

Waste Reduction

SWMP Update & Recycle BC Partnership

April 25, 2022

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A scenic landscape featuring a grassy hill with yellow wildflowers, a dirt path, and distant mountains under a blue sky. The foreground is a lush green field with scattered yellow wildflowers. A dirt path runs diagonally from the lower left towards the center. In the background, there are rolling hills and a range of mountains under a clear blue sky. A few houses are visible on a hill to the right.

Regional Solid Waste Overview

SWMP - Purpose

- Mandated by Provincial Environmental Management Act

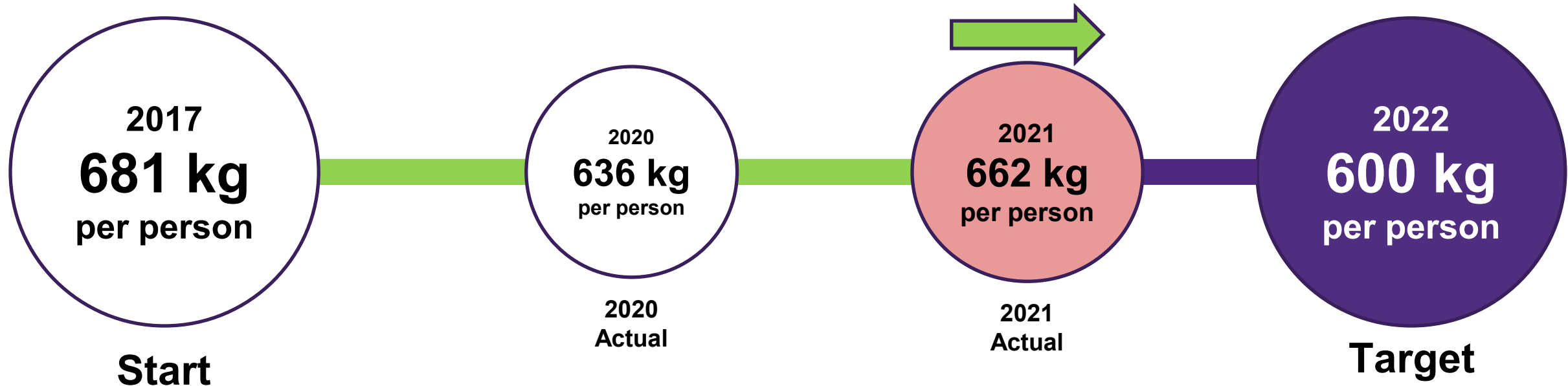
“Provides long term vision for solid waste management, including waste diversion and disposal activities.”

SWMP Primer - Goals

1. The goal is zero waste...
2. Citizens are actively engaged...
3. Make it easy for residents and businesses to make the right decision.

