

# FoodCycle



Complete the Zero  
Waste Cycle





To find this video search *FoodCycle Sunnyvale*

# Why focus on food scraps?

## ▶ City Climate Action Plan

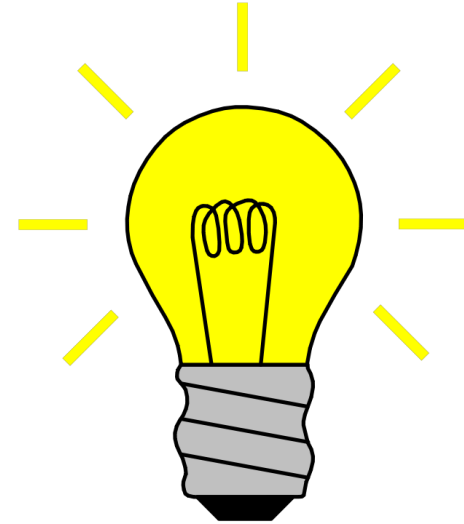
- Reduce landfill waste to reduce greenhouse gasses

## ▶ City Zero Waste Policy

- Reduce the City's waste 75% by 2020

## ▶ State Goal

- Divert 75% of organics by 2025

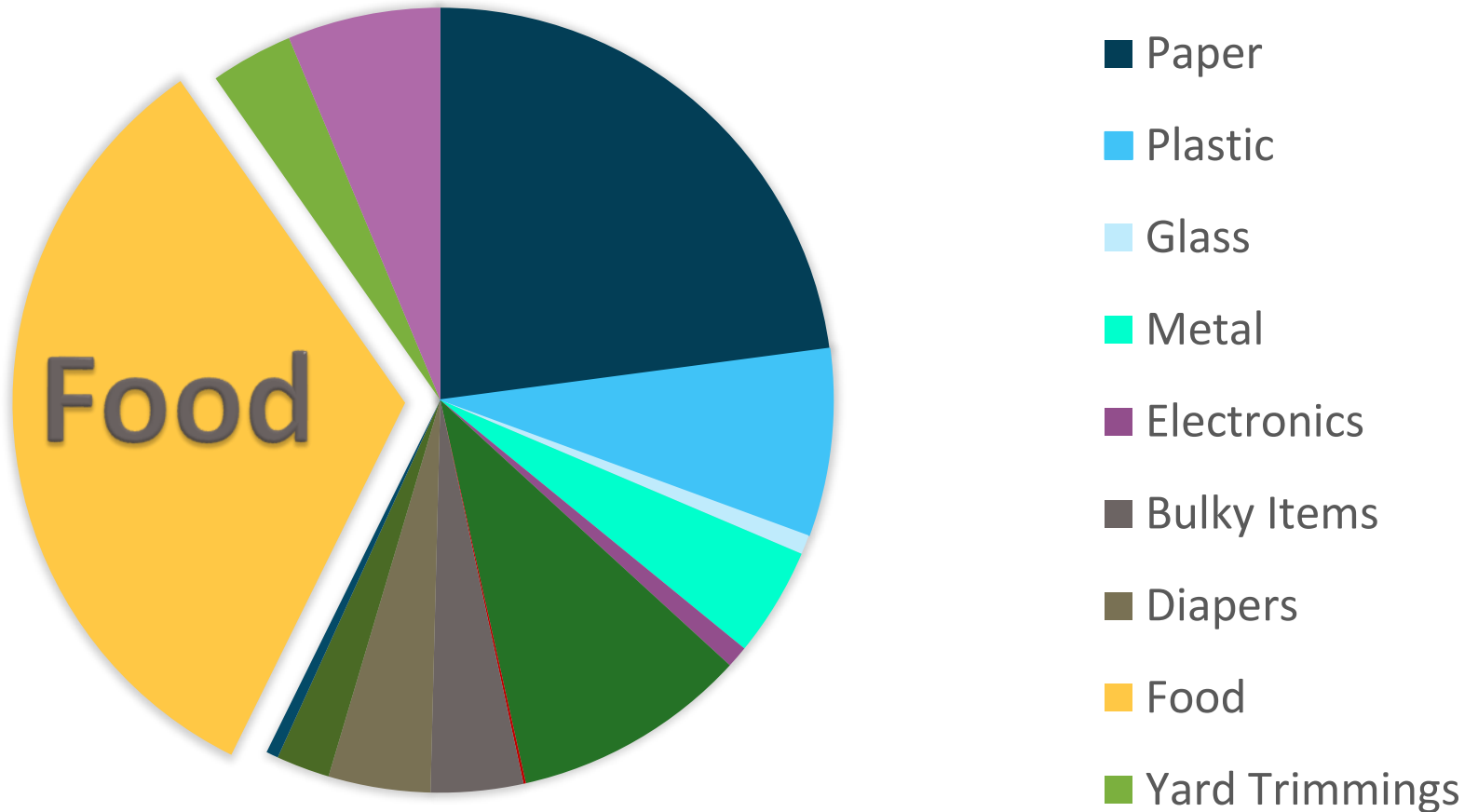




So how much of Sunnyvale's  
waste stream is food?



# 33% of single family waste is food



\*Source: Cascadia Waste Characterization Report



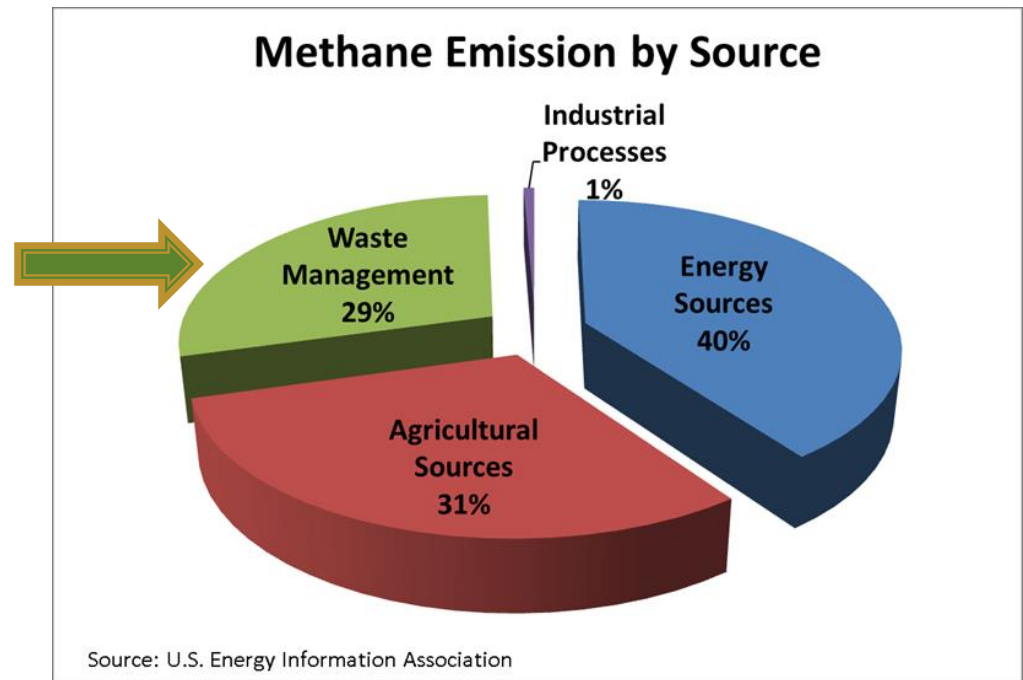


That equates to **8,000 tons** of food scraps sent to landfill each year!



# Why can't we continue to bury it?

- ▶ Food is decomposed by anaerobic bacteria in landfill
- ▶ Generates methane, CO<sup>2</sup>; powerful greenhouse gases (GHG)
- ▶ GHGs contribute to climate change



# Why can't food go in the yard trimmings cart?



+



?

- ▶ No processors want Sunnyvale food/yard mix
- ▶ Difficult, costly to permit facilities
- ▶ More options for use if separate



# Why not have an additional food scraps-only cart?



- ▶ Would require 5-7 new truck routes
- ▶ ~\$250,000 per route/year
- ▶ 4 trucks on each street on collection days

# Why use a split cart?

- ▶ Food is 1/3 of garbage (by weight)
- ▶ Requires new sorting behavior
- ▶ Less waste to landfill

Food Scraps = 1/3



Garbage = 2/3



# What if I compost in my backyard?

- ▶ Yay! Keep composting AND FoodCycling!
- ▶ FoodCycle takes items not appropriate for backyard bins:
  - Meat, bones
  - Shellfish
  - Dairy
  - Pits/peels/skins from produce



