE IN SOME CASES, BUT ONE
CANNOT COMPARE IT TO THE TENS OF
THOUSANDS OF POUNDS AND I'LL BE
HAPPY TO GET YOU THE FIGURES,
GOING INTO THE SEWER.

>> I FELT LIKE THE TESTIMONY
ALMOST LED ME TO BELIEVE THERE'S
A PURITY ABOUT YARD WASTE THAT
ISN'T THERE.

BUT YES, IS IT MORE CLEAN THAN
MIXING WITH SEWAGE THAN

ABSOLUTELY WHAT I'M
UNDERSTANDING.
>> THE COMPOST, WE HAVE TO THINK
ABOUT WHAT IS COMPOST.
IT'S HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF
YEARS.
IT'S A CRITICAL COMPONENT OF OUR
FOOD-GROWING SYSTEM AS A SOIL
AMENDMENT AND PROVIDER OF

NUTRIENTS.
ONE THING THAT IS NOT THOUGHT OF
IS WHERE THIS STUFF GOES.
SO CONNECTING PEOPLE AND
CONNECTING US AS EATERS TO THIS
GREAT CYCLE AND MAKING A PRODUCT
AS GOOD AS WE CAN MAKE IT, IT'S
NOT PERFECT.
BUT MAKING IT AS GOOD AS WE CAN
MAKE IT.
I COMPOST AS MUCH AS I CAN IN
THE BACK YARD.
IF IT ENDS UP IN THE COMPOST, I
SAY, OKAY, I'M DOING THE BEST
THAT I CAN DO.
BUT I'M NOT DOING, THROWING MY
PHARMACEUTICALS INTO IT.
I'M DOING THE BEST THAT I CAN
DO.
THE CITY CAN DO THAT ON ITS
SCALE.

>> YOU HAVE ALL OF THESE
CHEMICALS THAT COME INTO OUR
FOOD AND A WHOLE DEBATE ABOUT
THAT.
IT'S GOOD TO CLARIFY.
VARYING DEGREES THAT WE'RE
TALKING ABOUT, NOT NECESSARILY A
PURE ORGANIC OPTION VERSUS
POISON.

>> SURE.

>> OKAY.

AND THEN ALSO, WHEN IT COMES
TO -- THE BIGGEST ROAD BLOCK I'M
HEARING, WHILE WE TAKE IT IN AS
FOOD, THERE SEEMS TO BE NO
MASSIVE INFRASTRUCTURE OR PLACE
TO REDIRECT IT BACK.
WE DON'T HAVE A RESPONSE TO THE
WASTE MIXING -- A BIG PLANT.
>> I'D PUSH BACK ON THAT.
THE STATE -- HAVING SEEN THIS --
HAVING SEEN THIS COMMERCIAL FOOD
WASTE SUCCEED LIKE THIS,

INVESTMENT IS HAPPENING NOW IN ANAEROBIC DIGESTERS THAT DON'T MIX IT.

ACCORDING TO CEP, ANOTHER 570,000 TONS OF CAPACITY IS IN THE WORKS.

>> WHERE?

>> RIGHT NOW THE CAMBRIDGE AND OSCAR STUFF IS GOING TO LAWRENCE.

SO I THINK WE CAN DO BETTER THAN THAT.

I THINK THAT WE HAVE TO -- PART OF GETTING THE INVESTMENT DONE AND MAKING IT HAPPEN IS THE COMMITMENT TO THE PROGRAM.

I'M NOT GOING TO BUILD A COMPOSTING FACILITY UNLESS I KNOW THAT THE CITY OF BOSTON OR CAMBRIDGE IS GOING TO SEND IT THERE.

I'VE -- ONE OF MY COLLEAGUES HAS BEEN DOING RESEARCH TALKING TO THE COMPOSTING COMPANIES IN BOSTON, AND THEY'RE NOT DOWNTOWN OBVIOUSLY BUT THEY'RE NEARBY. MANY HAVE TOLD US THAT THEY DO HAVE ENOUGH CAPACITY TO HELP WITH CAMBRIDGE.

A COUPLE OF THEM TOGETHER COULD TAKE ALL OF CAMBRIDGE'S FOOD WEST.

>> THIS IS COMPOST, NOT THE MIXING.

>> YES.

