Multi-Unit Organics:
Options Analysis

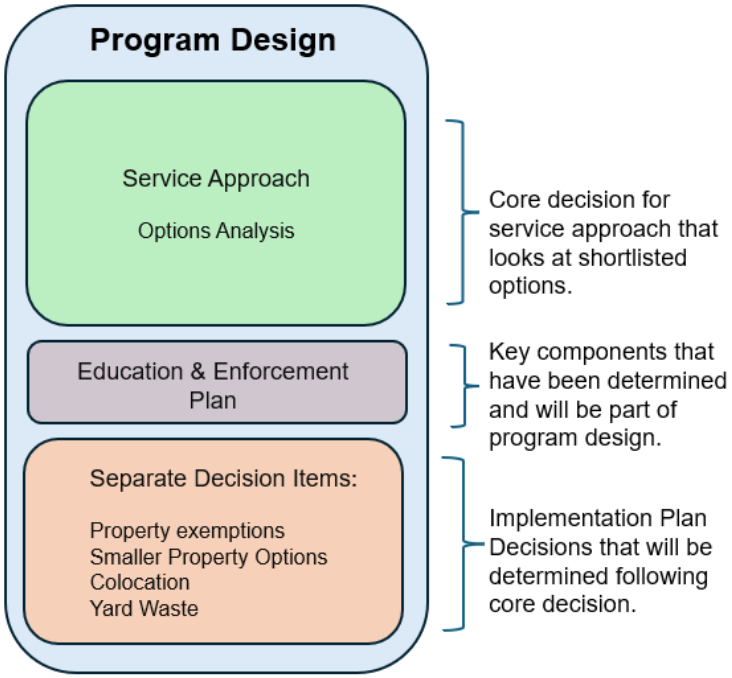
Program Design

The City of Saskatoon (City) is developing a city-wide organics program for the multi-unit sector as part of the implementation of the Solid Waste Reduction and Diversion Plan. In 2024, a pilot study and targeted engagement plan were completed to inform the options and recommendation for this program. A summary of findings can be found in the *Multi-Unit Organics: Pilot Study Findings* report.

The core decision for the future program design is determining the service approach. An options analysis has been used to identify, compare, and help select the best approach. A summary of the short-listed options and the options analysis is provided in this report.

Other components of the program design, such as education and enforcement, have been identified as required by all options and will be finalized during creation of the implementation plan. There are also separate decision items that will be addressed once the service approach is determined. These decisions along with a deployment plan will be made during creation of the implementation plan.

Figure 1: Program Design: City-Wide Multi-Unit Organics



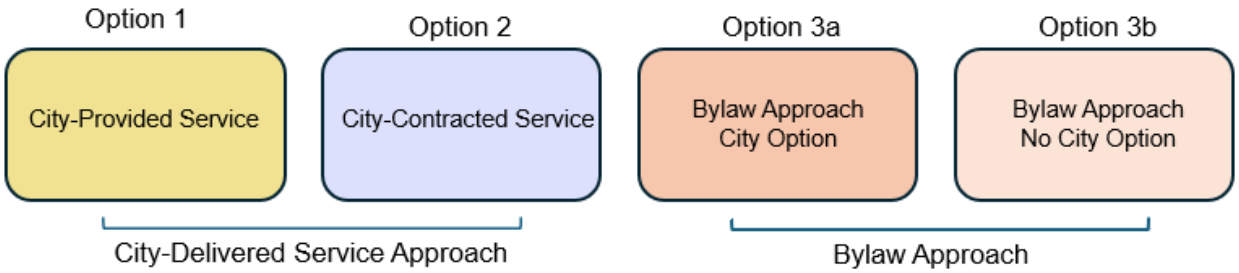
Options Analysis – Short-listed Options

A variety of options were looked at in the preliminary options analysis. Attachment 1 shows the long list of options that were considered from a municipal scan of multi-unit organic programs in other jurisdictions. The four most viable options were shortlisted for additional analysis.

The four most viable options are categorized as either City-delivered service approach or bylaw approach. City-delivered service approach means that the City leads delivery of the program through a municipal service or management of a service agreement. The City is responsible for delivering the service. A bylaw approach uses regulations to ensure all multi-unit properties meet certain requirements. The property is responsible for ensuring a suitable service is in place to meet requirements set out in the bylaw.