+ Guiding Principles from BC Ministry of Environment

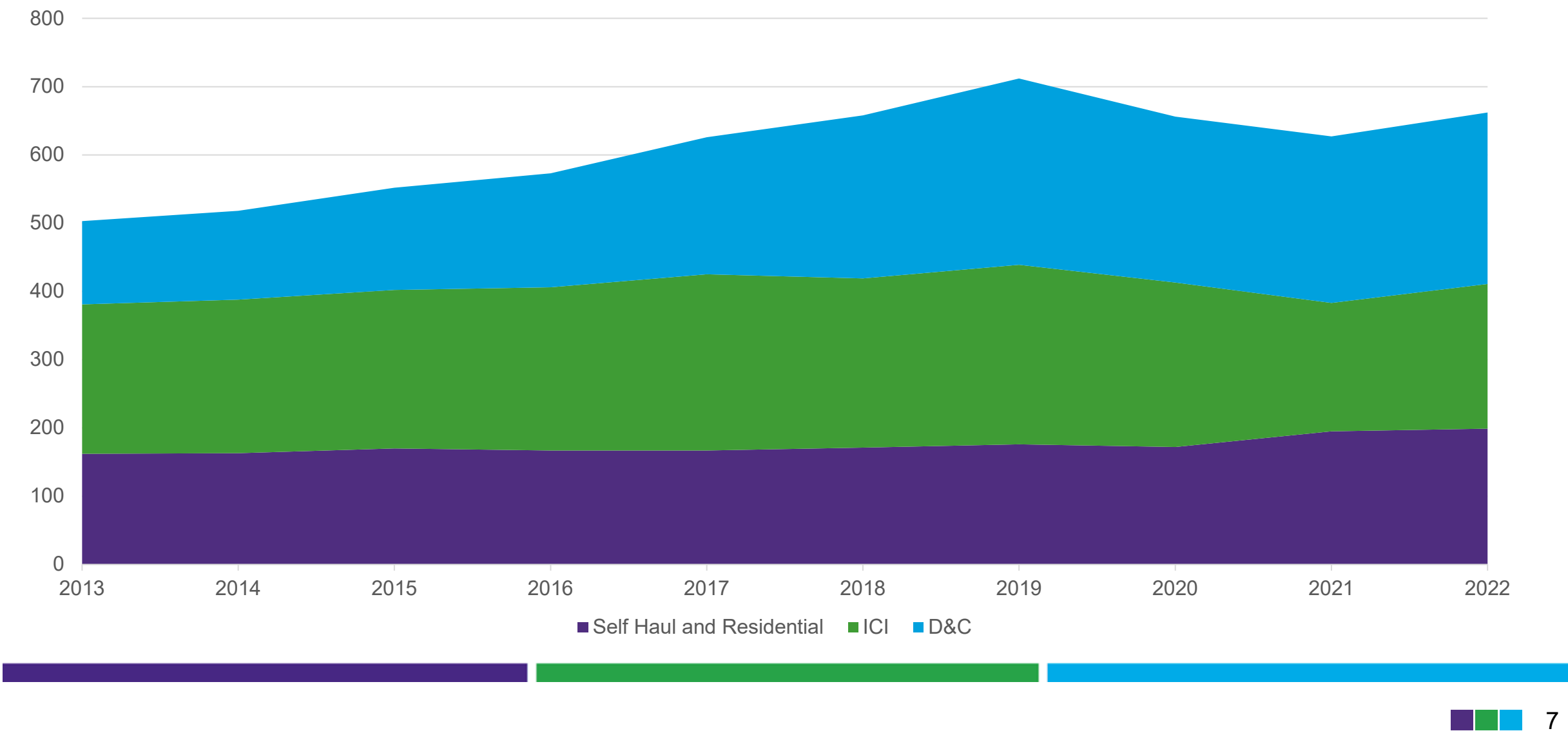
Waste Reduction Target – Total Waste



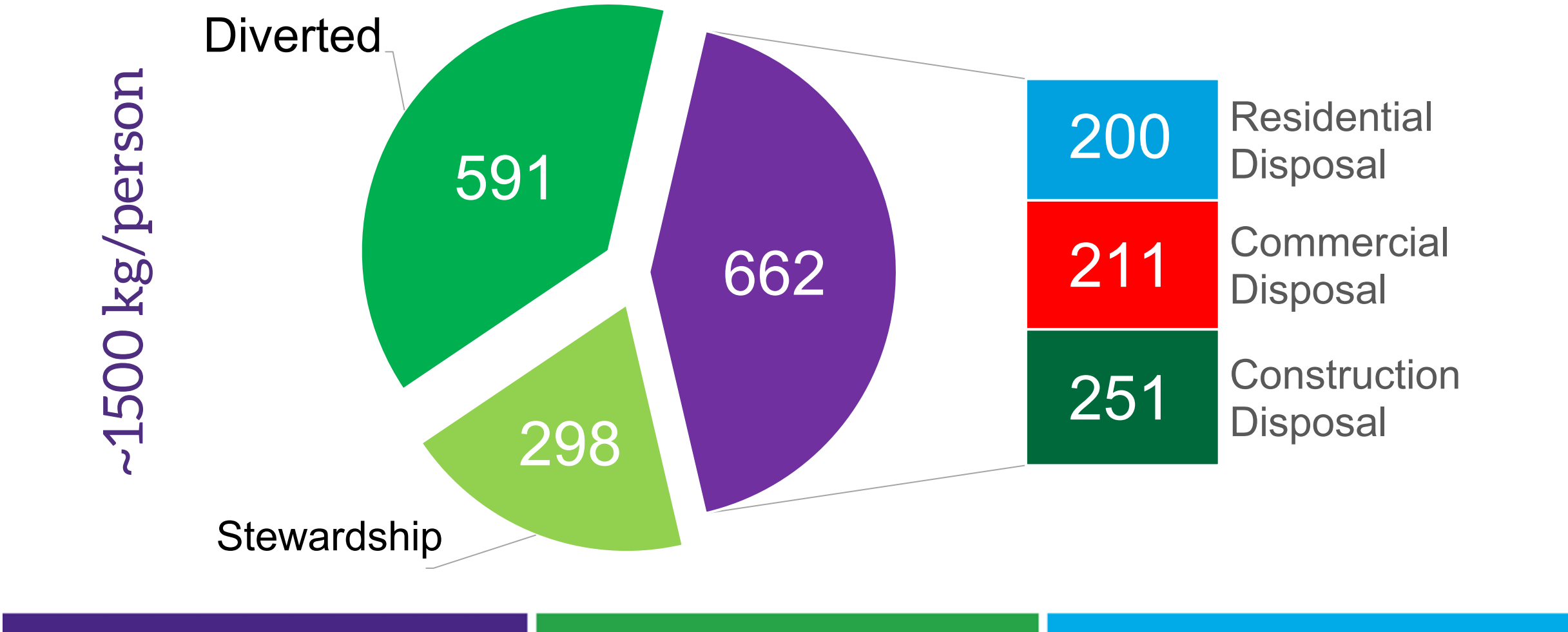
