

Ann Hanson

My family has been trying to reduce waste for decades. St Paul already has weekly recycling pickup on the same day as trash pickup, and that has been wonderful. We would absolutely take advantage of organics pickup.

There are some other good ideas on this proposal. However, I have two concerns:

1. My biggest problem is that things are no longer being accepted because fewer things are actually being recycled. We can't recycle black plastic even if it's #5, for example. And I can't find anywhere that takes cloth anymore. It would also be great to put plastic film and bags in the recycling bins. Increasing options for recycling things should be a priority.

2. I'm concerned that some of the options create hardship for households and businesses, particularly for those with lower incomes. I encourage you to focus your time and resources on:

- marketing/education to increase awareness and desire to recycle.

- making it easier to recycle more things

- Putting pressure on companies to reduce packaging and waste, and creating incentives for restaurants to use compostable takeout containers.

We need to be focusing on reducing waste in the first place instead of trying to force people to recycle more.