Recycling Task Force

Handouts for Payson Council Members

AUG 27 2007 - C-7

Task Force on Recycling Services

Data supporting various statements are noted in the text and included in attachments **[d 1 – d 7]**

Members: Diane Baran, Jack Jasper, Lois Hurd, Jan Ransome, Vicky Lucas, Chris Tilley, Bonnie Holder, Garry Johnson, Barbara Warwick and Christine Harrison

Town Staff contact: Buzz Walker, Director Public Services & Fred Carpenter, Town Manager

Task Force Mission:
Our mission is to explore the possibilities and options for an environmentally sound and financially responsible recycling program for the Town of Payson (and surrounding area). We will build on past efforts and make recommendations to town government who is ultimately responsible.

Government Requirements: The town of Payson is under General Law and cannot mandate recycling; however
ARS 9-500.07 Recycling and Waste Reduction states, "A city or town shall provide its residents with an opportunity to engage in recycling and waste reduction".

Core Values that guided the work of this Task Force:
Benefits of recycling:

Environmental (most recyclables are not biodegradable)	**d1**
Extends life of landfill	
Town citizens have a common desire to recycle (rated in top quartile (#8) of Town Goal plan	**d2**
Very strong and positive citizen participation on recycling survey	**d3**
Many Paysonites have positive recycling experiences from previous communities	

Aluminum cans stay with Humane Society
Recycling process should be as cost effective as possible yet dependable
Recycling process should be able to expand over time

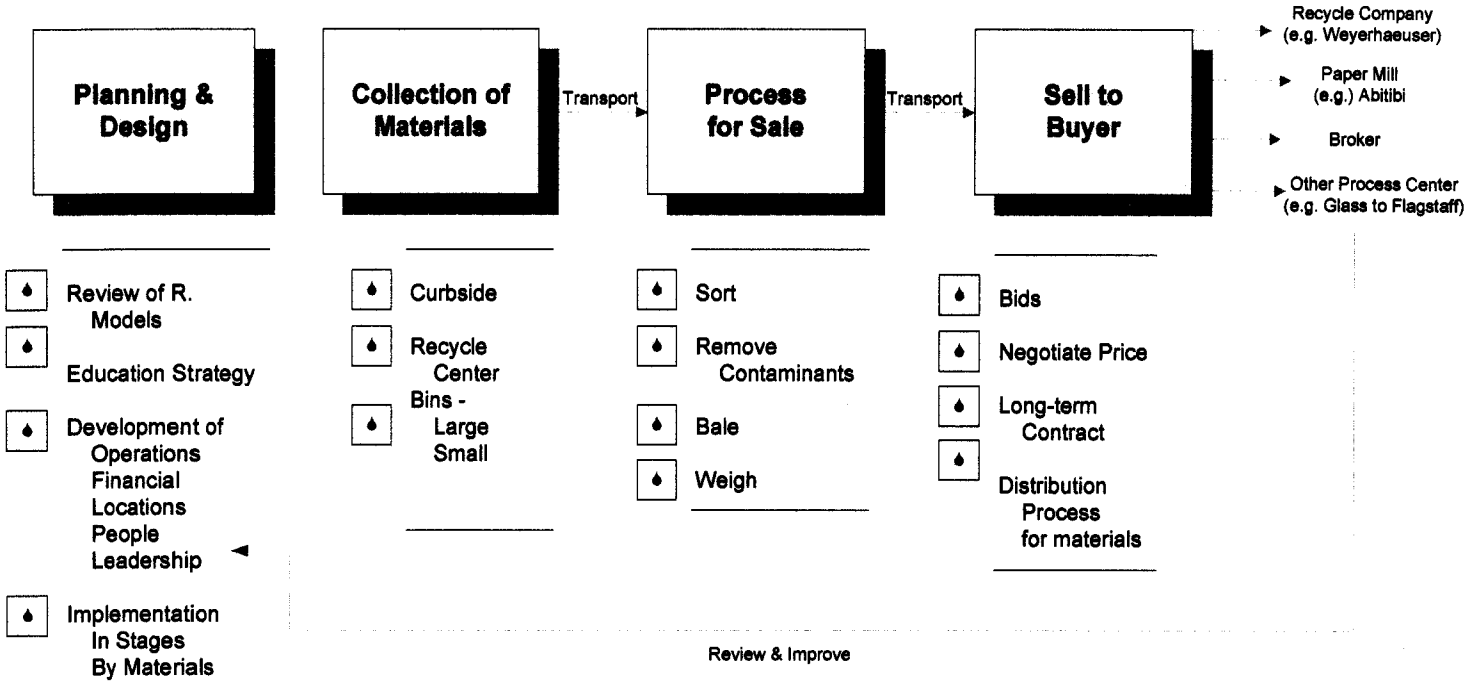
Recycling History in Payson:

