

Clark County Solid Waste & Recycling (Bethanie Velasco)



Recycling Refund Community Engagement Study

Clark County Solid Waste and Recycling public comments

Aug. 7, 2026

Clark County Solid Waste and Recycling appreciates the opportunity to provide input on the Draft Recycling Refund Community Engagement Study Report. We'd like to highlight areas where additional analysis could improve outcomes for residents, processing facilities and local governments.

First, the survey and its analysis did not address county-level impacts on recycling collection contracts or service agreements, only city-level impacts. Clark County relies on contracted curbside and drop-off recycling services, and a bottle deposit program could significantly affect our material streams, operations and future rate structures. These impacts should be evaluated to support county-level contract planning.

Second, the survey did not provide respondents with context about the expected increased access to curbside recycling that will occur under the Recycling Reform Act. While the survey acknowledges potential barriers for rural, remote, tribal and multifamily communities accessing redemption sites, the survey fails to provide necessary context about the anticipated increase to affordable curbside recycling for those same communities in 2030. Without providing respondents that information, answers regarding access and convenience standards are largely skewed based on *current* curbside recycling access.

Third, the draft study report notes potential public confusion about program operations, but it does not specify which entities would be responsible for future education and outreach (Recycling Refunds Engagement Study DRAFT Report, Figure 23). If that responsibility falls on local solid waste planning authorities, the associated staff time and financial burden should be considered in the final study.

Finally, although concerns from recycling processors were acknowledged (Recycling Refunds Engagement Study DRAFT Report p.27 and p.42), the study does not consider the potential revenue losses or disruptions for material recovery facilities or transfer stations as "in-scope" (Recycling Refunds Engagement Study DRAFT Report, Table 1). Clark County would like to reiterate that those considerations are necessary to understand the potential ramifications that may accommodate the loss of valuable commodities for recycling processors.

We recommend additional analysis of these concerns prior to the completion of the final report.

Sincerely,

Bethanie Velasco

Environmental Outreach Specialist Sr.
Clark County Solid Waste Education and Outreach