98.4% increase in building permit values
82% increase in housing starts
6.1% increase in business licenses...

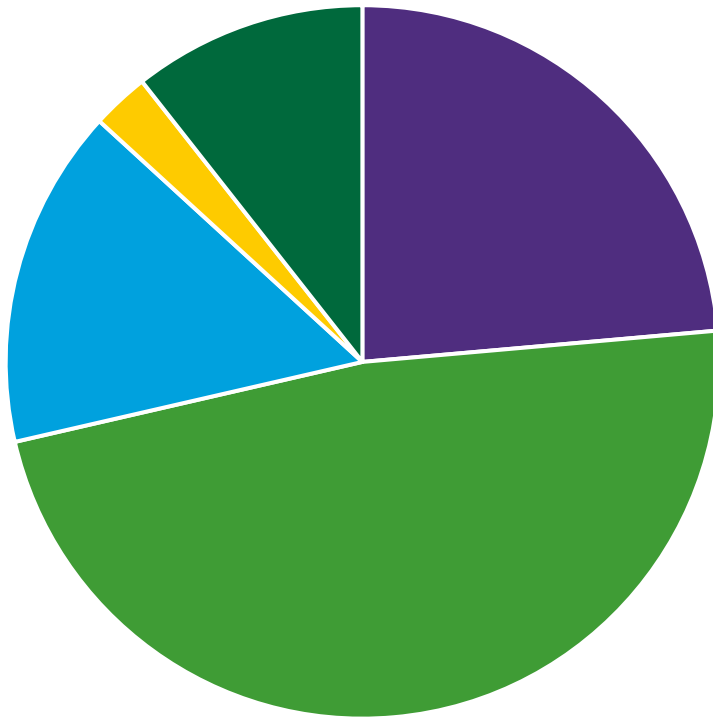
Will not achieve 2022 waste reduction target