# How do we know this program will work?

- ▶ 9 month pilot in 2015
  - 500 homes,
  - 5 neighborhoods
  - 73% participation rate
  - 62% of all food captured



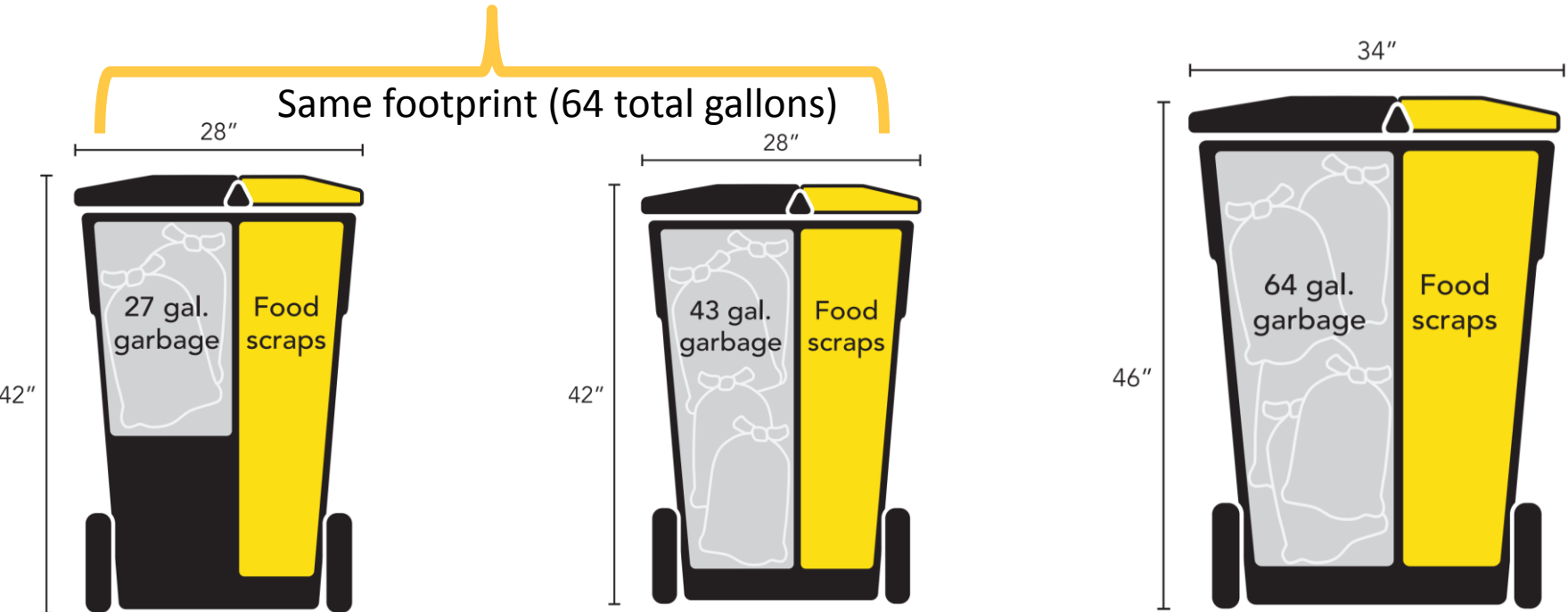


# Weekly amounts of food per household during pilot:

- ▶ Average = 8.1 lbs of food scraps collected per week per home
- ▶ 2-4 bags on average

Neighborhood	# homes in pilot	Lbs of food collected per household
Lakewood/ Monday	107	11
Garland/ Tuesday	99	5
Fremont/ Wednesday	119	7
Chehalis/ Thursday	103	8
Henderson (MHP)/ Friday	112	11

# New Cart Sizes:



## ▶ Small

- 27 gal. of garbage
- Up to 2 "tall kitchen" bags of garbage per week

## ▶ Medium

- 43 gal. of garbage
- 3-4 "tall kitchen" bags of garbage per week

## ▶ Large

- 64 gal. of garbage
- 5 or more "tall kitchen" bags of garbage per week



# Why is the food side of cart so large?

- ▶ Smallest possible food compartment to keep food/garbage separate in truck
- ▶ The large space may not always be needed, but there are times extra food is generated:
  - Holidays
  - Fallen spoiled tree fruit
  - Fridge/freezer/pantry cleanout



A little or a lot?