ANAEROBIC DIGESTION I DON'T HAVE A PROBLEM WITH IT SO LONG AS THEY'RE NOT A TOXIC SUBSTANCE LIKE SEWAGE SLUDGE ADDED TO IT. YOU MAY HAVE TO COMPOST IT FOR A COUPLE WEEKS BUT IT'S A GOOD FIRST STEP, A GREAT WAY TO DEAL WITH LARGE VOLUMES OF FOOD WASTE.

SO THE FOOD WASTE CAPACITY IS IN THE WORKS AND ALSO THE CAPACITY TO HANDLE CAMBRIDGE'S FOOT WASTE AS IT STANDS NOW WITH THIS NEW PROGRAM.

SUPPOSEDLY EXISTS.

I CAN'T PROVE THAT BUT PEOPLE TELL ME THEY HAVE THE CAPACITY TO HANDLE IT.

SO WE NEED TO MAKE SURE THAT WE

ENCOURAGE THAT BY HAVING HIGH STANDARDS SO THAT WE'RE CREATING A PRODUCT THAT COULD BE ADDED TO THE SOIL, WHETHER IT'S PROCESSED IN A.D. FIRST OR COMPOSTED OR JUST COMPOSTED.

AND WE HAVE TO HELP ENCOURAGE THAT BY SETTING GOOD REGULATIONS.

>> TWO POINTS.

I WANTED TO AT LEAST ACKNOWLEDGE SOME OF THE WORK THE CITY HAS DONE WITH REGARDS TO SCHOOL LUNCH.

I'VE BEEN PRIVY TO SIT DOWN AND SEE WHERE THEY HAVE PUSHED FOR ORGANIC MADE IN THE SCHOOL, NOT JUST FIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION BUT MADE LOCALLY AND USING LOCALLY GROUND FRUITS AND VEGETABLES THAT ARE CULTURALLY SENSITIVE AND KIDS CAN PICK A VEGETARIAN OPTION IF THEY WANT. MAYBE THEY CAN'T EAT PORK.

THEY CAN PICK IT.

THE FOOD IS GOOD.

SO TO BPS' CREDIT, THEY DID THAT AND THE KIDS ARE EATING MORE AND EXPANDING THE PROGRAM TO 30 OTHER SCHOOLS.

THERE'S A MOVEMENT THERE.

I'D LOVE TO SEE HOW THAT CAN BE MOVED WITH THIS SYSTEM, BE PART OF A GREATER ECOSYSTEM FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AS WELL. AND THEN I THINK -- I CAN'T REMEMBER WHO BROUGHT UP COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.

ANOTHER PLUG I'D LIKE TO MAKE. SO MYSELF AND COUNCILLOR ESSAIBI-GEORGE WERE DOING A HEARING ON PILOT PAYMENT. ONE OF THAT IS COMMUNITY BENEFIT EMPLOYMENTS.

I'D LOVE TO THINK ABOUT HOW COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES AND HOW THEY GET RID OF FOOD WASTE. SO HOPEFULLY YOU'LL COME AND TESTIFY THERE, GIVE US SOME EXAMPLES OF WHERE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES AND HOSPITALS CAN STEP UP TO ALSO HELP THIS INFRASTRUCTURE AS WELL. THANK YOU.