Total Disposal Rates

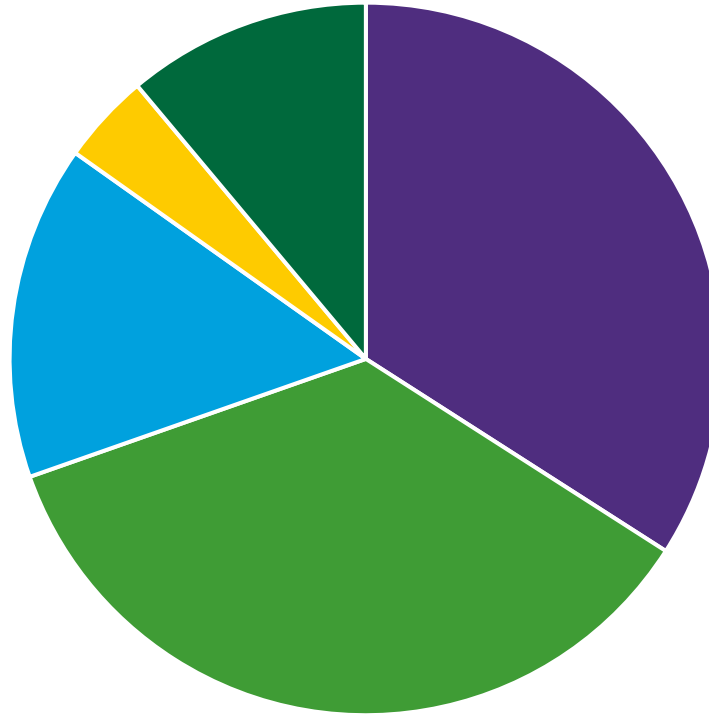


Estimated 2021 Waste Generation

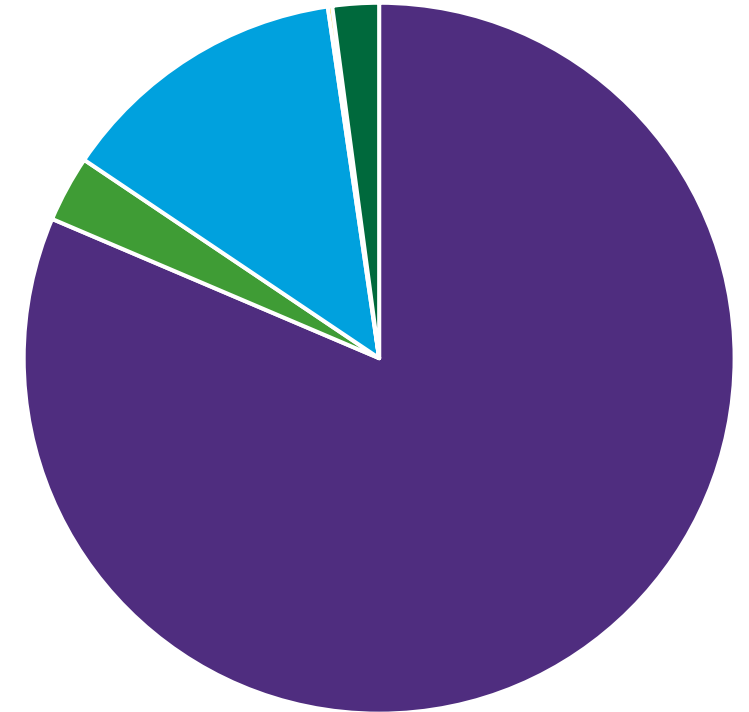




Residential



Commercial

