



City Council Work Session

448 E 1st Street, Room 190 Salida, Colorado 81201

April 20, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Agenda

Please register, **BY 4:30 pm the day of the Work Session** for City Council Work Session

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_AlrC-BsIRNiigokU1E5K4w

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. To watch live meetings:

<http://www.youtube.com/@cityofsalidacolorado>

Discussion Items

1. Residential Survey on Household Waste and Recycling Results
2. Arts and Culture Advisory Commission Update
3. Police Department Overview

Adjourn

Individuals with disabilities needing auxiliary aid(s) may request assistance by contacting the City Clerk at 448 E. 1st Street, Ste. 112, Salida, CO 81201, Ph.719-530-2626 at least 48 hours in advance.



City Council Work Session Memo

Department Administration	Presented By Sara Law - Sustainability Coordinator/PIO	Date April 20, 2026
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Agenda Item

Residential Survey on Household Waste and Recycling

Background

The City of Salida received a STEPS technical assistance grant in 2025 to help conduct a resident survey to assess participation, satisfaction, and support needs related to trash, recycling, and organics management. The goals of the resident survey were as follows:

1. Understand residents' awareness of and attitudes toward waste and recycling
2. Understand residents' access to and satisfaction with their current hauling system
3. Disseminate information on Colorado's Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) program

The survey included questions on access, frequency and cost of services, container types, and educational outreach. It was completed by 1,024 respondents in English and two respondents in Spanish. Following this, a series of screening criteria was applied to identify 701 (700 responses in English and one response in Spanish) high-quality and relevant responses for analysis. You can find the executive summary and full report attached to this Work Session Memo.

The City sought to have a further analysis on the report done by a team of Graduate Students from Western University. We provided them the survey responses and the report that STEPS compiled and asked if there were any additional policy recommendations that they would bring forward. As a result of their work, they brought forward three policy options based off of the survey results:

- 1) Waste Hauler Licensing and Standardized Containers- All waste haulers within the City of Salida must obtain a municipal license and comply with standardized container requirements, including consistent bin lid colors, labeling, and service standards.
- 2) Commercial Organics and Diversion Requirements- All commercial food-generating and related businesses within the City of Salida are required to separate organic waste for composting where collection service is available.
- 3) Recycling Infrastructure for Multifamily Housing- All new multifamily developments (3+ units) and qualifying redevelopment projects must include designated space for recycling, organics, and landfill containers.

We reviewed the policy recommendations with the Sustainability Committee and the Sustainability Committee recommended that Council consider the Waste Hauler Licensing program and the Recycling Infrastructure for Multifamily Housing. They felt that the standardized containers may be too big of an expense for our waste haulers to undertake without additional funding from the City.



City Council Work Session Memo

Department Administration	Presented By Sara Law - Sustainability Coordinator/PIO	Date April 20, 2026
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Requested Direction from Council

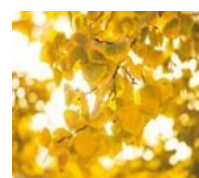
Staff is looking for direction of which policies are of interest and whether Council would like staff to bring forward any of these options to a future Council meeting.

Resident Survey on Household Solid Waste Executive Summary

City of Salida

February 28, 2026

STEPS
Strategic Technical Expertise
For the Public Sector



About

[Colorado Circular Communities](#) (C3) is a statewide program dedicated to supporting Colorado's communities, businesses, nonprofits, schools, institutions of higher learning, and tribes to advance the state's transition to a circular economy. C3 provides financial and technical assistance to enhance circularity across the state, and help organizations achieve their waste aversion and diversion goals. The Strategic Technical Expertise for the Public Sector (STEPS) program is the primary mechanism for communities in Colorado to access C3-funded technical assistance for circularity planning. STEPS assists local governments, tribes, and public K-12 school districts with efforts to enhance circularity, including averting and diverting waste, by implementing sustainable, long-term solutions that meet the unique needs of each community. The STEPS program offers a range of support from resources and workshops to multi-month direct consulting support. Technical support is provided by the C3 Outreach and Technical Assistance staff and a team of contracted subject matter experts, including [Resource Recycling Systems](#) (RRS).



Figure 1: Aerial Image of the City of Salida

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Executive Summary

The City of Salida, Colorado, is a vibrant community that values sustainability and effective waste management. As part of ongoing efforts to understand and improve local waste and recycling programs, the STEPS project team conducted a resident survey to assess participation, satisfaction, and support needs related to trash, recycling, and organics management.

The goals of the resident survey were as follows:

1. Understand residents' awareness of and attitudes toward waste and recycling
2. Understand residents' access to and satisfaction with their current hauling system
3. Disseminate information on [Colorado's Extended Producer Responsibility \(EPR\) program](#)

The survey included questions on access, frequency and cost of services, container types, and educational outreach. It was completed by 1,024 respondents in English and two respondents in Spanish. Following this, a series of screening criteria was applied to identify 701 (700 responses in English and one response in Spanish) high-quality and relevant responses for analysis.

Key Findings

- **Resident Demographics:** Survey respondents were primarily middle-aged to older adults (ages 30-79), with 91% reporting some college education or higher. Household incomes were reported between \$25,000 and \$99,000 for 54% of respondents, while 39% reported incomes over \$100,000. While the survey was not statistically representative, the respondent profile generally aligns with [United States Census data](#) for Salida and provides useful directional insight into resident behaviors and preferences related to waste services.
- **Service Access and Usage:** Most respondents (91%) reported having access to trash pickup. 71% of respondents reported having access to recycling pickup services.¹ Recycling generation rates are higher than trash, with 35% of respondents producing more than four bags of recyclables per week, compared to 18% producing the same amount of trash. About

¹ Anecdotally, local haulers estimate that 20-30% of trash subscribers also pay for recycling services. Survey results likely overstate participation due to response bias from more environmentally aware residents.

8% of the respondents that indicated they participated in organics recycling had access to curbside compost pickup. Qualitative responses indicate a need for more affordable pickup options for both recycling and organics recycling.

- **Barriers to Participation:** Key barriers to recycling mentioned include high service costs, limited access to drop-off sites, lack of recycling services in rental agreements or in certain neighborhoods, and limited awareness of proper recycling practices. 66% of respondents indicated they would recycle more if pickup were free.
- **Education and Awareness:** Only 30% of respondents recalled receiving educational materials about recycling, and among those who did, many could not recall the timing or source. Education on what materials are recyclable, how they are processed, and how to participate in organics recycling was identified as a critical support need.

Recommendations

1. **Improve Access to Recycling Services and Align Collection Services:** Improving access and aligning collection services may require a mix of regulatory and programmatic approaches, such as implementing a hauler licensing ordinance to ensure recycling is offered alongside trash service and that carts are standardized; adopting universal access ordinances so all residents have the opportunity to recycle and compost; and requiring adequate and equitable space for recycling and composting in new multifamily buildings.
2. **Address Cost Barriers:** Explore ways to reduce costs for recycling and organics services, such as implementing drop off options, to remove financial barriers to participation. Reducing direct costs for recycling and organics services has strong potential to increase participation, given that two-thirds of respondents indicated they would recycle more if pickup were free.
3. **Enhance Education and Outreach:** Develop coordinated community-based social marketing (CBSM) campaigns to educate residents on what is recyclable, how materials are processed, and best practices for organics recycling using multiple communication channels and social marketing techniques. Statewide education resources developed through Colorado's EPR program should be integrated with local campaigns to maximize effectiveness. The City of Salida and Chaffee County should pursue a coordinated approach to education and outreach

(E&O), with the County leading efforts on behalf of all municipalities through a formalized intergovernmental agreement. Under this structure, the County is evaluating entering into an education and outreach joint service agreement with [Circular Action Alliance](#) (CAA) Colorado, the state’s designated producer responsibility organization, in order to access funding for eligible E&O activities on behalf of participating jurisdictions.



Figure 2: Aerial Image of the City of Salida and Arkansas River

Resident Survey on Household Solid Waste Report

City of Salida

February 28, 2026

STEPS
Strategic Technical Expertise
For the Public Sector



About

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Executive Summary

The City of Salida, Colorado, is a vibrant community that values sustainability and effective waste management. As part of ongoing efforts to understand and improve local waste and recycling programs, the STEPS project team conducted a resident survey to assess participation, satisfaction, and support needs related to trash, recycling, and organics management.

The goals of the resident survey were as follows:

1. Understand residents' awareness of and attitudes toward waste and recycling
2. Understand residents' access to and satisfaction with their current hauling system
3. Disseminate information on [Colorado's Extended Producer Responsibility \(EPR\) program](#)

The survey included questions on access, frequency and cost of services, container types, and educational outreach. It was completed by 1,024 respondents in English and two respondents in Spanish. Following this, a series of screening criteria was applied to identify 701 (700 responses in English and one response in Spanish) high-quality and relevant responses for analysis.

Key Findings

- **Resident Demographics:** Survey respondents were primarily middle-aged to older adults (ages 30-79), with 91% reporting some college education or higher. Household incomes were reported between \$25,000 and \$99,000 for 54% of respondents, while 39% reported incomes over \$100,000. While the survey was not statistically representative, the respondent profile generally aligns with [United States Census data](#) for Salida and provides useful directional insight into resident behaviors and preferences related to waste services.
- **Service Access and Usage:** Most respondents (91%) reported having access to trash pickup. 71% of respondents reported having access to recycling pickup services.¹ Recycling generation rates are higher than trash, with 35% of respondents producing more than four bags of recyclables per week, compared to 18% producing the same amount of trash. About

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- **Barriers to Participation:** Key barriers to recycling mentioned include high service costs, limited access to drop-off sites, lack of recycling services in rental agreements or in certain neighborhoods, and limited awareness of proper recycling practices. 66% of respondents indicated they would recycle more if pickup were free.
- **Education and Awareness:** Only 30% of respondents recalled receiving educational materials about recycling, and among those who did, many could not recall the timing or source. Education on what materials are recyclable, how they are processed, and how to participate in organics recycling was identified as a critical support need.

Recommendations

1. **Improve Access to Recycling Services and Align Collection Services:** Improving access and aligning collection services may require a mix of regulatory and programmatic approaches, such as implementing a hauler licensing ordinance to ensure recycling is offered alongside trash service and that carts are standardized; adopting universal access ordinances so all residents have the opportunity to recycle and compost; and requiring adequate and equitable space for recycling and composting in new multifamily buildings.
2. **Address Cost Barriers:** Explore ways to reduce costs for recycling and organics services, such as implementing drop off options, to remove financial barriers to participation. Reducing direct costs for recycling and organics services has strong potential to increase participation, given that two-thirds of respondents indicated they would recycle more if pickup were free.
3. **Enhance Education and Outreach:** Develop coordinated community-based social marketing (CBSM) campaigns to educate residents on what is recyclable, how materials are processed, and best practices for organics recycling using multiple communication channels and social marketing techniques. Statewide education resources developed through Colorado's EPR program should be integrated with local campaigns to maximize effectiveness. The City of Salida and Chaffee County are pursuing a coordinated approach to education and outreach

(E&O), with the County leading efforts on behalf of all municipalities through a formalized intergovernmental agreement. Under this structure, the County is evaluating entering into an education and outreach joint service agreement with [Circular Action Alliance](#) (CAA) Colorado, the state’s designated producer responsibility organization, in order to access funding for eligible E&O activities on behalf of participating jurisdictions.

Background

The City of Salida is located in central Colorado's Chaffee County, where it serves as the county seat and largest municipality. Situated along the Arkansas River and surrounded by mountains, Salida occupies a total land area of 2.8 square miles and serves as a regional hub for surrounding rural communities. Originally founded in 1880, Salida served as a central hub for railroads, ranching, and mining. Over time, the City's economic focus has shifted toward outdoor recreation and tourism. Today, Salida's geographic setting and access to recreational amenities support its role as both a year-round community and a destination for visitors to the region.

According to the [2024 United States Census data](#), Salida has a population of approximately 6,007 residents. The median age for Salida is 43 years, while residents under the age of 18 account for 18.5%, and those over 65 account for 20.2%, of the population. The median household income in Salida is \$69,773, and 12% of residents have an income exceeding \$200,000. According to the [2023 American Community Survey](#), there are approximately 3,191 housing units within the City of Salida, 74% of which are single-family homes. Multifamily homes account for 20% of the housing units, and the remaining units are either mobile homes or recreational vehicles (RVs).

As a relatively compact community, development is concentrated in the city limits, and homes, businesses, and public buildings are tightly integrated. Salida's downtown, which serves as the commercial core, is one of the largest historic districts in Colorado and features many locally owned businesses that contribute to the City's local economy. Salida's downtown commercial core consists of restaurants, breweries, lodging, retail, arts and culture venues, and tourism-oriented businesses. Salida is also home to the Heart of the Rockies Medical Center, and in 2024, Colorado Mountain College added a permanent campus in Salida. In 2023, Salida's largest industry was the Health Care & Social Assistance sector according to the [2024 United States Census](#).

Current Efforts Towards Waste Collection and Processing

System Overview

Waste management services available to residents and businesses in the City of Salida are supported through an open-market system involving private haulers and a landfill that is run by the Chaffee County. Routine curbside trash and recycling collection is provided by private haulers (primarily Waste Management, Apex Waste Solutions, and Shamrock Disposal Services), with residents and businesses contracting directly with their chosen provider. All haulers offer residential and commercial trash collection, with recycling available as part of their service offerings. The primary organics hauler serving the City is Elements Mountain Compost.

Under this open-market system, service levels, collection frequency, and pricing vary by provider, as curbside services are neither operated nor standardized by the City. Participation in curbside recycling is not required by local ordinance, and recycling services are not uniformly mandated for residential or commercial customers. As a result, these privately contracted services constitute the primary method of routine waste disposal for households and businesses in Salida.

As noted above, Chaffee County owns and operates the [Chaffee County Landfill](#), which serves as the primary disposal facility for municipal solid waste (MSW) generated in Salida and surrounding communities. In addition, there are some specialty collection programs that are available for use by Salida residents, highlighted below under ‘Community Waste Management Programs’.

Community Waste Management Programs

Salida residents and businesses have access to a variety of community waste management programs beyond routine curbside and drop-off services, typically offered through partnerships between Chaffee County, the City of Salida, and community organizations like GARNA.

Several special collection events occur throughout the year, often on an annual or periodic basis, providing residents with an opportunity to responsibly manage their hard-to-recycle materials:

- **Electronic Waste (E-waste):** In 2025, Chaffee County held two e-waste collection events. The events were hosted at the Chaffee County Fairgrounds and resulted in the diversion of tens of thousands of pounds of e-waste from the landfill. These events are organized in partnership and are expected to continue.
- **Household Hazardous Waste (HHW):** Sustainable Salida and the Heart of the Rockies/Salida Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with Chaffee County, host an periodic HHW collection event.
- **Specialty Collection:** The Greater Arkansas River Nature Association (GARNA) office has a specialty recyclables collection program with a [website that provides information on what items are accepted for recycling drop off at the office.](#)

In addition to these specialty collection events, Chaffee County maintains a comprehensive [recycling guide](#) on its website that provides detailed information on waste diversion options for materials that are difficult to manage through routine collection services, like textiles, construction waste, and furniture.

Colorado's Diversion Goals and Producer Responsibility Program Implementation

The Colorado Solid and Hazardous Waste Commission adopted [statewide MSW diversion goals](#) of 35% by 2026 and 45% by 2036. The diversion goals are further differentiated by region to account for variations in population density, infrastructure, and service availability. The Greater Colorado Region, which includes more rural counties such as Chaffee County, has a diversion goal of 13% by 2026. As of 2024, the Colorado Department of Health and Environment (CDPHE) reported this region having a [diversion rate of 13.7%](#).

In parallel with the diversion goals, Colorado recently began implementation of its [Extended Producer Responsibility \(EPR\) program](#) for packaging. This program requires covered producers to join a Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO), and through it, fund and manage the end-of-life

for packaging and paper, including collection, processing, and recycling or composting. To this end, [CAA Colorado](#) was approved by CDPHE as the PRO. CAA Colorado will administer Colorado's Producer Responsibility program per the [program plan](#) approved in December 2025 by CDPHE. The program is intended to support the state's waste management objectives by providing funding and system improvements for recycling and composting services. Together, the diversion goals and the EPR framework represent complementary policy mechanisms aimed at increasing material recovery and reducing reliance on disposal across Colorado.



Figure 2: Aerial Image of the City of Salida and Arkansas River

Resident Survey

In light of the waste diversion goals and EPR implementation, the City of Salida, in collaboration with the STEPS project team, developed a strategy to help gather necessary insights to inform ordinance development and EPR guidance for the community. For this, the team developed a survey to gather insights on resident experience with waste management in the City of Salida.

The goals for this survey were outlined as follows:

1. Understand residents' awareness of and attitudes toward waste and recycling
2. Understand residents' access to and satisfaction with their current hauling system
3. Disseminate information on EPR

Survey Design

The STEPS project team developed the residential survey in close collaboration with the City of Salida. Using the goals outlined, the team developed a survey questionnaire to gather or disseminate the following information from residents:

1. Understand resident access to and usage of waste management services (trash, recycling and organics recycling)
2. Understand resident participation in recycling
3. Disseminate information on Colorado's Producer Responsibility program
4. Understand resident demographics information

The STEPS project team also drew on insights from a [2021 survey conducted by GARNA](#) when developing the survey (see [Appendix A](#) for additional details). While the residential survey developed by the STEPS team did not replicate the 2021 questions, it sought to collect comparable information to help build a temporal knowledge base for the City.

The resulting survey questionnaire had a total of 60 questions using a mix of multiple-choice and open-ended questions (see [Appendix B](#) and [Appendix C](#) for surveys in English and Spanish, respectively).

Survey Implementation

The resident survey was designed to take less than ten minutes to complete and was available in both English and Spanish. It was administered online using SurveyMonkey. As it was an online survey, residents could complete the survey from their homes, making it easier to participate and helping ensure thoughtful responses. As the survey was developed to seek public input, a non-statistical convenience sampling approach was deemed sufficient and therefore was used for response collection.² The survey was posted on the [City of Salida's website](#) and was open for a little over one month, from November 7, 2025, through December 19, 2025. During this period, the STEPS project team actively monitored response rates and data quality, providing real-time feedback to the City of Salida to help ensure outreach efforts remained strategic and effective.

To maximize resident participation, a series of targeted outreach efforts was implemented, as outlined below:

- Direct mailer to 2,975 households
- Two paid social media advertisements, yielding the following outcomes:
 - 5,096 reaches (number of unique accounts that saw the post)
 - 11,517 impressions (number of times the post was seen)
 - 313 landing page views (number of unique accounts that clicked on the post and visited the survey)
- Printed flyers distributed around town

² Convenience sampling involves selecting participants who are easily accessible and available to the researcher, prioritizing ease and speed over random selection. This is a fast, cost-effective, but inherently biased non-probability method ideal for pilot studies, hypothesis generation, or quick data collection where generalizability is not the main goal.

- Newspaper articles and advertisements encouraging resident participation:
 - [Salida Waste Survey seeks to understand resident waste habits](#) by Guinnevere Stropes with The Mountain Mail
 - [Salida Residential Trash, Recycling, Composting Survey Closes Dec. 19, Responses Needed](#) by Merrell Bergin with Ark Valley Voice
- Interview with local radio station KHEN and radio public service announcements
- Electronic newsletters in [The Salida Standard](#) and the [Sustainable Chaffee E-Newsletter](#)
- Public announcements at community events including the winter farmer’s market, ‘kick-off to winter’, and local community meeting, ‘What’s up Salida’.



Salida Waste Survey

Together, we can clean up our act! Your feedback on local waste, recycling & composting will help us improve programs & infrastructure. Take the short survey and you'll be entered to win a gift card!

Local Postal Customer

www.CityofSalida.com
This survey is powered by:

English

Español

Esta encuesta está disponible en español.

CITY OF SALIDA COLORADO
EST. 1880

SUSTAINABLE CHAFFEE

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S.POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM Retail

Figure 3: Sample of a Direct Mailer Sent to Salida Residents About the Survey

Data Analysis Approach

The survey experienced strong resident engagement from its launch through its conclusion on December 19, 2025, collecting a total of 1,024 responses to the English survey and two responses to the Spanish survey. Weekly response totals ranged between six in the first week, peaking at 233 responses in week five, and tapering down to 81 responses in the final week of the survey.

Once the survey was closed, a series of screening criteria was applied to identify high-quality and relevant responses for analysis. Responses were retained if the respondent confirmed residency in Salida, completed all applicable survey questions, and spent a reasonable amount of time completing the survey (defined as greater than one minute).

In addition, SurveyMonkey's automated response-quality checks were used to identify potential data quality issues, including incomplete or nonsensical text entries, straight-lining behavior (multiple questions have been quickly responded to with the same answer option), patterned responses in matrix questions (respondent chooses option A for row one, option B for row two, and so on), and speed. Following the application of these criteria, 700 responses from the English survey were determined to be of sufficient quality for inclusion in the analysis. One of the two respondents of the Spanish survey completed the questionnaire. Based on this, the total number of responses considered for the analysis was 701.