- The Old Wild West "when we are finished with something – we just throwd it out the window!"
- Circa 1992 Center at Sky park until transportation costs became prohibitive
- ADEQ matching grant to Town of Payson to employ developmentally disabled. Did not work over time.
- ADEQ Grant to purchase of 4 bins, picked up and taken to Weyerhaeuser in the valley. Shut down 1999.
- 2000 ARCS attempts to set up curbside process – officially defunct 4/01. Prepaid service lost their $.
- 2003 Town is considering elimination of recycling program.
- Waste Management to charge the Town 25K to transfer paper recyclables into their collection system.
- Various ADEQ grants to Town for hazard waste and electrical equipment. Still has balance available.
- 2005 Public requests recycling program. Town considering mandatory recycling.
- December 06 Task Force inquiry started.

Task Force Research and activities:

- Investigation of past efforts on Recycling programs in Payson and the reasons for success and for failure
- Review of current recycling operations in Payson, the costs, benefits and results
- Review of ADEQ Recycling Program Grants for FY 2008
- ADEQ list of Recycling Opportunities, Impediments and Disincentives
- Benchmarking: Contact with small communities in the US and visits to rural Arizona communities with successful recycling programs, attendance of a conference on recycling
- Looking for new solutions/alternatives:
    - Conversation with Waste Management leadership to improve current arrangements
    - Contact with Service clubs to lead process reliably while benefiting local community efforts
    - Meet with other commercial providers of recycling services (Abitibi, Weyerhaeuser)
    - Review of possible locations in/near town to sort recycling materials
    - Assess equipment needs to crush and bale materials; assess operation and maintenance of equipment
    - Review partnership with County (Sharon Radanovich Winters)

Generic Recycling Process Critical Path



Payson Recycle...It's the right thing to do

[Recycling Process shown above and in attachment d4]

[Alternatives considered shown in attachment d5]

- **Issues identified with alternatives considered:**
    - Physical location for sorting,
    - workforce to sort,
    - leadership to coordinate the process,
    - equipment purchase and maintenance,
    - insurance coverage for operation,
    - transportation to recycling site to sell materials &
    - Ongoing education to increase participation.

- **Survey** was conducted with the assistance of the water department to assess the local community on aspects of Recycling,
    - participation,
    - willingness to pay for curbside recycling
    - willingness to transport recyclables to collection site
    - willingness to volunteer time and
    - Willingness to self-pay or fund a comprehensive program.

[The Survey results are shown in attachment d3]

Background on County Recycling: **[d6]**

July 2003 County was asked to pick up in Globe where provider had left. They started with the purchase of a 40 yard bin at the Russell Gulch Landfill. From there it grew with the help of the City and the commitment from various community members to schools, Town of Miami to currently new communities of San Carlos, Hayden Winkelman, and Tonto Basin.

Tonnage history:	2003/4	212 tons	2005/6	398 tons
	2004/5	258 tons	2006/7	434 tons

Recommendation for Recycling Services for the Town of Payson

Gila County emerged as a recycling provider that has offered to increase their service in Payson in exchange for the revenues generated by the sale of the paper products.

