

## Solid Waste Reduction & Diversion Plan Overview

The City of Saskatoon (the City) takes an integrated approach to waste management by combining solid waste diversion, disposal, and education services. The City prepares biennial reporting on these services through the [Integrated Waste Management Report](#).

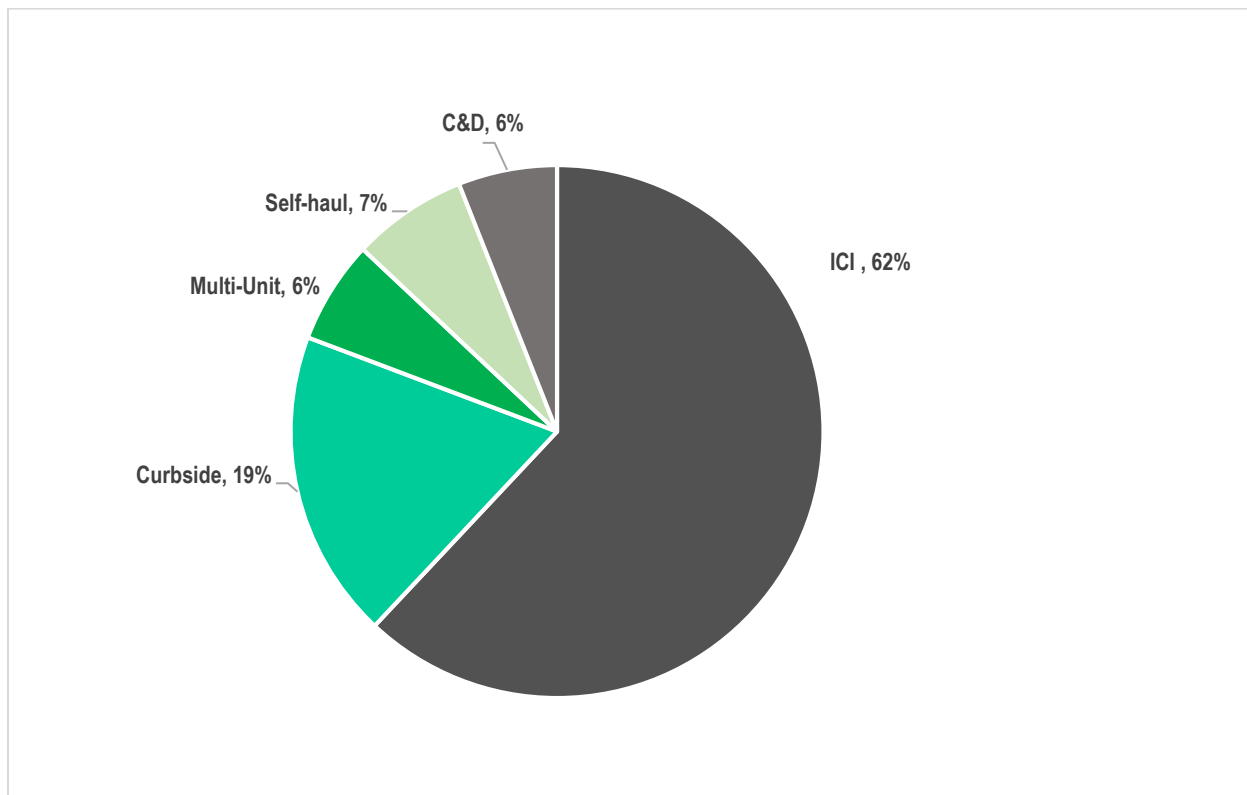
Since January 2021, [the Solid Waste Reduction and Diversion Plan](#) (the Plan) and Council direction has guided the City's new initiatives to reduce and divert waste. Administration prepares a biennial status update and a [work plan](#) aligning with the multi-year budgeting process. Both the Integrated Waste Management Report and work plan were last prepared in June 2023 and updates to both are planned for Q2 2025.

This attachment provides an overview of the City's wide waste generation, a timeline of planning and achievement milestones, a summary of City provided waste services by sector.