For analysis, responses from both the English and Spanish surveys were combined. Due to differences in access to and use of services, respondents followed different paths through the survey via skip logic. As a result, not all questions were answered by every respondent; however, the data were aggregated and analyzed appropriately to reflect the available responses.

Survey Findings

Resident Profile

This section presents a description of demographic factors as well as the residency of survey participants. The information summarized below provides context for interpreting survey findings and helps assess the representativeness of respondent activities.

As noted before, only residents of Salida were eligible to respond to the survey. The following metrics shed further light on the respondents' length of stay and type of residence in Salida.

- **Length of Residence:** 95% of the respondents have been Salida residents for over one year. Of these, 49% have been residents for over 10 years, while 51% have been residents for up to 10 years. 91% of the respondents live in Salida all year long, while 9% are seasonal residents.
- **Home Ownership:** 79% of the respondents were homeowners, while 20% were renters. Furthermore, 80% of the respondents lived in a single-family home, and 15% were in a multifamily home. About 2% of the residents lived in a mobile or manufactured home. This aligns closely with [2024 United States Census data](#) records, which reported that 74% of Salida housing units were single-family homes, 20% were multifamily, and the rest were either mobile homes or RVs.

In terms of demographics, survey respondents were primarily middle-aged to older adults, with 31% aged 30-49, 31% aged 50-64, and 32% aged 65-79. Regarding educational attainment, 91% of respondents had some college education, a college degree, or a postgraduate degree. Annual household income was reported between \$25,000 and \$99,000 for 54% of respondents, while 39% reported incomes exceeding \$100,000.

While the survey was not designed to produce a statistically representative sample, the demographic characteristics of respondents generally reflect trends observed in United States Census data for Salida.

Residents' Usage of Waste Management Services

To better understand resident behaviors related to trash disposal, recycling, and organics management, the survey included a range of questions addressing access, service frequency, service costs, and levels of satisfaction. The following sections provide insight into how Salida residents access waste management services and help identify potential opportunities for service improvements. This analysis is not limited to respondents with curbside access to these services, who often constitute the majority, but also captures a diversity of perspectives, including those from multifamily settings, residents who self-haul (i.e., are not subscribed to pickup services), and those participating in shared-service arrangements (among community members, family, or friends).

Access

Trash Disposal

Of the 701 respondents, a majority of respondents (91%), had access to trash pickup (this includes curbside services as well as trash dumpsters managed by private providers). Among those with access to trash pickup, 84% paid directly to a company to collect trash, while 9% used the service provided through an apartment or homeowners association. A minority, constituting 6% of respondents, had a shared service with neighbors or the community.

Of the 9% of respondents who did not have trash pickup, a majority (83%) reported some form of self-hauling. More specifically, respondents indicated that in the absence of trash pickup services, they either individually or shared with a neighbor or friend the responsibility to self-haul trash to a landfill or transfer station. Others used public bins or dumpsters, bins at workplaces, or dropped off trash at a friend or family member's home.

Recycling

71% of the 701 respondents reported having recycling pickup services.³ Of these respondents, a majority (86%) accessed recycling pickup by paying a company and 6% accessed it through their

³ Anecdotally, local haulers estimate that 20-30% of trash subscribers also pay for recycling services. Survey results likely overstate participation due to response bias from more environmentally aware residents.

apartment complex or homeowners association. A small fraction of respondents (5%) also reported having some form of shared pickup service with a neighbor or the community. This maps closely with what was observed with trash pickup.

Of the 29% of respondents who did not have recycling pickup, 43% reported disposing of recyclables with trash. About 17% of the respondents self-haul their recycling to a drop-off or redemption center. Other strategies reported by respondents included sharing recycling service or a cart with a friend, neighbor, or family member, usage of workplace recycling bins, or hauling their recycling to a neighboring town or city that has recycling bins or to the GARNA recycling drop-off.

Organics Recycling

Of the 701 respondents, almost an equal number of respondents did (46%) and did not (53%) participate in organics recycling.

Of the 328 respondents who reported how they dispose of organic waste generated at home, 63% indicated backyard or at-home composting. Other organics management pathways included organics drop-off (17%), organics pickup (7% curbside and 2% multifamily pickup program), and self-hauling to a compost facility (2%). A small fraction of respondents (<2%) reported disposing of organics in the trash or via a garbage disposal.

Frequency of Pickup

Trash Disposal

Notably, among the 638 respondents with trash pickup, a weekly cadence was most commonly reported by the majority (94%); only 4% of respondents had biweekly trash pickup.

Recycling

Among the 500 respondents with access to recycling pickup, the majority of respondents (86%) had access to biweekly recycling pickup, while 10% had access to weekly recycling pickup.

Weekly Generation

Trash Disposal

Respondents with (638 respondents) and without access (63 respondents) to trash pickup reported on the quantity of trash they generated on a weekly basis (see [Figure 4](#)). Respondents without trash pickup generally trended towards generating less trash. To this end, all 63 respondents without access to trash pickup indicated that they generated 3 kitchen bags or less of trash per week. Of the 638 respondents with access, 60% reported generating between 1-3 kitchen bags of trash per week, while 18% generated more than 4 kitchen bags of trash per week.

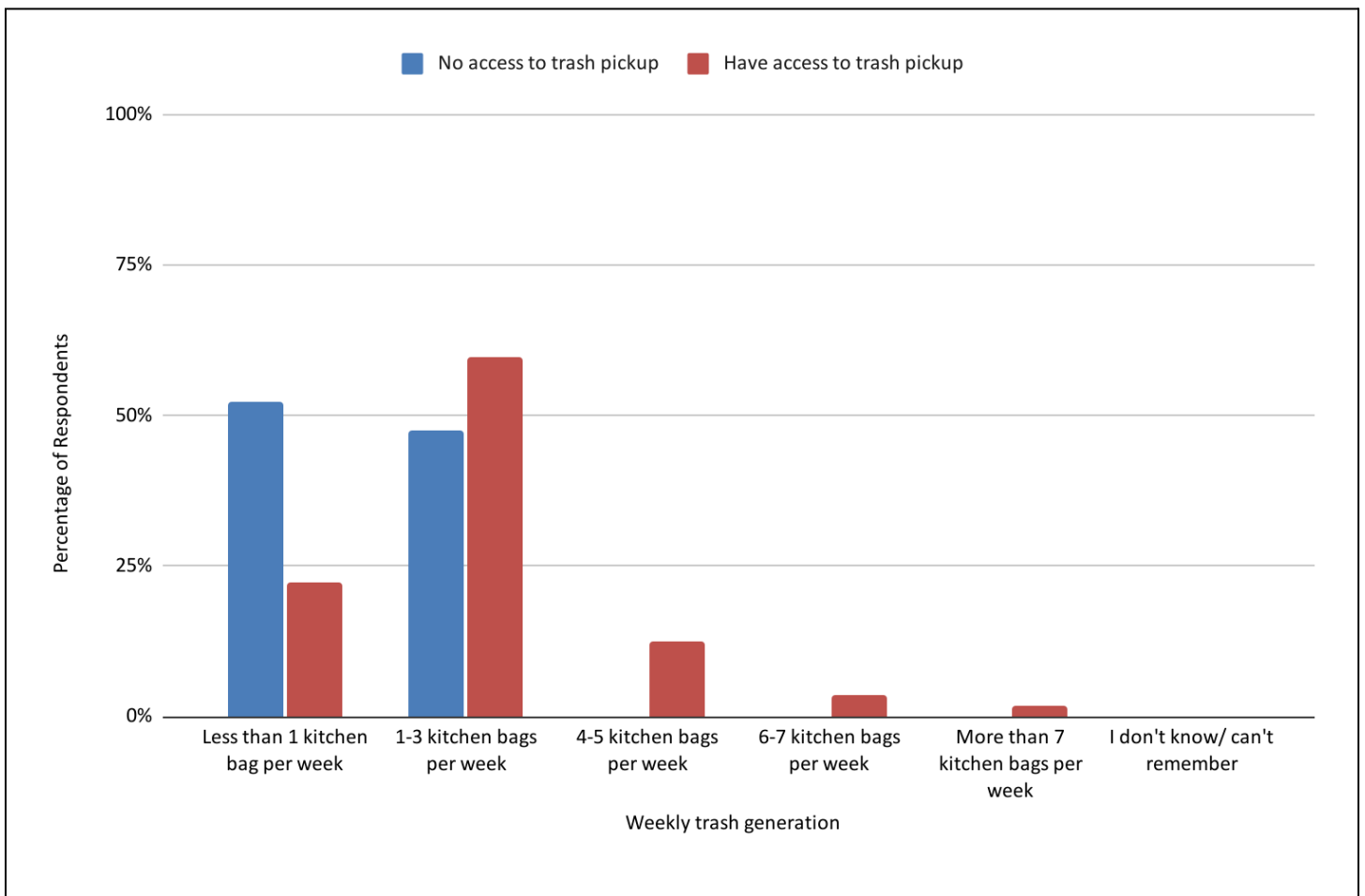


Figure 4: Weekly Trash Generation of Respondent Households With No Access to Trash Pickup (Blue) and With Access to Trash Pickup (Red)

**From a total of 701 respondents, 63 did not have access to trash pickup and 638 did*

Recycling

Weekly recycling generation differed between respondents with and without access to recycling pickup ([Figure 5](#)). Among the 499 respondents with recycling pickup, 50% reported generating 1-3 bags of recycling per week, while 12% reported generating less than one bag. In contrast, among the 202 respondents without access to recycling pickup, 49% reported generating 1-3 bags per week, and 38% reported generating less than one bag.

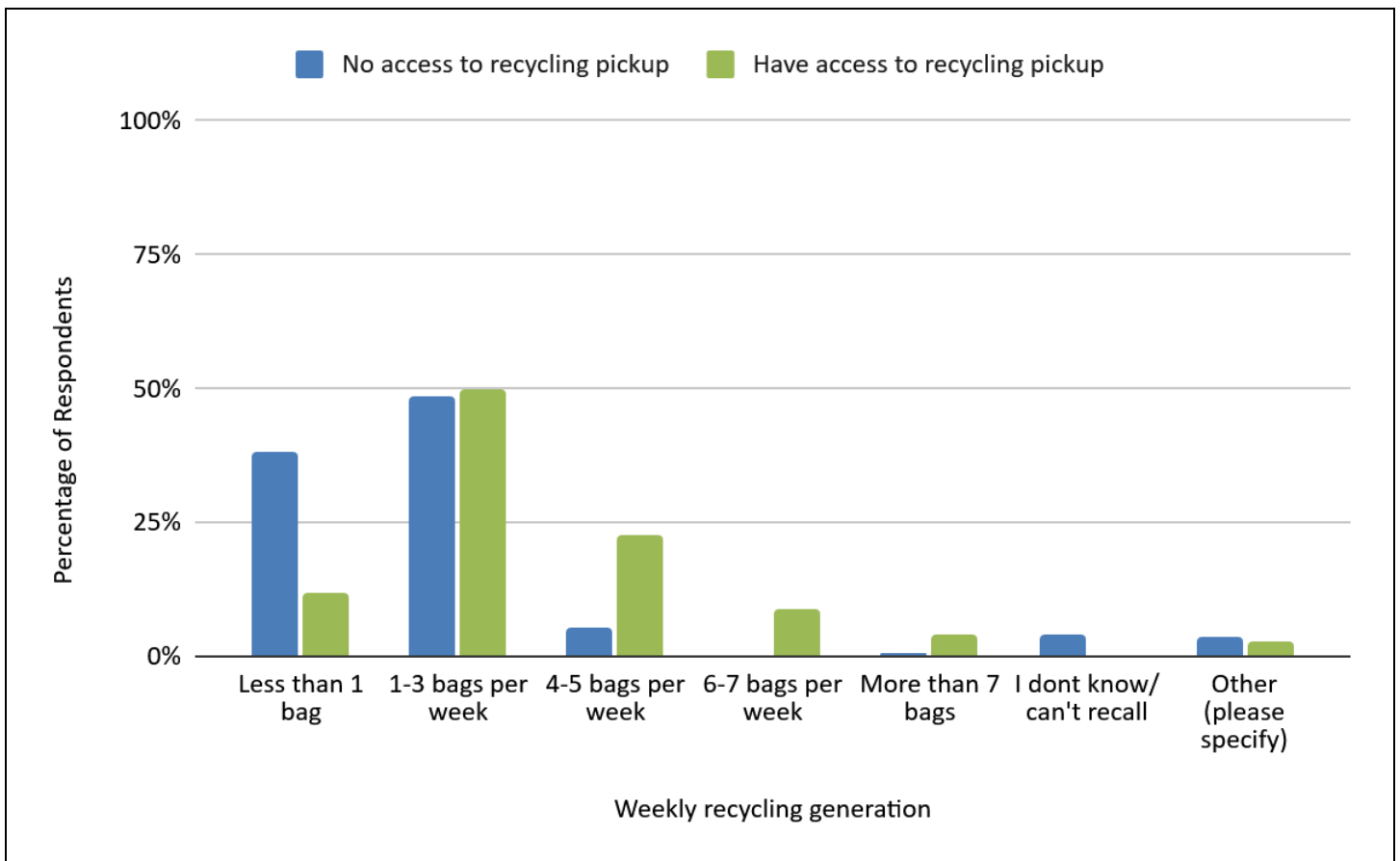


Figure 5: Weekly Recycling Generation of Respondent Households With No Access to Recycling Pickup (Blue) and With Access to Recycling Pickup (Green)

**From a total of 701 respondents, 202 did not have recycling pickup and 499 did*

In general, respondents noted through the open-ended questions that they generally generated more recycling than trash. This trend is also evident through a visual comparison of Figures 4 and 5. Among respondents with access to trash or recycling pickup, 35% reported generating more than

four bags of recycling per week (equivalent to a 65-gallon cart), compared to 18% who reported generating more than four bags of trash per week.

Expenditure

Trash Disposal

Monthly expenditures on trash disposal varied notably by access to trash pickup (see [Figure 6](#)). Among the 63 respondents without any trash pickup, reported expenditures skewed lower: 41% indicated that they did not pay for trash disposal, and 62% reported spending less than \$20 per month. While the survey did not collect information on what these expenditures covered, reported costs may be associated with landfill fees and perhaps some incidental expenses such as transportation.

In contrast, among the 638 respondents with access to trash pickup, the majority reported higher monthly expenditures. About 66% reported spending \$21-\$50 per month on trash pickup services, while an additional 11% reported spending \$50 or more per month. A smaller share (5%) reported spending \$20 or less, and 9% reported not spending anything on trash pickup. Given that Salida operates under an open-market system for trash services, the reported lower expenditure among this group may be due to splitting costs with neighbors or having costs covered by a property manager and may warrant further investigation.

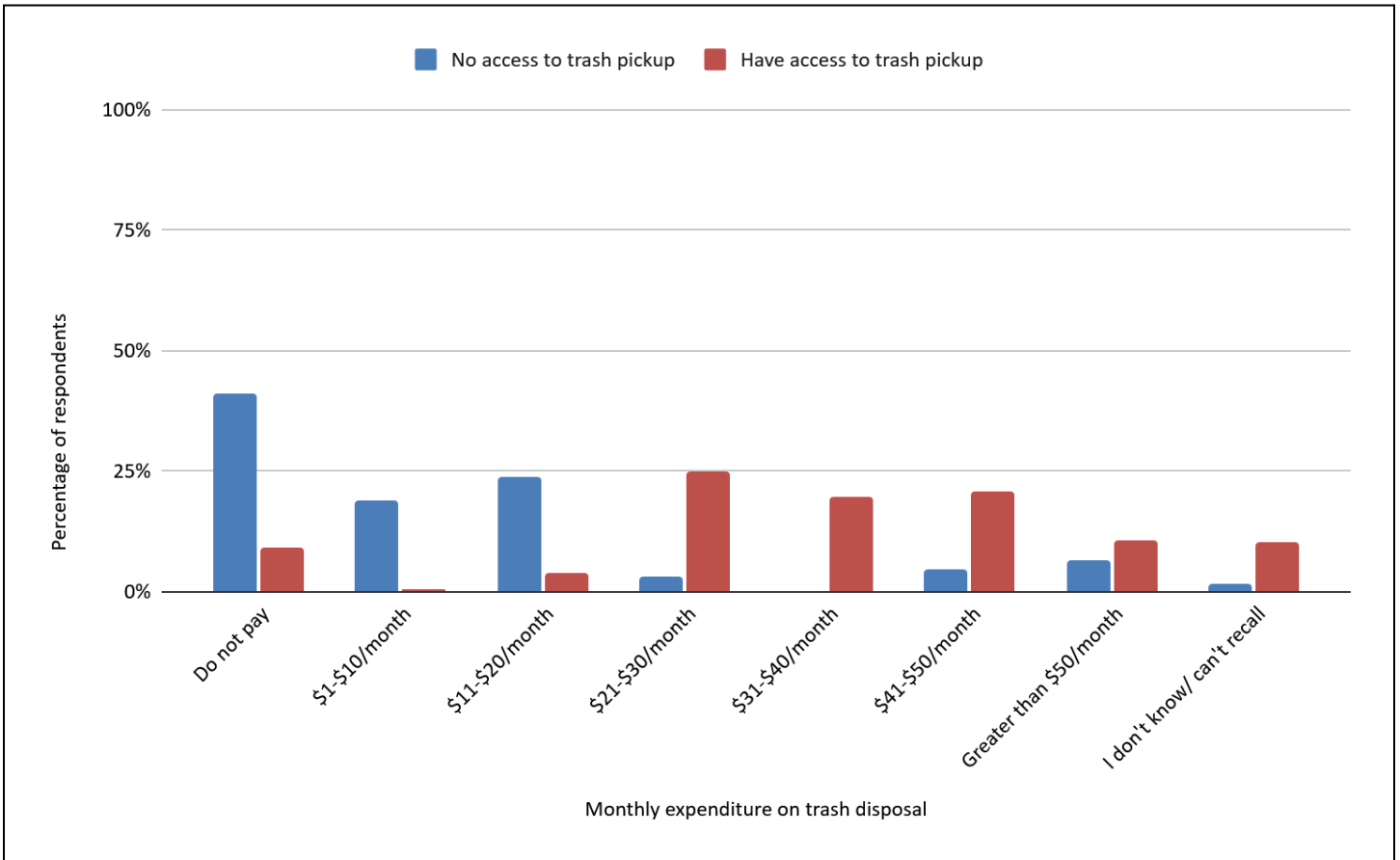


Figure 6: Monthly Expenditure on Trash Disposal of Respondent Households With No Access to Trash Pickup (Blue) and With Access to Trash Pickup (Red)

**From a total of 701 respondents, 63 did not have access to trash pickup and 638 did*

Recycling

Respondents were asked to indicate how much they spend on recycling in addition to their trash disposal costs ([Figure 7](#)). As expected, the majority of respondents without recycling pickup service (84% of 202 respondents) reported no additional expenditure on recycling.

Among the 499 respondents with recycling pickup, 69% reported some additional monthly expenditure for recycling services, while 10% reported no additional expenditure. Of those who incurred recycling costs, 31% reported spending \$11-\$20 per month, and 19% reported spending \$21-\$30 per month.