The County currently runs one collection site in the County courthouse parking lot successfully.

Although the town of Payson currently owns 4 recycle bins, there is a need to purchase additional bins for additional collection sites.

Brief summary of our proposal with Gila County Recycling is attached in d 7.

	Current	Proposed
Financial	Cost of approx. 45 K per year. 2 cost increases in '06 The more we recycle the higher the cost to the town for the service	Proceeds cover cost of operations. Town to purchase additional bins for additional collection sites
Services	No contract, Mixed service performance	IGA (Intergovernmental Agreement) or MOU (memorandum of Understanding) with service performance standards. Review after 1 year.
Dependability	Waste Management picked up recycling services when Town was in need of services.	Successful (and clean!) performance of current single container in Payson. Solid history of growth (and financial management) with Globe/Miami, San Carlos, Hayden-Winkelman and Tonto Basin.
Expansion of Services	Ok - for additional cost. Unable to get quotes.	After a year, review for additional service options, grants etc.
Education	None provided	A comprehensive education program as outlined below

The guidelines we used are:

- To start with basic recycling service (paper products only) and expand over time.
- Grants will be used as a first approach when additional needs are identified.

A comprehensive education program will be coordinated by Payson that includes:

- A Public awareness campaign to encompass the media, service clubs etc.
- An education & reward program for schools
- A contest for a Recycling motto
- A directory for recycling various materials
- While coordinated by the Town Public Works, this program could make use of some of the volunteers who self-identified in the survey

The 3 primary success factors in any recycling program are:

1. Accessibility (go anytime)
2. Location
3. Leadership & coordination

The goals of the above proposal are to:

1. increase awareness
2. increase community participation
3. increase volume
4. expand recyclable materials collected
5. And eventually lead to curbside recycling that is cost effective for a well informed community that recognizes the value of recycling and participates widely.

Recycling Task Force

Attachments

Recycling Facts:

- Americans throw away enough office and writing paper annually to build a wall 12 feet high stretching from Los Angeles to new York city
- If everyone in the US recycled just 1/10 of their newsprint, we would save the estimated equivalent of about 25 million trees a year
- One tree can filter up to 60 pounds of pollutants from the air each year
- One ton of recycled paper saves 3,200 pounds of wood fiber and 24,000 gallons of water!

For how many years will our droppings mark our path???

Cigarette butt	1 – 5	years
Aluminum can	80 – 100	years
Plastic bag	10 – 20	years
Glass bottle	1,000,000	years
Plastic bottle	unknown	