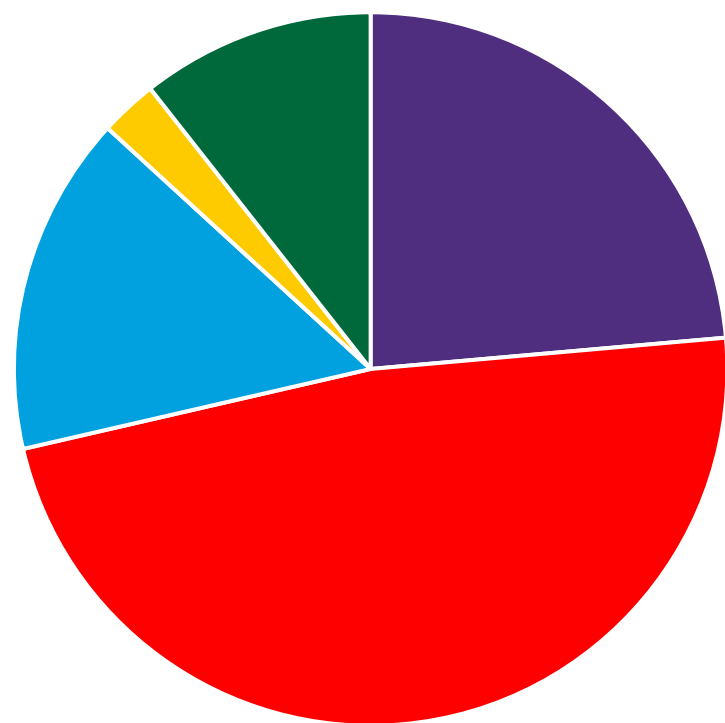


Construction

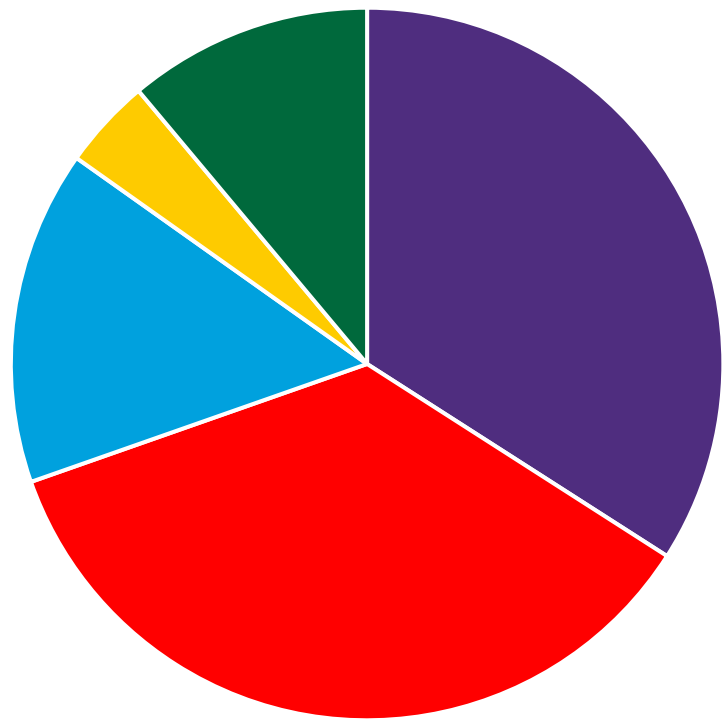
■ Residual ■ Compostable ■ Drop Off ■ Product Stewardship ■ Recycling