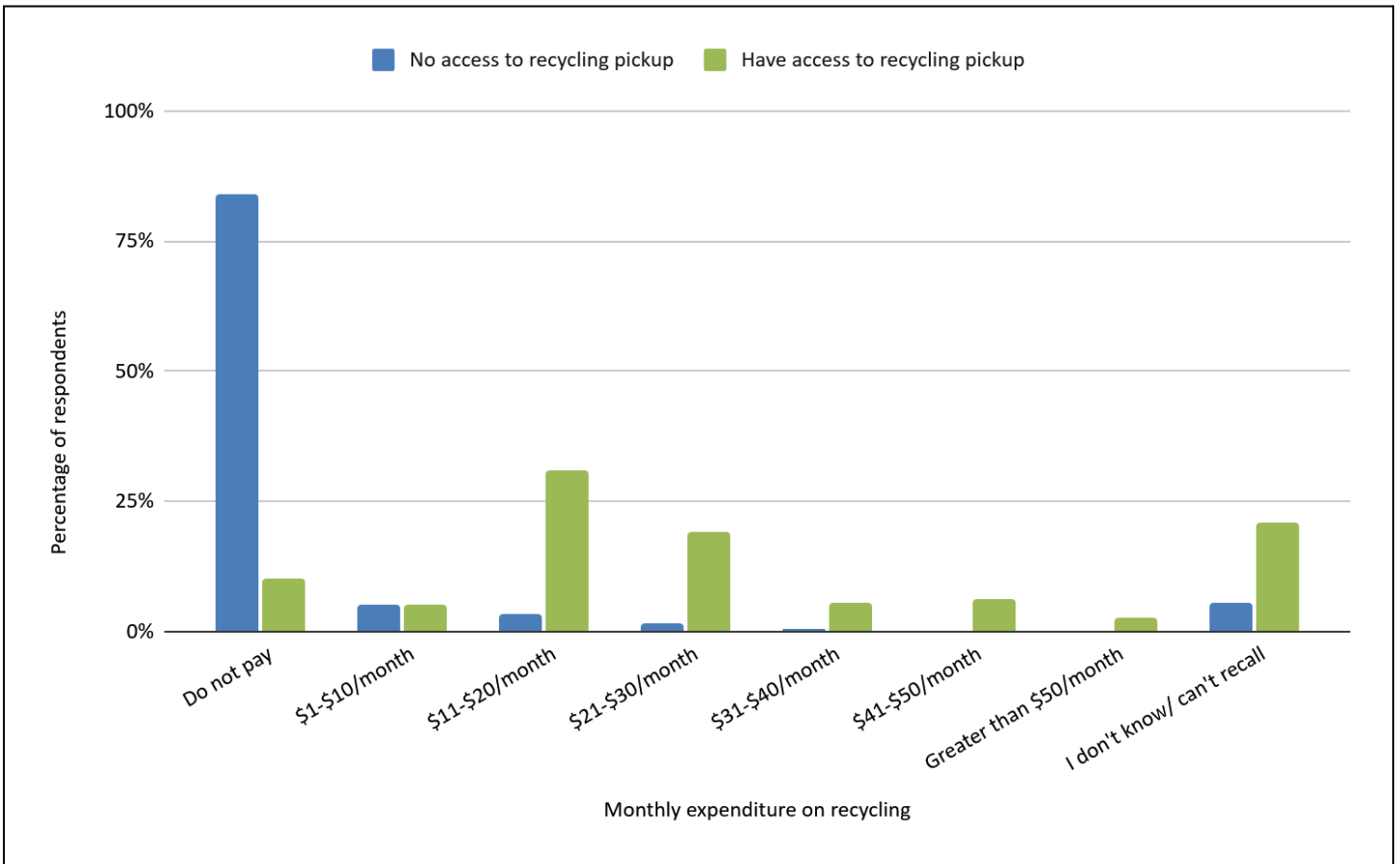


Figure 7: Monthly Expenditure on Recycling of Respondent Households With No Access to Recycling Pickup (Blue) and With Access to Recycling Pickup (Green)

**From a total of 701 respondents, 202 did not have recycling pickup and 499 did*

Satisfaction with Pickup Services

Trash Disposal

Respondents with access to trash pickup services were asked to indicate their satisfaction levels based on various factors (see [Figure 8](#)). As illustrated in the figure, respondents reported being satisfied with trash pickup services. Among the factors measured, the cost of trash pickup seemed to be the only factor leading to relative dissatisfaction among respondents.

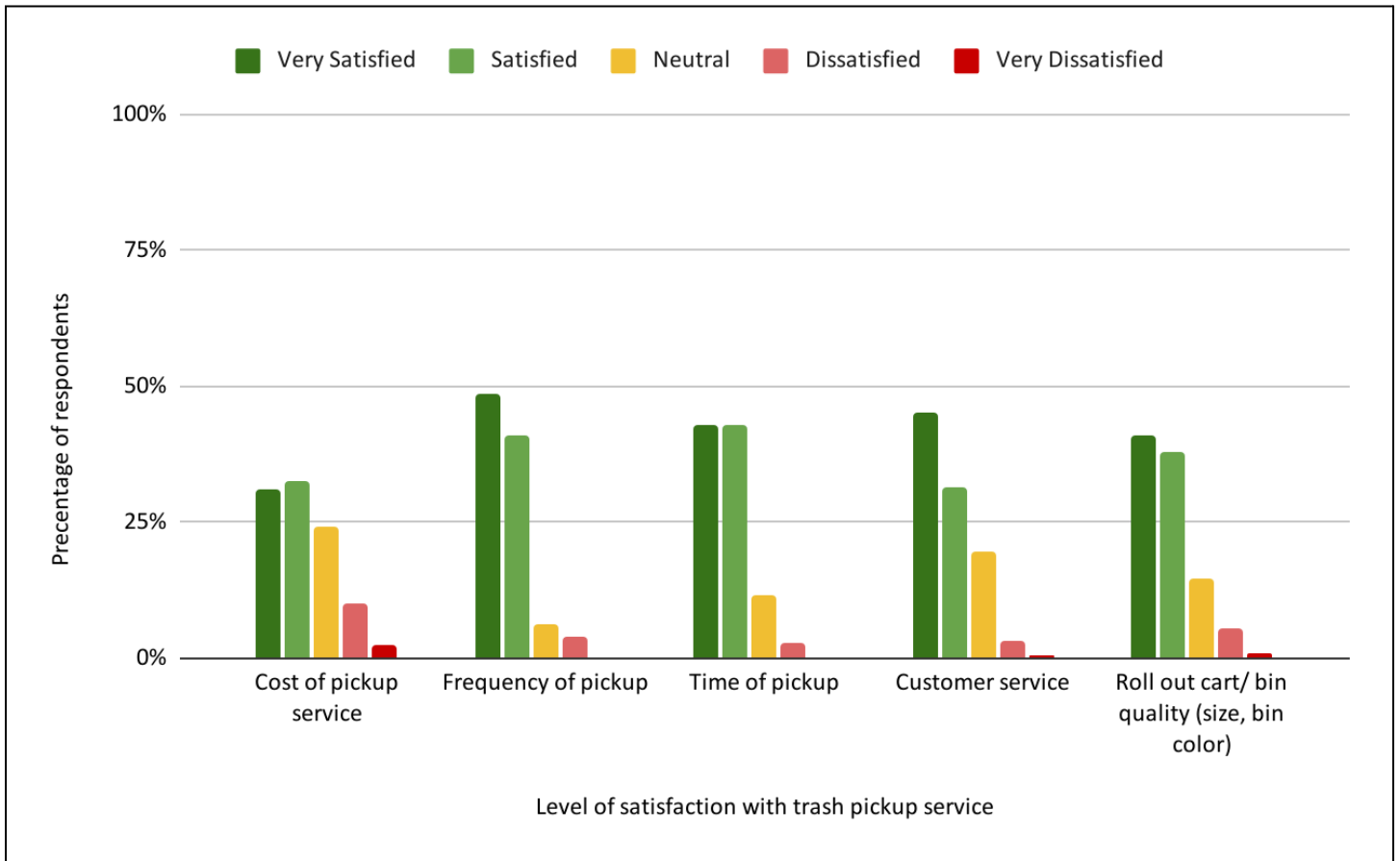


Figure 8: Respondent Reported Satisfaction Levels with Trash Pickup Service

*From a total of 701 respondents, 638 respondents with access to trash pickup were asked this question. As this question was not mandatory, the number of respondents for each of the following criteria varied.

1. Cost of pickup service - 636 respondents
2. Frequency of pickup - 607 respondents
3. Time of pickup - 619 respondents
4. Customer service - 612 respondents
5. Rollout cart/bin quality - 628 respondents

Recycling

Respondents with access to recycling pickup generally reported positive levels of satisfaction with the service ([Figure 9](#)). However, the highest combined share of neutral (50%), dissatisfied (20%), and very dissatisfied (3%) responses related to the availability of educational materials.

In comparison to trash services, a greater proportion of respondents expressed dissatisfaction with the frequency of recycling pickup, with 20% reporting dissatisfaction for recycling services compared to 4% for trash pickup.



Figure 9: Respondent Reported Satisfaction Levels with Recycling Pickup Service

*From a total of 701 respondents, 499 respondents with access to recycling pickup were asked this question. As this question was not mandatory, the number of respondents for each of the following criteria varied.

1. Cost of pickup service - 497 respondents
2. Frequency of pickup - 482 respondents
3. Time of pickup - 490 respondents
4. Customer service - 480 respondents
5. Educational material - 479 respondents
6. Rollout cart/bin quality - 493 respondents

Open-ended responses further underscored the importance of recycling as a service, with respondents emphasizing the need for accessible options (curbside or drop-off), affordability, education, and sufficient pickup frequency to meet household needs.

"I wish my recycle was picked up weekly. We often have lots of cardboard overflow. [Hauler] always takes my overflow without additional fees."

Figure 10: Open-Ended Respondent Feedback when asked about Access

"My recycling use is not regular. I provide an average. I often used the drop off system that Salida used to have by the pool/hotsprings. That system worked well for our household."

Figure 11: Open-Ended Respondent Feedback when asked about Drop-Off Services

"Need more education. (Farmers markets booth how to recycle might help?) I encourage my neighbor to use my recycle bin he is clueless! But at least, he is learning how to recycle... But I have to monitor his contributions. Ex- remove the liner bags from cereal boxes, flatten cardboard boxes, take caps off of jars and bottles that are not of the same material."

Figure 12: Open-Ended Respondent Feedback when asked about Education

"I would like it to be free. I would like to have a recycling drop off location, similar to the one that was behind the hot springs pool."

Figure 13: Open-Ended Respondent Feedback when asked about Cost

"We'd love weekly recycling pickup, or a bigger bin. We honestly would like for trash & recycling to flip. So the trash can could be smaller and pickup can be biweekly. For recycling we'd like a bigger bin and/or weekly pickup."

Figure 14: Open-Ended Respondent Feedback when asked about Frequency and Container Size

Organics Recycling

As shown in [Figure 15](#), these respondents generally reported satisfaction with the organics recycling services available to them; however, it is important to note that the number of responses to this question was limited. This may reflect lower participation in organics recycling compared to

trash disposal or recycling, as discussed in the section on service access. Several survey respondents indicated that they use Elements Mountain Compost for organics recycling; however, there was a consistent sentiment expressing the need for more affordable organics pickup options, including yard waste services.

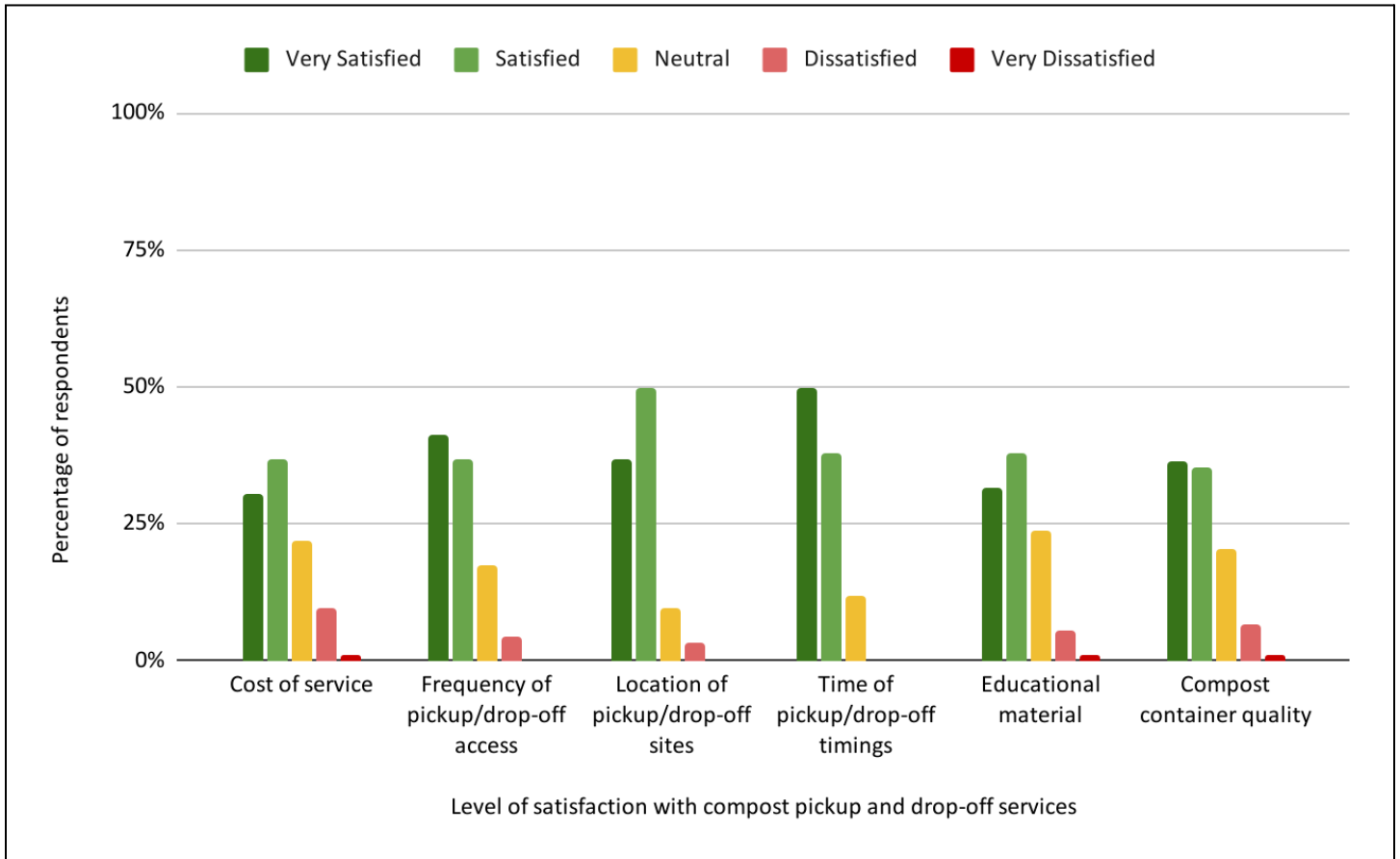


Figure 15: Respondent Reported Satisfaction Levels with Organics Recycling Services Available

**From a total of 701 respondents, 93 respondents answered this question. As this question was not mandatory, the number of respondents for each of the following criteria varied.*

1. Cost of service - 92 respondents
2. Frequency of pickup/ drop-off access - 92 respondents
3. Location of pickup/drop-off sites - 92 respondents
4. Time of pickup/ drop-off timings - 92 respondents
5. Educational material - 92 respondents
6. Compost container quality - 88 respondents

Roll-out Cart Size Sufficiency and Ease of Recognition

Trash

Respondents with access to trash pickup service (638 respondents) reported on the types of containers used for trash disposal. The majority (89%) indicated using roll-out carts provided by private haulers, while the remaining respondents reported using personal containers or shared dumpsters.

Respondents who reported using roll-out carts (569 respondents) were asked additional questions regarding cart size sufficiency, ease of identification, and lid color.

Trash Cart Size Sufficiency: Roll-out cart sizes varied, with 52% of respondents using a 95-gallon cart, 39% using a 65-gallon cart, and 5% using a 35-gallon cart. Overall, 96% of respondents reported that their current cart size was sufficient to meet weekly trash disposal needs.

Trash Cart Identification and Lid Color: Respondents reported a range of lid colors for trash roll-out carts, with black (34%), sandy brown (29%), and green (17%) being the most common ([Figure 16](#)). Most respondents reported high confidence in correctly identifying their trash cart, with 71% indicating they were confident, 20% neither confident nor not confident, and 9% reporting low confidence.

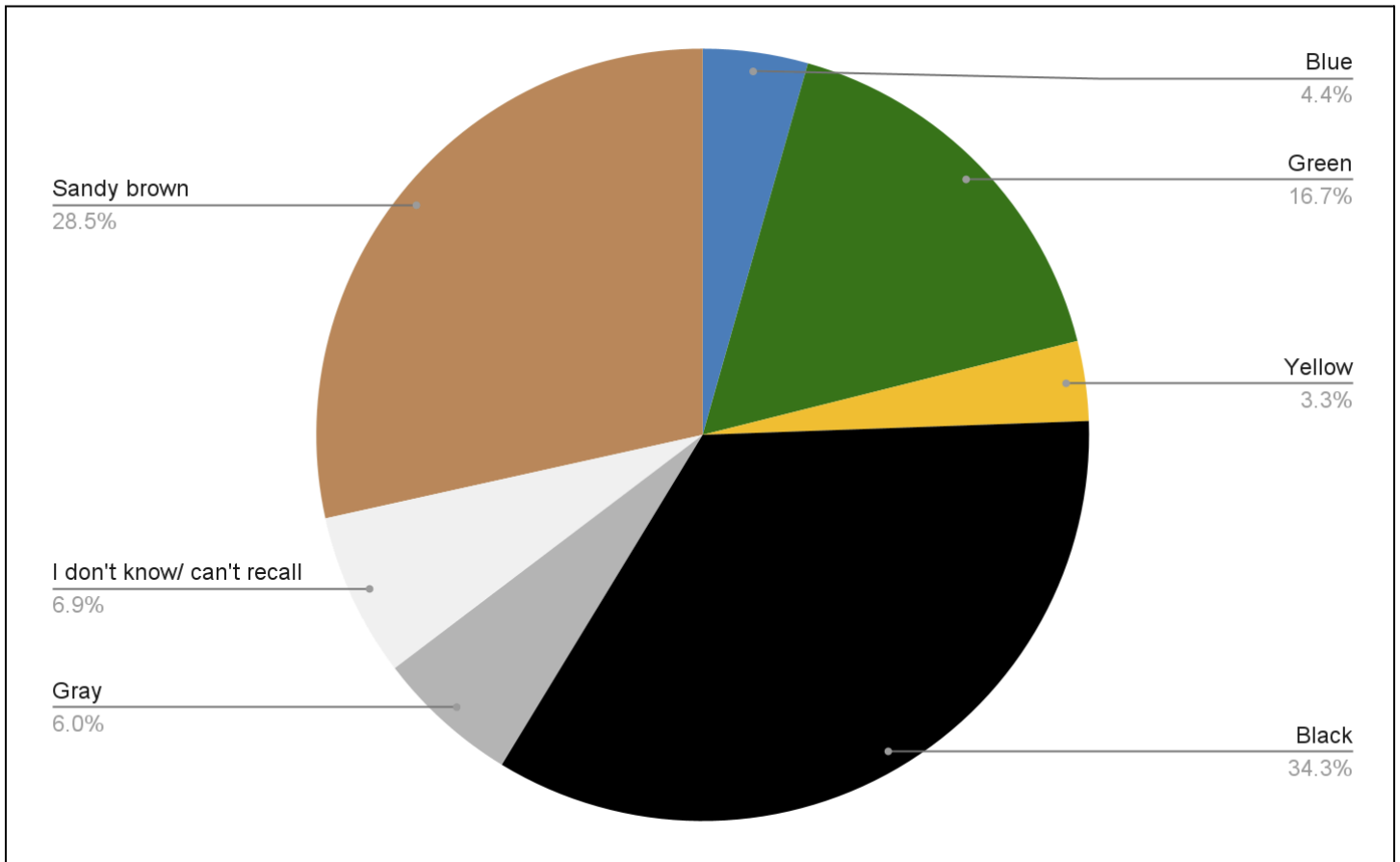


Figure 16: Respondent Reported Lid Colors for their Trash Roll-out Cart

**From a total 701 respondents, 569 respondents reported having a trash roll-out cart*

Recycling

Respondents with access to recycling pickup services (499 respondents) were asked what type of container they used for recycling.

Approximately 95% of these respondents reported using a roll-out recycling cart provided by a private hauler.

Recycling Cart Size Sufficiency: The most commonly reported recycling cart sizes were 95 gallons (41%) and 65 gallons (46%), while approximately 9% of respondents reported using 35-gallon carts. Overall, 73% of respondents indicated that the size of their roll-out cart was sufficient for the amount of recycling they generate.

Recycling Cart Identification and Lid Color: Respondents most commonly reported yellow (51%) and green (31%) as the lid colors of their recycling carts ([Figure 17](#)). While sandy brown was more frequently associated with trash containers, several respondents who selected “other” reported sandy brown lids for recycling carts as well, indicating overlap in container color schemes across waste streams. Despite this overlap, 88% of respondents indicated that they were able to distinguish their recycling roll-out cart from their trash cart based on lid color.