Reduce

- Use more cloth dish towels instead of paper towels

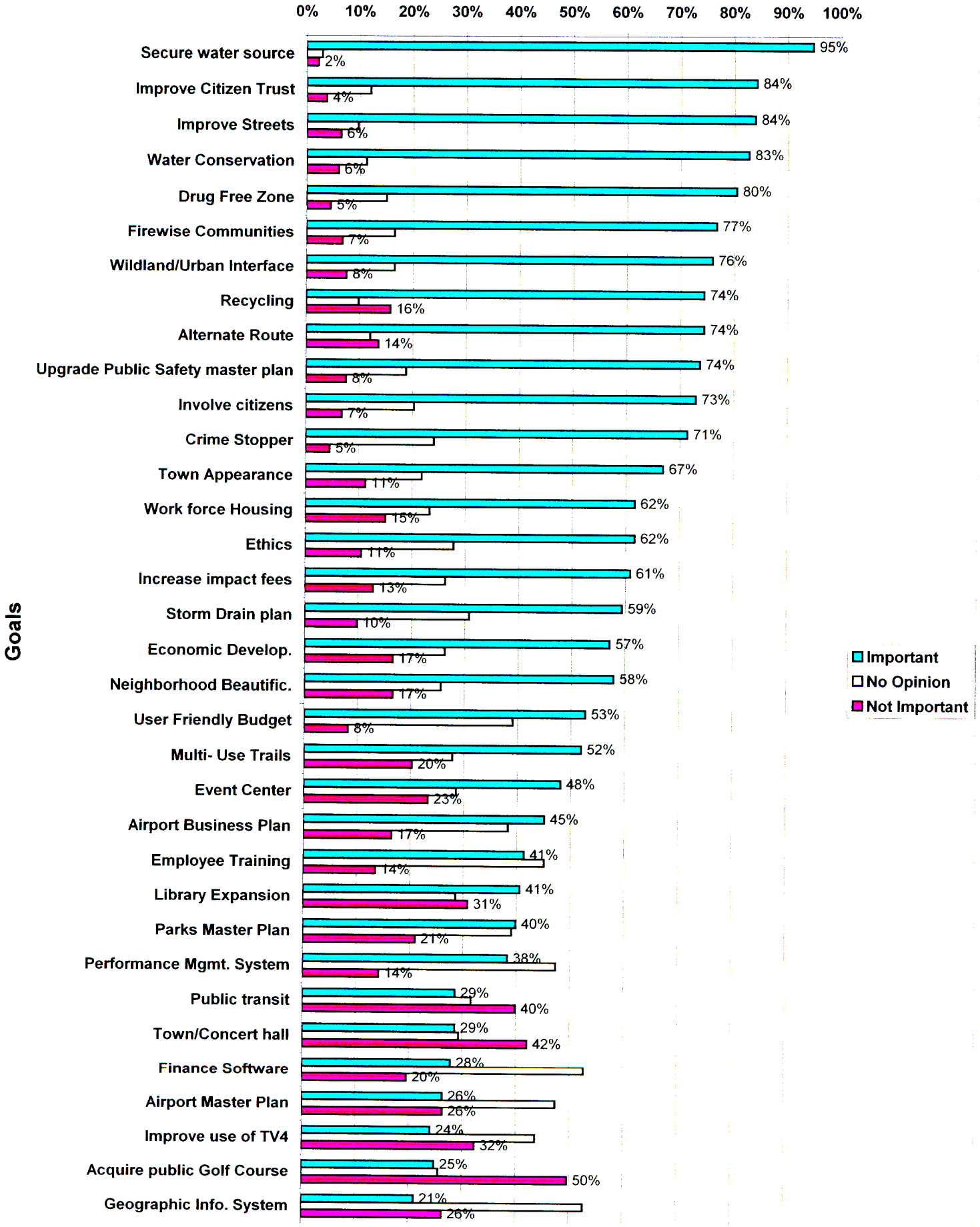
Reuse

* Bring a canvas bag to the store – they are stronger and save money

Recycle

#The energy saved from just **one aluminum can** will run your computer for 3 hours

