

# Curbside Food Waste Collection

Regional Board

Nov 28, 2024

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1450 K.L.O. Road  
Kelowna, BC, V1W 3Z4  
rdco.com



# Agenda

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- Purpose
- Background & Timeline
- Regional engagement results
- Key Concerns / Themes
- Timeline for Implementation
- SWTAC Endorsement
- Next steps and service model





# Purpose

- Share Background
- Provide food waste engagement results
- Present next steps and confirm direction



# Why Food Waste?

- SWMP:
- CleanBC & Charter:
- GHG Performance (US EPA):

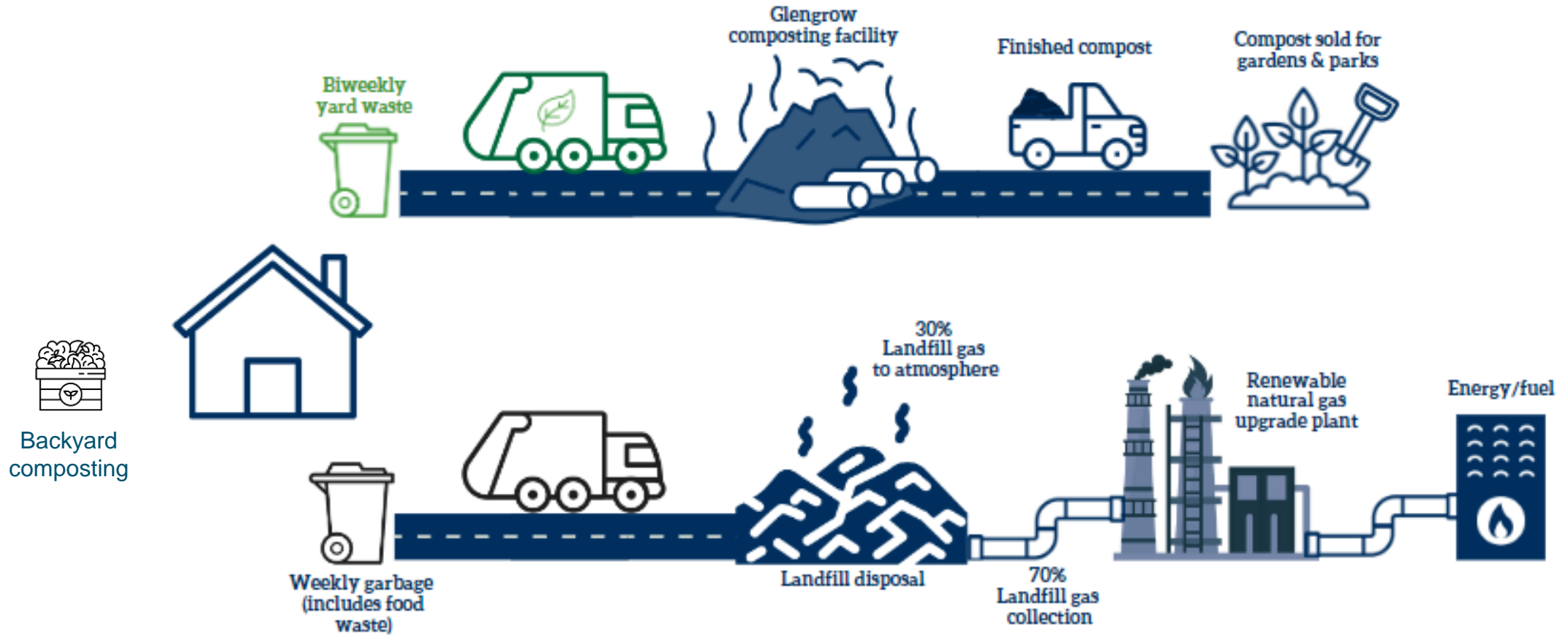


# Background - Timeline



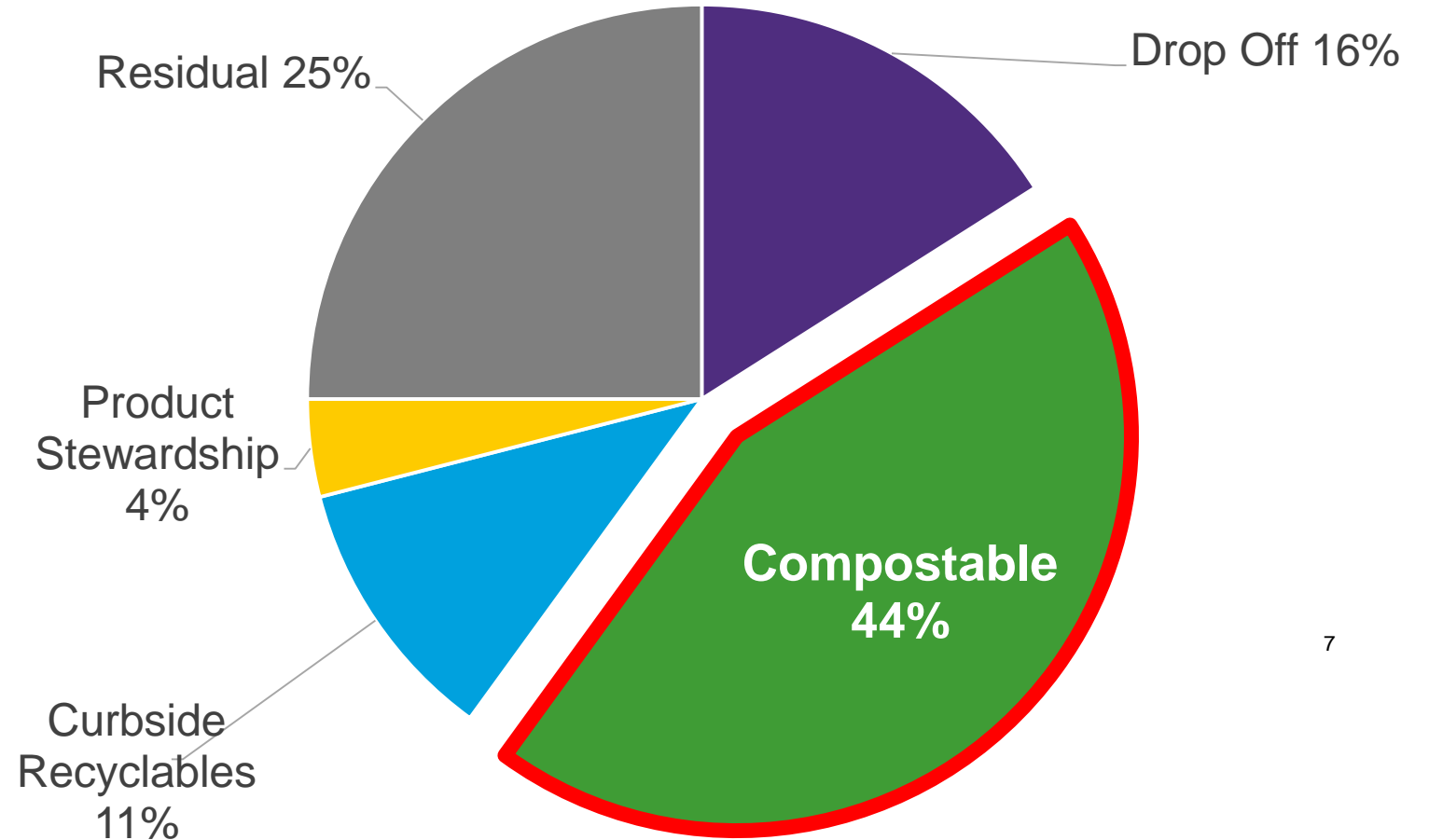
# Background – Status Quo

## How food and yard waste is currently managed

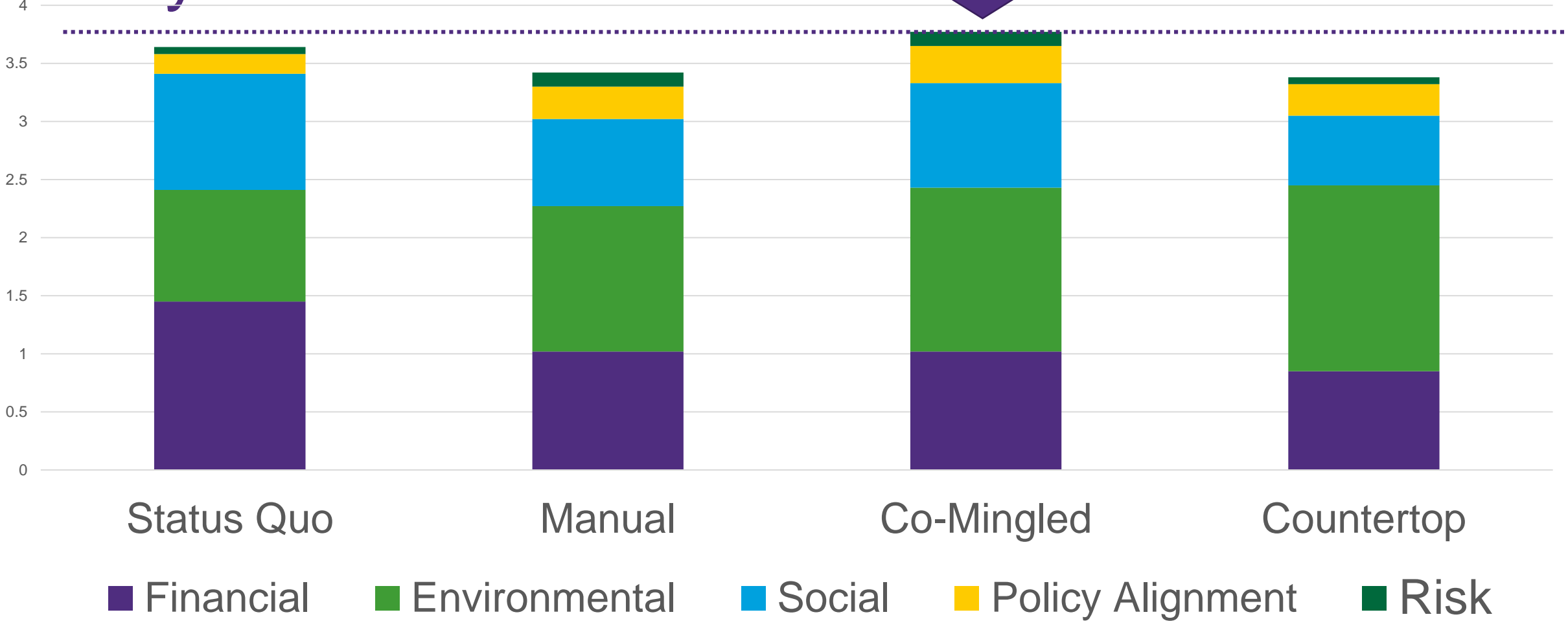


Background:  
Composition  
of our waste  
stream