**We want any food scraps you've got!**

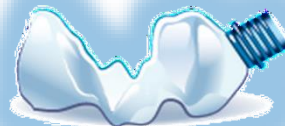
# Ways to reduce garbage:



1. Separate food scraps
2. Recycle more (especially cardboard, milk cartons, plastics)
3. Buy and use reusables
4. Buy less stuff



Paper



Containers



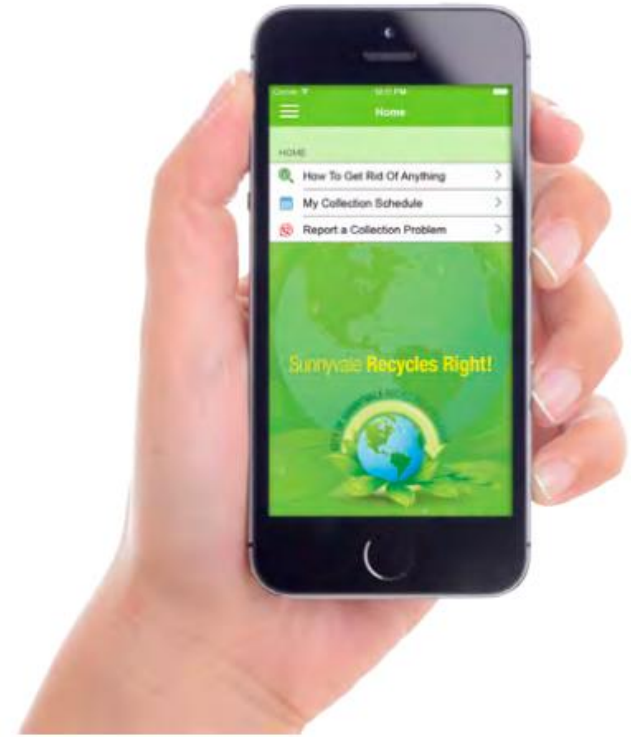
Garbage



Food Scraps

# Extra trash options

- ▶ Extra Garbage Bag Tags(\$6)
- ▶ On-call collection
  - 2 collections per year no charge
  - Schedule by phone, online or app
- ▶ Extra Dumping Events
  - Next event: October 7, 8, 14 & 15



**SUNNYVALE**

**RECYCLES RIGHT**

Download the app and learn how to:

- Get rid of anything,
- Create your own garbage service calendar,
- Schedule an On-Call service, and
- Get recycling event alerts.

You can also use the online tool at [Sunnyvale.ca.gov](http://Sunnyvale.ca.gov) by searching for *Recycling*



**FoodCycle  
tools for  
residents**



**New  
Cart**



**Pail**



**Starter  
Supply of  
Pail Liners**



**FoodCycle  
Guide**



**1 Extra  
Garbage  
Bag Tag**

# Do I have to buy compostable bags?

- ▶ No, you do not need to buy or use compostable bags.
- ▶ What can you use?
  - Reuse a:
    - bread bag,
    - produce bag,
    - any clear bag
  - Or wrap in newspaper
  - Or buy compostable bags (but it is not required)





# What will we collect?





# What will we collect?

## All Food:

- ▶ Meat and Bones
- ▶ Dairy and Eggs
- ▶ Bread
- ▶ Fruit and Veggie Trimmings
- ▶ Spoiled Food

No paper products please. These go in the garbage:

- ▶ Food-soiled paper
- ▶ Compostable dish ware
- ▶ Pizza boxes



# Where will you generate food scraps?



- ▶ While you cook

- Pits, peels and cores ok!

- ▶ After you eat

- Meat and bones ok!