Citizen Response By Percentage- Order of Importance



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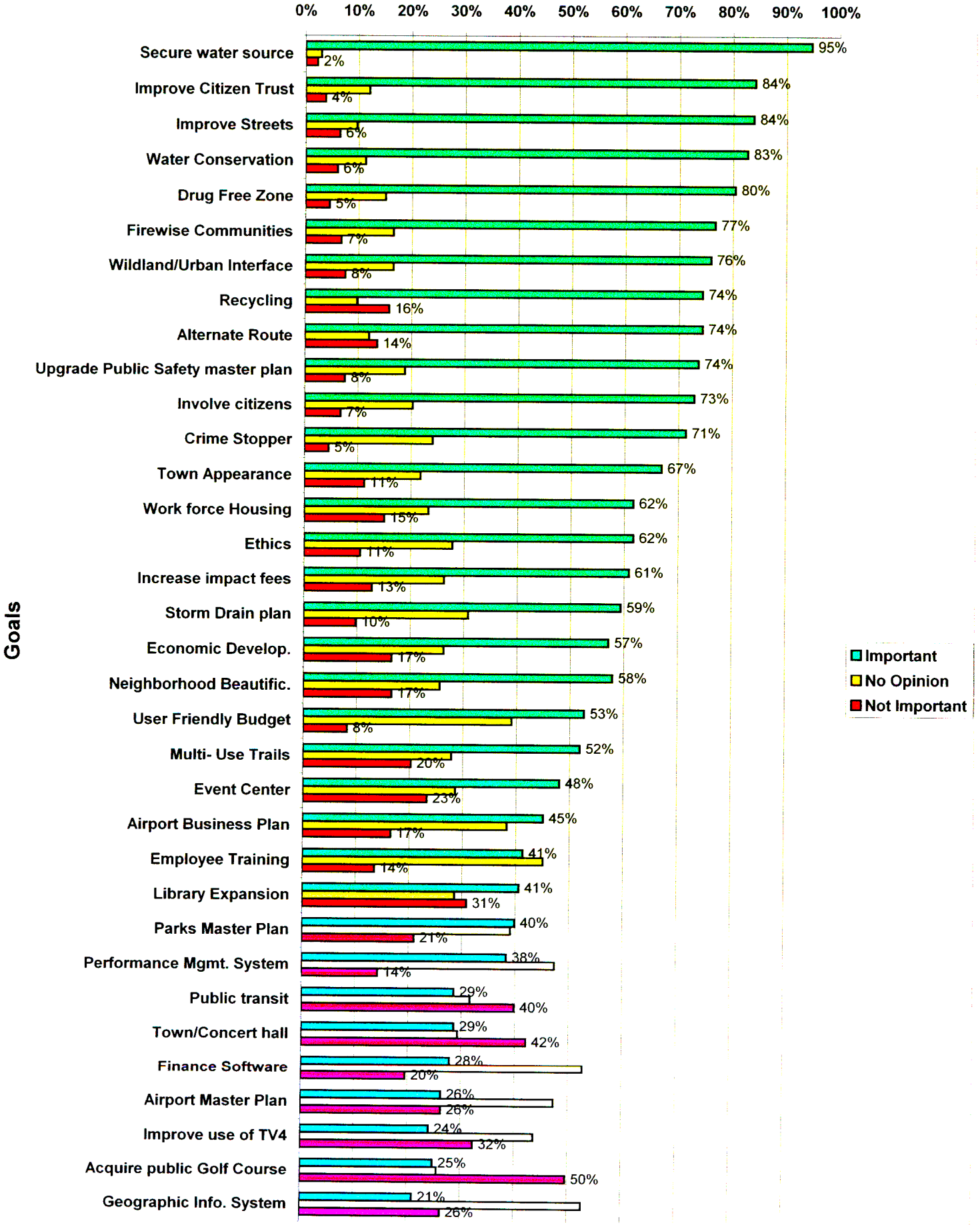
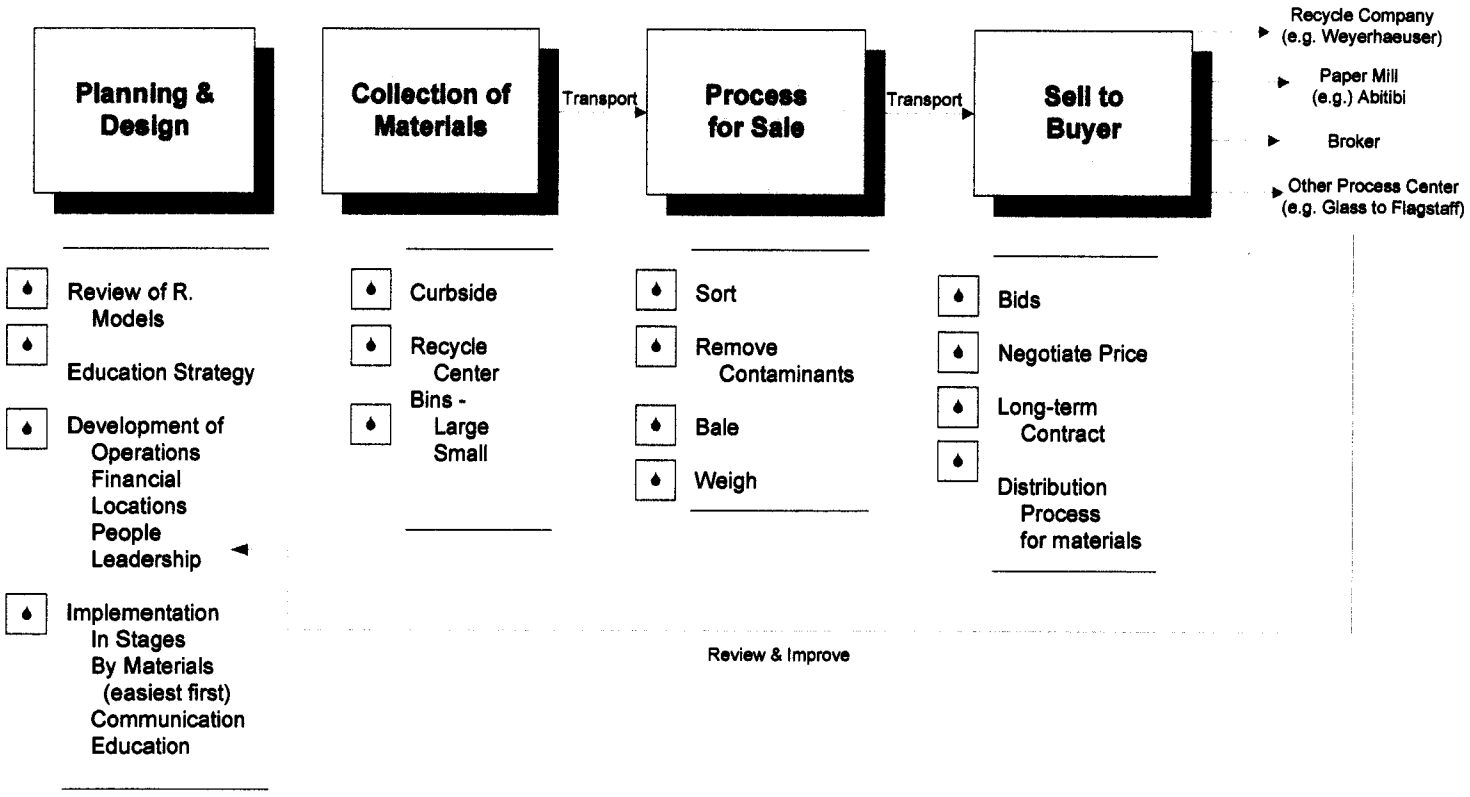


