Resident Correspondence

From: Amber Bathke [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2018 11:06 AM
To: Murphy, Joan
Subject: Organics Recycling at Dakota County Western Service Center

Good morning,
I am a resident of Apple Valley writing to voice my strong support for the proposed Organics Recycling drop-off site at the Dakota County Western Service Center.

My family and I moved to Apple Valley from St. Paul two years ago, and since then, I have been driving my organics recycling first to West St Paul, and now to Eagan. Organics recycling is an extremely effective method of reducing greenhouse gas emissions because, when composted, food scraps and other materials that are able to naturally decompose yield far less CO_2 as compared to the conventional methods of disposal like landfill and incinerator. However, when multiple families are likely driving 20 miles round trip to drop off their organics recycling, a lot of that benefit is lost. I try very hard to drop off the organics when I have other business near the Lebanon Hills drop-off site in Eagan, but sometimes a special trip can't be avoided. Having a drop-off site in Apple Valley would be a tremendous benefit to families in the area and to the environment.

In regards to the possible smell and potential to attract rodents, I have interacted with a number of different organics recycling drop-offs, both in St. Paul and Dakota County, over the years. None of them had odor problems when the dumpsters were kept closed. There is a smell when you open it to deposit waste, but when the bins are closed, you don't even smell it when you are right next to them. In addition, I understand that the proposed drop-off site would be an expansion of an already existing dumpster area. Presumably, the dumpsters already there contain both regular trash and material that could be composted. This has the same potential to attract pests as an organics dumpster. Having the organics dumpster there would also allow the Service Center to easily divert its own organics waste, should it so choose. It may also encourage residents to take further advantage of the services available at the Center (the library once it's reopened, Farmer's Market, etc).

I urge the Planning Commission to grant the IUP for the drop-off site at the Dakota County Western Service Center.

Thank you,
Amber

From: Mackenzie Vanderbeek [[redacted]]
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2018 9:10 AM
To: Murphy, Joan
Subject: Apple Valley Planning Commission Meeting - Organics Drop Off

Hello-

I am a resident of Apple Valley and currently participate in the Dakota County Organics drop off. I am unable to attend the meeting tonight, therefore wanted to send over some comments via email.

My husband and I moved to Apple Valley 14 months ago and have greatly enjoyed living in Apple Valley and Dakota County. We have been collecting our organics for approximately 5 months with no prior experience or knowledge of composting or separating out our organics. We currently drive to the Lebanon Hills drop site located in Eagan, therefore we are excited for the potential opportunity of having a drop site in Apple Valley.

Utilizing the organics drop site has allowed us to greatly reduce our household waste sent to the landfill each week. Throughout the process, we have also been able to identify where we were wasting food and thus have been able to make simple changes to reduce the amount of purchased food, not consumed, thus going to waste. I truly believe that collecting our organics and bringing them to the drop site will have a positive long term effect on both the environment and the community in which we live and work.

I have been able to encourage other family and friends to also utilize the organics drop service. They also share in the excitement and understanding of the importance of reducing our waste sent to the landfills. Many of these families travel from Lakeville and Farmington to drop their organics off in Eagan. The benefit of having a drop site in Apple Valley will both encourage even more users as well as reduce the required distance that those participating would need to travel. This would reduce the air pollution created while disposing of organics waste.

Thank your consideration in adding an organics drop sit in Apple Valley. I see such a strong future in the city of Apple Valley and Dakota County and am excited to raise my children in the area. The organics drop bin will enable the community to reduce landfill waste and help protect and preserve the environment and community for future generations.

Thank you,
Mackenzie Vanderbeek

From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Monday, July 16, 2018 5:09 PM
To: Murphy, Joan
Subject: Residential Organics Drop Off Site

Good evening,

I am writing in regards to the proposed project of having a residential organics drop off site in Apple Valley. I think this would be a really great project! I currently bring my organics recycling to the location in Eagan since it is relatively on my way to work, but it would be better if there was a location in Apple Valley. I would use it multiple times a week to drop off the organic recycling from my family. The location is great, especially for our family after the library reopens. We are in that area frequently already so it wouldn't be a long errand for us to do on weekends or when we are not working (my husband and I are both teachers).
I fully support this proposal and look forward to hearing how it does after the hearing on Wednesday.

Vanessa Utell

From: Hamer Ginger [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Tuesday, July 17, 2018 9:19 AM
To: Murphy, Joan
Subject: Residential organics drop site

I am elated to hear that a drop site for residential organics is being considered for Apple Valley. I live in southwestern Apple Valley and have been driving my organics over to Eagan since I learned about the program two month ago.

In fact, I was planning to contact the county about creating a site in Apple Valley, and now I find that the process has already begun! Hurray!

I am committed to organic composting and appreciate so much that our county/community has such a program.

Ginger Hamer
[redacted] Highview Drive, Apple Valley
[redacted]

From: Brian Ernste [mailto:[redacted]]
Sent: Monday, July 16, 2018 3:21 PM
To: Murphy, Joan
Subject: Organics Drop Off Location

To Whom It May Concern-

As a resident of Apple Valley, I strongly urge the city to approve the opening of a residential organics drop-off site, along with increased marketing to the general public on the availability of the resource.

Our world is struggling with the increase of greenhouse gasses and residential waste. The City of Apple Valley has a civic duty to assist in doing our part to reduce this waste and work to keep the Earth clean. My family 100% supports the backing of this project and opening the discussion to making this a permanent fixture in our community.

Future generations depend on us to take better care of our planet, making it a clean, healthy place to live. Thank you for your support.

Regards,
Brian Ernste
[redacted] 137th St W
Apple Valley, MN 55124
[redacted]