

Request for Proposals

St. Louis - Jefferson Solid Waste Management District

Residential Single-Stream Assistance

Single-stream residential recycling in the St. Louis region suffered a significant setback when Resource Management, one of the two material recovery facilities processing single-stream materials, announced that it would cease accepting residential single-stream materials on November 1, 2018. This has caused a short-term processing capacity shortage of an estimated 6,000 tons per month. Changes with the ability of processors to continue to ship a percentage of processed residential recyclables overseas because of the National Sword policy implemented by the Chinese government that restricted volume and set extremely low contamination thresholds are also raising concerns regarding the long-term viability of single-stream recycling. Single stream curbside programs have higher contamination levels that make exporting materials to China under the National Sword policy largely unattainable with current collection and processing technology and material throughput volume at material recovery facilities.

The Residential Single-Stream Assistance Project seeks to provide short term financial support-for ongoing residential single stream curbside programs and offer an opportunity to pilot potential residential collection program modifications designed to improve and stabilize residential recycling in the St. Louis region.

As a response, the St. Louis - Jefferson Solid Waste Management District is accepting proposals from affected local governments and their recycling service providers to address two issues. The first issue is to provide short-term partial financial support for additional expenses resulting from collection, processing, and marketing of residential single-stream recyclable materials from communities that were being processed by the Resource Management material recovery facility. The purpose of these proposals is to partially reduce additional expenses that may be needed for a short period of time to maintain curbside single-stream recycling services.

The second type of proposals could request funds to test pilot efforts to implement alternative strategies for residential recycling collection and processing to reduce contamination and improve the value and marketability of recovered materials, also allowing additional service providers an opportunity to provide residential collection and material processing services. Having additional recyclers available to process residential recyclables can maintain competition and add stability in case of future disruptions to the system. This could include, but is not limited to, changes in the materials collected to remove materials causing contamination like glass. Proposals could also address changes in collection procedures, such as dual stream collection, or alternating weekly collections for certain materials, such as collecting fibers one week, and containers collected the following week. Other possible changes may also be proposed.

Scope of Work: The Residential Recycling Assistance Project seeks to accomplish the following two objectives. One is to avoid short-term service disruptions in service to communities whose single-stream materials were processed at the Resource Management material recovery facility. The second objective is to allow examination and evaluation of alternative strategies for collection and processing of residential recyclables.

1. The loss of single-stream processing capacity from Resource Management has led to at least a temporary shortage of processing capacity. Processing costs for residential single-stream recyclable will experience significant increases for some period of time. The District will consider offering short term support for a portion of the difference between the current contracted single stream curbside recycling processing charge and any projected single stream curbside recycling charge from alternative processors. Limited funding is available, and only

partial relief for the increased costs will be possible. The applicant can apply for funding for this partial financial offset relief for a period not to exceed six months. Funds can be used to provide a small per-ton subsidy for increased processing costs, including additional transportation expenses if materials are being shipped out of the region for processing. Proposals must include identifying the communities being served, tons of recyclable material being processed, and specific ongoing and future efforts to reduce contamination through education of participating residents.

2. Current circumstances indicate that alternative means of collecting residential recyclables may become necessary or improve program performance. The District seeks proposals requesting assistance with pilot efforts to test the effects of adjustments to collection and processing procedures in cities in the region. This could include changes to the mix of materials collected, modification of collection schedules, and adjustments to collection strategies such as dual-stream collection. Projects of this type will be expected to include focus on education and compile specific metrics such as changes in participation and contamination rates, changes in processing costs and market value of materials. Other metrics may be included or required. Processing system improvements to add or improve residential processing capacity are also eligible.

Project Time Frame: November 1, 2018 to April 30, 2019.

Budget: The expenditure of funds for this project must be consistent with the procedural requirements of the St. Louis-Jefferson Solid Waste Management District.

SUBMITTAL INFORMATION

Proposals must be received by **Friday, October 26, 2018**. Submit proposals as a PDF document. Please send electronically to david@swmd.net.

*A pre-proposal meeting will **not** be held. Prospective applicants are strongly encouraged to contact David Berger at 314-645-6753 to discuss projects and address any questions prior to submission.*

PROPOSAL FORMAT

These items should be addressed in all proposals and submitted in the order outlined below:

1. Applicant Information. State the applicant's name, address and contact name with appropriate phone number and email address.
2. Executive Summary. Provide a concise overview of the proposed approach, scope, timeline and budget. Please limit the summary to one page.
3. Scope of Work & Timeline. Include a schedule of services by task and a time frame to complete each task. Please include appropriate information for the proposed project to address the considerations discussed in the Scope of Work Section above.
4. Project Cost. Proposals should include a detailed budget for the project, including a description of the basis for charges. Cost per ton may be used for requests of assistance for projects seeking partial relief from short-term price hikes.
5. Qualifications. Identify key individuals involved in the implementing the project.

ASSESSMENT PROCESS

A review committee comprised of representatives from the St. Louis-Jefferson Solid Waste Management District will evaluate submitted proposals. The selection criteria include the amount of single stream materials being managed, experience with similar projects, quality of approach for providing a long-term solution and execution of ideas, overall budget, knowledgeable personnel, availability to meet project schedule and to handle all aspects of the project. The District reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.