Generic Recycling Process Critical Path



Payson Recycle...It's the right thing to do

[d 5]

Alternatives considered for Recycling Services but not selected

Service provider	Pros	Cons
Waste Management	Current service provider, improve and expand services	Any expand services would incur increase in costs to town. No estimates provided for expanded services. Did not seem interested.
Other Payson Trash collection companies	Already have processing sites	Not looking to invest in additional transfer truck which is required for recycling
Weyerhaeuser Recycling Division (PHX)	Willing to pick up from Payson. Collect everything except glass. Transportation costs to be deducted from recyclables revenue.	Previous history of failure. Requires materials to be crushed and baled to condense and fill load on truck.
Abitibi Consolidated (Paper mill near Snowflake)	General manager is very open and flexible; offered steady pricing for papers	No trucking company interested to haul (not enough, not frequent enough)
Wal-Mart	Possible partner with town. Location of one current dumpster	Not interested due starting own recycling program nationwide
Safeway/Basha	Currently take corrugated containers to Abitibi paper mill to recycle	Unable to partner due to safety concerns of employees handling equipment on premises
Round Up newspaper	Currently buys newspaper from Abitibi Mill and truck takes old newspapers for recycling back.	Willing to take additional papers but runs only every 4 – 6 weeks

Recycling in Rye	Close proximity to Payson for transportation	Will ONLY take metals i.e. copper, aluminum cans, brass, radiators
Service clubs	Community efforts would benefit from revenues generated	No dedicated group of volunteers found, willing to take on commitment
Lions	Experience by other successful Lions clubs	Small club in Payson of senior members
Rotary	Interact youth group looking for 'projects'	Project oriented not steady
Center for Success High School	Seemed interested, but indicated "projects preferred" to steady involvement. May also encounter annual turnover of students.	No call back
Equipment (required for compressing e.g. plastics)	Crusher/baler	Difficult to find. Although the cost may be defrayed by a grant, the operation and maintenance are ongoing and require knowledgeable operator incl. insurance.
Transportation options and costs	Trucking to the valley approx. $400 p/load vs. to Snowflake approx. $240 p/load	Although revenues for recycling materials are currently a multiple of transportation costs, we do not have enough volume to interest any current trucking co.
County Detainees (trustees)	Work detail available	Machines required for crushing and baling, required skills that have limited availability.

d 6

Christine Wailand Harrison

From: "Radanovich, Sharon" <sradanov@co.gila.az.us>
To: "Christine Wailand Harrison" <cwailand@npgcable.com>; <stayhold@msn.com>; "diane baran" <dianebaran@npgcable.com>; <bwarwick95842@yahoo.com>; <tilleyc@hotmail.com>
Cc: <gnk11@msn.com>; <inesr@yahoo.com>; <jackjay@earthlink.net>; <janran49@juno.com>; <lo-hurd@earthlink.net>; <vlucas@npgcable.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2007 1:43 PM
Subject: RE: Recycling process in Payson

Paper recycling information: (These numbers are from 2003)

Every Sunday, the United States wastes nearly 90% of the recyclable newspapers. This wastes about 500,000 trees !
Everyday Americans buy 62 million newspapers and throw out 44 million. That's the equivalent of dumping 500,000 tress into the landfill.
American's throw away enough office and writing paper annually to build a wall 12 feet high stretching from Los Angeles to New York City.
If everyone in the U.S. recycled just 1/10 of their newsprint, we would save the estimated equivalent of about 25 million trees a year.
One tree can filter up to 60 pounds of pollutants from the air each year.
It takes 75,000 trees to print a Sunday Edition of the New York Times.
One ton of recycled paper saves 3,700 pounds of lumber and 24,000 gallons of water.
One ton of recycled paper uses: 64% less energy, 50% less water, 74% less air pollution, saves 17 trees and creates 5 times more jobs than one ton of paper products from virgin wood pulp.

Gila County paper recycling history.

In July of 2003, the company in Globe that had been picking up recycled paper decided to no longer do this. The community wanted paper recycling, so I purchased a 40 yard bin and located it at the Russell Gulch Landfill. It took over a month to collect 6 ½ tons of paper. To encourage recycling, every desk at the Court House was furnished with a 7 gallon blue recycling container and 55 gallon cans were located out in halls for the offices to empty into, these 55 gallon cans were hauled to the landfill by the facilities staff. Paper recycling grew from there, to hauling 7 to 8 tons every 2 or 3 weeks. The City of Globe and the Town of Miami joined in a partnership with us by locating 5 yard containers in areas and hauling to the County 40 yard roll off bin. In 2005, Gila County purchased five – 20 yard blue recycling bins with grant funds from ADEQ, these were located at Fry's Shopping Center, the Court House parking lot, the Town of Hayden, Payson County Complex, and at the VFW in Globe. The following year the City of Globe purchased two of these 20 yard roll off containers for the two largest schools in the community. Plus the City still hauls in the 5 yard bins located at the smaller schools and for junk mail at the post office in Globe. With the City support as mentioned, I am able to share in the revenue of the paper recycled to the schools, by me paying the student council $20 a ton for all paper collected. Even though the schools in Miami did not have the resources to purchase the $4,000 (plus tax) blue recycling bins, they were the first to take my offer of the 55 gallon containers furnished to their schools and hauled to a bin by custodial staff.