>> CAN I ADD SOMETHING?
>> YEP.
>> SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSES, FROM MY UNDERSTANDING 600 TONS A DAY OF YARD AND FOOD SCRAPS. THERE'S A LOT OF PUSH -- PEOPLE TRYING TO GET IN ON THAT REVENUE STREAM.
CERTAINLY WE'VE BEEN PUSHED TO HAVE THAT MOVE TO ANAEROBIC DIGESTERS IN THE CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO.
ONE OF THE THINGS THAT WE'RE MISSING HERE IS A FARMER ON THE PANEL.
PEOPLE THAT WILL REALLY WANT TO USE THIS STUFF.
TO TELL US WHAT THEY WANT.
IF SAN FRANCISCO, ONE OF THE REASONS THAT THE FOOD SCRAPS HAVEN'T GONE TO THE SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT IS BECAUSE THE FARMERS ON THE OTHER END IN A LOT OF VINEYARDS WANT THIS STUFF.
THEY'RE PAYING FOR IT AND THEY WANT IT AND WANT IT AS CLEAN AS POSSIBLE.
SO YOU KNOW, I ENCOURAGE US ALL TO KEEP FILLING IN THE CIRCLE AND BRING IN THE FARMERS THAT WILL USE THE COMPOST AND GET A BETTER UNDERSTANDING WHAT IT IS THEY'RE AFTER.
THANK YOU.
>> COUNCILLOR ANNISSA ESSAIBI-GEORGE.
>> THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE. DO ANY SCHOOLS PARTICIPATE IN COMPOSTING NOW IN THE AREA?
>> YES.
>> PLEASE TELL US --
>> WE WORK WITH SHADY HILLS IN CAMBRIDGE.
WE HAVE A CONTRACT WITH NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY, WHICH WE WOULD LIKE TO EXPAND.
BECAUSE THE COMPANY CALLED SAVE THAT STUFF WAS EARLY IN THE COMPOSTING, THEY GOT A LOT OF THOSE CONTRACTS AS FAR AS I KNOW THEY'RE STILL GETTING THE CONTRACTS WITH HOWARD.

THEY SEPARATE ORGANICS.
HOW THEY'RE HAVING THE ORGANICS
PROCESSED WE'RE NOT SURE ABOUT.
BUT ALL THE COMPANIES THAT WERE
WITH SAVE THAT STUFF, WHEN SAVE
THAT STUFF STARTED, THEY WERE
COMPOSTING.
THEY PARTNERED WITH WASTE
MANAGEMENT AND THIS CHARLESTOWN
PLANT.
SO NOW ORDINARY STUFF IS GOING
TO THE WASTE WATER TREATMENT
PLAN.
>> AND NO BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS.
>> BOSTON GREEN ACADEMY.
>> [QUESTION INAUDIBLE]
>> JUST TO REPEAT, BUT THANK
YOU, SUSAN.
SEVERAL SCHOOLS ARE LOOKING AT
IT AND THEY PUT OUT A BID FOR
EXPANDING THOSE SERVICES.
>> THANK YOU.
>> ANDY, WHEN YOU SAID THAT YOU
SPOT CHECK WHEN YOU PICK UP, ARE
YOU FINDING THAT IT SOUNDS LIKE
YOU'RE SUCCESSFUL AND PEOPLE
PUTTING THE APPROPRIATE WASTE
INTO YOUR BINS, ARE YOU FINDING
THAT PEOPLE AREN'T PUTTING
ENOUGH?
THEY'RE MISSING SOME OF WHAT
THEY COULD BE PUTTING IN BECAUSE
OF UNCERTAINTY AND WHAT IS
APPROPRIATE?
>> IT'S AN INTERESTING POINT.
WE NOT INFREQUENTLY GET CALLS
FROM CUSTOMERS THAT SAY DON'T
BOTHER COMING THIS WEEK.
WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH.
THE IDEA IS NOT TO WIN AT HOW
MUCH MATERIAL YOU HAVE.
THE IDEA IS TO DIVERT WHAT YOU
HAVE COLLECTED AND GET IT OUT OF
YOUR HOUSE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
I DON'T KNOW IF THAT ANSWERS
YOUR QUESTION.
WHAT WE SEE IS PRIMARILY PREP
MATERIAL.
YOU KNOW, JUST PEOPLE COOKING.
JUST, YOU KNOW, FOOD SCRAPS.
ODDS AND ENDS FROM COOKING
DINNER.
>> I WONDER IF PEOPLE AREN'T
PUTTING EVERYTHING THAT THEY

COULD BE.
PEOPLE AREN'T.
BUT TO WHAT DEGREE, I CURIOUS IF
THERE'S BEEN -- I TALKED ABOUT
HAVING A WASTE AUDIT AND TALK
ABOUT IMPROPERLY DISCARDED
NEEDLES.
ARE THOSE PUT IN HOUSEHOLDS THAT
USE COMPOSTING TO SEE IF THEY'RE
TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE
COMPOSTING OPPORTUNITY.
THAT'S IT.
HOW MANY HOUSEHOLDS -- I'M SURE
THIS WAS ANSWERED BEFORE I
ARRIVED.
HOW MANY HOUSEHOLDS ARE IN THE
COMPOSTING PROGRAM IN BOSTON OR
AT LEAST USE YOURS?
>> WE HAVE 2,200 RESIDENTIAL
ACCOUNTS.
>> IN BOSTON?
>> YES.
THAT INCLUDES ALL OF GREATER
BOSTON.
>> OKAY.
>> I WISH I KNEW OFF THE TOP OF
MY HEAD ABOUT BOSTON
SPECIFICALLY.
>> IT WOULD BE INTERESTING TO
KNOW WHAT THE APPETITE -- AT
LEAST THE INITIAL APPETITE WAS
IN THE CITY OF BOSTON SO WE
COULD ROLL THIS OUT MORE