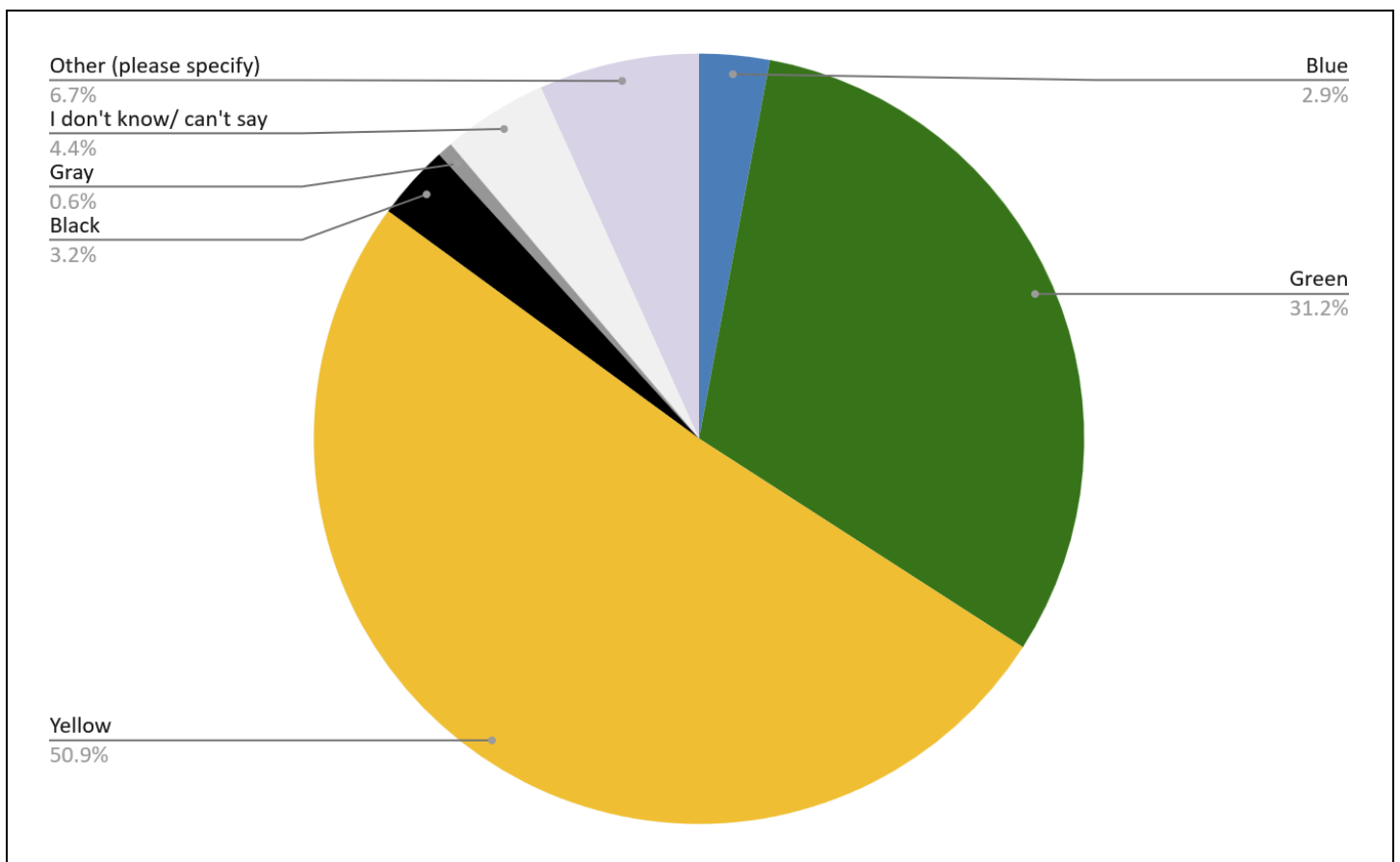


Figure 17: Respondent Reported Lid Colors for their Recycling Roll-out Cart

**From a total of 701 respondents, 475 respondents reported having a recycling roll-out cart*

Organics Recycling

Respondents with access to curbside organics pickup (24 respondents) were asked about the containers they use for organics recycling. A total of 21 respondents, constituting the majority,

reported using a small, bucket-style container without wheels, while two respondents indicated using a hauler-provided roll-out cart.

Container Size Sufficiency: Among 24 respondents, 17 indicated that their organics recycling container was sufficient for their needs, while five reported that the container size was not sufficient.

Container Identification and Lid Color: A total of 13 respondents described their organics container as a green container with a white lid. A green lid was also reported by nine respondents, indicating some variation in container appearance across households.

These findings suggest that existing trash container systems are generally meeting household needs, with high reported satisfaction regarding cart size and capacity, making changes to minimum trash container requirements unlikely to yield significant benefits. In contrast, recycling and organics containers show greater variability in capacity and appearance. While most respondents are able to identify their containers, lower reported sufficiency of recycling and organics containers and overlapping container colors indicate opportunities to improve participation through targeted guidance, clearer labeling, or container standards, particularly as recycling and organics services expand.

Understanding Barriers and Motivators for Recycling

A key requirement for improving recycling rates and waste collection services is examining existing barriers and motivators. This was addressed through a series of questions that asked respondents about their recycling needs, cost considerations, and level of awareness.

Willingness to Participate in Recycling

Survey respondents (701 respondents) were asked to describe their recycling habits (see [Figure 18](#)). The majority of respondents (61%) reported they ‘always recycle everything possible’, while 15% of respondents reported they ‘rarely recycle’ or ‘never recycle’.

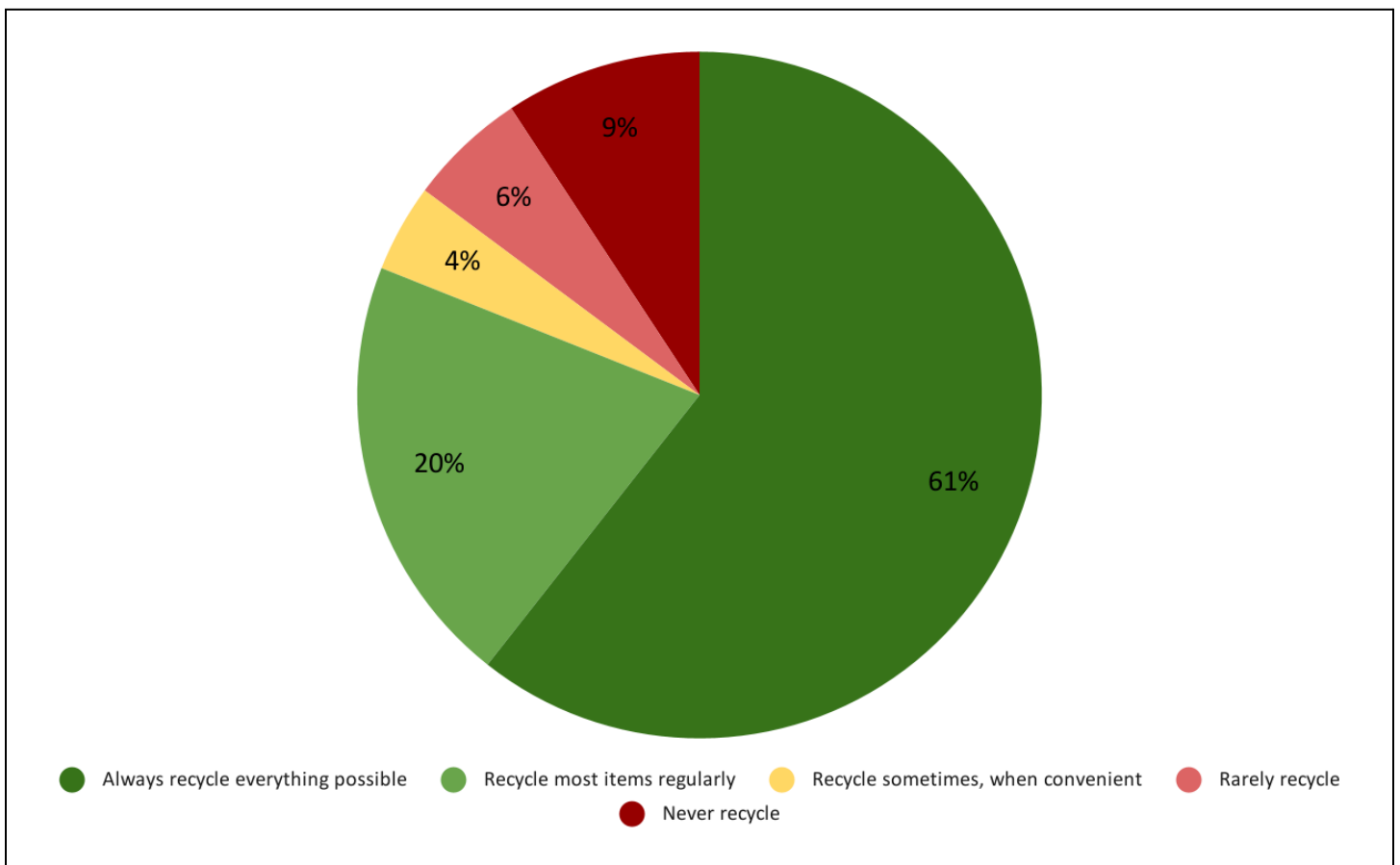


Figure 18: Respondent Participation in Recycling

**All 701 respondents responded to this question.*

The 9% of respondents who reported that they ‘never recycle’ were further asked about barriers to recycle. They shared the most common challenges were the high cost of curbside or pickup services (57%) and limited access to recycling drop-off locations (46%) as denoted in [Figure 19](#). About 34% noted the lack of availability to recycling pickup service as an impediment.

‘Other’ barriers (not denoted in the figure and shared through open-ended responses) included rental agreements that do not provide recycling, the absence of city or county recycling programs, and distrust or uncertainty in recycling.

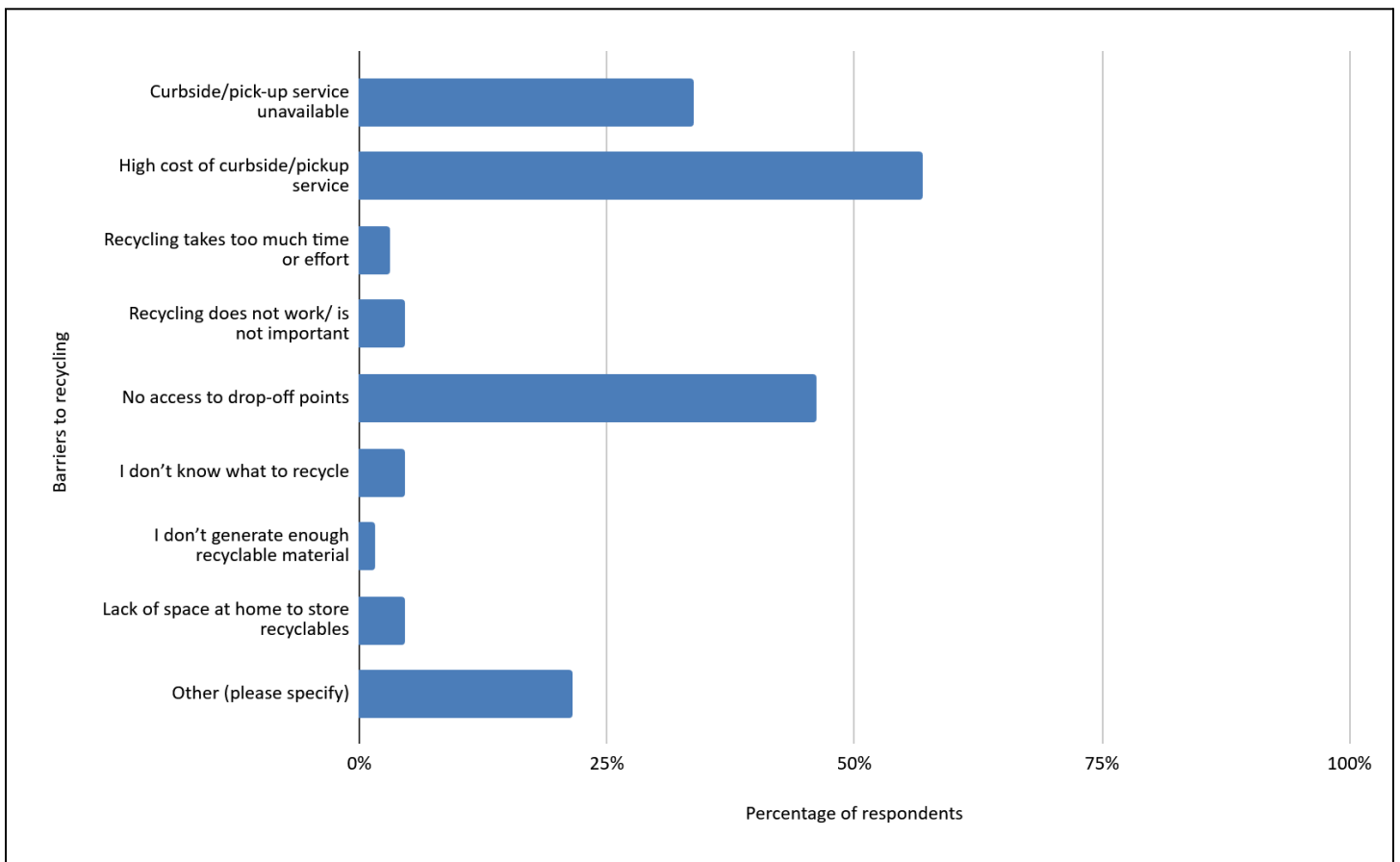


Figure 19: Barriers to Recycling for Respondents that Never Recycle

**From a total of 701 respondents, 65 respondents indicated they ‘Never Recycle’. This question allowed respondents to select multiple options.*

When asked what support would help them recycle more ([Figure 20](#)), all 701 survey respondents answered this question, with respondents allowed to select multiple responses. The most frequently cited needs were low-cost curbside or pickup services (55%), improved access to

drop-off sites (41%), and clearer guidance on which materials are recyclable (41%). In addition, 30% of respondents indicated a desire for better education on where recyclables go after collection.

Approximately 36% of respondents also identified access to curbside recycling as a key factor that would support increased recycling participation. ‘Other’ responses reinforced these themes, with several respondents calling for free curbside recycling, while others expressed skepticism about the effectiveness of recycling programs.

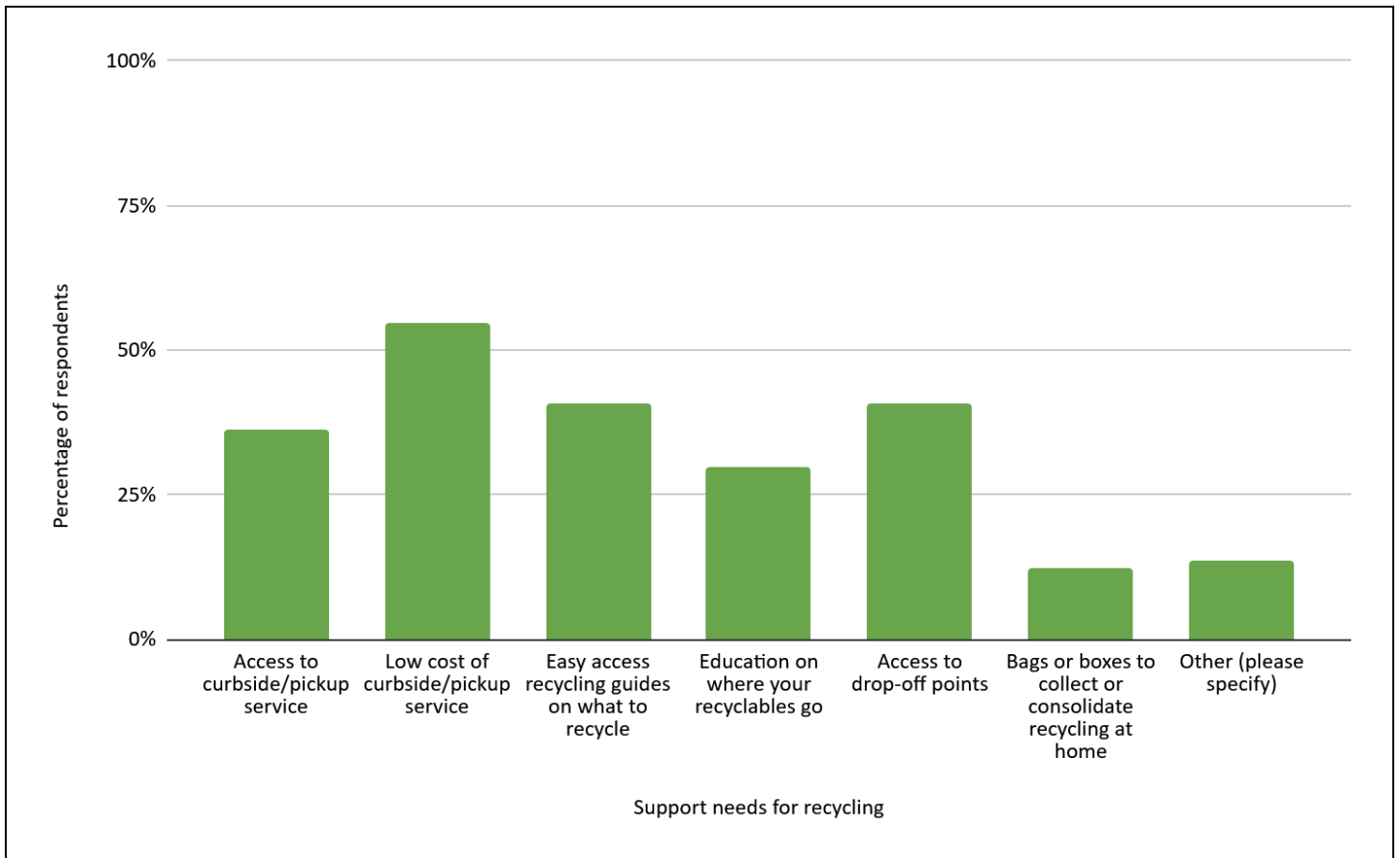


Figure 20: Support Needs to Encourage Recycling

**All 701 respondents responded to this question. This question allowed respondents to select multiple options.*

These responses highlight recurring themes around cost, access (curbside and drop-off), and education, which are explored in more detail in the following sections.

Cost and Access to Recycling Services

Throughout the survey, respondents repeatedly identified the need for low-cost recycling services. This theme was explored further through a set of follow-up questions. While these questions were presented to all 701 survey respondents, they were optional and were answered by 450 respondents.

When asked how likely they would be to recycle more if recycling pickup were free, 450 of the 701 survey respondents answered this question. Of those respondents, approximately 66% indicated they would be more likely to increase recycling, 28% reported neutral attitudes, and 7% indicated they would be unlikely to change their recycling behavior ([Figure 21](#)).

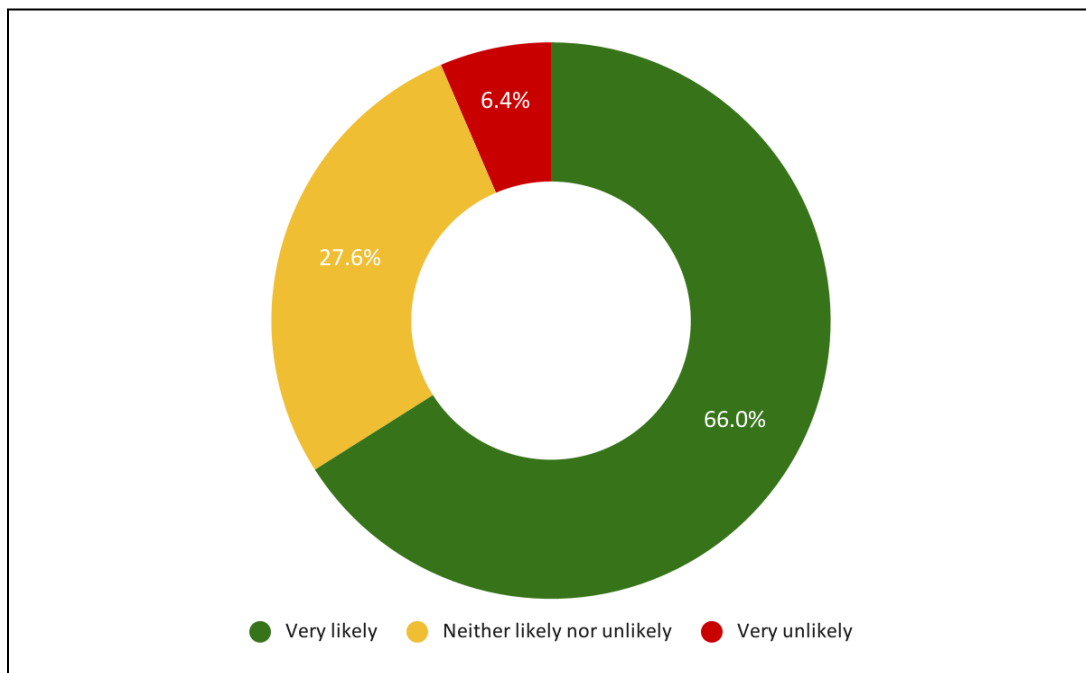


Figure 21: Likelihood of Recycling Participation if Pickup Were Free (Among Current Paying Customers)

**From a total of 701 respondents, 450 respondents indicated they currently pay for recycling pickup service*

Respondents were also asked how they would use the money saved if recycling pickup were free. The majority (58%) indicated they would apply the savings toward household needs, while 19%

reported they would use the money for other waste reduction efforts, such as investing in reusable items or subscribing to a compost collection service.

Finally, when asked about their likelihood of subscribing to an organics recycling pickup service if recycling pickup were free, 56% of respondents reported that they would be very likely to do so.

