

June 11, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Hello,

I am very supportive of the expanded waste services proposal. I have been paying for compost ever since I moved to Denver and love the service. My recycling bin often gets too full with the pick up every two weeks. And my trash bin is never full- we don't have much trash since we are able to compost as much as possible. I am very supportive of this measure for myself personally, and for the positive impact I believe it will have across the city in making it easier for people to divert "trash" to compost and recycle more.

Denver has abysmal waste diversion rates and this is a foundational step in the right direction. I hope you will support it.

Sincerely,
Christina Copeland
1938 W 34th Ave
Denver, CO 80211

June 05, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

City Council members,

I urge you to support more composting and recycling for Denver. It is truly incredible--and surprising, to think that this beautiful city cares so little about its environment, that it accepts a recycling rate less than half of the nation's. Many cities have shown the way to improvement, including using incentivized pricing, such as that currently being proposed in Denver. I have learned about how reducing organic waste in the landfill reduces greenhouse gas emissions, as well as how recycling really does save energy and resources. Providing weekly recycling and biweekly composting to every Denver resident will help us reduce our climate footprint. Let's implement these relative "easy" practices to begin the process of lessening the items in our landfill (up to 80%) that should not be there.

Changing the system to where recycling and composting are provided without additional fees and charging for trash is the right way to go. For too long, residents who want to compost have to pay extra. Through our general fund, we have been subsidizing wastefulness and those who send more waste to the landfill, while those of us who have been doing our part have to pay more. That isn't right and I am excited to see this change. Also, with this change, Denver is providing low-income assistance for the new waste fee. This is important to ensure that everyone can participate.

Thank you.
Toni Nading

Sincerely,
Toni Nading
1581 S Leyden St
Denver, CO 80224

May 04, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Dear Councilmember,

My name is Emma Ragona and I am a resident of Denver and a lifelong resident of Colorado. I believe that this is crucial to the city of Denver as we are lacking behind many other cities across the state when it comes to this kind of waste policy. I always personally try to separate my recycle from my trash but I feel it only goes because Denver's recycling rate is so low. Here are some facts that shows Denver needs to be better when it comes to expanding waste services:

- Denver lags far behind other cities when it comes to recycling and composting - we only recycle and compost 26% of our waste, well below leading cities like Seattle, WA, Salt Lake City, UT, and Loveland, CO which is at 58%.

- This is a missed opportunity for us to fight climate change. Recycling and composting are proven solutions that reduce greenhouse gas emissions now.

- Providing weekly recycling and biweekly composting to every Denver resident will help us reduce our climate footprint.

- Additionally, changing the system to where recycling and composting are provided without additional fees and charging for trash is the right way to go. For too long, residents who want to do the right thing, compost have to pay extra. Through our general fund, we have been subsidizing wastefulness and those who send more waste to the landfill, while those of us who have been doing our part have to pay more. That isn't right and I am excited to see this change.

- Also, with this change, Denver is providing low-income assistance for the new waste fee. This is important to ensure that everyone can participate.

As your constituent, please consider supporting this important issue that needs action taken on it NOW.

Thank you,

Emma Ragona

Sincerely,
Emma Ragona
901 Sherman St
Denver, CO 80203

May 18, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

When I first moved to Denver and moved into our rental home I was happy to hear that we had compost pick up available. In the previous cities we lived in we always had compost service. I did think it was odd that we were being charged for compost and not for trash. In my mind what you should pay for is the right to put your trash in a big hole in the ground (a landfill). Compost and recycling are generally commodities and are made into something useful in a closed cycle. The current Denver model for waste is backwards. Customers should pay for trash, not compost or recycling. I also thought it was odd that recycling got picked up every two weeks. We are a family of four and have a small trash and compost bin and a large recycling bin. We create one or two small bags of trash a week because everything else goes in the compost and recycling bin. The only way people will change their behavior in a capitalistic society is by valuation. The expanded waste services proposal fixes most of what is wrong with waste services in Denver and could be a model for other cities. Please pass the Expanded Waste Services Proposal, show you understand the issues around services, combating our climate crisis and serving the community.