The following were the four most viable options:

Figure 1: Short-listed Options



Option 1 – City-Provided Service

Description:	The City delivers a city-wide multi-unit organics service to all properties and uses a utility funding model.
Collection:	Weekly, valet (cart is moved and returned to a location as part of collection)
Container:	240L or 360L green carts (1 per 30 units)
Funding Model:	User fee
Processing:	The City (future processing facility)
City Service:	This option is a City service.

Option 2 – City-Contracted Service

Description:	The City determines a service level, conducts procurement, and negotiates a multi-year service agreement with one service provider for a city-wide collection service.
Collection:	Weekly, valet (cart is moved and returned to a location as part of collection)
Container:	240L of 360L green carts (1 per 30 units)
Funding Model:	User fee
Processing:	The City (future processing facility)
City Service:	Not Applicable.

Option 3a – Bylaw Approach – City Service Option

Description:	This option relies on a bylaw requirement for all multi-unit residential properties to divert organic waste. Each property can choose the service provider of their choice. The City would offer service along with other private service providers. City pricing would be dependent on cost recovery and an industry scan of pricing.
Collection:	Dependent on service agreement
Container:	Dependent on service agreement (carts are likely based on market scan)
Funding Model:	Monthly service pricing. Education/ enforcement supported by property tax. All other costs part of private service contract.
Processing:	The service provider determines which composting facility material goes to.
City Service:	City service available as an option. The City acts as a service provider for those that choose to use.

Option 3b – Bylaw Approach – No City Service Option

Description:	This option relies on a bylaw requirement for all multi-unit residential properties to divert organic waste. Each property chooses the service provider of their choice. The City is not involved as a service provider and offers no organic service similar to the current regulations for businesses and organizations.
Collection:	Dependent on service agreement
Container:	Dependent on service agreement (carts are likely based on market scan)
Funding Model:	Monthly service pricing. Education/ enforcement supported by property tax. All other costs part of private service contract.
Processing:	The service provider determines which composting facility material goes to.
City Service:	No City service available.

Option Analysis- Evaluation Criteria

A list of guiding principles has been created to support the option analysis and a recommendation for a city-wide program. A detailed explanation of the guiding principles is included in Appendix 2. The guiding principles have helped to determine the evaluation criteria for the option analysis. Some of the principles will be built into each option, while other options have varying degrees of fulfilling certain principles. The guiding principles and a note on how they are captured in the evaluation is below:

Guiding Principle	Evaluation Notes
Service level satisfaction	This was evaluated through pilot study engagement feedback collected specific to service approach preferences.
Waste diversion and GHGs avoided	This was evaluated using data from other municipalities and assumptions based on a market review of Saskatoon.
Transparency (funding model) *	A transparent funding model can be achieved with all options and will be part of a final program design.
Reduced contamination	This was evaluated using observations in the pilot study, a best practice review, and feedback from other municipalities.
Sector alignment *	Short-listed items ensure sector alignment will be achieved. City-delivered service approach will align more with the curbside residential sector. Bylaw Approach will align more with the commercial sector.

Responsibility (clear and accountable) *	Responsibility will be built into all options. Clear requirements and identifying who is accountable for certain aspects of the program will be detailed in the final program design.
Integrated waste	This was evaluated through an analysis of contamination risk, program control, and customer service.
Flexibility	This was evaluated through data collected from other municipalities and simple scenario analysis.

* *Built into each option.*

Evaluation criteria is broken up into service level, environmental, integrated waste, and costs. A description of evaluation criteria and analysis are described below.

Evaluation criteria summary:

Service Level	Environmental	Integrated Waste	Cost
Level of Effort	Waste Diversion	Program Control	Cost
Property Preference	GHG Implications	Contamination Risk	Cost Per Unit
Flexibility	Processing	Customer Service	Cost Control

Service Level

Level of Effort - City Administration

The level of effort for City Administration is different for each option. The options fall on a spectrum of most effort to least effort based on administrative and operational efforts.