## SINGLE FAMILY (Curbside Collection)



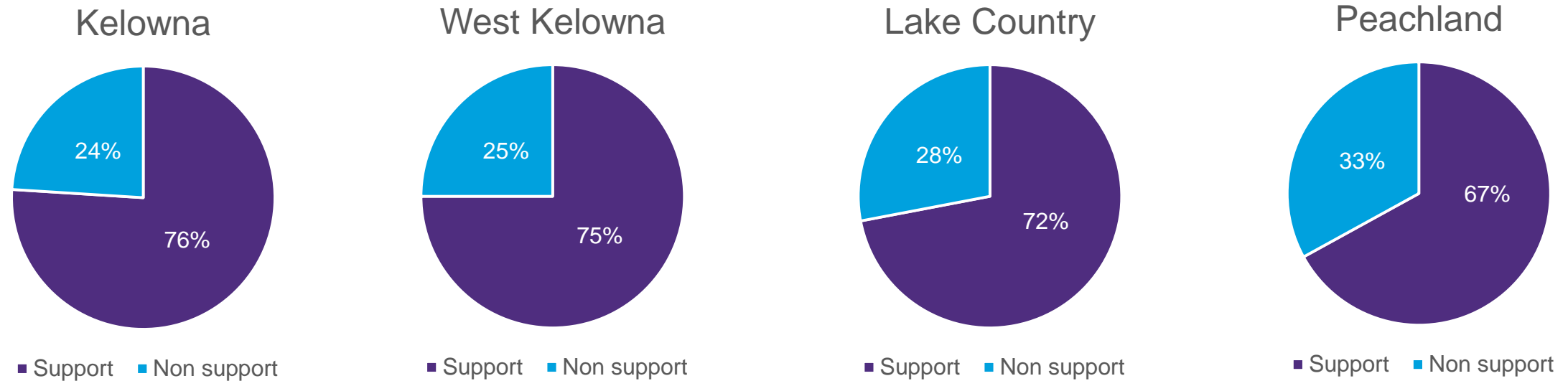
# Background - Feasibility Study





# Phase 1 – Fall 2023 Engagement

Statistically Valid Survey



Region wide 73% support having a curbside food waste collection program

# Current Status: Phase 2 - June 2024

## Purpose:

Obtain public and municipal feedback on service details, including transfer stations, frequency of collection, cost tolerances and other concerns.