VIGOROUSLY.
TALKED ABOUT HAVING A LARGE
RECYCLE BIN, A LARGE COMPOST
BIN, A SMALL TRASH BIN.
WE DON'T RIGHT NOW IN THE CITY
OF BOSTON REQUIRE RECYCLING.
WE GIVE EVER A BIN AND HOPE THEY
PARTICIPATE.
THERE'S NO REQUIREMENT.
I DON'T KNOW IF YOU COULD TALK
ABOUT THE REQUIREMENT OF
COMPOSTING.
>> WHAT WE'VE SEEN ACROSS THE
BOARD, LOOKING AT CASE STUDIES
THROUGHOUT EUROPE AND THE UNITED
STATES, THERE HAS TO BE A
REQUIREMENT AND A PROHIBITION
FROM PUTTING FOOD AND
RECYCLABLES IN THE TRASH.
WE HAVE THAT TO A CERTAIN EXTENT

AT THE ACTUAL LANDFILLS AND
INCINERATORS AND TRANSFER
STATIONS.

BUT IF YOU ASK A BUSINESS OWNER
BOSTON IF THEY'RE REQUIRED TO
RECYCLE, THEY DON'T REALIZE
THEY'RE NOT ALLOWED TO PUT THEIR
CANS IN THE TRASH, RIGHT?
DOESN'T SEEMED LIKE IT'S THEIR
RESPONSIBILITY.

IT'S WHAT HAPPENS AT THE LANDFUL
OR THE TRANSFER STATION.

SO THERE DOES HAVE TO BE A
PROHIBITION OR SOME KIND OF
ORDER THAT YOU CAN POINT TO AND
SAY YOU'RE REQUIRED TO COMPOST
OR REQUIRED TO RECYCLE.

THIS IS WHAT THAT MEANS.

NOW, YOU DON'T WANT TO JUST DUMP
THAT ON PEOPLE, GO FROM ZERO TO
60 IMMEDIATELY.

YOU WANT TO HAVE PILOT PROGRAMS
AND YOU WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT
YOU'RE EDUCATING FOLKS.

THIS WILL SAVE MONEY FOR EVERY
BUSINESS AND CITIZEN OUT THERE
IF IT'S DONE RIGHT.

IT WILL SAVE THE CITY MONEY.

SO I WOULD SAY THERE SHOULD BE
SOME KIND OF CODIFIED CITY WIDE
ORDINANCE THAT STATES THIS IS
HOW IT WORKS.

SO WHEN YOU'RE EDUCATING AND
ENFORCING THOSE CITY EMPLOYEES
HAVE SOMETHING TO POINT TO.
JUST MAKE IT EASIER AND MAKES IT
MORE WORKABLE.

THE OTHER SIDE OF IT IS, THERE
HAS TO BE AN INCENTIVE AND
INFRASTRUCTURE SO PEOPLE CAN DO
IT.

WE'VE SEEN ACROSS THE BOARD
MULTI-FAMILIES.

THEY WANT TO COMPOST.

THEY WANT TO RECYCLE BUT THEY
DON'T HAVE THE INFRASTRUCTURE
THEY NEED TO DO IT.

IF YOU DON'T HAVE BINS AND SET
UP IN YOUR BUILDING, IT'S
DIFFICULT TO DO.

YOU CAN'T EXPECT PEOPLE TO BE

HERE -- HEROS.

>> THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE.

I'M GOING TO CALL NAMES AND YOU CAN LINE UP AT MY LEFT OR RIGHT TO THE PODIUMS.

FIRST, WE HAVE LAURA GROVER.