	Most Effort ⟷ Least Effort			
	Option 1 City-Provided Service	**Option 2 City-Contracted Service**	**Option 3a Bylaw Approach (City Option)**	**Option 3b Bylaw Approach (No City Option)**
Level of Effort	*Highest Effort* This option has the highest level of effort for the City. The City provides staff and equipment to deliver all aspects of the program.	*High Effort* This option requires the City to procure and manage a service contract to all properties in the program.	*High Effort* This option requires the City to monitor and enforce the new requirement. The City also offers a service and must set pricing and plan for service. Estimating and adjusting to number of properties that choose City service will be challenging.	*Medium Effort* This option requires the City to monitor and enforce the new requirement. Development and distribution of guidelines and other resources would also be required.
Notes:	**Option 1** would require the most effort from City Administration. The City would manage the service and administrative aspects of the program.			

Property Preference - Engagement Findings

Property preference includes what we heard during the pilot study engagement and the preference of property managers and condo boards.

	Option 1 City-Provided Service	**Option 2 City-Contracted Service**	**Option 3a Bylaw Approach (City Option)**	**Option 3b Bylaw Approach (No City Option)**
Engagement	The majority of condo boards and property managers from the pilot study (87%) stated that they had a preference for a City-provided or City-contracted service. Several properties said that they would prefer the City to be the service provider.	The majority of condo boards and property managers (87%) from the pilot study stated that they had a preference for a City-provided or City-contracted service.	There was no condo board or property manager that listed a bylaw approach as their preferred option. Majority liked the idea of having a City option. Two (13%) of properties stated that they would be fine if a bylaw approach was used.	There was no condo board or property manager that listed a bylaw approach as their preferred option. 13% of properties stated that they would be fine if a bylaw approach was used.
Score	●	◕	◑	◔
● *= highest preference* ○ *= lowest preference*				
Notes:	**Option 1** and **Option 2** were the most preferred options based on feedback with property managers and condo boards.			

Flexibility – Service Offerings

Flexibility refers to the ability for property managers and condo boards to quickly adjust service levels or offer a greater range of services. It also refers to the ability to hire from multiple service providers.

	Option 1 City-Provided Service	**Option 2 City-Contracted Service**	**Option 3a Bylaw Approach (City Option)**	**Option 3b Bylaw Approach (No City Option)**
Flexibility	*Moderate* City has some ability to make changes to service model and adjust services. Service offerings can include a range of services.	*Moderate* City may have ability to make changes to service model by making changes to contract.	*Highest* Changes can be made by hiring service provider that best meets needs. City is available as a service provider.	*High* Changes can be made by hiring service provider that best meets needs.
Score	◑	◔	●	◕
● *= most preferred* ○ *= least preferred*				
Notes:	**Option 3a** and **Option 3b** provide the highest flexibility.			

Environmental

Waste Diversion Potential

It is estimated that around 2000 tonnes of organic material could be diverted annually through a city-wide multi-unit organics program. That equates to a 29% capture rate of the organic material currently going to landfill from the multi-unit sector. The pilot study showed that certain steps need to be taken to maximize diversion and that the service provider must regularly communicate with the property.

	Option 1 City-Provided Service	**Option 2 City-Contracted Service**	**Option 3a Bylaw Approach (City Option)**	**Option 3b Bylaw Approach (No City Option)**
Waste Diversion Potential	*Highest* City can ensure the program is set up to maximize diversion. It can work directly with properties on site layout, education, and other aspects of the program that may impact participation.	*High/ Moderate* City has ability to work closely with service provider to maximize diversion.	*Moderate* Bylaw approaches have shown lower participation than some municipal service delivery models as the goal of the service provider is not to maximize diversion. The City can provide guidelines to help improve this.	*Moderate* Bylaw approaches have shown lower participation than some municipal service delivery models as the goal of the service provider is not to maximize diversion. The City can provide guidelines to help improve this.
Score	●	◕	◑	◑
● *= most preferred* ○ *= least preferred*				
Notes:	**Option 1** and **Option 2** have higher waste diversion potential than the other options.			

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Implications

Route efficiency and truck fleet are the most important inputs for GHG emissions.