### **Waste Generation**

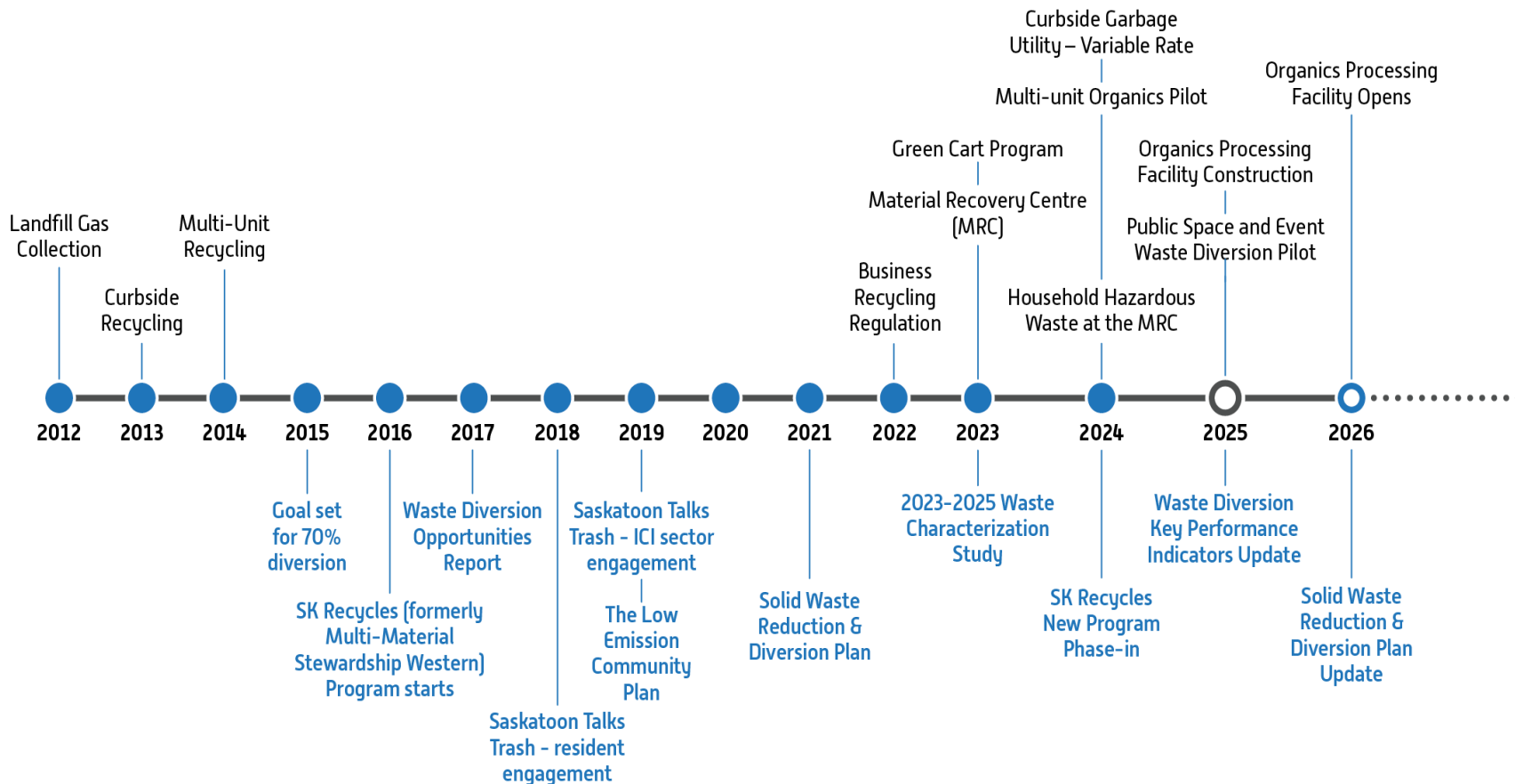
Programs and services are divided into three main sectors: curbside (single family) residential, multi-unit residential, and industrial, commercial, institutional (ICI). Construction & Demolition (C&D) is often included as ICI and self-haul (solid waste brought to the landfill by residents) is included as residential. The following image shows the estimated percentages of waste generated by sector from 2016.