**How:** On-line survey, [yoursay.rdco.com](https://yoursay.rdco.com) page, pop-up events, council presentations

## Participation:

Over 4200 residents filled out the survey

76% residents support a curbside food waste program.

# Phase 2 – What We Heard



## Overall support for biweekly garbage, weekly organics

70% support or strongly support moving to a weekly organics collection and biweekly garbage collection



## Cost concerns

76% support a food waste program. 49% are willing to pay at least \$66/year to have a food waste collection program. 19% do not want a food waste program



## Wildlife concerns

Residents are most concerned about rats, followed by bears. 24% had no concerns with wildlife related to a food waste program.



## Transfer station considerations

The top three criteria residents want considered when siting a transfer station include cost, pests & wildlife, nuisances such as odour, noise and dust.

# Phase 2 – Municipal Councils

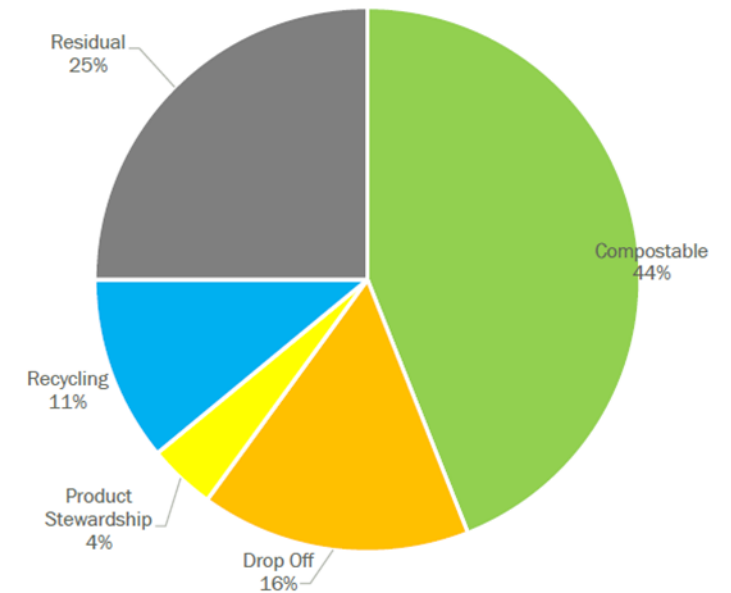
- Presented preliminary engagement data & key concerns
- Overall support for program - with various degrees of acceptance
- Diverse focus, timelines, drivers, and interests





# Key Concern - Scheduling

- **Concern: Every other week garbage collection unrealistic**
- **Analysis:**
  - 70% support biweekly garbage collection
  - 85% of BC w/ food waste collection have biweekly garbage collection
  - 75% of cart contents can be recycled or composted



# Key Concern - Wildlife



- Concern: Program increases wildlife challenges
- Analysis:
  - Curbside food waste collection is not introducing new attractants
  - Odorous non-compostable wastes such as diapers or pet waste a concern
  - Education on managing attractants, lockable carts or successful solutions seen in other communities

# Key Concern - Costs

- Concern: Exact cost of program currently unknown
- Analysis:
  - Current cost estimate (per curbside HH) is \$66-\$90/year
  - 2022 cost estimate (per curbside HH) is \$63/year
  - Public support of 49% at \$66/year
  - Likely costs will be more than \$66/year

- **2024 Waste Characterization:**
  - Food Waste Volumes & Weight
- **Negotiated Pricing:**
  - Curbside Collection
- **Current Operations**
  - Household Counts
  - Glenmore Landfill Expenses
- **Quotes and budgetary pricing:**
  - Composting
  - Hauling
- **Feasibility Study**
  - Estimated Capital cost (\$5.4M)
  - Estimated Land cost (\$6.0M)
  - Estimated Operational cost(\$400k/yr)