	Option 1 City-Provided Service	**Option 2 City-Contracted Service**	**Option 3a Bylaw Approach (City Option)**	**Option 3b Bylaw Approach (No City Option)**
Route Efficiency	Route optimization could be achieved to limit GHGs.	Route optimization could be achieved to limit GHGs.	Multiple service providers can lead to inefficient routes as trucks drive further to service fewer properties. This can lead to higher GHG emissions.	Multiple service providers can lead to inefficient routes as trucks drive further to service fewer properties. This can lead to higher GHG emissions.

Truck Fleet	Current fleet indicate that City trucks perform around average when compared to private sector.	Contract could include requirements for a sustainable fleet.	Private sector trucks have some newer trucks. No Natural Gas or electric fleets are in the market (as of 2024).	Private sector trucks have some newer trucks. No Natural Gas or electric fleets are om the market (as of 2024).
Score	●	●	◕	◕
● = *most preferred* ○ = *least preferred*				
Notes:	There may be some GHG savings from **Option 1** and **Option 2,** but savings are not believed to be significant. Truck fleet efficiency is fairly equal between options based on a market scan in 2024.			

Processing

Compost processing involves converting organic waste into nutrient-rich soil amendments through methods like windrow composting and in-vessel composting to speed up decomposition. The City is building an organics processing facility near the existing City landfill.

	Option 1 City-Provided Service	**Option 2 City-Contracted Service**	**Option 3a Bylaw Approach (City Option)**	**Option 3b Bylaw Approach (No City Option)**
Processing	Material goes to the City facility.	Contract is for collection and material goes to the City facility.	Material goes to any certified composting facility.	Material goes to any certified composting facility.
Score:	●	●	●	●
● = *most preferred* ○ = *least preferred*				
Notes:	There is no difference in environmental benefit for the options as all options will ensure basic compost requirements are met. **Option 1** and **Option 2** ensure that organic tonnage from the multi-unit sector goes to the City processing facility. This material supports the business plan for the City's future compost processing operation.			

<u>Integrated Waste</u>

Program Control

Program control refers to the ability to make changes to the overall program design to maximize diversion and deal with other issues, such as contamination. Spacing issues due to site configuration and lack of space are a common challenge for many multi-unit properties. Having multiple solid waste service providers can exacerbate issues. During engagement we heard that one service provider for all waste services is most desirable to help coordinate dealing with issues and not have one stream impacted by another. All waste streams (recycling, garbage, organics) must work together to address property configuration issues and ensure all streams are accessible and residents have the information they need to properly participate.

	Option 1 City-Provided Service	Option 2 City-Contracted Service	Option 3a Bylaw Approach City Option	Option 3b Bylaw Approach No City Option
Program Control	*Highest* Ability to provide guidance on setting property up for success through colocation, proper container sizing, capacity adjustments, and education.	*High/ Moderate* Ability to provide control through service agreement. Roles, requirements, service level set through service contract.	*Medium/ Low* Limited control through bylaw requirement, guidelines, and enforcement.	*Medium/ Low* Limited control through bylaw requirement, guidelines, and enforcement.
Score	●	◕	◑	◑
● *= most preferred* ◯ *= least preferred*				
Notes	**Option 1** and **Option 2** have a higher ability to make changes to the overall program design to maximize diversion and deal with other issues, such as contamination and space issues.			

Contamination Risk – Management

Unacceptable materials ending up in organics waste stream are a significant concern as most processing or composting methods requires a clean stream to create a quality end product. Research has found that apartments and condos usually experience a higher contamination rate as tenant turnover is higher and communal waste usually has less ownership and participation in diversion programs. High contamination can lead to additional costs (cleanup, garbage surcharges, etc.). In some situations, compost programs are not viable as contamination is too high.

Managing contamination risk effectively will play a critical part for a successful future multi-unit organic program.

	Option 1 City-Provided Service	Option 2 City-Contracted Service	Option 3a Bylaw Approach City Option	Option 3b Bylaw Approach No City Option
Contamination Risk Management	The City is better positioned to work with properties that have contamination issues through education and enforcement. We also can have access to service documentation.	The City can manage contamination risk through a well-structured contract. This is dependent on negotiations and ability to work closely with service provider.	There may be more challenges for properties dealing with contamination penalties. The City can still work to support program through enforcement and education.	There may be more challenges for properties dealing with contamination penalties. The City can still work to support program through enforcement and education.
Score	●	◕	◑	◑
● *= most preferred* ◯ *= least preferred*				
Notes	**Option 1** and **Option 2** will be better positioned to respond to contamination risks.			