Recycling Education and Awareness

Education and awareness emerged as another key need among respondents. All 701 survey participants were asked whether they had ever received educational materials or information about recycling in Salida; 500 respondents answered this question. Of those respondents, 30% reported that they had received recycling-related information, while 51% indicated that they had not (this included the Spanish-language respondent), and 19% could not recall whether they had received any materials.

Among respondents who reported receiving educational materials, 29% indicated they had received them within the past year, 39% reported receiving them more than a year ago, and 28% could not recall when they last received information. The most commonly reported formats were flyers or brochures (45%), mailers or letters (26%), and emails or newsletters (32%).

Additional sources of information cited by respondents included cart lids, materials provided at the start of a recycling subscription, newspapers, and information obtained through haulers' websites or phone communications.

Extended Producer Responsibility Awareness

The survey also provided insight into baseline awareness of Colorado's Producer Responsibility Program (EPR program). Prior to receiving any information, respondents were asked whether they had previously heard of EPR. A substantial majority (89%) reported that they had not, while 8% indicated that they had and 3% were unsure.

The survey questionnaire then included a brief informational text describing Colorado's Producer Responsibility program. After reviewing this information, 98% of respondents reported that they had read and understood the material. While the survey was not designed as an educational intervention, these findings highlight both low initial awareness of EPR and the potential effectiveness of concise informational materials.

What is Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)?

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is a type of recycling policy that shifts the costs of recycling from the consumer to product manufacturers. EPR programs help lower recycling costs for towns and residents and help create better recycling systems. They also divert waste away from landfills and reduce litter in the environment.

Does Colorado have EPR?

Yes, in 2022, Colorado passed a law to improve recycling. It is called the Producer Responsibility Program for Statewide Recycling Act. This law says that companies that sell soda cans and cardboard boxes, among other specified packaging and paper products, must help pay to recycle them. It makes companies responsible for the packaging and paper they supply into Colorado after it has been used by the consumer.

What does this mean for you as a resident of Salida?

Under Colorado's EPR program, the City of Salida may be able to provide recycling services free of cost to its residents. This will be possible through reimbursement given to the City for recycling services it provides. These reimbursements may cover new or improved infrastructure, education, and outreach.

As of September 2025, the law is still being put into action, meaning, free recycling services are not yet available.

For more information on EPR, visit [CDPHE](#) website.

Figure 22: Information on EPR in Colorado Shared with Survey Respondent⁴

**Note: The inclusion of informational text was intended to provide context for a subsequent question and should not be interpreted as a formal education or training activity.*

⁴ Language surrounding Colorado's EPR program has been updated since the publication of this survey. The project team is refraining from using the term 'free'. Rather, recycling services for residents may be subsidized depending on if their selected haulers participate in Colorado's EPR program.

Recommendations

Based on survey findings, several opportunities exist to improve waste management services, increase recycling participation, and enhance community engagement in Salida. Key recommendations are outlined below.

1. Improve Access to Recycling Services and Align Collection Services

A number of respondents indicated barriers to participation due to a lack of access to curbside or organized pickup services, particularly in multifamily settings or for residents relying on self-hauling. Limited access to recycling was identified as a key barrier, cited by 46% of respondents who ‘never recycle’ (9% of 701). Expanding access to recycling services to all residents, regardless of housing type, would reduce inequities in service provision and support greater community-wide diversion of materials from the landfill. Improving access may require a mix of regulatory and programmatic approaches, such as hauler licensing, universal access ordinances, and equal space requirements.

The City of Salida could consider adopting a hauler licensing or registration program, requiring solid waste haulers operating in the City to report basic service information and offer recycling collection services to customers receiving trash service.

Moreover, survey findings indicate that recycling container capacity and consistency may affect service effectiveness. Among respondents with access to curbside pickup, while 96% of respondents reported that their trash cart size was sufficient, only 73% reported the same for recycling containers, with 26% indicating that their recycling cart size did not meet their needs. In addition, respondents reported a range of recycling cart sizes: 41% using 95-gallon carts, 46% using 65-gallon carts, and 9% using 35-gallon carts. Including requirements for cart size options could be considered as part of the hauler licensing process.

Survey responses also indicate variation in recycling cart appearance, particularly lid color. While yellow (51%) and green (31%) were the most commonly reported recycling cart lid colors, several respondents reported sandy brown lids for recycling carts, which was also the most frequently

reported lid color for trash containers. Although 88% of respondents indicated they could distinguish their recycling cart from their trash cart, this overlap in container color schemes suggests that greater visual consistency or clearer labeling is important to consider as more recycling services are offered.

While Salida operates within an open-market system, sharing these findings with haulers and noting how service offerings could better align collection frequency, container capacity, and visual consistency with resident needs could support higher participation and reduced confusion regardless of the adoption of a hauler licensing program.

The City could also consider a universal access ordinance requiring solid waste service providers to offer recycling and/or organics collection services to all customers, regardless of housing type. To support implementation in higher-density housing, the City may further consider an adequate or equal space ordinance for new multifamily developments, requiring sufficient and appropriately designed space for recycling and organics containers (comparable to trash service) as a condition of receiving a certificate of occupancy.

To pursue these regulatory or programmatic approaches, Salida can reference resources such as case examples and project reports available in [C3's Resource Library](#). This includes universal recycling ordinances enacted by the [Town of Frisco](#), the [Town of Breckenridge](#), and the [City of Longmont](#), and equal space regulations set by the [Town of Frisco](#) and the [City and County of Broomfield](#). Additionally, Salida may consider applying for a second STEPS project to receive technical assistance in further evaluating the feasibility of these approaches.

2. Address Cost Barriers to Recycling

Cost was repeatedly identified as a limiting factor for recycling participation. Survey data shows that 66% of respondents would recycle more if pickup were free, and many indicated they would be willing to subscribe to organics collection if recycling services were more affordable.

Exploring options to help reduce or remove financial barriers can increase overall participation. For example, expanding recycling and organics drop-off options, particularly for residents without curbside service, could further increase access if costs are considered. This may include identifying

new drop-off locations, reopening previously closed sites, or partnering with GARNA to expand drop-off operations in Salida. Many Colorado communities have successfully launched and managed drop-off sites, such as [Summit County's Resource Allocation Park](#), [Clean Valley Recycling](#) in Swink, and [Custer County Recycles](#) in Westcliffe, each of which provides useful program models from which to learn and adopt effective best practices.

[Colorado's Producer Responsibility program](#) may also provide a pathway to address cost barriers by reimbursing recycling collection and processing costs for haulers that participate in the program, therefore removing direct service fees for residents. Haulers must complete a request for reimbursement (RFR) and enter into service agreements with the state's designated Producer Responsibility Organization, [CAA Colorado](#), to be considered for reimbursement funds.

Municipally contracted services can promote cost equity by establishing uniform service rates for all customers. To this end, Salida may also consider assessing a municipally-managed hauler program, therefore moving away from the current open-market system. As an example, the 2025 City of Fort Lupton STEPS project reported that Arvada residents under an open-market system paid between \$28 and \$30 per month for recycling. This was 30% to 78% more than neighboring communities with municipally managed hauler contracts.

3. Strengthen Recycling and Organics Education

Survey responses highlighted a need for more consistent and accessible educational materials. Only 30% of respondents recalled receiving information about recycling in Salida, and among these, many could not recall when they last received it. Education should follow Community-Based Social Marketing (CBSM) strategies, which emphasizes the use of research to identify community-specific barriers and benefits, strategic planning, audience-centric messaging, and measurable outcomes to foster sustainable behavior change. This includes developing campaigns that target and overcome identified barriers to participation and leverage identified benefits and motivators to instill change. Distrust or uncertainty in recycling may be addressed through education on how recycling works. A coordinated campaign using cart lids, flyers, hauler websites, social media, and community events may reinforce knowledge, build confidence in proper recycling behavior, and address misconceptions.

A second STEPS project for a behavior change campaign, which could identify and target additional barriers to participation with education and outreach, could also be pursued. CBSM resources are available online, including McKenzie-Mohr & Associates' [Fostering Sustainable Behavior](#), the Environmental Protection Agency's [Preventing Waste Food in Your Community: A Social Marketing Toolkit](#), and C3's [Resource Library](#).

[CAA Colorado](#), the state's designated Producer Responsibility Organization under Colorado's EPR program, will develop and share clear, consistent, and culturally appropriate messaging for local governments and haulers. Statewide campaigns to promote recycling awareness and service availability will be complemented with customized community-level efforts, including direct mailers, public events, and local collaborations. Once available, these should be utilized by Salida as a part of their [recycling guides](#) and [citywide recycling and compost resource page](#) to encourage awareness and participation by residents. Additionally, per CAA Colorado's [program plan](#), local governments, including Salida, may be eligible to enter into an education and outreach service agreement with CAA Colorado in order to receive payments for outlined approved education and outreach activities. Salida and Chaffee County is pursuing a coordinated approach to education and outreach, with the County leading efforts on behalf of all municipalities through a formalized intergovernmental agreement. Under this structure, the County is evaluating entering into an education and outreach joint service agreement with CAA Colorado, the state's designated producer responsibility organization, when available, in order to access funding for eligible education and outreach activities on behalf of participating jurisdictions. Refer to CAA Colorado's [dedicated program page](#) for additional information on these resources as they become available.

Appendix A: 2021 Recycling Survey

In 2021, the Greater Arkansas River Nature Association (GARNA) conducted a residential recycling survey aimed at capturing the needs, knowledge, and challenges around recycling in Chaffee County. The City of Salida is the largest city and is the seat of the county. Since the survey was for the residents of the entire county, the respondents were distributed throughout the county with a high number of responses from Salida and Buena Vista as shown in [Figure 18](#) below. A total of nine hundred and ninety-three residents answered at least one question, and nine hundred and seventy-one answered two or more questions.

This 2021 GARNA residential recycling survey was one of the first to document recycling behaviors, challenges, and needs for the City of Salida. The GARNA team noted that results from the survey served dual purposes of understanding gaps in recycling services and the impact of this closure. In designing the survey for the City of Salida, the RRS team noted some key takeaways from the GARNA survey. This was done not only to begin tracking data points but was also used to guide survey design.

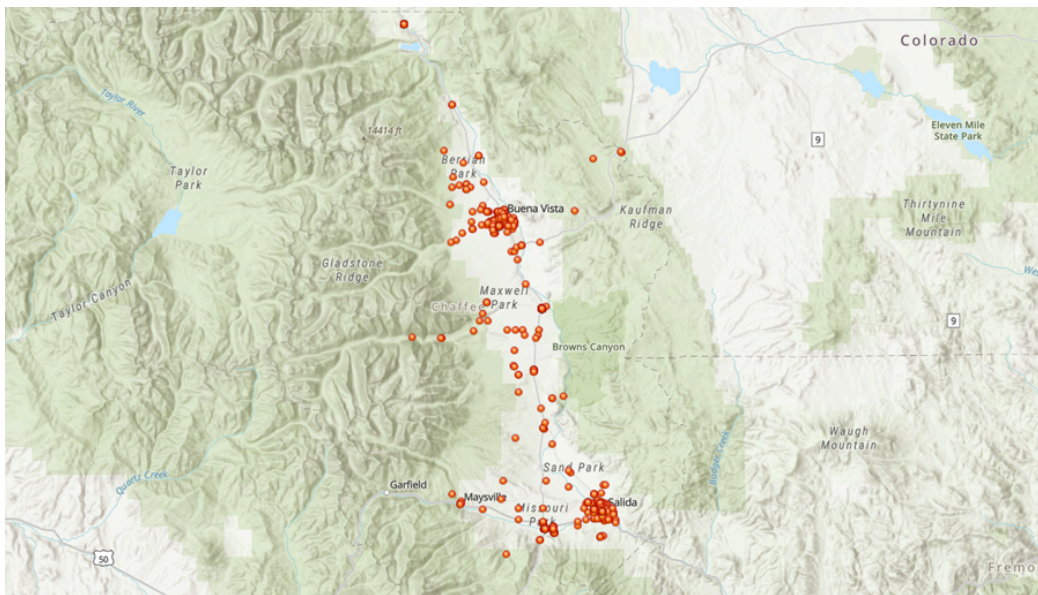


Figure 23: General locations of GARNA residential recycling survey 2021 respondents

Key Takeaways

- A majority of respondents (64%) reported that they ‘always’ recycle, while another 23% reported that they recycle ‘most of the time’.
- Most common barriers for recycling were noted to be the lack of infrastructure and affordability. The survey stated that 15% of the residents who do not always recycle said they could not afford to pay for recycling, and 14% shared that they did not want to pay for recycling. Other factors included a lack of knowledge of what to recycle and the effort recycling entails.
- Residents shared that making access to recycling more convenient would encourage recycling behavior. To this end, several respondents shared that a drop-off site in their neighborhood or housing complex, or at the Chaffee County landfill would be suitable. Several also wanted a less expensive curbside pickup option. Many also wanted more education on the importance of recycling and what materials were accepted for recycling.

Appendix B: English Survey

The City of Salida is engaging with its residents to understand their opinions and experience with household trash, recycling, and compost management.

The survey should take a total of 10 minutes or less to complete. Limit responses to one per household. Your responses will be kept confidential and reported only in summary form.

Complete the survey today for a chance to win a gift card!

To start, we'd like to confirm that you live in Salida. This helps us make sure we're hearing from local residents whose experiences are relevant to this survey.

1. Do you currently live within the City of Salida?

- Yes, I currently live in Salida
- No, I do not live in Salida

You qualify for this survey because you live in Salida! We're giving out gift cards to a few randomly selected participants. If you'd like a chance to win, please leave your email so we can contact you if you're selected.

2. Please share your email ID here:

Section 1: Trash Pick-up Services

First, we would like to learn about trash pick-up services your household uses. We're interested in understanding the types of services you have access to and your satisfaction with them.

3. Do you have trash pick-up at home?

Examples include curbside pickup and trash dumpsters/ containers used in multifamily apartment/ condos etc.

- Yes
- No
- I don't know/ can't recall

4. If you do not have pick-up service for trash, how do you typically dispose of the trash generated at home?

- Take it to a landfill or transfer station
- Burn it (e.g., burn barrel)
- Bury it on your property
- Use public bins/dumpsters
- Other (please specify)

5. In a month, how much do you spend on trash disposal?

Please provide the cost for trash disposal only (do not include recycling costs, if any, here).

- I do not pay for trash services
- \$1-\$10/month
- \$11-\$20/month
- \$21-\$30/month
- \$31-\$40/month
- \$41-\$50/month
- Greater than \$50/month
- I don't know/ can't recall

6. How much trash does your household typically produce in a week?

Please use the image below to determine your household's weekly trash generation.

- Less than 1 kitchen bag per week
- 1-3 kitchen bags per week
- 4-5 kitchen bags per week
- 6-7 kitchen bags per week
- More than 7 kitchen bags per week
- I don't know/ can't remember

From Left to Right: Picture of a 95 gallon cart which holds approximately 5-7 kitchen trash bags, 65 gallon cart which holds approximately 4-5 kitchen trash bags, and 35 gallon cart which holds approximately 2-3 kitchen trash bags



Figure 24: Three Garbage Carts in Various Sizes



Figure 25: Human Figure and Trash Bag Size Comparison

7. What type of service contract does your household have for trash pick-up?

- Pay a company directly to collect trash
- Use the service provided through apartment manager or homeowners' association (HOA) fees
- Have a shared service with neighbors or community arrangement
- I don't know/ can't recall
- Other (please specify)

8. How frequently is trash picked up from your household?

- Weekly
- Biweekly
- I don't know/ can't recall
- Other (please specify)

9. In a month, how much do you spend on trash pick-up?

Please provide the cost for trash service only (exclude recycling expenses, if any, here)

- I do not pay for trash services
- \$1-\$10/month
- \$11-\$20/month
- \$21-\$30/month
- \$31-\$40/month
- \$41-\$50/month
- Greater than \$50/month
- I don't know/ can't recall

10. What type of container does your household currently use for trash pick-up?

- Cart with a lid and wheels (issued by a private hauler)
- Can or bin with or without a lid and no wheels
- Trash bags placed in a common location in a container/ dumpster (in the case of apartment complexes etc.)
- Other (please specify)

11. How much trash does your household typically produce in a week?

Please use the image below to determine the trash generation.

- Less than 1 kitchen bag per week
- 1-3 kitchen bags per week
- 4-5 kitchen bags per week
- 6-7 kitchen bags per week
- More than 7 kitchen bags per week
- I don't know/ can't recall

Picture of a 95 gallon cart which holds approximately 5-7 kitchen trash bags, 65 gallon cart which holds approximately 4-5 kitchen trash bags, and 35 gallon cart which holds approximately 2-3 kitchen trash bags



Figure 26: Three Garbage Carts in Various Sizes



Figure 27: Human Figure and Trash Bag Size Comparison

12. How much trash does your household typically produce in a week?

Please use the image below to determine the trash generation.

- Less than 1 kitchen bag per week
- 1-3 kitchen bags per week

- 4-5 kitchen bags per week
- 6-7 kitchen bags per week
- More than 7 kitchen bags per week
- I don't know/ can't recall

13. Indicate the size of the trash roll-out cart used by your household.

- Please use the image provided below to determine the size of your trash cart.
- 95-gallon cart
- 65-gallon cart
- 35-gallon cart
- I don't know/ can't recall
- Other (please specify)

Picture of a 95 gallon cart which holds approximately 5-7 kitchen trash bags, 65 gallon cart which holds approximately 4-5 kitchen trash bags, and 35 gallon cart which holds approximately 2-3 kitchen trash bags



Figure 28: Three Garbage Carts in Various Sizes



Figure 29: Human Figure and Trash Bag Size Comparison

14. Do you feel that the size of your roll-out cart is sufficient for the amount of trash your household generates?

- Too big
- Just right
- Too small
- I don't know/ can't recall

15. What color is the lid on your household's trash roll-out cart?

- Blue
- Green
- Yellow
- Black
- Gray
- Other (please specify)
- I don't know/ can't recall

16. If you could only look at the color of the lid, how confident are you that you could correctly identify your trash roll-out cart?

- Very Confident
- Neither confident nor not confident
- Not Confident

- I don't know/ can't recall

17. Indicate your level of satisfaction with your trash pick-up service.

- Very Satisfied
- Satisfied
- Neutral
- Dissatisfied
- Very Dissatisfied
- Cost of pick-up service
- Frequency of pick-up
- Time of pick-up
- Customer service
- Roll out cart/bin quality (size, bin color)

18. We welcome your feedback!

Indicate what improvements you would like to see in the trash pick-up services:

Section 2: Recycling Participation and Recycling Pick-up Services

Next, we'd like to learn about your recycling participation and any difficulties you might have with recycling.

19. How frequently does your household recycle?

- Always recycle everything possible
- Recycle most items regularly
- Recycle sometimes, when convenient
- Rarely recycle
- Never recycle

20. From the list below, pick reasons that make recycling challenging in your household: Select all that apply

- Curbside/pick-up service unavailable
- High cost of curbside/pick-up service
- No access to drop-off points
- I don't know what to recycle

- Recycling takes too much time or effort
- I don't generate enough recyclable material
- Recycling does not work/ is not important
- Lack of space at home to store recyclables
- Other (please specify)

21. What kind of support do you need to help with recycling at home? Select all that apply

- Access to curbside/pickup service
- Low cost of curbside/pickup service
- Education on where your recyclables go
- Access to drop-off points
- Easy access to recycling guides on what to recycle
- Bags/ boxes to collect/consolidate recycling at home
- Other (please specify)

Now, we'd like to ask you a few questions about the recycling services your household has access to.

22. Do you have recycling pick-up at home?

Examples include curbside recycling and recycling dumpsters/ containers used in multifamily apartments/condos etc.

- Yes
- No
- I don't know/ can't say

23. If you do not have recycling pick-up service, how do you typically dispose of the recycling generated at home?

- Take it to a landfill or transfer station
- Take it to recycling drop-off or redemption center
- Dispose with trash
- Burn it (e.g. burn barrel)
- Reuse or upcycle
- Other (please specify)

24. In a month, how much do you spend on recycling?

If you pay for recycling with trash, indicate how much extra recycling costs per month.

- I do not pay for recycling
- \$1-\$10 per month
- \$11-\$20 per month
- \$21-\$30 per month
- \$31-\$40 per month
- \$41-\$50 per month
- Greater than \$50 per month
- I don't know/ can't recall

25. How much recycling does your household typically generate in a week? Imagine your weekly recyclables were collected in standard kitchen trash bags and select the option that best represents your household.

Note: Recycling is typically not bagged. References to kitchen trash bags are used only to help estimate the volume of recyclables your household generates.

- Less than 1 bag
- 1-3 bags per week
- 4-5 bags per week
- 6-7 bags per week
- More than 7 bags
- I don't know/ can't recall
- Other (please specify)

Picture of a 95 gallon blue recycling cart which holds approximately 5-7 kitchen trash bags, 65 gallon cart which holds approximately 4-5 kitchen trash bags, and 35 gallon cart which holds approximately 2-3 kitchen trash bags.