NEXT, HANNAH PEARLS AND THIRD RACHEL SYNSCHEIMER.

HI THERE.

>> HI.

>> THANK YOU.

>> HI.

THANK YOU.

I'M SUPER EXCITED TO SEE HOW MANY PEOPLE WERE AT THIS HEARING.

I WASN'T SURE WHAT TO EXPECT.

THIS IS MY FIRST TIME.

I'M A CITY RESIDENT FROM BAY VILLAGE AND A HOMEOWNER AND NOT BY ANY MEANS AN EXPERT IN COMPOSTING OR WASTE.

I'M HERE TODAY TO EXPRESS SUPPORT AS A CITY RESIDENT FOR A CURBSIDE PROGRAM AND HOPEFULLY THAT BAY VILLAGE IS GOING TO BE A FIRST AREA IF A PILOT WILL TAKE PLACE.

WE ARE A SMALL ENOUGH NEIGHBORHOOD.

MEASUREMENT WOULD BE EASY TO FIGURE OUT FOR AND KIND OF HAVE SOMETHING AT SCALE OR FIGURE OUT WHAT IT MIGHT LOOK LIKE AT SCALE.

THERE'S 600 OR 700 HOUSEHOLDS. IT WOULDN'T HAVE A HUGE IMPACT ON THE CITY AS FAR AS TRANSPORTATION AND NEEDING TO HAVE TRUCKS GO TO MANY DIFFERENT LOCATIONS.

AGAIN, IT'S A MANAGEABLE SIZE. I ALSO CURRENTLY PARTICIPATE IN AN OSCAR PROGRAM AND SOMETHING I HADN'T PLANNED ON TALKING ABOUT. I JUST LEARNED A TON HERE.

I HAD NO IDEA THE MATERIAL THAT I AM BRINGING TO CITY HALL ON A BIWEEKLY BASIS IN A BACKPACK TO COMPOST IS NOT ACTUALLY BEING COMPOSTED IN A WAY THAT CAN BE USED IN A FARM.

SO WHEN THE PANELISTS TALKING ABOUT TRANSPARENCY, SEWAGE SLUDGE AND THINGS LIKE THAT, I'D LIKE FOR THE COUNCIL TO

CONSIDER -- EVEN IF IT'S A
LOWEST COST OPTION FOR THOSE OF
US THAT WANT TO COMPOST AND HAVE
IT BE USEFUL FOR SOMETHING GOOD
TO CONSIDER CONTRACTS OR
PROCESSES THAT ARE DOING A MORE
ORGANIC PROCESS AND BE USABLE.
BECAUSE I DIDN'T KNOW THAT
THAT'S NOT WHAT MINE IS DOING
RIGHT NOW.

SO THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

>> GREAT.

THANK YOU.

YOU CAN STAY IF YOU WANT TO
LISTEN.

I WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT -- IT'S
A LITTLE MISUNDERSTANDING --

>> A QUICK POINT HERE.

CLARIFICATION ON PROJECT OSCAR.
WHEN WE STARTED, IT HAD GONE TO
ROCKY HILL OF AS OF NEXT WEEK IT
WILL NO LONGER BE GOING TO A
FACILITY AND LAWRENCE.

IT WILL GO TO A FARM INSTEAD.

WE'RE SWITCHING CONTRACTS.

AS OF NEXT WEEK, IT WILL BE
GOING TO A DIFFERENT LOCATION.

[APPLAUSE]

NEXT WEEK -- OKAY.

THANK YOU.

>> THAT'S GREAT.

YOU HAVE ANOTHER VENT.

BUT THANK YOU.

WE'RE GOING TO GET TO OUR NEXT
TWO PUBLIC TESTIMONIES IN JUST A
MOMENT.

BUT IT'S PROOF POSITIVE THAT
THERE'S A LITTLE SORT OF -- I
WON'T SAY -- MAYBE NOT DISTRUST
IS THE RIGHT WORD BUT CONCERN
GOING FORWARD THAT IF WE DON'T
DO THIS -- THIS CITY IS
COMMITTED TO DOING IT RIGHT.
THERE'S THE WHOLE EXPRESSION,
YOU HAVE TO CRAWL BEFORE YOU CAN
WALK BEFORE YOU CAN RUN.
WE'RE NOT EVEN CRAWLING RIGHT
NOW.