Customer Service

Customer Service involves management of any service issues and responding to requests from residents, property managers, and condo boards. This could include inquiries about acceptable materials, collection schedules, billing and container management.

	Option 1 City-Provided Service	Option 2 City-Contracted Service	Option 3a Bylaw Approach City Option	Option 3b Bylaw Approach No City Option
Customer Service	Customer service can be embedded with the City's customer service delivery model. This can be convenient for many property managers, condo boards, and residents.	The City and the successful proponent lay out responsibilities in a service agreement and act as partners in providing a customer service model.	A guideline lays out what the role of the City is and what responsibilities the property must take on.	A guideline lays out what the role of the City is and what responsibilities the property must take on.
Score	●	◕	◑	◑
● *= most preferred* ◯ *= least preferred*				
Notes	**Option 1** and **Option 2** scores slightly better as customer service can be embedded with the City's delivery model.			

<u>Cost</u>

Monthly Cost and Affordability

Cost for service will be setup as a user pay service model. Inputs for cost include estimated monthly cost ranges for weekly collection service at each property and ability to control cost per unit pricing across different sizes of properties. The cost estimates are based on a municipal scan of pricing and experience with collection contracts and services. Affordability looks at cost and cost control for specific demographics, such as smaller buildings (less than 25 units).

	Option 1 City-Provided Service	Option 2 City-Contracted Service	Option 3a Bylaw Approach City Option	Option 3b Bylaw Approach No City Option
Cost Weekly service	$40-$70 per cart per month	$50 - $90 per cart per month	$50 - $100 per cart per month.	$60 - $110 per cart per month.
12 units (1 cart)	$3.35 - $5.85	$4.15 - $7.50	$4.15 - $8.33	$5.00 - $9.15
30 units (1 cart)	$1.35 - $2.35	$1.65 - $3.00	$1.65 - $3.33	$2.00 - $3.65
45 units (2 cart)	$1.80 - $3.10	$2.20 - $4.00	$2.20 - $4.45	$2.65 - $4.90
Estimated Average Monthly Cost per Household	**$2.95** *Average of each range / 3*	**$3.75** *Average of each range / 3*	**$4.05** *Average of each range / 3*	**$4.55** *Average of each range / 3*

Cost Control	Highest level of control. Ability to set rates per unit. Ability to adjust service levels.	Some control and cost savings from multi-year service agreement.	Some control as City has role in influencing industry pricing.	Lowest level of control. City has no role in industry pricing.
Affordability	Lowest price option.	Second lowest option.	Average price is slightly lower than the 2024 rate for multi-unit recycling ($4.10).	Highest option and higher than the 2024 rate for multi-unit recycling ($4.10).
Most Desirable Option	**Option 1** has the lowest estimated monthly cost per household based on an average price.			
$2.95 = lowest average cost	*$4.55 = highest average cost*			

Evaluation Criteria: Summary Table

A summary of all evaluation categories is below.

	Option 1 City-Provided Service	**Option 2** City-Contracted Service	**Option 3a** Bylaw Approach (City Option)	**Option 3b** Bylaw Approach (No City Option)
Service Level				
Level of Effort	Most ⟷			Least Effort
Preference	●	◕	◕	◑
Flexibility	◑	◔	●	◕
Environmental				
Waste Diversion	●	◕	◑	◑
GHG	●	●	◕	◕
Processing	●	●	●	●
Integrated Waste				
Program Control	●	◕	◑	◑
Contamination Risk	●	◕	◑	◑
Customer Service	●	◕	◑	◑
Cost				
Average Monthly Cost Estimate (Per Household)	$2.95	$3.75	$4.30	$4.85
● *= most preferred*	○ *= least preferred*			

Summary - Advantages and Disadvantages

Option 1 – City-Provided Service	
Advantages	• Most preferred option based on feedback from engagement during the pilot study with condo boards and property managers. • Lowest cost option when compared to current market. • More likely to achieve higher waste diversion. • Organic tonnage from the multi-unit sector goes to the City processing facility. This material supports the business plan for City processing operations.
Disadvantages	• Highest level of effort for the City which will require administrative and operational planning. • Not as flexible as bylaw option as it may be difficult to quickly adjust service offerings, and the City may be limited in offering premium services.