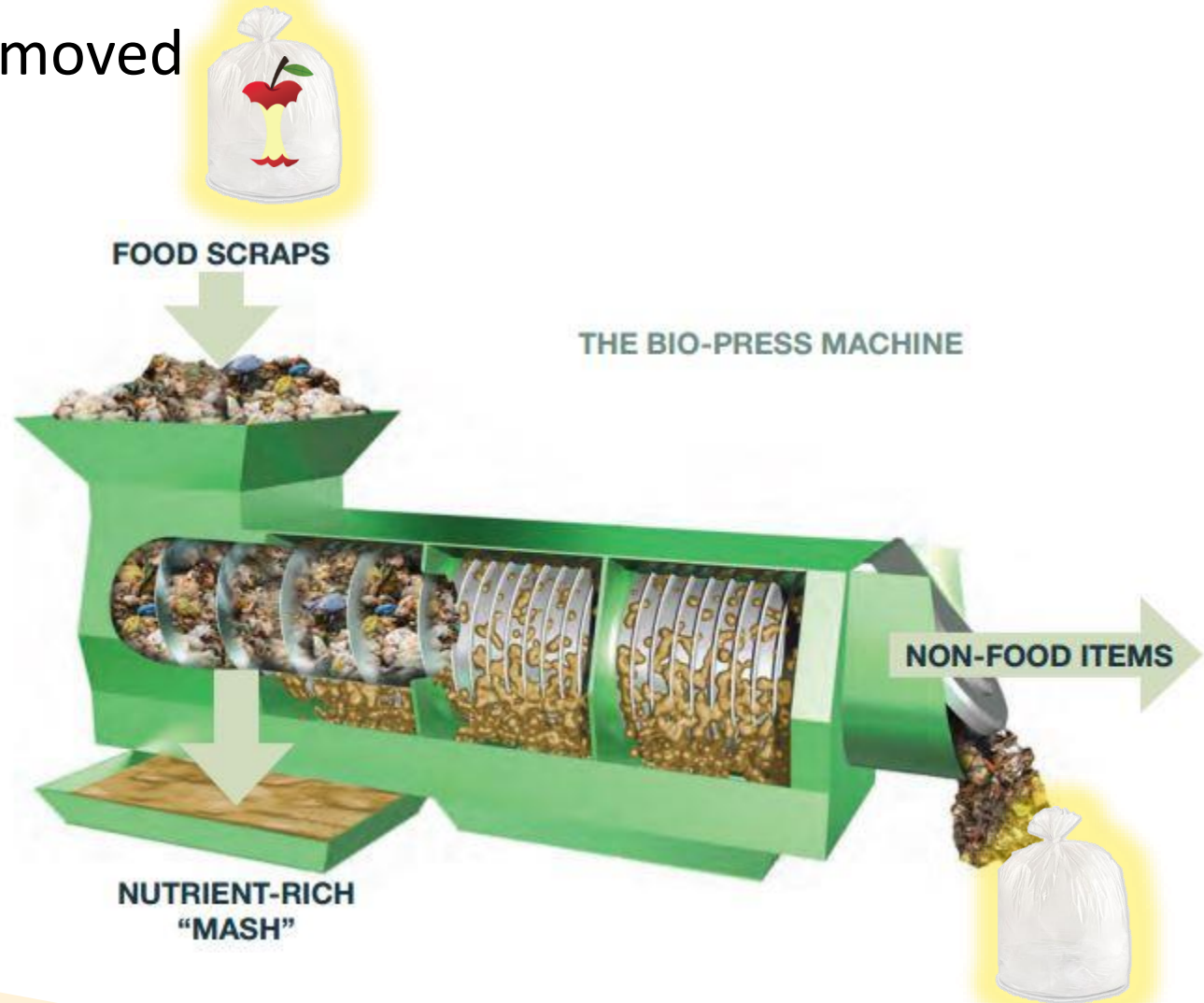
- ▶ While cleaning out fridge/pantry

- ▶ Special occasions

- Holiday pumpkin and turkey

# What will happen to the food scraps once collected?

- ▶ The bags are removed





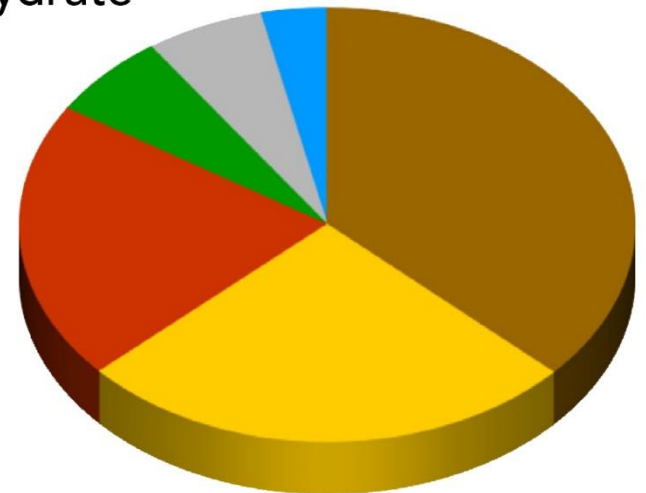
# The mash is safely processed into a nutrient-rich animal feed ingredient