WE'LL DO IT IN CONCERT AND DOING
IT RIGHT.

SO DELIGHTED TO HEAR ABOUT THIS
ADMINISTRATION AND THE FACT THAT
THEY'RE LISTENING AND WORKING.

GREAT NEWS.

THE NEXT TIME YOU BRING YOUR
COMPOSTING DOWNSTAIRS, YOU KNOW
IT'S GOING TO A GREAT FARM.
THANK YOU, CHIEF.
THANK YOU, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.
OUR NEXT PUBLIC TESTIMONY IS
HANNAH AND THEN RACHEL.
>> GOOD MORNING.
>> GOOD MORNING.
>> VERY BRIEFLY, I'M A BRIGHTON
RESIDENT.
I'M ALSO A STUDENT.
I HAVE THREE ROOMMATES AND MY
HUSBAND.
WE'RE BOOTSTRAP CUSTOMERS.
HAVING ROM MATES IS RIGHT NOW
THE ONLY WAY THAT STUDENTS AND
SOCIAL WORKERS THAT WE CAN
AFFORD THAT SERVICE.
I JUST WANT TO TALK ABOUT
RENTERS WHICH HASN'T BEEN
DISCUSSED YET.
IN OUR APARTMENT COMPLEX, WE
HAVE EIGHT FLOORS, TWO
BUILDINGS, HUNDREDS OF RESIDENTS
AND TWO MASSIVE DUMPSTERS.
THEY'RE OPEN, SNOW, RAIN, THE
WHOLE NINE YARDS GETS IN THERE.
SMELLS TO HIGH HEAVEN.
A PEST PROBLEM.
AS RENTERS, WE DON'T HAVE A
CHOICE IN HOW THE WASTE IS
STORE, TAKEN CARE OF.
WE'VE SEEN VIOLATIONS POSTED ON
MY BOARD.
A LOT OF PEOPLE CAN'T AFFORD THE
BOOTSTRAP BUCKET.
BUT THERE'S A HUGE OPPORTUNITY
FOR RENTERS TO HELP WITH THE
WASTE PROBLEM.
IT'S UNSIGHTLY, SMELLS AND IT'S
UNHEALTHY.
ONE THING I WANTED TO DRIVE
HOME.
THE OTHER IS ANECDOTAL.
MY BROTHER IS IN CAMBRIDGE.
WHEN HE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO
GET THAT LITTLE BIN AND DO
CURBSIDE COMPOSTING, HE WAS SO
EXCITED.
HE HEARD ABOUT IT WASN'T GOING
WHERE HE THOUGHT IT WAS GOING.
MAYBE IT'S NOT THE COMPOST HE
HAD IN HIS HEAD AND HE BOUGHT A

BOOTSTRAP BUCKET.
SO A LOT OF PEOPLE HAVE THE
PICTURE IN THEIR HEAD, IT'S
BEING DONE BY THE CITY.
THAT WILL HELP YOU GO BIG OR GO
HOME BASED ON PERSONAL
EXPERIENCE.
>> THANKS FOR YOUR TESTIMONY.
RACHEL?
>> HI.
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR HAVING US.
SO I'M HERE TODAY FOR ALL 25
YEARS OF MY LIFE.
I WENT TO THE LATIN SCHOOL.
I'M HERE TO SAY THAT AS A
MILLENNIAL, WE WANT TO BE
COMPOSTING.
ALL OF MY FRIENDS ARE BLA ALUMS.
WE WANT TO BE DOING THIS.
I WENT TO GEORGE WASHINGTON
UNIVERSITY IN B.C.
>> MY TWO ALMA MATERS.
>> THINGS HAVE GONE WELL FOR
YOU.
IT'S EASY TO COMPOST THERE.
THE SCHOOL MADE IT EASY.
WE JUST TOOK ALL OF OUR COMPOST
TO THE COMPOSTER AND WE USED IT
IN OUR URBAN GARDEN.
AND WHEN MY FRIENDS AND I MOVED
BACK TO BOSTON AFTER GRADUATING,
WE REALLY WANTED TO KEEP DOING
THAT.
WE WERE SHOCKED BY HOW DIFFICULT
IT IS HERE.
WE WOULD LOVE TO DO BOOTSTRAP.
MUST OF MY FRIENDS AND I ARE IN
THE NONPROFIT SECTOR, IN GRAD
SCHOOL OR TEACHERS.
IT'S JUST NOT IN OUR BUDGET.
WE CALLED ALL OF THE SCHOOLS.
ALL OF THE COLLEGES AND
UNIVERSITIES.
WHILE THEY HAVE COMPOSTING IN
DINING HALLS, THERE'S NO
PROGRAMS THAT I CAN FIND FOR
STUDENTS OR IF YOU LIVED IN
FOGGY BOTTOM, YOU CAN BRING YOUR
COMPOST TO THE SCHOOL.
COULDN'T FIND THAT I CALLED
RESTAURANTS TO SEE IF I COULD
COMPOST WITH THEM.
THAT WASN'T AN OPTION.
I TRIED TO GET TO FARMERS