Option 2 – City-Contracted Service (One Service Provider)	
Advantages	• Second most preferred option based on feedback from engagement during the pilot study with condo boards and property managers. • Lower cost option. • City has ability to work closely with service provider to achieve moderate waste diversion. • Organic tonnage from the multi-unit sector goes to the City processing facility. This material supports the business plan for City processing operations.
Disadvantages	• High level of effort for the City which will require administrative planning, procurement, and contract management. • Not as flexible as bylaw option as it may be difficult to quickly adjust service offerings, and the City may be limited by a long-term contract.

Option 3a – Bylaw Approach – City service option	
Advantages	• High flexibility by ability to choose service provider of choice. • City participates as a service provider and can help control cost.
Disadvantages	• High level of effort for City. • Not preferred option from engagement feedback from the pilot study with condo boards and property managers. • May not be best option for maximizing waste diversion. • Difficult to control contamination risk and avoid cost penalties for properties. • City has less control over making program changes. • Difficult for City to plan service model and develop a user-fee as it is unknown how many will choose City option. • Cost may be higher than other options.

Option 3b – Bylaw Approach – No City service option	
Advantages	• Low level of effort for City compared to other options. • High flexibility through ability to choose service provider of choice.
Disadvantages	• Not preferred option from engagement feedback from the pilot study with condo boards and property managers as it requires hiring a service provider and managing a service contract. • May not be best option for maximizing waste diversion. • Difficult to control contamination risk and avoid cost penalties for properties. • City has less control over making program changes. • Cost will likely be higher than other options.

Finalizing the Program Design

City Administration has previous experience with introducing and operating recycling and organics programs and has identified what makes a successful program. These components will be included items in all options:

- City-led Education
- Enforcement of Waste Bylaw
- New Guidelines
- Transparent Funding Model

City-led Education	City-led Education: Research and engagement identified education as a critical piece for program success. All options will include City-delivered education. The City can utilize an integrated approach to education by coordinating campaigns for all sectors. Theme and brand can remain consistent and there are cost savings as work can be shared across staff working in waste education. Municipalities that put the responsibility to educate on service providers and property managers have seen challenges with inconsistent education standards and issues with ensuring education activities take place as described.
Enforcement of Waste Bylaw	Enforcement of *The Waste Bylaw, 2022 (Bylaw 9844)* is an important aspect of all solid waste programs in Saskatoon. The Bylaw addresses requirements for the collection, handling, and disposal of waste and recycling material in Saskatoon. Environmental Protection Officers administer the enforcement of the Bylaw. All waste programs are supported by the Bylaw and the Bylaw is updated accordingly when a new program is introduced.

New Guidelines	Waste Collection Design Guidelines for Residential Developments All four options Curbside residential and the Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional sectors have operational organics programs with different approaches. Sector alignment strives to ensure all sectors have access to diversion opportunities such as recycling and organics. The service level for organics waste in the multi-unit residential sector should be in line with other sectors.
Transparent Funding Model	Steps can be taken to ensure all options offer a transparent funding model and property managers and condo boards understand the breakdown of service cost.

Separate Decision Items for Program Design

To simplify the decision-making process, items that are not part of the core service approach decision have been removed. Separate decision items outside the scope of this report include the following:

- Property exemptions from city-wide service or regulation
- Smaller property (unit size) – ability to participate in curbside service (All Options)
- Colocation – voluntary or mandatory (Option 1, Option 2)
- Yard waste – Business Organics Bylaw or as part of MUO program design (All Options)

Decisions related to these options will be made during the implementation planning phase.

Property exemptions from city-wide service	A city-delivered service approach usually sets a standard service level for all properties.
Smaller property (unit size) – ability to participate in curbside service	Smaller properties (Less than 25 units) may be able to utilize a curbside service model where the property ensures a green cart is rolled to a location for collection by a side-loader collection vehicle. This method could provide cost savings but needs to be explored further.
Colocation – voluntary or mandatory	Research shows that colocation of all solid waste streams at a property can led to higher participation and diversion. Requirements and guidelines will be explored during implementation planning. Existing properties that already struggle with space for solid waste containers may find it challenging to add a third (organic) stream. Downsizing container sizes and other options may help with this area.
Yard waste – Business Organics Bylaw or as part of MUO program design	Yard waste can be handled through education and enforcement of the organics bylaw but there also may be opportunities to include yard waste needs in the design of future multi-unit organics program. This will be considered during implementation planning.