Note: Recycling is typically not bagged. References to kitchen trash bags below are only intended to help estimate the amount of recyclables generated by your household.



Figure 30: Three Recycling Carts in Various Sizes



Figure 31: Human Figure and Trash Bag Size Comparison

26. What type of service contract does your household have for recycling pick-up?

- Pay a company directly to collect recycling
- Service provided through apartment manager or homeowners' association (HOA) fees
- Shared service with neighbors or community arrangement
- I don't know/ can't recall
- Other (please specify)

27. How frequently is recycling picked up from your home?

- Weekly
- Biweekly
- I don't know/ can't recall
- Other (please specify)

28. In a month, how much do you pay for recycling pick-up?

If you pay for recycling with trash, indicate how much extra recycling costs per month.

- I do not pay for recycling pick-up
- \$1-\$10 per month
- \$11-\$20 per month
- \$21-\$30 per month
- \$31-\$40 per month
- \$41-\$50 per month
- Greater than \$50 per month
- I don't know/ can't recall

29. If recycling pick-up was free, how likely are you to recycle more than you do now?

- Very likely
- Neither likely nor unlikely
- Very unlikely

30. If recycling pick-up was free, how would you use the money you save on recycling?

- Use the money on other waste reduction efforts (e.g., invest in reusable items or subscribe to a compost collection service)
- Use the money for other household needs
- I am not sure
- Other (please specify)

31. If recycling pick-up was free, how likely are you to subscribe to compost pick-up?

- Very likely
- Neither likely nor unlikely
- Very unlikely
- Not applicable - I already compost

- Other (please specify)

32. What type of container does your household currently use for recycling pick-up?

- Cart with a lid and wheels (issued by a private hauler)
- Can or bin with or without a lid and no wheels
- Recycling bags placed in a common location in a recycling container/ dumpster
- Other (please specify)

33. How much recycling does your household typically generate in a week? Imagine your weekly recyclables were collected in standard kitchen trash bags and select the option that best represents your household.

Note: Recycling is typically not bagged. References to kitchen trash bags are used only to help estimate the volume of recyclables your household generates.

- Less than 1 bag
- About 1-3 bags
- About 4–5 bags
- About 6-7 bags
- More than 7 bags
- I don't know/ can't recall
- Other (please specify)

From L-R: Picture of a 95 gallon blue recycling cart which holds approximately 5-7 kitchen trash bags, 65 gallon cart which holds approximately 4-5 kitchen trash bags, and 35 gallon cart which holds approximately 2-3 kitchen trash bags.

Note: Recycling is typically not bagged. References to kitchen trash bags below are only intended to help estimate the amount of recyclables generated by your household.

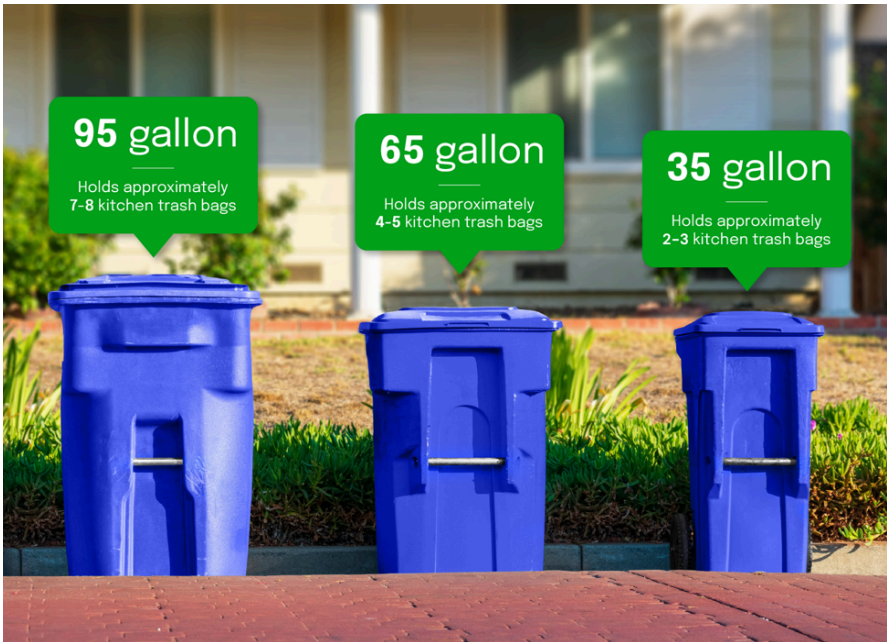


Figure 32: Three Recycling Carts in Various Sizes



Figure 33: Human Figure and Trash Bag Size Comparison

34. How much recycling does your household typically generate in a week?

Imagine your weekly recyclables were collected in standard kitchen trash bags and select the option that best represents your household.

Recycling is typically not bagged. References to kitchen trash bags are used only to help estimate the volume of recyclables your household generates.

- Less than 1 bag

- About 1-3 bags
- About 4-5 bags
- About 6-7 bags
- More than 7 bags
- I don't know/ can't recall
- Other (please specify)

From L-R: Picture of a 95 gallon blue recycling cart which holds approximately 5-7 kitchen trash bags, 65 gallon cart which holds approximately 4-5 kitchen trash bags, and 35 gallon cart which holds approximately 2-3 kitchen trash bags.

Note: Recycling is typically not bagged. References to kitchen trash bags below are only intended to help estimate the amount of recyclables generated by your household.

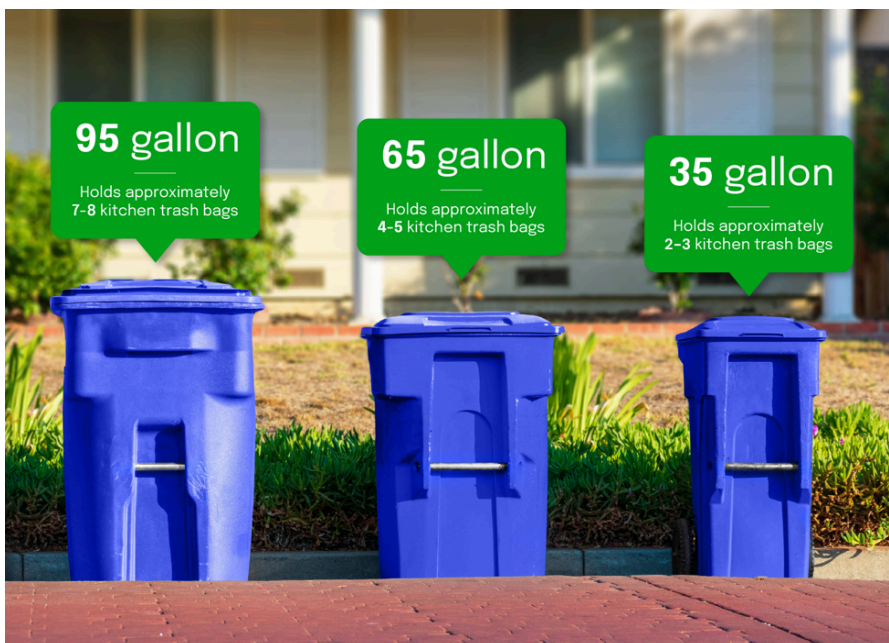


Figure 34: Three Recycling Carts in Various Sizes



Figure 35: Human Figure and Trash Bag Size Comparison

35. Indicate the size of the recycling roll-out cart used by your household.

Please use the image provided here to determine the size of your recycling cart.

- 95-gallon cart
- 65-gallon cart
- 35-gallon cart
- I don't know/ can't recall
- Other (please specify)

36. Do you feel that the size of your roll-out cart is sufficient for the amount of recycling your household generates?

- Too large
- Just right
- Too small
- I am not sure

37. What color is the lid on your household's recycling roll-cart?

- Blue
- Green
- Yellow
- Black
- Gray

- I don't know/ can't say
- Other (please specify)

38. Does the lid color help you tell your recycling roll-out cart apart from your trash cart?

- Yes
- No
- Other (please specify)

39. Have you ever received any educational material or information about recycling in Salida?

Examples of educational material or information could include online, printable or mailed flyers explaining in words or images what materials are accepted for recycling and a calendar of when these are picked up from your community.

- Yes
- No
- I don't know/can't recall

40. When did you last receive recycling information or educational materials in Salida?

- Within the past year
- More than a year ago
- I don't know/ cant recall
- Other (please specify)

41. What type of recycling educational materials or information have you received? Select all that apply

- Flyers or brochures
- Mailers or letters
- Emails or newsletters
- Social media posts
- Community events or workshops
- Other (please specify)

42. Indicate your level of satisfaction with your recycling pick-up service.

- Very Satisfied
- Satisfied
- Neutral

- Dissatisfied
- Very Dissatisfied

Cost of Service

Frequency of pick-up

Time of pick-up

Customer service

Education Material

Roll out cart/ bin quality (size, bin color)

43. We welcome your feedback!

Indicate what improvements you would like to see in your recycling collection services:

Section 3: Composting and Compost Services

Finally, we'd like to ask you a few questions about the compost services your household has access to. Your responses will help us understand current practices and identify opportunities to support composting in the community.

44. Do you compost?

Includes compost dumpsters/ containers used in multifamily apartment/ condos etc.

- Yes
- No
- I don't know/ can't say

45. How do you dispose of the organic waste you generate at home?

- Compost pick-up (curbside)
- Compost site/bin at the apartment/condo complex
- Compost drop-off program
- Self-haul to compost facility
- Backyard/at-home composting
- Dispose with trash
- Dispose in garbage disposal
- Burn it (e.g. burn barrel)
- Other (please specify)

46. What type of container does your household currently use for compost pick-up?

- Cart with a lid and wheels (issued by private waste hauler)
- Compost container resembling a bucket with lid and no wheels
- Compostable bags placed in a common location in a composting container/ dumpster
- Other (please specify)

47. Do you feel that the size of your compost container is sufficient for the amount of compost your household generates?

- Too large
- Just right
- Too small
- I don't know/ can't say

48. What color is the lid on your household's compost container?

- Blue
- Green
- Yellow
- Black
- Gray
- I don't know/ can't say
- Other (please specify)

49. Have you ever had difficulty telling your compost container apart from other carts on collection day?

- Yes, often
- Occasionally
- Rarely
- Never

50. Indicate your level of satisfaction about the following regarding compost services available to you.

- Very Satisfied
- Satisfied
- Neutral
- Dissatisfied
- Very Dissatisfied
- Cost of Service
- Frequency of pick-up/ drop-off sites
- Location of pick-up/drop-off sites
- Time of pick-up/ drop-off sites
- Educational material on composting
- Compost container quality (size, bin color)

51. We welcome your feedback!

Indicate what improvements you would like to see in your compost collection services:

Section 4: Extended Producer Responsibility in Colorado

52. Before today, had you heard of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

What is Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)?

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is a type of recycling policy that shifts the costs of recycling from the consumer to product manufacturers. EPR programs help lower recycling costs for towns and residents and help create better recycling systems. They also divert waste away from landfills and reduce litter in the environment.

Does Colorado have EPR?

Yes, in 2022, Colorado passed a law to improve recycling. It is called the Producer Responsibility Program for Statewide Recycling Act. This law says that companies that sell soda cans and cardboard boxes, among other specified packaging and paper products, must help pay to recycle them. It makes companies responsible for the packaging and paper they supply into Colorado after it has been used by the consumer.

What does this mean for you as a resident of Salida?

Under Colorado's EPR program, the City of Salida may be able to provide recycling services free of cost to its residents. This will be possible through reimbursement given to the City for recycling services it provides. These reimbursements may cover new or improved infrastructure, education, and outreach. As of September 2025, the law is still being put into action, meaning, free recycling services are not yet available.

For more information on EPR, visit [CDPHE](#) website.

Figure 36: Information on EPR in Colorado Shared with Survey Respondent⁵

⁵ Language surrounding Colorado's EPR program has been updated since the publication of this survey. The project team is refraining from using the term 'free'. Rather, recycling services for residents may be subsidized depending on if their selected haulers participate in Colorado's EPR program.

53. I have read and understood the above text on EPR in Colorado.

- Yes
- No

Section 5: Resident Information

Lastly, we have a few questions about your household. This information helps us better understand and interpret the survey results and ensure help us make sure our survey reflects the community as a whole.

All of your answers will be kept confidential.

54. How long have you been a resident of Salida?

- Less than 1 year
- 1–4 years
- 5–9 years
- 10–19 years
- 20+ years

55. What is your current status of home ownership?

- Rent
- Own
- I am a person experiencing homelessness
- Other (please specify)

56. What type of residence do you live in?

- Single-family home
- Multifamily (apartment, duplex, condo, town house)
- Mobile/manufactured home
- Other (please specify)

57. In a year, what is your typical duration of residence in the City of Salida?

- 1-5 Months/Year
- 6-11 Months/Year
- All Year Round

58. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

- Some High School
- High School Graduate
- Some College
- College Degree (4-year degree)
- Technical or Trade school (includes 2-year degree)
- Post-Graduate College Degree (e.g., MA, PhD, MD etc.)

59. What is your total household income before taxes in a typical year?

- Less than \$12,000
- From \$12,000 to \$24,999
- From \$25,000 to \$49,999
- From \$50,000 to \$74,999
- From \$75,000 to \$99,999
- Over \$100,000

60. What is your age?

- Under 18
- 18–29
- 30–49
- 50–64
- 65–79
- 80+

Thanks for taking the time to complete this survey! Your input will help improve recycling and waste services in Salida.

Winners of the gift card drawing will be contacted by email in December 2025.

Thank you for your interest in this survey. At this time, the survey is only intended for residents of Salida. We appreciate your willingness to participate.

Appendix C: Spanish Survey

La ciudad de Salida está interactuando con sus residentes para comprender sus opiniones y experiencias con la gestión de la basura doméstica, el reciclaje y el compost.

La encuesta no tomará más de 10 minutos para completarse. Solo se permite una respuesta por hogar. Sus respuestas se mantendrán confidenciales y se informarán únicamente en forma resumida.

¡Complete la encuesta hoy para tener la oportunidad de ganar una tarjeta de regalo!

Para empezar, nos gustaría confirmar que vive en Salida. Esto nos ayuda a asegurarnos de que escuchamos a los residentes locales cuyas experiencias son relevantes para esta encuesta.

1. ¿Vive actualmente en la ciudad de Salida?

- Sí, actualmente vivo en Salida.
- No, no vivo en Salida.

¡Usted califica para esta encuesta porque vive en Salida! Estamos regalando tarjetas de regalo a algunos participantes seleccionados al azar. Si desea tener la oportunidad de ganar, deje su correo electrónico para que podamos comunicarnos con usted si es seleccionado.

2. Por favor comparta su correo electrónico aquí:

Sección 1: Servicios de recolección de basura

Primero, nos gustaría conocer los servicios de recolección de basura que utiliza su hogar. Nos interesa comprender los tipos de servicios a los que tiene acceso y su satisfacción con ellos.

3. ¿Tiene servicio de recolección de basura en su hogar?

Los ejemplos incluyen recogida en la acera y contenedores grandes de basura utilizados en apartamentos/condominios multifamiliares, etc.

- Sí
- No
- No lo sé/no lo recuerdo

4. Si no tiene servicio de recolección de basura, ¿cómo suele desechar la basura que se genera en casa?

La llevo a un relleno sanitario o estación de transferencia.

- Lo quemo (por ejemplo, quema el barril)
- La entierro en mí propiedad
- Utilizo contenedores/basuras públicos
- Otro (por favor especifique)

5. ¿Cuánto gasta usted en la disposición de basura al mes?

Indique el costo únicamente por la disposición de basura (no incluya aquí los costos de reciclaje, si aplica).

- No pago por servicios de basura
- \$1-\$10/mes
- \$11-\$20/mes
- \$21-\$30/mes
- \$31-\$40/mes
- \$41-\$50/mes
- Más de \$50/mes
- No lo sé/no lo recuerdo

6. ¿Cuánta basura produce normalmente su hogar en una semana?

Utilice la imagen a continuación para estimar la cantidad de basura que su hogar genera cada semana.

- Menos de 1 bolsa de basura de cocina por semana
- 1-3 bolsas de basura de cocina por semana
- 4-5 bolsas de basura de cocina por semana
- 6-7 bolsas de basura de cocina por semana
- Más de 7 bolsas de basura de cocina por semana
- No lo sé/no puedo recordarlo

De izquierda a derecha: Imagen de un carrito de 95 galones que contiene aproximadamente de 5 a 7 bolsas de basura de cocina, un carrito de 65 galones que contiene aproximadamente de 4 a 5 bolsas de basura de cocina y un carrito de 35 galones que contiene aproximadamente de 2 a 3 bolsas de basura de cocina.



Figure 37: Three Garbage Carts in Various Sizes



Figure 38: Human Figure and Trash Bag Size Comparison

7. ¿Qué tipo de contrato de servicio tiene su hogar para la recolección de basura?

- Le pago directamente a una empresa para que recoja la basura
- Utilizo el servicio incluido en las cuotas del administrador del edificio o de la asociación de propietarios (HOA)
- Tengo un servicio compartido con vecinos o arreglo comunitario
- No lo sé/no lo recuerdo

- Otro (por favor especifique)

8. ¿Con qué frecuencia se recoge la basura de su hogar?

- Cada semana
- Cada dos semanas
- No lo sé/no lo recuerdo
- Otro (por favor especifique)

9. ¿En un mes, cuánto gasta en la recolección de basura?

- Proporcione solo el costo del servicio de recolección de basura (excluya aquí los gastos de reciclaje, si aplica)
- No pago por servicios de basura
- \$1-\$10/mes
- \$11-\$20/mes
- \$21-\$30/mes
- \$31-\$40/mes
- \$41-\$50/mes
- Más de \$50/mes
- No lo sé/no lo recuerdo

10. ¿Qué tipo de contenedor utiliza actualmente su hogar para la recogida de basura?

- Contenedor con tapa y ruedas (entregado por una empresa privada de recolección)
- Bote o contenedor con o sin tapa y sin ruedas
- Bolsas de basura colocadas en un área común dentro de un contenedor o contenedor grande (en el caso de complejos de apartamentos, etc.)
- Otro (por favor especifique)

11. ¿Cuánta basura produce normalmente su hogar en una semana?

Utilice la imagen a continuación para estimar la cantidad de basura.

- Menos de 1 bolsa de basura de cocina por semana
- 1-3 bolsas de basura de cocina por semana
- 4-5 bolsas de basura de cocina por semana
- 6-7 bolsas de basura de cocina por semana
- Más de 7 bolsas de basura de cocina por semana

- No lo sé/no lo recuerdo

Imagen de un carrito de 95 galones que contiene aproximadamente de 5 a 7 bolsas de basura de cocina, un carrito de 65 galones que contiene aproximadamente de 4 a 5 bolsas de basura de cocina y un carrito de 35 galones que contiene aproximadamente de 2 a 3 bolsas de basura de cocina.



Figure 34: Three Garbage Carts in Various Sizes



Figure 40: Human Figure and Trash Bag Size Comparison

12. ¿Cuánta basura produce normalmente su hogar en una semana?

Utilice la imagen a continuación para estimar la cantidad de basura.

- Menos de 1 bolsa de basura de cocina por semana
- 1-3 bolsas de basura de cocina por semana
- 4-5 bolsas de basura de cocina por semana
- 6-7 bolsas de basura de cocina por semana
- Más de 7 bolsas de basura de cocina por semana
- No lo sé/no lo recuerdo

13. Indique el tamaño del contenedor de basura que utiliza su hogar.

Utilice la imagen proporcionada a continuación para determinar el tamaño de su contenedor de basura.

- Carrito de 95 galones
- Carrito de 65 galones
- Carrito de 35 galones
- No lo sé/no lo recuerdo
- Otro (por favor especifique)

Imagen de un carrito de 95 galones que contiene aproximadamente de 5 a 7 bolsas de basura de cocina, un carrito de 65 galones que contiene aproximadamente de 4 a 5 bolsas de basura de cocina y un carrito de 35 galones que contiene aproximadamente de 2 a 3 bolsas de basura de cocina.



Figure 36: Three Garbage Carts in Various Sizes



Figure 42: Human Figure and Trash Bag Size Comparison

14. ¿Siente que el tamaño de su contenedor de basura es suficiente para la cantidad de basura que genera su hogar?

- Demasiado grande
- Justo lo correcto
- Demasiado pequeño
- No lo sé/no lo recuerdo

15. ¿De qué color es la tapa del contenedor de basura de su hogar?

- Azul
- Verde
- Amarillo
- Negro
- Gris
- Otro (por favor especifique)
- No lo sé/no lo recuerdo

16. Si solo pudiera mirar el color de la tapa, ¿qué tan seguro/a estaría de poder identificar correctamente su carrito de basura?