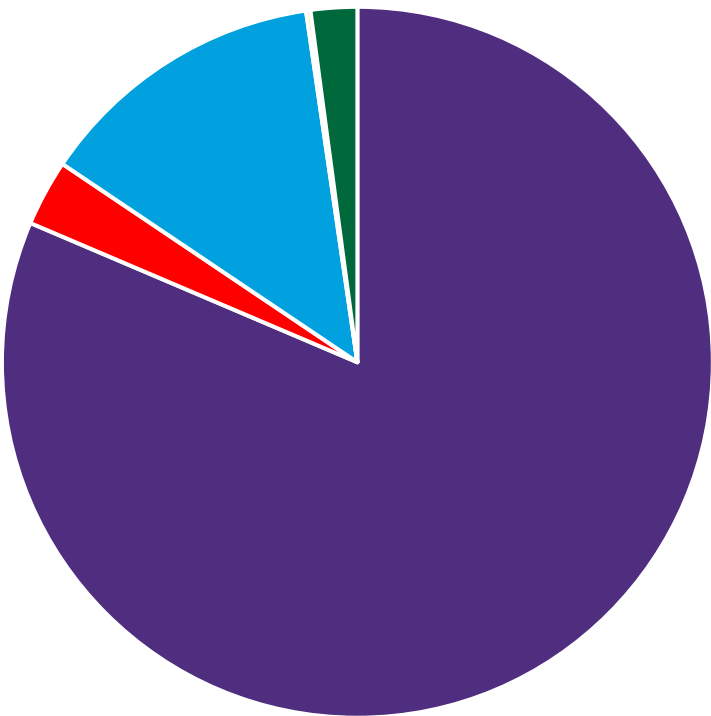
Organics Management



Residential



Commercial

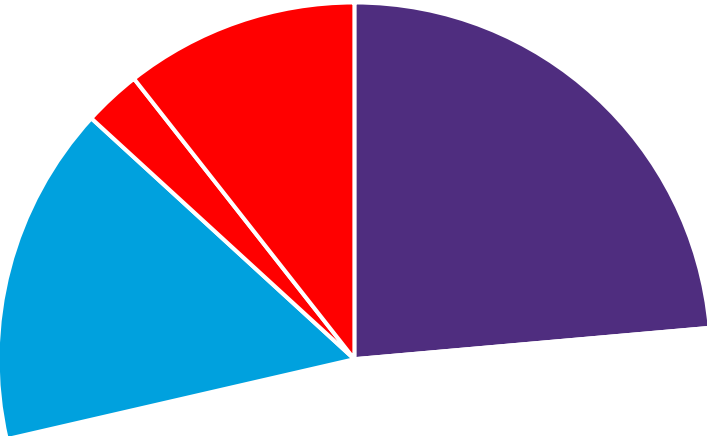


Construction

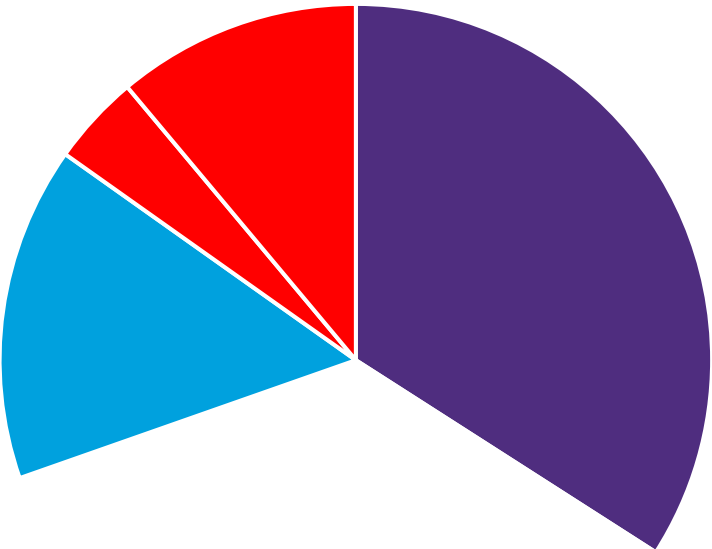
■ Residual ■ Compostable ■ Drop Off ■ Product Stewardship ■ Recycling