- ▶ The end result will be a product that meets USDA feed requirements for pigs, chicken and fish



## The Final Product Dry Meal:

- 36.9% Carbohydrate
- 26.3% FOG
- 20.8% Protein
- 6.3% Fiber
- 6.2% Ash
- 3.5% Minerals



# Sunnyvale students are already sorting food at school!





# 1 ton per month of food scraps captured last school year!





# Cities in California either using or planning to use a split-cart to collect food scraps:



Sunnyvale



**City of  
Santa Clara**

The Center of What's Possible



**City of Milpitas**  
CALIFORNIA

# Where will you find updates?



- ▶ **Next Community Workshop**
  - **September 13, 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**  
**Sunnyvale Library, Fiction Room**
- ▶ City website: *Sunnyvale.ca.gov*
  - search “FoodCycle”
- ▶ Sunnyvale Sun
- ▶ Social Media
  - Facebook:  
Sunnyvale Environmental Services
  - NextDoor
- ▶ Cart delivery notification-early September

# For more information:

- ▶ Sunnyvale Recycling Program
- ▶ 408-730-7262
- ▶ Visit ***Sunnyvale.ca.gov*** and Search **FoodCycle**

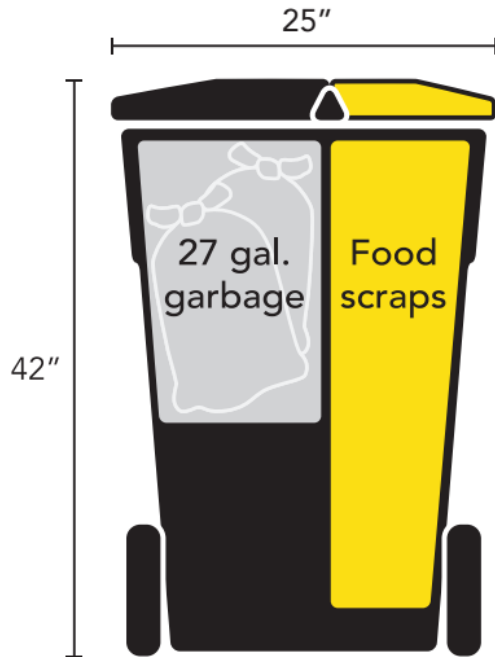




# End of Presentation

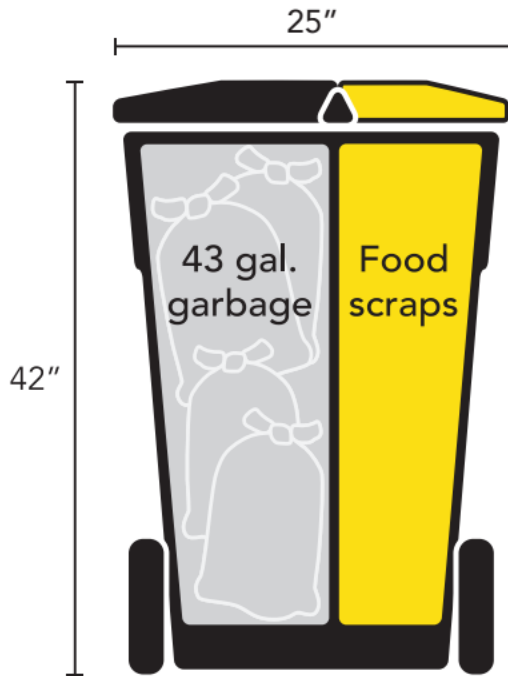
- ▶ Subsequent slides are FAQ support

# New Split- Cart Sizes: SMALL



- ▶ Garbage capacity decrease = 23%
- ▶ New garbage capacity = 27 gallons
  - Up to 2 “tall kitchen” bags of garbage per week
- ▶ Monthly rate starting in Fall = \$40.83
  - Rate increase = \$1.45