**\$65.97 - \$90.27**  
**Per year**

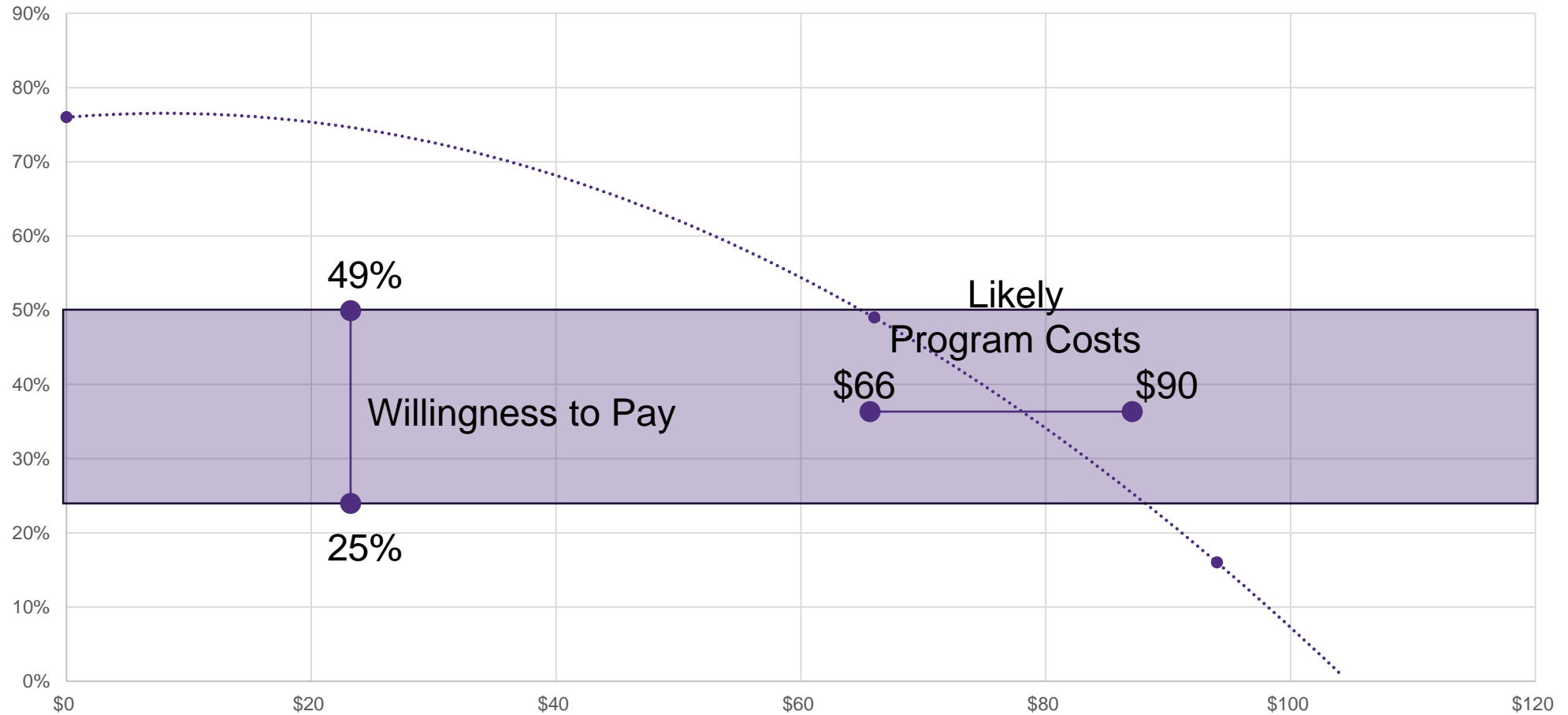
Sensitivity Analysis:

Land +50%:	+\$7.16/yr
Demand +50%:	+\$5.47/yr
Contracts +50%:	+\$30.77/yr
Westside Only:	+\$41.39/yr



# Engagement Results & Costs

Percent Willing to Pay (Food Waste Program)