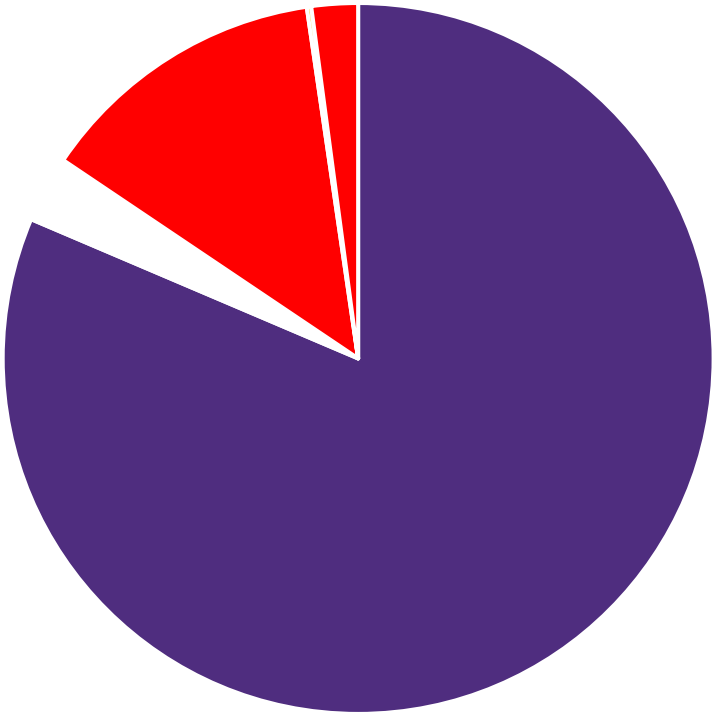
Existing services



Residential



Commercial



Construction

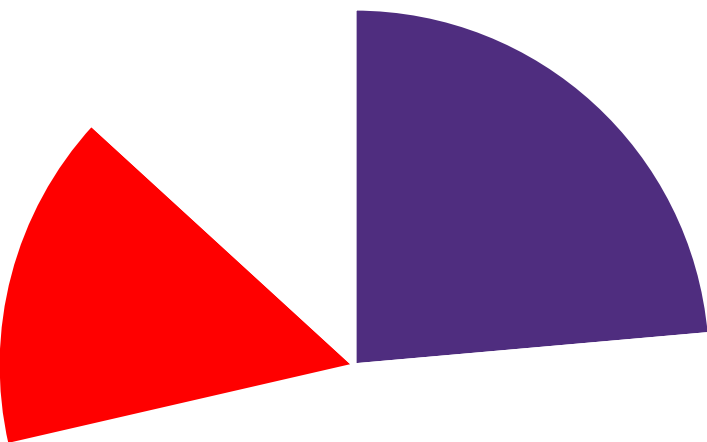
■ Residual

■ Drop Off

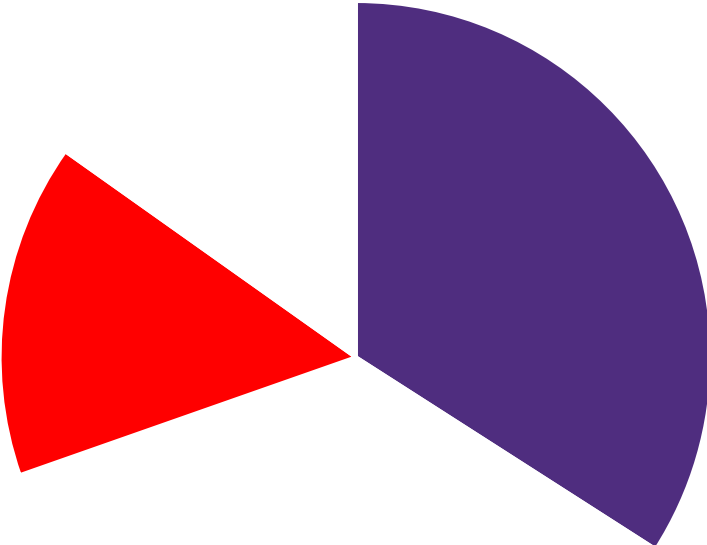
■ Product Stewardship

■ Recycling

Depot Only Materials



Residential



Commercial



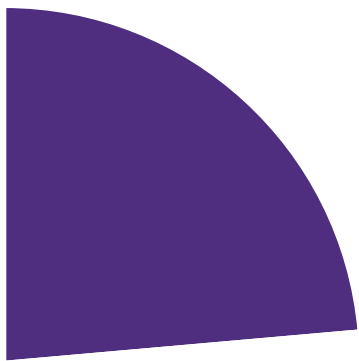
Construction

■ Residual

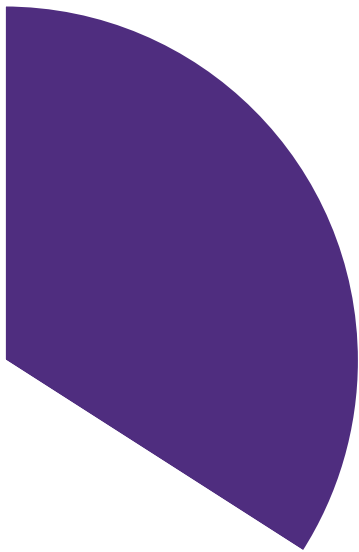
■ Drop Off



Residual Materials



Residential



Commercial



Construction



Key Initiatives (2022)

- Re-evaluate organic waste diversion opportunities
- Implement Multifamily Waste Reduction study recommendations
- Construction / Deconstruction project and study
- Expanded Waste Ambassador program
- Consideration of Recycle BC partnership (curbside recycling)
- Curbside Bear Carts (Phase 1)

Future SWMP

- SWMP to be completed by 2025
 - 5 years ahead of schedule
- Effectiveness Review in 2024 should:
 - Evaluate 2020-2024 performance
 - Engage the public to obtain updated perspective
 - Amend the SWMP with new strategies and initiatives

A photograph of a wooden tunnel, likely made of recycled wood, with a bright opening at the end. The tunnel is constructed from dark, weathered wooden planks. The light from the opening creates a strong contrast with the dark interior. The floor of the tunnel is covered with dark, smooth stones.