Tonnage history

Fiscal year 2003-2004 - 212 tons
Fiscal year 2004-2005 - 258 tons
Fiscal year 2005-2006 – 398 tons
Fiscal year 2006-2007 – 434 tons

As tonnage grew, we used a back hoe to compact the paper and we currently haul 9 – 12 tons per week (depending on how much cardboard) to the recycler in Phoenix.

New communities

In January of 2006 the San Carlos EPA office contacted me and asked about revenue sharing if their school had a contest in bringing in newspaper. Parents, school staff and EPA office staff hauled in paper the 18 miles to Globe by car loads over the next 4 months, earning the schools over $300 for play ground equipment. This year the Solid Waste Department purchased a 20 yard roll off bin for San Carlos to support their efforts. This bin is located at the private trash company lot and hauled in by their truck. Bins were also purchased for the Town of Winkelman and Tonto Basin. The schedule for out of town bins is we pick up Hayden and Winkelman when they call us, (every couple of months) Tonto Basin was huge, we have to empty that every 2 or 3 weeks. My transfer truck driver is in Payson for brush bins every Thursday, and one week he hauls an empty paper bin and swaps out with Tonto and the next week swaps out with the Payson County Complex bin, and hauls an empty brush bin the rest of the time.

d6

I went in to so much detail because it is so important to get across that this a group effort by a lot of people, who got into paper recycling even though it took extra time, money and effort to do so. The City of Globe had one of their flat bed trucks hauling paper bins every week instead of bulky trash items, until we got the ADEQ grant for bins. They still haul in once or twice a month. Same with the Town of Miami, the school custodians, the County Facilities staff, the San Carlos company that allows the paper bin on their property and hauls it to Globe as needed. These individuals, departments, schools, businesses and communities are what makes this a successful project in the Globe-Miami area. No one, including (or especially) my department is getting rich off paper recycling, it is a commitment made, because it is the right thing to do.

Sharon (Radanovich) Winters
Gila County Solid Waste Manager
928 402-8531

-----Original Message-----

To: Sharon Radanovich, **[d 7]**
Manager Gila County Public Works – Solid Waste Division

From:
Payson Task Force on Recycling
Christine Harrison, team leader

Sharon,
Following is the **revised summary** of a **proposed Recycling Program** that includes Payson as part of your services after our conversation on Friday, July 20. We continue to strive to clarify our mutual needs and benefits. So here is where we are at:

We are proposing a **minimum of a 1 year agreement** for recycling services for Payson, to be renewed and changed based on outcomes. The intent is to begin this pilot program on a baseline operation (i.e. easiest first) and expand as competency, capacity and need increase.

Materials to be collected: Mixed paper (anything that tears) and corrugated containers. Magazines, junk mail and telephone directories are also included in these collections.

Recycle process: The County would

- Check the recycle bins daily and when full swap them out the same or next day
- Keep the bins and the area surrounding them clear of debris
- The bins are taken to the landfill and sorted for contaminants there
  - The current average is approx. 22 loads (30 yard roll-off) p/months. With additional bins this should increase.
- The materials are then transported to a recycling facility where they are sold and revenues to be collected by the county

Staffing and Equipment:
The County will staff and manage the recycle process including the acquisition of an additional transfer truck.
The Town of Payson will purchase additional recycle bins for additional collection sites.

Education: The County will assist in providing a recycling education and reward program for the schools in Payson with community involvement by local volunteers. Community education will be added, again with local volunteers. A comprehensive local recycling education program will be designed and coordinated by the Town of Payson

This is only a start and a high level overview of a recycling partnership that would serve both the Town of Payson as well as Gila County. We look forward to next steps is these recommendations.