- Muy seguro/a
- Ni seguro/a ni inseguro/a

- No estoy seguro/a
- No lo sé/no lo recuerdo

17. Indique su nivel de satisfacción con su servicio de recogida de basura.

- Muy satisfecho/a
- Satisfecho/a
- Neutral
- Insatisfecho/a
- Muy insatisfecho/a
- Costo del servicio de recogida
- Frecuencia de recogida
- Hora de recogida
- Servicio al cliente
- Calidad del carrito/contenedor (tamaño y color)

18. ¡Agradecemos sus comentarios!

Indique qué mejoras le gustaría ver en los servicios de recogida de basura:

Sección 2: Participación en el reciclaje y servicios de recogida de reciclaje

A continuación, nos gustaría conocer su participación en el reciclaje y cualquier dificultad que pueda tener con el reciclaje.

19. ¿Con qué frecuencia recicla en su hogar?

- Reciclo siempre todo lo que puedo
- Reciclo la mayoría de los artículos regularmente
- Reciclo a veces, cuando es conveniente
- Rara vez reciclo
- Nunca reciclo

20. De la siguiente lista, seleccione las razones que hacen que el reciclaje sea difícil en su hogar: Seleccione todas las que correspondan

- Servicio de recogida en la acera no disponible
- Alto costo del servicio de recogida en la acera

- El reciclaje requiere demasiado tiempo o esfuerzo
- El reciclaje no funciona/no es importante
- No hay acceso a los puntos de entrega
- No sé qué reciclar
- No genero suficiente material reciclable
- El reciclaje no funciona/no es importante
- Falta de espacio en mi hogar para almacenar materiales reciclables
- Otro (por favor especifique)

21. ¿Qué tipo de apoyo necesita para facilitar el reciclaje en su hogar? Seleccione todas las que correspondan

- Acceso al servicio de recogida en la acera
- Bajo costo del servicio de recogida en la acera
- Información sobre a dónde van los materiales reciclables
- Acceso a los puntos de entrega
- Fácil acceso a guías sobre qué reciclar
- Bolsas/cajas para recoger/consolidar el reciclaje en casa
- Otro (por favor especifique)

Ahora nos gustaría hacerle algunas preguntas sobre los servicios de reciclaje a los que tiene acceso su hogar.

22. ¿Tiene servicio de recolección de reciclaje en su hogar?

Los ejemplos incluyen el reciclaje en la acera y los contenedores/contenedores de reciclaje utilizados en apartamentos/condominios multifamiliares, etc.

- Sí
- No
- No lo sé/no puedo decirlo

23. Si no dispone de servicio de recolección de reciclaje, ¿cómo suele desechar los materiales reciclables generado en su hogar?

- Lo llevo a un vertedero o estación de transferencia
- Lo llevo al punto de reciclaje o al centro de canje
- Lo desecho con la basura

- Lo quemo (por ejemplo, quema el barril)
- Lo reutilizo o reciclo
- Otro (por favor especifique)

24. ¿Cuánto gasta al mes en el servicio de reciclaje?

- Si paga el reciclaje junto con la basura, indique cuánto cuesta el reciclaje adicional por mes
- No pago por el reciclaje
- \$1-\$10 por mes
- \$11-\$20 por mes
- \$21-\$30 por mes
- \$31-\$40 por mes
- \$41-\$50 por mes
- Más de \$50 por mes
- No lo sé/no lo recuerdo

25. ¿Cuánto material reciclable genera normalmente su hogar en una semana? Imagine que sus materiales reciclables semanales se recolectaran en bolsas de basura de cocina estándar y seleccione la opción que mejor represente su hogar.

Nota: Normalmente el reciclaje no se embolsa. Las referencias a las bolsas de basura de cocina se utilizan únicamente para ayudar a estimar el volumen de materiales reciclables que genera su hogar.

- Menos de 1 bolsa
- 1-3 bolsas por semana
- 4-5 bolsas por semana
- 6-7 bolsas por semana
- Más de 7 bolsas
- No lo sé/no lo recuerdo
- Otro (por favor especifique)

Imagen de un carrito de reciclaje azul de 95 galones que contiene aproximadamente entre 5 y 7 bolsas de basura de cocina, un carrito de 65 galones que contiene aproximadamente entre 4 y 5 bolsas de basura de cocina y un carrito de 35 galones que contiene aproximadamente entre 2 y 3 bolsas de basura de cocina.

Nota: Normalmente el reciclaje no se embolsa. Las referencias a las bolsas de basura de cocina que aparecen a continuación solo tienen como finalidad ayudar a estimar la cantidad de materiales reciclables generados por su hogar.



Figure 43: Three Recycling Carts in Various Sizes



Figure 44: Human Figure and Trash Bag Size Comparison

26. ¿Qué tipo de contrato de servicio tiene su hogar para los servicios de recolección de reciclaje?

- Pago directamente a una empresa para que recoja el reciclaje
- Utilizo el servicio incluido en las cuotas del administrador del edificio o de la asociación de propietarios (HOA)
- Servicio compartido con vecinos o acuerdo comunitario
- No lo sé/no lo recuerdo
- Otro (por favor especifique)

27. ¿Con qué frecuencia se recoge el material reciclable de su hogar?

- Cada semana
- Cada dos semanas
- No lo sé/no lo recuerdo
- Otro (por favor especifique)

28. ¿Cuánto paga al mes por la recolección de reciclaje?

- Si paga el reciclaje con la basura, indique cuánto cuesta el reciclaje adicional por mes
- No pago la recogida de reciclaje
- \$1-\$10 por mes
- \$11-\$20 por mes
- \$21-\$30 por mes
- \$31-\$40 por mes
- \$41-\$50 por mes
- Más de \$50 por mes
- No lo sé/no lo recuerdo

29. Si la recolección de reciclaje fuera gratuita, ¿qué tan probable es que recicle más de lo que recicla actualmente?

- Muy probable
- Ni probable ni improbable
- Muy improbable

30. Si la recolección de reciclaje fuera gratuita, ¿cómo utilizaría el dinero que ahorra en el reciclaje?

- Utilizaría el dinero en otros esfuerzos de reducción de residuos (por ejemplo, invertir en artículos reutilizables o suscribirme a un servicio de recolección de compost).
- Utilizaría el dinero para otras necesidades del hogar.
- No estoy seguro/a
- Otro (por favor especifique)

31. Si la recolección de reciclaje fuera gratuita, ¿qué tan probable es que se suscriba al servicio de recolección de compost?

- Muy probable
- Ni probable ni improbable
- Muy improbable
- No aplicable - Ya hago compost
- Otro (por favor especifique)

32. ¿Qué tipo de contenedor utiliza actualmente su hogar para la recolección de reciclaje?

- Contenedor con tapa y ruedas (entregado por una empresa privada de recolección)
- Bote o contenedor con o sin tapa y sin ruedas
- Bolsas de reciclaje colocadas en un área común dentro de un contenedor o contenedor grande de reciclaje
- Otro (por favor especifique)

33. ¿Cuánto reciclaje genera normalmente su hogar en una semana?

Imagine que sus materiales reciclables semanales se recolectaran en bolsas de basura de cocina estándar y seleccione la opción que mejor represente su hogar.

Nota: Normalmente el reciclaje no se embolsa. Las referencias a las bolsas de basura de cocina se utilizan únicamente para ayudar a estimar el volumen de materiales reciclables que genera su hogar.

- Menos de 1 bolsa
- Aproximadamente 1-3 bolsas
- Unas 4-5 bolsas
- Unas 6-7 bolsas
- Más de 7 bolsas
- No lo sé/no lo recuerdo

- Otro (por favor especifique)

Imagen de un carrito de reciclaje azul de 95 galones que contiene aproximadamente entre 5 y 7 bolsas de basura de cocina, un carrito de 65 galones que contiene aproximadamente entre 4 y 5 bolsas de basura de cocina y un carrito de 35 galones que contiene aproximadamente entre 2 y 3 bolsas de basura de cocina.

Nota: Normalmente el reciclaje no se embolsa. Las referencias a las bolsas de basura de cocina que aparecen a continuación solo tienen como finalidad ayudar a estimar la cantidad de materiales reciclables generados por su hogar.



Figure 45: Three Recycling Carts in Various Sizes



Figure 46: Human Figure and Trash Bag Size Comparison

34. ¿Cuánto material reciclable genera normalmente su hogar en una semana?

Imagine que sus materiales reciclables semanales se recolectaran en bolsas de basura de cocina estándar y seleccione la opción que mejor represente su hogar.

Normalmente el reciclaje no se embolsa. Las referencias a las bolsas de basura de cocina se utilizan únicamente para ayudar a estimar el volumen de materiales reciclables que genera su hogar.

- Menos de 1 bolsa
- Aproximadamente 1-3 bolsas
- Unas 4-5 bolsas
- Unas 6-7 bolsas
- Más de 7 bolsas
- No lo sé/no lo recuerdo
- Otro (por favor especifique)

Imagen de un carrito de reciclaje azul de 95 galones que contiene aproximadamente entre 5 y 7 bolsas de basura de cocina, un carrito de 65 galones que contiene aproximadamente entre 4 y 5 bolsas de basura de cocina y un carrito de 35 galones que contiene aproximadamente entre 2 y 3 bolsas de basura de cocina.

Nota: Normalmente el reciclaje no se embolsa. Las referencias a las bolsas de basura de cocina que aparecen a continuación solo tienen como objetivo ayudar a estimar la cantidad de materiales reciclables generados por su hogar.



Figure 47: Three Recycling Carts in Various Sizes



Figure 48: Human Figure and Trash Bag Size Comparison

35. Indique el tamaño del contenedor de reciclaje utilizado en su hogar.

Utilice la imagen proporcionada aquí para determinar el tamaño de su carrito de reciclaje.

- Carrito de 95 galones
- Carrito de 65 galones
- Carrito de 35 galones
- No lo sé/no lo recuerdo
- Otro (por favor especifique)

36. ¿Cree que el tamaño de su contenedor con ruedas es suficiente para la cantidad de materiales reciclables que genera su hogar?

- Demasiado grande
- Justo lo correcto
- Demasiado pequeño
- No estoy seguro/a

37. ¿De qué color es la tapa del contenedor de reciclaje de su hogar?

- Azul
- Verde
- Amarillo
- Negro
- Gris
- No lo sé/no puedo decirlo
- Otro (por favor especifique)

38. ¿El color de la tapa le ayuda a diferenciar su carrito de reciclaje de su carrito de basura?

- Sí
- No
- Otro (por favor especifique)

39. ¿Alguna vez ha recibido algún material educativo o información sobre el reciclaje en Salida?

Algunos ejemplos de material o información educativa podrían incluir folletos en línea, imprimibles o enviados por correo que expliquen en palabras o imágenes qué materiales se aceptan para reciclar y un calendario de cuándo se recogen en su comunidad.

- Sí

- No
- No lo sé/no lo recuerdo

40. ¿Cuándo recibió por última vez información sobre reciclaje o materiales educativos en Salida?

- En el último año
- Hace más de un año
- No lo sé/no lo recuerdo
- Otro (por favor especifique)

41. ¿Qué tipo de materiales o información educativa sobre reciclaje ha recibido? Seleccione todas las que correspondan

- Volantes o folletos
- Envíos postales o cartas
- Correos electrónicos o boletines informativos
- Publicaciones en redes sociales
- Eventos o talleres comunitarios
- Otro (por favor especifique)

42. Indique su nivel de satisfacción con su servicio de recolección de reciclaje.

- Muy satisfecho/a
- Satisfecho/a
- Neutral
- Insatisfecho/a
- Muy insatisfecho/a
- Costo del servicio
- Frecuencia de recogida
- Hora de recogida
- Servicio al cliente
- Material educativo
- Calidad del carrito/contenedor (tamaño y color)

43. ¡Agradecemos sus comentarios!

Indique qué mejoras le gustaría ver en sus servicios de recolección de reciclaje:

Sección 3: Servicios de compostaje

Finalmente, nos gustaría hacerle algunas preguntas sobre los servicios de compostaje a los que tiene acceso su hogar. Sus respuestas nos ayudarán a comprender las prácticas actuales e identificar oportunidades para apoyar el compostaje en la comunidad.

44. ¿Hace compost?

Incluye contenedores o depósitos de compostaje utilizados en edificios multifamiliares, apartamentos o condominios.

- Sí
- No
- No lo sé/no puedo decirlo

45. ¿Cómo desecha los residuos orgánicos que genera en casa?

- Recogida de compost (en la acera)
- Sitio/contenedor de compost en el complejo de apartamentos/condominios
- Programa de entrega de compost
- Transporte propio a la planta de compostaje
- Compostaje en el patio o en casa
- Lo desecho con la basura
- Lo desecho en el triturador de basura
- Lo quemo (por ejemplo, quema el barril)
- Otro (por favor especifique)

46. ¿Qué tipo de contenedor utiliza actualmente su hogar para la recolección de compost?

- Contenedor con ruedas (entregado por una empresa privada de recolección)
- Bolsas compostables colocadas en un área común dentro de un contenedor de compostaje o contenedor grande (en el caso de complejos de apartamentos, etc.)
- Otro (por favor especifique)

47. ¿Cree que el tamaño de su contenedor de compost es suficiente para la cantidad de compost que genera su hogar?

- Demasiado grande

- Justo lo correcto
- Demasiado pequeño
- No lo sé/no puedo decirlo

48. ¿De qué color es la tapa del contenedor de compost de su hogar?

- Azul
- Verde
- Amarillo
- Negro
- Gris
- No lo sé/no puedo decirlo
- Otro (por favor especifique)

49. ¿Alguna vez ha tenido dificultad para distinguir su contenedor de compost de los otros contenedores el día de recolección?

- Sí, a menudo
- Ocasionalmente
- Raramente
- Nunca

50. Indique su nivel de satisfacción acerca de los siguientes servicios de compostaje disponibles para usted.

- Muy satisfecho/a
- Satisfecho/a
- Neutral
- Insatisfecho/a
- Muy insatisfecho/a
- Costo del servicio
- Frecuencia de los sitios de recogida/entrega
- Ubicación de los sitios de recogida y entrega
- Hora de los sitios de recogida/entrega
- Material educativo sobre compostaje
- Calidad del carrito/contenedor de compost (tamaño y color)

51. ¡Agradecemos sus comentarios!

Indique qué mejoras le gustaría ver en sus servicios de recolección de compost:

Sección 4: Responsabilidad extendida del productor en Colorado

52. Antes de hoy, ¿había oído hablar de la Responsabilidad Extendida del Productor (REP)?

- Sí
- No
- No estoy seguro/a

¿Qué es la Responsabilidad Extendida del Productor (REP)?

La Responsabilidad Extendida del Productor (REP) es un tipo de política de reciclaje que traslada los costos del reciclaje del consumidor a los fabricantes de productos. Los programas REP ayudan a reducir los costos de reciclaje para las ciudades y los residentes y ayudan a crear mejores sistemas de reciclaje. También desvían los residuos de los vertederos y reducen la basura en el medio ambiente.

¿Colorado tiene REP?

Sí, en 2022, Colorado aprobó una ley para mejorar el reciclaje. Se llama Ley del Programa de Responsabilidad del Productor para el Reciclaje a Nivel Estatal. Esta ley dice que las empresas que venden latas de refresco y cajas de cartón, entre otros embalajes y productos de papel especificados, deben contribuir a pagar su reciclaje. Esto hace que las empresas sean responsables del embalaje y el papel que suministran a Colorado después de que hayan sido utilizados por el consumidor.

¿Qué significa esto para usted como residente de Salida?

Según el programa REP de Colorado, la ciudad de Salida podría proporcionar servicios de reciclaje gratuitos a sus residentes. Esto será posible mediante el reembolso a la ciudad por los servicios de reciclaje que presta. Estos reembolsos pueden cubrir infraestructura nueva o mejorada, educación y extensión.

A partir de septiembre de 2025, la ley aún está en proceso de aplicación, es decir, aún no se encuentran disponibles servicios de reciclaje gratuitos.

Para obtener más información sobre REP, visite el sitio web de CDPHE.

Figure 49: Information on EPR in Colorado Shared with Survey Respondent⁶

⁶ Language surrounding Colorado's EPR program has been updated since the publication of this survey. The project team is refraining from using the term 'free'. Rather, recycling services for residents may be subsidized depending on if their selected haulers participate in Colorado's EPR program.

53. He leído y comprendido el texto anterior sobre REP en Colorado.

- Sí
- No

Sección 5: Información para residentes

Por último, tenemos algunas preguntas sobre su hogar. Esta información nos ayuda a comprender e interpretar mejor los resultados de la encuesta y a garantizar que nuestra encuesta refleje a la comunidad en su conjunto.

Todas sus respuestas se mantendrán confidenciales.

54. ¿Cuánto tiempo ha sido usted residente de Salida?

- Menos de 1 año
- 1–4 años
- 5–9 años
- 10–19 años
- Más de 20 años

55. ¿Cuál es su situación actual como propietario de su vivienda?

- Alquilo
- Soy propietario
- Soy una persona sin hogar
- Otro (por favor especifique)

56. ¿En qué tipo de residencia vive?

- Vivienda unifamiliar
- Multifamiliar (apartamento, dúplex, condominio, casa adosada)
- Casa móvil/prefabricada
- Otro (por favor especifique)

57. En un año, ¿cuál es su duración típica de residencia en la ciudad de Salida?

- 1-5 meses/año
- 6-11 meses/año
- Todo el año

58. ¿Cuál es el nivel más alto de educación que has completado?

- Algunos estudios de secundaria
- Graduado de la escuela secundaria
- Un poco de universidad
- Escuela técnica o comercial (incluye título de 2 años)
- Título universitario (licenciatura de 4 años)
- Título universitario de posgrado (por ejemplo, maestría, doctorado, doctorado, etc.)

59. ¿Cuál es el ingreso familiar total antes de impuestos en un año típico?

- Menos de \$12,000
- De \$12,000 a \$24,999
- De \$25,000 a \$49,999
- De \$50,000 a \$74,999
- De \$75,000 a \$99,999
- Más de \$100,000

60. ¿Cuál es su edad?

- Soy menor de 18 años de edad
- 18–29
- 30–49
- 50–64
- 65–79
- 80+

¡Gracias por tomarse el tiempo para completar esta encuesta! Su aporte ayudará a mejorar los servicios de reciclaje y residuos en Salida.

Los ganadores del sorteo de tarjetas de regalo serán contactados por correo electrónico en diciembre de 2025.

Gracias por su interés en esta encuesta. En este momento, la encuesta está destinada únicamente a los residentes de Salida. Agradecemos su disposición a participar.