Curbside Recycling Program

Recycle BC?

- Stewardship program for residential packaging and paper products (PPP)
- Operated on behalf of packaging producers



To develop methods of environmental stewardship that focuses responsibility on producers and consumers of products rather than governments.

Recycle BC Partnership

- What is it?

- Municipality collects recyclables (E360s)
- RDCO provides education and administration
- Recycle BC funds collection and education

- What is the alternative?

- Recycle BC does it all (self funded)

Existing Challenges



- Contamination Financial Penalties
 - Up to \$780,000 / year
- Contamination Rates
 - 3% Requirement
- Waste Reduction Focus on contamination reduction
 - Effort split between “Waste Reduction” and “Contamination Reduction”

Important Upcoming Date

- July 2022 - Decision to continue partnership
 - Decision will persist for 7 years, minimum:
 - Current agreement expires December 31, 2024 (2 years)
 - Next agreement will expire in 2029 (5 years)

Solid Waste Management Plan

The option of handing over responsibility of curbside recycling to 'Recycle BC' will also be given consideration. For all potential changes costs and benefits will be considered as part of the overall decision-making process.

Recycling Net Cost

Status quo net financials:	+\$54,000
Potential penalties:	- \$780,000

Expanded service

Status Quo + Glass:	- \$1,546,000
Penalties + Glass:	- \$2,326,000

Recycle BC Direct Service:	\$0
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Public Engagement – Regional Feedback

Preliminary Results

- 91% satisfaction with existing curbside recycling service
- 85% of residents are willing to sort recyclables at curbside into multiple boxes
- 78% of residents would be more willing to sort recyclables at curbside if glass collection was included
- 73% of residents would be more willing to sort recyclables at curbsides if it avoided a future fee increase

Solid Waste Technical Advisory Committee

- Historically a great program
 - Funded Curbside Recycling
 - Diverted recyclables from landfill for over 8 years
- Concern regarding contamination
 - Financial penalties
 - Emphasis should be waste reduction, not contamination reduction
- If the relationship does change
 - Removes financial risk and adds potential service improvements
 - Require significant effort and collaboration to transition successfully

Summary

Two great options:

1. Maintain the partnership (RDCO led recycling)
2. End the partnership (Recycle BC led recycling)

Option 1 - Maintain Partnership



- Maintains:
 - Single, convenient recycling container
 - Existing relationship
 - Current recycling commodities
 - Curbside Recycling funding
 - Existing curbside service provider (E360s)
- 91% Residential Satisfaction
- Historically a very good partnership
- Financial penalties may require new funding to maintain service

Option 2 - End Curbside Partnership



Source: recyclebc.ca/preparing-recycling-three-steps/

- May include changes:
 - multiple curbside recycling containers
 - glass recycling at curbside
 - weekly collection
- Service provided by Recycle BC
 - No cost or other resources
- Supported by SWTAC
- Supported by 85% of curbside recyclers

Operational 2025 at the earliest

Both options allow for...

- Future expansion of curbside collection (ie: new materials) like kitchen scraps
- Responsible Environmental footprint reduction by diverting material from landfill
- Cost effective service, entirely funded by producers
- Continued progress on innovative Waste Reduction initiatives

Recommendations

- **THAT** the Regional Board receive the Recycle BC Partnership & Curbside Recycling Services report from the Director of Engineering Services dated April 25, 2022 for information.
- **AND THAT** the Regional Board support further consultation with municipal members regarding the regional Recycle BC partnership and report findings back to the RDCO Board, no later than May 30, 2022.



End of Presentation