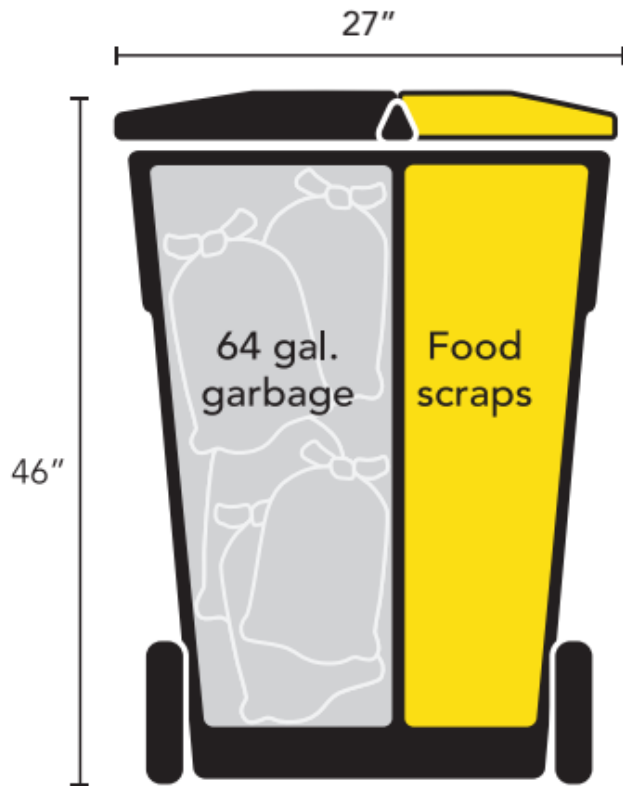
# New Split- Cart Sizes: MEDIUM



- ▶ Garbage capacity decrease = 33%
- ▶ New garbage capacity = 43 gallons
  - 3-4 "tall kitchen" bags of garbage per week
- ▶ Monthly rate starting in Fall = \$45.96
  - Rate decrease = \$1.07



# New Split- Cart Sizes: LARGE



- ▶ Garbage capacity decrease = 33%
- ▶ New garbage capacity = 64 gallons
  - 5+ “tall kitchen” bags of garbage per week
- ▶ Monthly rate starting in Fall = \$52.90
  - Rate decrease = \$1.79

# Solid waste rates support the entire Zero Waste Cycle



► What services do you get for your monthly rate?



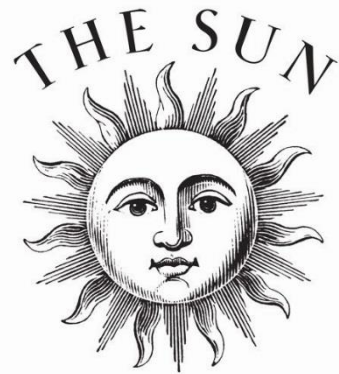
- Garbage
- Recycling
- Yard trimmings
- SMaRT Station services
- Household hazardous waste
- On-call collection
- Extra dumping events
- FoodCycle

# Rate breakdown

	Current Service			FoodCycle Service Starting this fall		
Cart Size	Garbage Capacity	Monthly Rate	% of Residents	Garbage Capacity	Monthly Rate	Rate Increase/ Decrease
Small	35- gallons	\$ 38.23	44%	27- gallons	\$ 40.83	\$1.45
Medium	65- gallons	\$ 45.66	44%	43- gallons	\$ 45.96	\$1.07
Large	95- gallons	\$ 53.10	12%	64- gallons	\$ 52.90	\$1.79



# When was the program approved and how was the community informed?



- ▶ Council approved Zero Waste goals in 2013
  - Quarterly Report article in Spring 2013
- ▶ Pilot program March-Dec 2015
  - Articles in Sun during and after the pilot
- ▶ Council approved citywide expansion Sept 2016
  - City provided info in Quarterly Report before and after pilot in 2015 and 2016
- ▶ Sustainable Sunnyvale e-newsletter
- ▶ Facebook posts



# What if I don't have many food scraps?

Times you will likely have scraps:

- Meal prep scraps
- Plate scrapings
- Fridge/pantry clean-outs
- Holidays
- Leftovers that have spoiled
- Garden/fruit trees

A little or a lot...FoodCycle all you've got!