Policy Analysis of Waste Survey Results in Salida, Colorado

By Alex Dalton, Zoe Debenedette,
Ashley Mooney & Sonya Stephen



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SALIDA
COLORADO



WESTERN
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Project Overview/Background

- Sustainable Chaffee conducted a community-wide waste survey in 2025
- Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) program launched in Colorado at the start of this year
 - Due to launch in Salida later this year
- **Project aims to:**
 - Prepare community for changes from the EPR program
 - Increase recycling participation rates as recycling becomes more affordable
 - Prepare our sponsors for educational outreach about the EPR program and recycling best practices



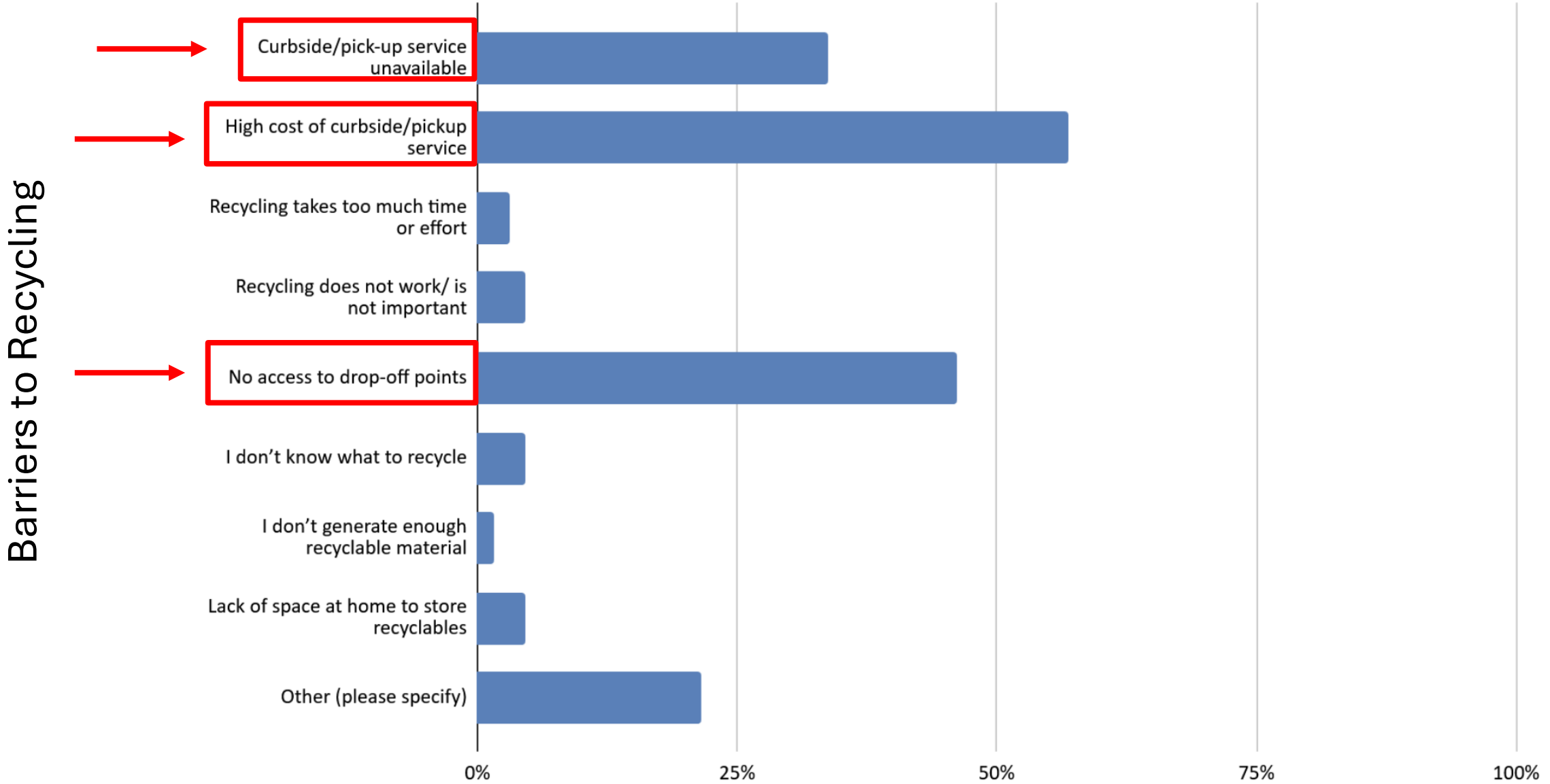
Colorado Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)

- Waste haulers reimbursed by Circular Action Alliance (CAA) for recycling & compost service
- Haulers' choice to participate
- All 3 haulers that service Salida indicate they will take part
- CAA will reimburse Salida for EPR public outreach campaign
 - Potential to reimburse public drop-off site installation & signage

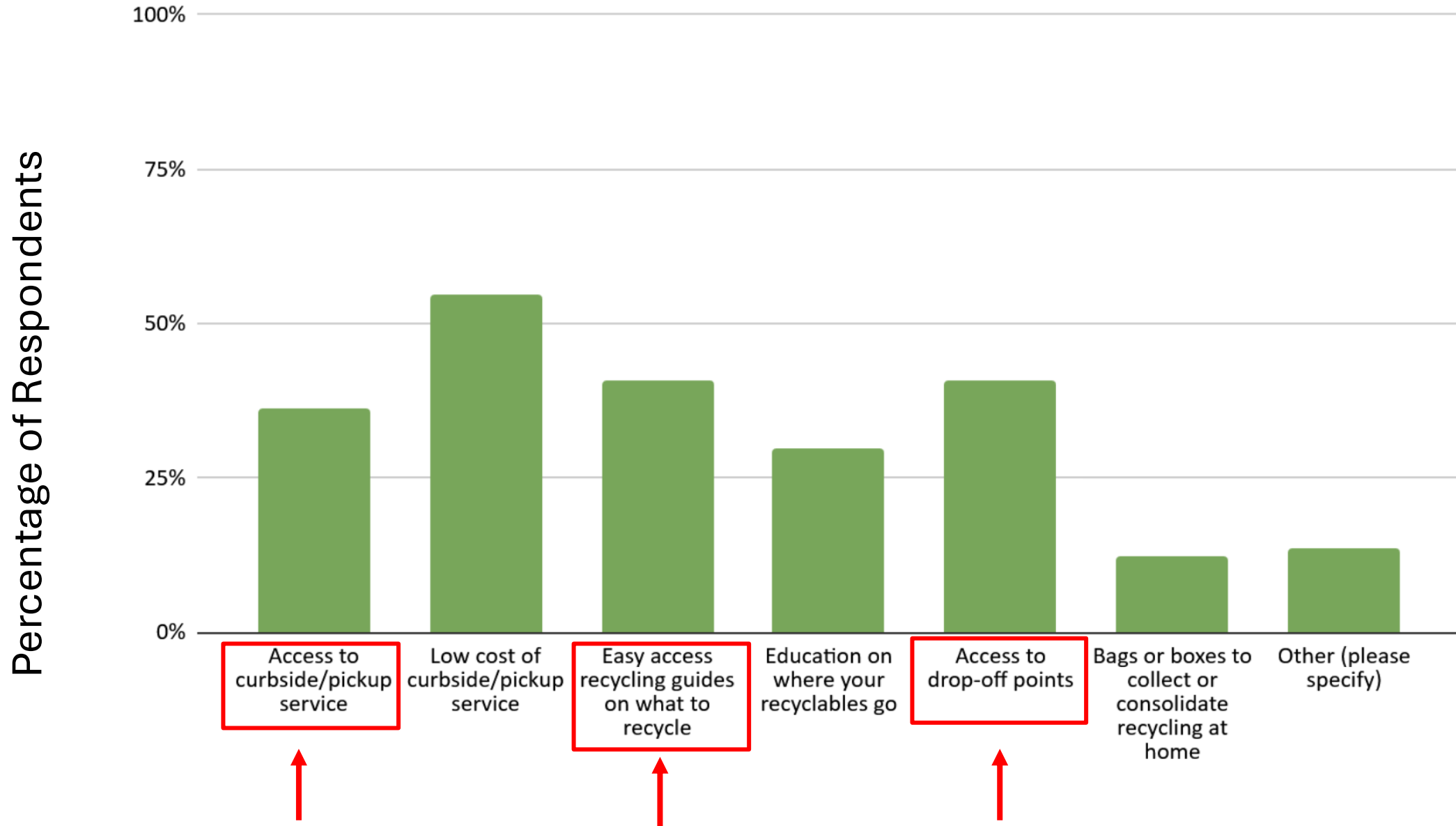
What does this mean for Salida?
Residents have access to free recycling & composting



Barriers to Recycling for Respondents that Never Recycle



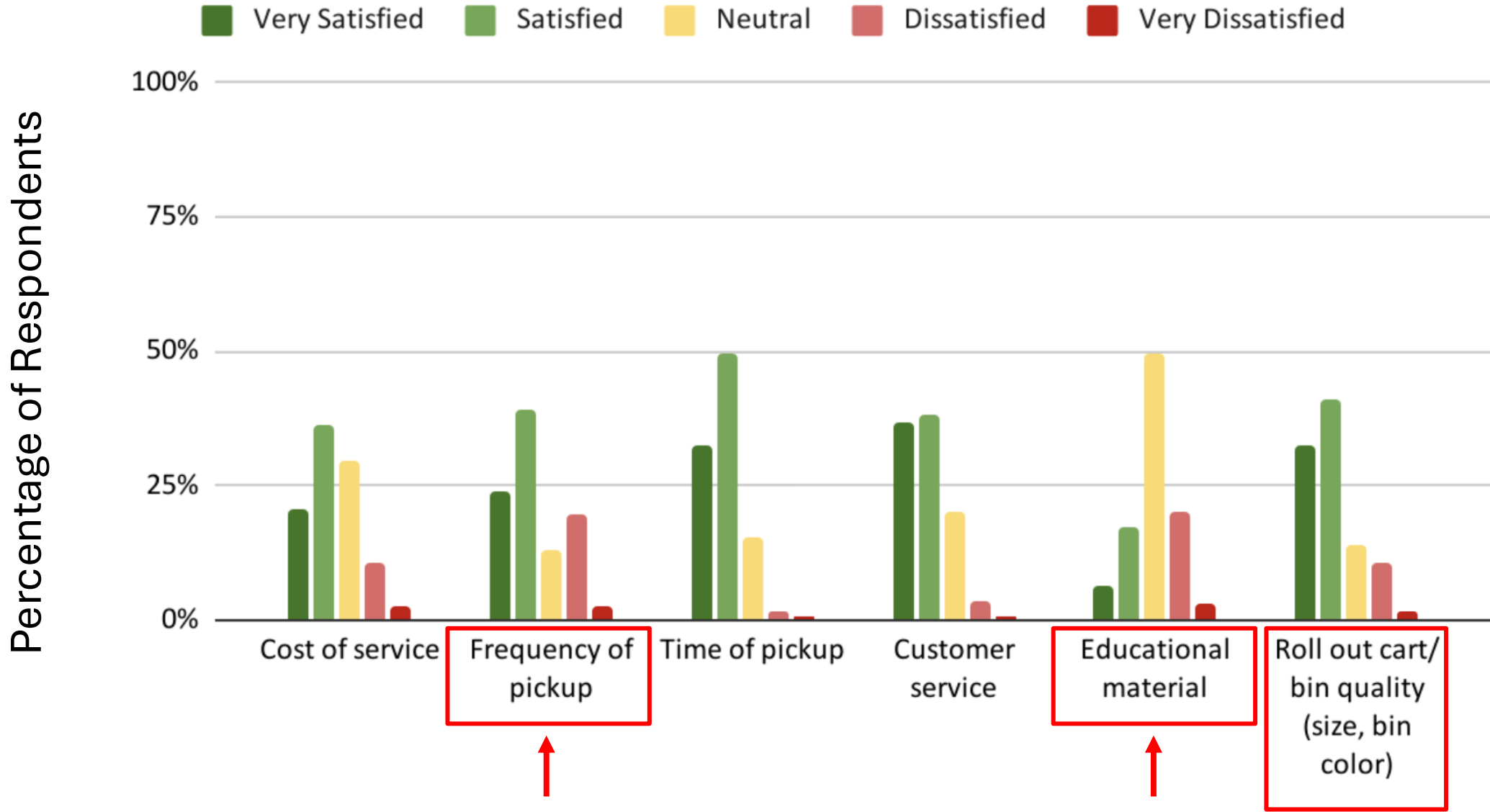
Support Needs to Encourage Recycling



(Colorado Circular Communities, 2025)

Support Needs for Recycling

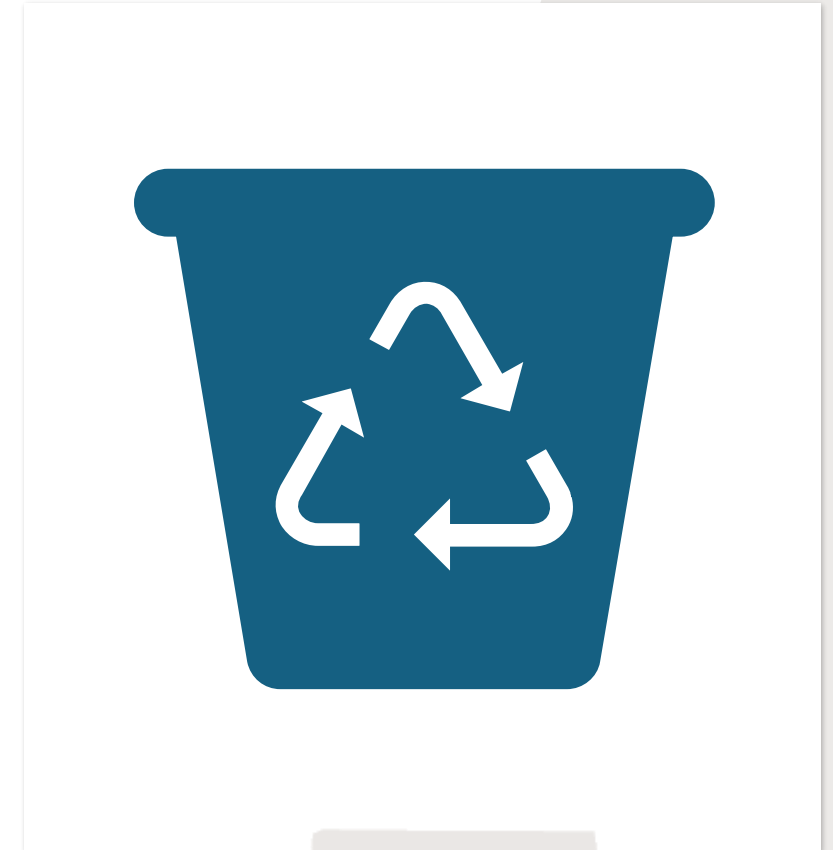
Respondent Reported Satisfaction Levels with Recycling Pickup Service



Level of Satisfaction with Recycling Pickup Service

Policy: Waste Hauler Licensing and Standardized Containers

- All waste haulers within the City of Salida must obtain a municipal license and comply with standardized container requirements, including consistent bin lid colors, labeling, and service standards.
- Standardization may focus on bin lid colors.
- Implementation:
 - Require hauler licensing through Salida
 - Blue = recycling Green = compost
Black/gray = landfill
 - Require consistent labeling and icons across haulers
 - Phase in to reduce cost burden and allow gradual compliance



Policy: Commercial Organics Diversion Requirement

- All commercial food-generating and related businesses within the City of Salida are required to separate organic waste for composting where collection service is available.
- Implementation:
 - Phase in by business size, large businesses first, and trickle down to small businesses
 - Requires participation from a licensed compost hauling program
 - Will be coordinated with regional compost partners to ensure capacity and compliance



Policy: Recycling Infrastructure For Multifamily Housing

- All new multifamily developments (4+ units) and qualifying redevelopment projects must include designated space for recycling, organics, and landfill containers.
- Implementation:
 - Require waste infrastructure space in site plans and building permits
 - Define minimum space and accessibility standards for recycling and organics containers and prioritize high-density housing and low-income areas
 - Use EPR funding to offset expansion costs
 - Coordinate with the Chaffee County Building Department to explore alignment with county-wide development standards



EPR Education Analysis

- “30% reported that they had received recycling-related information
- While 51% indicated that they had not
- “89% of respondents reported they had never heard of EPR”
- “98% of respondents reported that they had read and understood the material”

EPR brief educational text was successful!



Educational outreach materials

EPR in Colorado: What to know

Starting in 2026, Colorado's Extended Producer Responsibility program will expand access to recycling services throughout the state and provide **free recycling services** to many Coloradans.

This program is funded by requiring producers to contribute to a statewide recycling program if they sell paper products or products in packaging.¹

This fact sheet serves as a guide for Colorado residents to learn more about this program and how it will affect their recycling and waste management habits.

Overview

The Problem
In Colorado, we recycle or compost only 15% of our generated waste. This puts us in the top 20 most wasteful US states!²

Covered Materials
The majority of items you already recycle will be included in this program. They include paper (i.e. cardboard, paper bags, newspapers) and packaging (i.e. aluminum cans, glass and plastic bottles).³

Implementation
Program implementation will start at the municipal level and will then shift to local markets later in 2026.²

FAQs

What will change for those who already participate in recycling?
If you already recycle with a local hauler, there is nothing you need to do! Once this program is in full swing later this year, you will no longer need to pay for basic recycling.

What if I live too rurally for recycling pick up?
Because the EPR program is implemented by local haulers, if you do not have an existing service you will need to contact a local hauler to see what your options are.

How do I learn more about this program and how it will affect me?
Local haulers will also be conducting outreach about upcoming changes. To learn more about the EPR program as a whole, head to www.cdph.colorado.gov/hm/epr-program

Learn more about the Colorado EPR program at <https://circularactionalliance.org/>

1. Producer Responsibility program | Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Inc. | <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/hm/epr-program>

2. Recycle Colorado. (2022). Colorado producer responsibility bill passed! <https://www.recyclingforallcoloradans.org/>

3. Sustainable Westminster. (2026). Free Recycling for Colorado Residents [Flyer].

Coming soon to Salida...

Colorado's first
free recycling
program!

Follow this QR code to learn more about the Colorado EPR program!

LEARN TO Recycle!

PAPER & CARDBOARD

Pizza boxes
Newspaper
School papers

PLASTIC

Plastics #1-7
Yogurt cups
NOT plastic bags!

GLASS

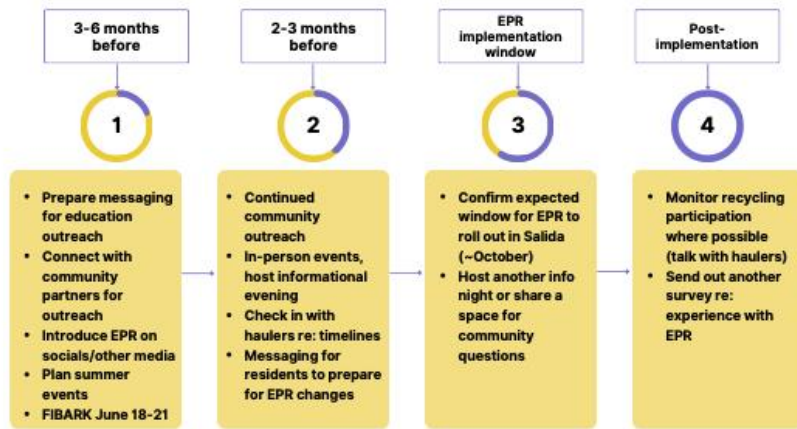
Jam jars
Glass drink bottles

ALUMINUM

Soda cans
Canned vegetables
Canned fish

Soon recycling in Salida will be **FREE!** Remind your parents to learn more about Colorado's EPR program

EPR Implementation Roadmap



ROADMAP FOR EPR EDUCATION OUTREACH

Months before launch	6 MONTHS	5 MONTHS	4 MONTHS	3 MONTHS	2 MONTHS	1 MONTH
EVENTS	Plan informational evening	Reach out to potential partners: GARNA, Salida Mountain Trails, Parks & Rec etc	FIBARK booth/table	Partnership events	Host informational evening	Partnership events
SOCIAL MEDIA	Prep messaging for social media channels	Introduce EPR on all channels	Share more specific EPR information	EPR reminder	EPR checklist for residents - <i>have you spoken with your hauler?</i>	Messaging: Get ready for EPR roll out!
RADIO/NEWS	Prep messaging for Mountain Mail, radio channels	Reach out to MM and radio channels, schedule announcements	Roll out messaging			Second round of messaging
ONGOING	Post flyers at local businesses	Check socials/respond to questions			Check in with haulers re: timeline/ways to support	
OTHER/LATER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CMC's Intercambio class: Fall semester (Sept/Oct onwards) Create questionnaire after events, respond to questions from public 					



Outreach concepts & ideas

- In-person
- Social media
- Radio & newspaper
- Activities for children/youth
- Partnerships with local organizations



Sustainability Staff

- Program Design
 - Timelines and implementation
 - Prepare community for EPR
 - Pilot new services & outreach
- Stakeholder Coordination
 - Clear & consistent messaging
 - Report progress and gaps to council
 - Track amount waste diverted from landfill
- Infrastructure
 - Public drop-off site
 - Waste transfer station
- Community Engagement & Equity
 - Multi-platform messaging
 - Host outreach & education events
 - Partner with schools & local groups
 - Provide multilingual materials
 - Engage underserved communities
 - Ensure fair access

Funding Opportunities

- Colorado Circular Action Alliance (CAA)

- Reimburses recycling & composting service costs
 - Supports public drop-off infrastructure
 - Funds outreach & education efforts
- (CAA, n.d.)

- Colorado Circular Communities (C3) Enterprise

- Implementation grants
- (C3 Enterprise, n.d.)

- NextCycle Colorado

- Consulting for local businesses
- Pitches opportunities + potential funding

(CDPHE, 2025)

- Western Colorado Community Foundation

- Grants for nonprofits
- Focuses on conservation, environment, & stewardship

(WCCF, n.d.)



Quick Wins

1. **Launch a public education campaign about EPR program**
 - Outreach explaining what EPR is and how it changes recycling
 - Clear guidance on what can be recycled and how to do so
2. **Standardize recycling bin lids across haulers**
 - A consistent color system across all 3 haulers
 - When residents do not have to guess contamination drops
3. **Install public recycling drop-off points**
 - Accessible drop-off locations would serve both residents and visitors
 - Possibly be reimbursed later through CAA funding

Resident Survey Quotes

- “We would love to recycle but don't know how to in the community”
- “Service provider indicated it was super expensive - had to drive to CO Springs - offsetting the benefit”
- “I would have less trash if I had access to convenient recycling!”
- “Better education about what you can recycle and have it come out at least once a year”



City Council Work Session Memo

Department Arts, Parks, Recreation and Culture	Presented By Diesel Post - APRC Director	Date April 20, 2026
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Agenda Item

Arts and Culture Advisory Commission update

Background

Council has asked for regular updates from its advisory committees. This is a bi-annual update from the ACAC.

Requested Direction from Council

None



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEMO

DEPARTMENT Police	PRESENTED BY Russ Johnson - Police Chief	DATE April 20, 2026
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AGENDA ITEM

Police Department overview.

BACKGROUND

Council will be given an overview the Police Department. We will cover the structure, operational details, new mandates, training, and give a building update.

REQUESTED DIRECTION FROM COUNCIL

None at this time.