MARKETS TO TAKE MY COMPOST.
THEY WOULDN'T DO IT.
FOR A WHILE, I WAS BIKING MY
FRIEND'S COMPOST TO PROJECT
OSCAR IN J.P. OR TAKING IT ON
THE ORANGE LINE.
BASICALLY NOT ONLY WAS I GETTING
WEIRD LOOKS ON THE ORANGE LINE,
ONCE I FOUND OUT ABOUT I WASN'T
EXACTLY SURE HOW THE COMPOST WAS
BEING HANDLED, IT FELT LIKE
SOMETHING THAT I WANTED TO BE
DOING WITH MY TIME ANYMORE.
I'M JUST HERE TO SAY THAT WE
REALLY WANT IT.
MILLENNIALS, THE BLS ALUMS, MY
AGE RANGE, WE'RE REALLY
INCENTIVIZED FOR THIS.
I WAS JUST THERE OVER
THANKSGIVING.
THERE WAS HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE
TALKING ABOUT SOCIAL JUSTICE,
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ISSUES.
THOSE ARE YOUR PEOPLE.
GET SOME BLS KIDS ON IT, GET
SOME BLA KIDS ON IT.
THEY WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT AND
DOING IT RIGHT.
THAT'S WHAT I HAVE TO SAY.
THANK YOU.
>> THANK YOU, RACHEL.
YOU'RE A CREDIT TO BOTH OF OUR
ALMA MATERS.
THAT IS ALL I HAVE FOR PEOPLE
THAT INDICATED THEY WANT TO
TESTIFY.
IF ANYBODY DID WANT TO INDICATE
OR DIDN'T CHECK-OFF A BOX,
PLEASE JUST JOIN US.
ANYONE ELSE WOULD LIKE TO FOLLOW
THIS PERSON?
PLEASE JUST LINE UP BEHIND HER.
THANK YOU.
>> SORRY.
I THOUGHT I FILLED IT OUT.
>> IT'S ALL RIGHT.
>> I BETHANY PATTON.
I'M HERE REPRESENTING -- I HAVE
TWO HATS.
ONE IS I RUN A SUSTAINABILITY
INITIATIVE.
I'VE BEEN DOING THIS FOR EIGHT
YEARS.
STARTED WITH THE FOOD WASTE BAN.

I'VE SORTED TRASH AND RUNS
SEVERAL PILOTS OUT OF MY SCHOOL.
TO YOUR POINT ABOUT BEHAVIOR AND
EDUCATION, IT'S ABSOLUTELY
ESSENTIAL.

THE BIGGEST ISSUE WE HAD ARE
PEOPLE ARE TRYING TO SORT BUT
THEY GET FRUSTRATED AND GET TO
THE CLOSER BIN AND THROW STUFF
IN.

AS A RESULT, OUR COMPOST PROGRAM
DOESN'T WORK AND WE DON'T
COMPOST.

THAT'S ON THE FRONT OF THE SHOP
SIDE.

SO IN ADDITION, WE'VE BEEN
WORKING WITH THE CITY AND WE
KNOW THESE INITIATIVES HELP THE
CITY WITH REDUCTION IN
GREENHOUSES GASSES, REDUCE IN
CO2 AND IT'S GOOD FOR THE
ECONOMY.

WE HAVE A BUSINESS THAT ONE OF
OUR STUDENTS RUN THAT IS CALLED
STERILE ALERT.

