Optimizing Snohomish County Compost Collection Contracting

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May 28, 2015
Identifying waste values to contract with the right service provider.
Jail Food Waste

- **2008** — ~400 tons of waste to garbage at a cost of $100k

- **2014** — Jail reduces waste by 12% and disposes of the following quantities at a cost of ~$40k
  - 161 tons to compost
  - 28 tons to recycle
  - 146 tons to garbage

Was it the best we could do?

- Kitchen Staff inmates
- Food Service Contractors
- Compost Collection
- Janitorial Contractor
2,190 times per year
Evaluating the alternatives

• Labor costs
• Water Costs
• Risk Management
• Infrastructure costs

$11k-$33k in annual savings/value

Budget to improve process and create more value
Creating more value

- Lower weight
- Can be cleaned in kitchen area using kitchen staff
- Hydraulic lift instead of manual tipper

At ~$4k in upfront costs and $2k in annual costs, able to capture an additional ~$9k in savings/value on an annual basis
Evergreen(est) State Fair (ever)

Savings of $83 for each ton of food waste that was composted in 2014
Where’s the value?

Potential.
Study estimates potential for additional landfill reductions

An average of 46% of the material in Fair garbage cans in 2013 could have been recycled or composted.
Creating more value

By spending more on infrastructure, outreach and education, and establishing third-party vendor requirements – the Fair is seeking to divert an additional 68 tons of waste from the landfill – saving >$6k in waste service expenses.

By introducing a new brand layer, and creating new activities and amenities for visitors, the Fair also believes it will attract more return visits and enhance its core business.
Questions? Answers(?)

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