Attachment 1- Longlist of Options

Option / Factor	1 **City-provided service**	2 **City-contracted service - one service provider**	3a **Bylaw Approach – City service option**	3b **Bylaw Approach – No City service option**	4 **City-contracted service - multiple service providers with service zones**	5 **Optional service with no requirement– City service**	6 **Countertop Composting Unit Program Design**	7 **Optional service with no requirement**
Sector Alignment	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Analysis	Ensures all properties have service level in place.	Similar to multi-unit residential recycling program (MURR).	Similar to the approach being taken with ICI. City service option to add competition and some influence on price.	Similar to the approach being taken with ICI. Ensures a service is in place. Emphasis on enforcement.	Similar to MURR. More (separate and smaller) contracts to manage.	Lower service level and requirement than other sectors.	More effort for resident.	Lower service level and requirement than other sectors.
Diversion Goals	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Unknown	No
Viability	High viability. Provide an affordable service that meets basic service level needs.	Viable but requires strong service agreement and ongoing contract administration.	Limited/ weak market viability.	Limited market viability	Not viable at this time due to limited interest from private companies. Works best in larger urban areas.	Possible but difficult to provide service without idea of how many will subscribe.	This solution requires a large up-front investment and requires a high level of administration.	This is status quo.
Cost	Lowest	Medium/ Low	Low	Medium/Low	Medium	Highest	Medium	Highest
GHG	Low	Low	High	High	Medium	Low/ Medium	Low	Low/ Medium
Shortlisted Option	**Yes.**	**Yes.**	**Yes.**	**Yes.**	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Analysis	This was a preferred option during engagement and estimated costs would likely be the lowest option.	This is a viable option. May be limited interest in an RFP.	This is a viable option as the City and private could offer cost-competitive services. A market scan suggests that 2 or 3 private and City can service the market. City owned processing will also grow options for all.	Likely highest cost option. There is currently only one service provider and a few that show interest. This is the approach of ICI sector. The ICI sector may spur new service providers in market.	Saskatoon's market/ population is currently too small to utilize the benefits of this option.	Does not meet sector alignment and waste diversion goal.	An initial scan and research with SWRC indicates this option would be challenging to use as a city-wide program.	Does not meet sector alignment and waste diversion goal.

Attachment 2 - Guiding Principles for Multi-Unit Organics

Service Level Satisfaction
A high quality and reliable service is provided. Service levels are set to provide a balance between service and cost.

Diversion and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Avoided
The program design encourages diversion of food waste from landfill, which avoids the generation of methane, a powerful greenhouse gas.

Transparency (Funding Model)
A funding model that aligns with the user directly paying for services. In multi-units, it is challenging to make this per unit as waste services are communal.

Contamination
Steps are taken to reduce contamination and ensure levels do not reach a point where it is excessively challenging to process the material into high quality compost.

Affordability
A relative measure of how well a household can pay for a service. The additional diversion stream does not significantly increase costs of solid waste services for any property, building, or tenant. The funding model is equitable.

Sector Alignment
Curbside residential and the Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional sectors have operational organics programs with different approaches. Sector alignment strives to ensure all sectors have access to diversion opportunities such as recycling and organics. The service level for organics waste in the multi-unit residential sector should be in line with other sectors.

Responsibility
It is clear who is responsible for what specific elements of the program from education to collection. Residents know how to use the program and how to participate, property managers and condo boards know what they are responsible for, and the City clearly determines what their role is in a program and communicates the requirements that must be met.

Integrated Waste
The City of Saskatoon (City) will take an integrated approach to designing a program that balances the protection of human and environmental health with affordability, convenience, and efficient use of resources. An effort will be made to ensure all streams of solid waste services are complimentary and work together.

Flexibility
The program offers a service that meets the needs of most properties. Service options are available to help make the program work for all property configurations. An opt-out option may exist for those that have a specific requirement and require an alternative service.