

Our Community Plan Submission - Received by Email

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CC:

Sent: Wed 5/05/2004 08:09

Your Submission:

Kitchen Waste

Hi there

I do not support the proposed fully funded composting system of organic kitchen waste. This is because most people can do this in their backyards. I accept that areas with high infill housing do not have room, but these people will not have room for garden waste either. I have been composting most of my kitchen organic waste for years and will continue to do so.

What I would like to see is a system similar to that of the garden waste and have the price significantly reduced as an incentive to use. This system could be contracted out to private providers under contract to the householder. Another idea that I have is that as an alternative to providing only these bins for kitchen waste the Council could provide compost bins for those who choose home composting instead. I suggested that Council provide compost bins in my submission regarding the rubbish bags.

The argument that smaller properties cannot manage to compost kitchen waste also applies to garden waste. Garden waste is generally bulky and requires a trailer to remove. Low income families generally either do not have cars or their cars do not have tow bars, in order to remove the rubbish. So while progress has been made on garden waste, this system should be considered as work in progress.

While I participate as fully as I can in the recycling, reusing and composting of rubbish and am fully aware that despite the incentives put in place there are still those who do not. I base this statement on the waste behaviour of a neighbour who has a low income and is a solo parent. She does not have room for composting/storing garden waste, does not have a tow bar, cannot afford to hire a trailer even if she did, and if her parking is anything to go by, wouldn't be able to back a trailer anyway. As a consequence either she uses the Council bags for weeds or fills up her carpark with garden waste which ends up blocking my driveway when she runs out of space. However she does have room for a home composting system for kitchen waste that has minimal ongoing costs to sustain.

I also find the disposal of garden waste a nuisance. I barely have enough room to store a trailer load of rubbish and can only just manage a trailer if I don't have to back it too far. I also note that the council has a policy of reducing car use when a car is essential to the removal of garden waste or it is costly to pay a contractor to do it. Therefore I would prefer a subsidised garden waste collection system over a kitchen waste collection system.

I have spent considerable time training the various flatmates that I have had in the art of recycling and composting. This has been done by them reluctantly because it requires effort on their behalf when they do have any direct rubbish disposal costs.

Thank you for considering my views.

Cheers Daria Martin
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