IT -- THEY TAKE FOOD IS ABOUT TO
GO BAD AND DELIVER IT TO PEOPLE
IN NEED.

IT'S JUST FOR THE ECONOMY AND
THE CITY IS A REALLY GOOD
CHOICE.

MY OTHER HAT AND PROBABLY MORE
IMPORTANT HERE, I'M THE
PRESIDENT OF THE BAY VILLAGE
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION.

TO ECHO LAURA'S POINT, I HAVE A
VISION TO MAKE BAY VILLAGE THE
MOST SUSTAINABLE VILLAGE IN THE
CITY.

WE'RE SMALL ENOUGH, 1,300
RESIDENTS THAT WE CAN RUN A
PILOT THAT CAN DELIVER YOU GUYS
RESULTS THAT COULD HELP SCALE
THE REST OF THE CITY.

WE TURN OUT TO VOTE IN THE
HIGHEST PERCENTAGES.

REALLY ENGAGED.

I CAN GUARANTEE YOU THE
NEIGHBORHOOD WOULD GET BEHIND
IT.

I'M TOTALLY IN SUPPORT OF IT AND
I THINK THE NEIGHBORHOOD WOULD
BE, TOO.

>> THANKS FOR YOUR TESTIMONY.

>> HI.

I'M JOY GARY.

TIM FARM -- I'M A FARM MANAGER
IN MATTAPAN.

I'M EXCITED ABOUT THE PROCESS OF
ROLLING OUT A COME PASTING
PROGRAM.

THE ONLY CAVEAT I'D SAY, WHOEVER
IS MANAGING THE COMPOST THAT IT
WOULD NEED TO BE TESTED ON
SEVERAL LEVELS IN ORDER FOR IT
TO BE SAFE ENOUGH TO BE USED ON
DIFFERENT FARMS.

ALSO, IT WOULD HAVE THE QUALITY
THAT DOESN'T MAKE IT MORE
PROBLEMATIC FOR FARMERS TO
ACTUALLY USE IT.

THERE'S A NUMBER OF FREE
COMPOSTING OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE
LOCAL COMMUNITY GARDENS AND
LOCAL FARMSES WHERE THEY'RE
INTRODUCING WEED SEEDS TO FARMS
AND COMMUNITY GARDENS AND MAKING
IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR
INDIVIDUALS TO GROW.

SO WHATEVER PROCESS WE USE, I
COULD ENCOURAGE US TO CONTINUE
TO HAVE FARMERS AND POSSIBILITY
SOIL SIGNTISTS INVOLVED IN THE
PROCESS SO WE'RE MAKING SURE
THAT THE PRODUCTS THAT WE'RE
PRODUCING ARE OF HIGH QUALITY
AND REALLY GOOD FOR THE
COMMUNITY.

I ALSO WANTED TO SUGGEST LOOKING
AT VERMONT COMPOST.

THE PROCESSES THAT THEY'VE BEEN
USING TO ALLOCATE RESOURCES TO
CREATE A HIGH QUALITY PRODUCT.
THEY'RE PROBABLY ONE OF THE BEST
ORGANIZATIONS THAT ARE PRODUCING
COMPOST AND POTTING SOILS FOR
FARMERS IN THE NEW ENGLAND AREA.
I THINK IT WOULD BE BEST FOR US
TO SEE AND POSSIBLY MODEL SOME
OF THE PROCEDURES THAT THEY ARE
EMPLOYING.

THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

>> HI.

>> HI.

I'M FROM CITY SOIL AND
GREENHOUSE.

WE HAVE THE CONTRACT TO MANAGE

THE YARD WASTE COMPOSTING
FACILITY.
I APPRECIATE THE FEEDBACK ABOUT
THE WEED SEEDS.
WE CONTINUE TO IMPROVE THAT
PROCESS AND THERE ARE
TECHNOLOGIES OUT THERE THAT
WOULD NOT ONLY IMPROVE OUR
CURRENT PROCESSES FOR CREATING
COMPOST FROM YARD WASTE BUT ALSO
PROCESSES THAT WOULD ALLOW FOR
REALLY QUICK AND URBAN
COMPOSTING TO HAPPEN WITH FOOD
WASTE.