

## ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION REQUEST

Please email requests to the Mayor's Legislative Team

at [MileHighOrdinance@DenverGov.org](mailto:MileHighOrdinance@DenverGov.org) by 9 a.m. Friday. Contact the Mayor's Legislative team with questions

Date of Request: September 18, 2025

Please mark one: ☐ Bill Request or ☒ Resolution Request

Please mark one: The request directly impacts developments, projects, contracts, resolutions, or bills that involve property and impact within .5 miles of the South Platte River from Denver's northern to southern boundary? (Check map [HERE](#))

☐ Yes ☒ No

### 1. Type of Request:

☒ Contract/Grant Agreement ☐ Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) ☐ Rezoning/Text Amendment

☐ Dedication/Vacation ☐ Appropriation/Supplemental ☐ DRMC Change

☐ Other:

2. **Title:** Approves a contract with Scraps Ltd. for \$720,000.00 and through 12-31-2026 for a Zero Waste Valet program to support recycling and composting efforts for airport concessions at Denver International Airport, in Council District 11 (PLANE-202580503).

3. **Requesting Agency:** Department of Aviation

### 4. Contact Person:

Contact person with knowledge of proposed ordinance/resolution (e.g., subject matter expert)	Contact person for council members or mayor-council
Name: Scott Morrissey, SVP of Sustainability	Name: Kevin Forgett, State and Local Legislative Advisor
Email: <a href="mailto:Scott.Morrissey@flydenver.com">Scott.Morrissey@flydenver.com</a>	Email: <a href="mailto:Kevin.Forgett@flydenver.com">Kevin.Forgett@flydenver.com</a>

5. **General description or background of proposed request. Attach executive summary if more space needed:**  
(who, what, why)

There is a "Zero Waste Valet" pilot project that has been taking place on the B concourse since May 2024. The project is aimed at increasing DEN's waste diversion rate (the percentage of waste generated that is not sent to the landfill by means of reuse, recycling, etc.) by partnering with DEN concessions to transport the recyclables and compostables they generate to the correct disposal area and educate their staff on proper waste diversion techniques. The program was initially funded by a grant from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) since the service model had not been tested at DEN before. Since its inception, the program has achieved the intended effects of increasing overall waste diversion and reducing contamination in the recycling and compost streams. This is evidenced by the three-point increase in DEN's diversion rate between May 2024 and June 2025, which is equivalent to an additional 45 tons of material kept out of the landfill each month.

Given the program's success and its alignment with the Sustainability and Resiliency principle in DEN's Vision 100, the airport has determined that it is worthwhile to support this project through the Operations and Maintenance budget. This contract is for the second phase of the project, which will still only take place on the B concourse, but will focus on formalizing business processes, maximizing efficiency, and preparing for future expansion of the program. This phase is expected to cost around \$60,000/month.

6. **City Attorney assigned to this request (if applicable):** Daniel Jaynes

7. **City Council District:** Council District 11

8. **\*\*For all contracts, fill out and submit accompanying Key Contract Terms worksheet\*\***

*To be completed by Mayor's Legislative Team:*

Resolution/Bill Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Entered: \_\_\_\_\_

## Key Contract Terms

**Type of Contract: (e.g. Professional Services > \$500K; IGA/Grant Agreement, Sale or Lease of Real Property):** Professional Services > \$500K, and Lease of Real Property

**Vendor/Contractor Name (including any dba's):** Scraps, Ltd.

**Contract control number (legacy and new):**, New: PLANE-202580503

**Location:** Denver International Airport

**Is this a new contract?** ☒ Yes ☐ No **Is this an Amendment?** ☐ Yes ☒ No **If yes, how many?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contract Term/Duration (for amended contracts, include existing term dates and amended dates):** 1/1/2026-12/31/2026

**Contract Amount (indicate existing amount, amended amount and new contract total):**

<i>Current Contract Amount</i> (A)	<i>Additional Funds</i> (B)	<i>Total Contract Amount</i> (A+B)
\$720,000	N/A	\$720,000

  

<i>Current Contract Term</i>	<i>Added Time</i>	<i>New Ending Date</i>
1/1/2026-12/31/2026	N/A	1/1/2026-12/31/2026

### Scope of work:

Nearly 60% of material thrown in the trash at DEN is either recyclable or compostable, according to a waste characterization study conducted in 2023. That study also showed that 30% of the recycling stream is contaminated with non-recyclable material. As of December 2024, DEN's waste diversion rate (the percentage of waste generated that is not sent to the landfill by means of reuse, recycling, etc.) was just under 22%. For various reasons, some of which are unique to an airport setting, much of the compostable and recyclable material that DEN's concessions generate are not disposed of properly. We estimate that roughly 50% of recyclables and 80% of food waste that is incorrectly sent to the trash is generated by our concessions, making them a primary target for meaningful increases in DEN's overall waste diversion rate.

The Zero Waste Valet program consists of a team of individuals who collect compostable and recyclable waste from participating concessions and transport it to the correct disposal area. They also conduct trainings with concession staff, provide educational materials, and conduct periodic audits of their waste streams to identify contamination or additional diversion opportunities. In the grant-funded portion of this program, the Zero Waste Valet team was required to weigh all the materials they collected. Their reports revealed an average diversion rate of 75% across participating concessions, more than three times higher than the rate for concessions that are not participating in the program, which is estimated to be between 15-25%.

The second phase of this program will allow Scraps to refine and enhance the efficiency of the program on the B concourse through improvements to route configurations, staff scheduling, waste auditing, training procedures, and others. It will also allow for formalization of processes such as employee training and management, concession noncompliance escalation, and concession onboarding. It is estimated that the Zero Waste Valet will collect between 50-60 tons of material per month from concessions on the B concourse alone in 2026.

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**Was this contractor selected by competitive process?** No

**If not, why not?** DEN recommends this contract based on the special circumstances that warrant award of this contract without a competitive bid process, consistent with the requirements of Denver's Charter and Code and the Written Instructions contained in Executive Order 8 Memorandum 8B. DEN recommends expansion of the Zero Waste Valet program to all three concourses starting in 2027 and has initiated a competitive procurement process for a contract to provide that level of services. Until that contract is in place, this contract will maintain continuity of services for waste generated from the 30 concessions that have participated in the grant funded program for the past 15 months.

**Has this contractor provided these services to the City before?** ☒ Yes ☐ No

**Source of funds:** Operations and Maintenance (O&M)

**Is this contract subject to:** ☐ W/MBE ☐ DBE ☐ SBE ☐ XO101 ☐ ACDBE ☒ N/A

No goals were assigned to this project due to Executive Order 8, Memorandum No. 8B.

**WBE/MBE/DBE commitments (construction, design, Airport concession contracts):** N/A

**Who are the subcontractors to this contract?** None

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