Image 1 – Estimated Waste Percentages by Sector



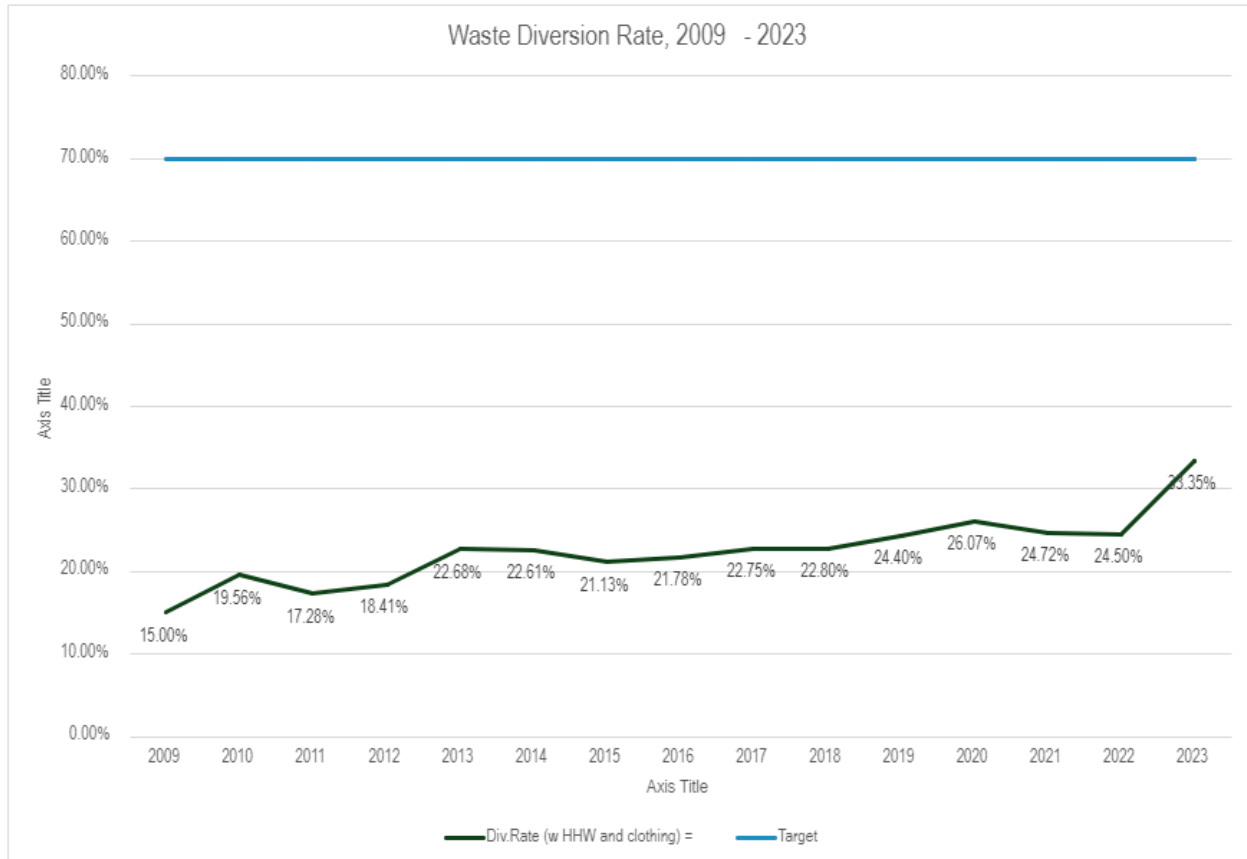
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**Waste Reduction and Diversion Planning and Achievements** Over the past 15 years there have been significant planning and program developments. Major milestones are highlighted in the diagram below.



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Council has a target of 70% diversion from the City's landfill. It is calculated as the proportion of waste diverted compared to the total waste handled. Over much of the past decade the waste diversion rate for the City has been relatively stable. However, in 2023 with the introduction of the green cart and opening of the Material Recovery Centre there was an improvement in diversion.



### City Services by Sector

#### Curbside (Single-Family) Residential

Around 19% of the waste generated in Saskatoon comes from the curbside sector. In 2024, Saskatoon surpassed 75,000 active service addresses that receive curbside service.

*Curbside Garbage (Black Cart):* The City provides collection of household garbage bi-weekly (every second week) year round. At the start of 2024, this service transitioned to a utility-funded program with a variable rate through three different cart size options (Small (120L)/ Medium (240L)/ Large (360L)).

*Curbside Recycling (Blue Cart):* Blue cart recycling is currently provided through a multi-year service agreement with Loraas Disposal North. The service is setup as a utility-

funded program. Over the coming years this will change as the province shifts towards a full Extended Producer Responsibility model.

*Organics - Food and Yard Waste (Green Cart):* The Green Cart program launched in 2023. Food and yard waste is collected bi-weekly by the City and currently brought to the Loraas Organics facility north of Saskatoon. Plans for a City-owned organics facility are in place for 2026. Starting in December 2024, Green Cart collection shifted to monthly service for the winter months (December, January, February and March).

### Multi-Unit Residential

Around 6% of the waste generated in Saskatoon comes from the multi-unit sector. There are approximately 40,000 habitable units at 900 sites in Saskatoon that receive multi-unit waste services. Properties receive communal waste services.

*Multi-Unit Garbage:* The City of Saskatoon provides a weekly garbage collection to apartments and condominiums using metal bins. Building property owners, managers, or condominium associations purchase their own metal bins and can apply for a grant to offset their costs. Buildings may contract services privately.

*Multi-Unit Recycling:* Blue cart recycling is currently provided through a multi-year service agreement with Cosmopolitan Industries. The service is setup as a utility-funded program. Over the coming years this will change as the province shifts towards a full Extended Producer Responsibility model.

### Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional

Saskatoon's businesses and organizations generate 68% of all waste. 169,000 tonnes of waste go to Saskatoon and area landfills each year.

*ICI Garbage:* Garbage service for this sector is primarily provided through the private sector. The City has some commercial contracts for garbage services.

*Business Recycling:* In 2022, Waste Diversion Regulations for the ICI Sector were introduced starting with recycling. As per the Waste Amendment Bylaw (Bylaw No.9775), all businesses and organizations in Saskatoon are required to separate recyclable materials from the garbage.

*Business Organic Waste:* All businesses and organizations that generate food or yard waste in Saskatoon are required to separate organic materials from the garbage. The education phase began in October 2023 and enforcement begin in October 2024.

### Material Recovery Centre & Landfill

In October 2023, the Material Recovery Centre (MRC) opened at the Saskatoon Regional Waste Management Centre. The MRC is designed to be a one-stop facility that functions to provide easy, efficient, and cost-effective waste diversion and landfill transfer. The MRC will improve the City's waste diversion rate with more materials being diverted from the landfill, getting us one step closer to our goal of 70% diversion.