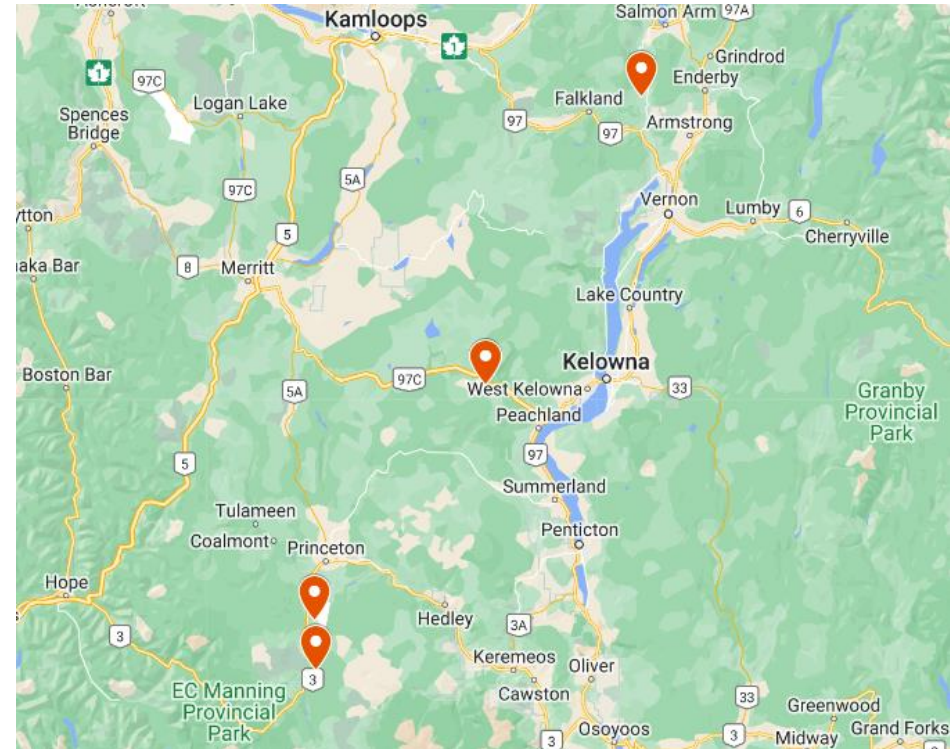
# Key Concern – Countertop Appliances

- Concern: Is a countertop kitchen composter a better option?
- Analysis:
  - Kitchen compost appliance evaluated and ranked in last place in the feasibility study
  - Kitchen appliance: most expensive option
  - Material produced is still considered food waste and would not be acceptable in yard waste carts



# Key Concern – In-Region Preferences

- Concern: Distance of composting processors
- Analysis:
  - Distance to processors was a consideration in the Feasibility Study
  - 4 viable processors exist within 300 km round-trip



# Key Concern – Multifamily

- Concern: Densification in the region is resulting in increased multifamily housing needing government services
- Analysis:
  - Current proposed program is focused on residents with curbside collection
  - Several multifamily (gated communities) with curbside collection do not have yard waste carts
  - Condo's and apartments currently serviced by private sector (future consideration)



# Key Concern – Access to Compost

- Concern: Loss of GlenGrow
- Analysis:
  - Adding food waste to existing yard waste means over 15,000 tonnes of yard would be diverted away from producing GlenGrow
  - Reduces GlenGrow production by ~50%

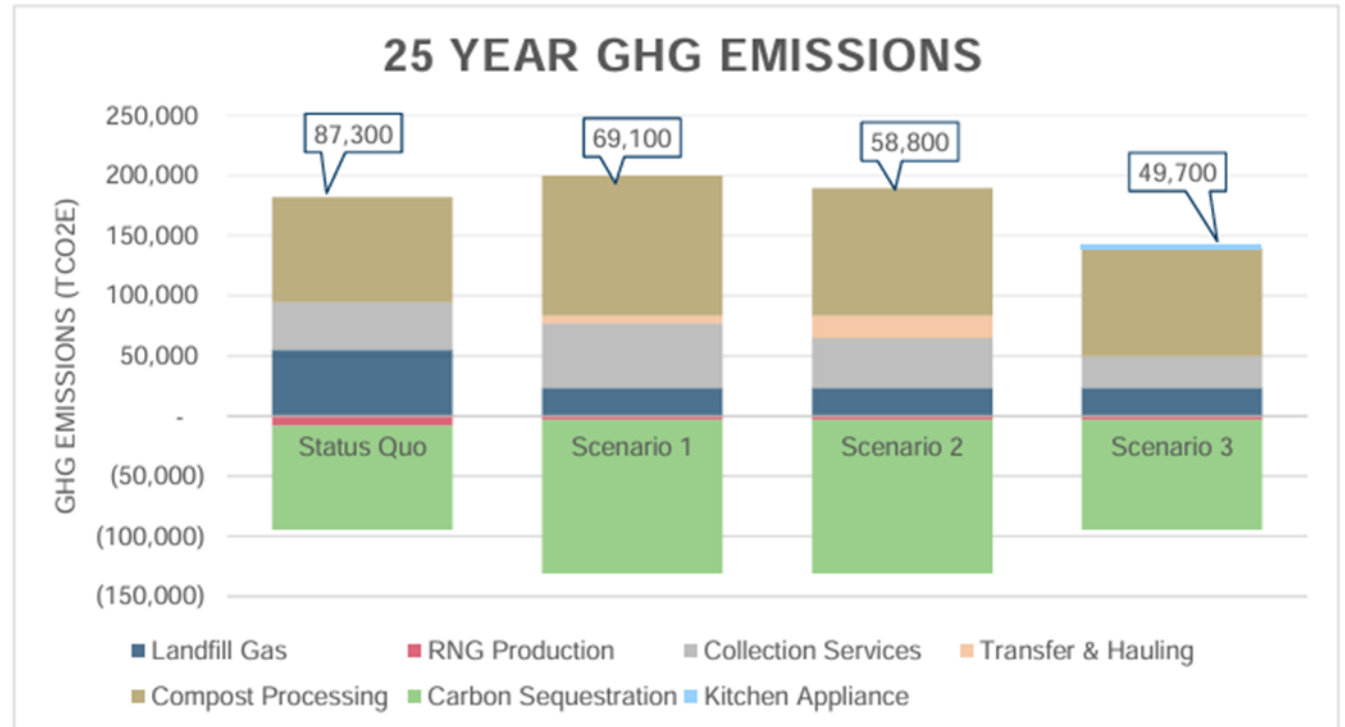


# Key Concern – Landfill Gas

- Concern: Impacts of food waste diversion on landfill gas collection system
- Analysis:
  - Glenmore: 70% captured, 30% to environment
  - 61% of landfill gas generated by food waste avoids landfill gas collection systems and releases to the environment (US EPA)
  - Food waste diversion most effective way to reduce GHG emissions from landfills (US EPA)
  - Other organics waste still landfilled (76% regionally)

# Key Concern – Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- Concern: GHG impacts of program (inc. hauling)
- Analysis:
  - Long haul trucking was incorporated into Feasibility Study
  - Comingled still great option even with long haul trucking



# Timelines – Milestone Based

## Implementation of Food Waste Program at the speed of the slowest adopter

Milestone 1: Report to the Board on Locations & Potential Land Purchases (Early 2025)



Milestone 2: Report to Board on Final Costs, Council Endorsements, Go/No Decision



Milestone 3: Report to Board on imminent Launch of program **Goal: April 2026**



Milestone 4: Report to Board 12-months following complete program launch



Future: Multifamily organics diversion, regional service exploration, etc.

# SWTAC Endorsement

The SWTAC endorses the Food Waste Collection Program as outlined within the November 28<sup>th</sup> report to the Regional Board, and recommends that project timelines be contingent on milestones, such that all member municipalities can fully consider the impacts of their participation in the program and ensure regional consistency

# Next Steps

- Continue to implement a Curbside Food Waste Collection Program that:
  - Combines Food and Yard Waste into a single Curbside Container for collection weekly, year-round.
  - Reduces the collection of Curbside Garbage Containers to once every two weeks.
- Following through on the Action Plan (attached), including the next milestone:
  - Return to the Board with financial impacts and costs as appropriate Transfer Station locations are confirmed feasible;
  - Present to Municipal Councils and confirmation of program participation be requested no later than mid-2025



# Recommendation

*All Directors - Unweighted Corporate Vote - Simple Majority (LGA s.208)*

**THAT** the Board receives the report for information from the Associate Director of Development and Engineering Services dated November 28, 2024, with respect to the public engagement results from Phase 2 Curbside Food Waste collection initiative;

**AND THAT** the Board directs Staff to continue to advance work on the Curbside Food Waste Program, including but not limited to, program development, transfer station infrastructure and land, and implementation strategies;

**AND THAT** the Board directs staff to formally request participation in the Curbside Food Waste Program from all participating municipal councils, seeking their support and participation in this initiative by July 31, 2025.



End of Presentation