Sincerely,
Adam Meltzer
711 S High St
Denver, CO 80209

June 12, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Composting recycling you such an easy win for the environment and for our city. It's sill that in 2022 this isn't a standard service or precise and that denver is so far behind In comparison to other cities. As our city continues to grow trash and waste will become more of a problem let's fix it now

Denver lags far behind other cities when it comes to recycling and composting - we only recycle and compost 26% of our waste, well below leading cities like Seattle, WA, Salt Lake City, UT, and Loveland, CO which is at 58%.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Channing Childs
4739 Stuart St
Denver, CO 80212

June 05, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

To help reduce the number of greenhouse gases we emit into the atmosphere, we, as a city, need to divert more of our waste from landfills. An efficient and low-hanging fruit solution to lowering our emissions is by offering free recycling and composting which will decrease greenhouse gases and slow down global warming so we can ski and camp more.

Half or less of that waste is generated at the household level and 75% of that waste could be recycled or composted. Recycling items such as paper, plastic, glass, and metal can reduce emissions because producing new products from recovered materials often saves energy.

The other major area of our waste is food waste which can be composted. The food waste in landfills generates, methane, a potent greenhouse gas. By composting food waste, methane emissions are significantly reduced and create high-quality dirt that will pull carbon from the atmosphere.

Currently, Denver's waste diversion rate is a sad 26% which means for every 100 lbs of garbage only 26 pounds gets recycled or composted. The national average is a poor 32% and you have Loveland leading the state with 58% and San Francisco leading the country at 80%. Denver is the Mile High city and with a 26% waste diversion rate, are we trying to build Mile High landfills?

One proven effective strategy to increase waste diversion is through fees for landfill waste while recycling and composting are free which is the proposed Expanded Waste Services (EWS) policy. And this is why Denver needs to throw the current broken system into the bin, preferably the compost and recycling bin, and become a city leader in composting and recycling. In order for us to be the environmentally friendly city we want it to be, we need every Denver resident in single-family homes and multifamily buildings with seven or fewer units of composting and recycling. And in order to achieve this, we need to provide recycling and composting for free.

We need solutions now to reduce global warming. Free composting and recycling for Denver residents are two low-hanging fruit solutions that Denver needs to adopt through the Expanded Waste Services policy. I hope you agree with me and vote yes on EWS.

Sincerely,
Nick Campion
415 S Cherokee St Apt 208
Denver, CO 80223

May 06, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

When we make it easy for the citizens of Denver to sort their trash and divert as much material as possible from the landfill, its a win for our planet and our community. Expanded Waste Services will do that. Weekly recycle pick up (thank you CW Sawyer, your voice helped get this feature added!) and free composting will help our efforts to keep as much material as possible out of the landfill and hence less methane in the air we breathe here in Denver.

Please support the City and County of Denver's proposed Expanded Waste Services policy.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Renee Arrington
6619 E Lowry Blvd
Denver, CO 80230

May 24, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

This is a great opportunity for the Council to continue leading on climate change, and I believe the expanded waste services legislation needs to move forward.

To my own shame, I haven't been paying for the compost option, unnecessarily diverting tons of waste annually into our landfills. This new legislation would reduce my family's total waste, and allow us to pivot and prioritize composting and recycling.

I also hope you can protect (and strengthen) ways to make sure this legislation does not negatively affect low-income or homeless communities.

Sincerely,
Thomas Weiler
1805 S Yuma St
Denver, CO 80223

June 06, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Please support the Expanded Waste Policy so more residents can access and afford recycling and composting services. We utilize both and believe we all have a responsibility to care for our city and planet. Please support these and other environmentally friendly policies for all of our futures so we can keep Colorado clean, safe and beautiful.

Thank you for your service.

Sincerely,
Meghan Kluth
1699 S Trenton Street
denver, CO 80231

June 01, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

This is a huge step in the right direction and if I'm being honest, it's taken too long for Denver to get to this point.

I have a family of five and our recycle bin needs changing every week. Our compost bin also fills up quickly in the summer months with lawn debris. We have two neighbors that can't afford to compost so we share ours. This new free option would make a huge impact for our community and environment!

Why is this even a debate?

Sincerely,
Shaleen DeStefano
201 S Humboldt St
Denver, CO 80209

June 12, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

I rarely if ever write my local rep, but this proposed expansion of waste services matters to me. It's pretty much the only thing I would base my next vote on to be honest. We need to do what we can about climate change now, and waste is an issue that a lot of other cities manage more effectively. Also, I'm tired of my little bit of trash picked up weekly while waiting two weeks for all my overflowing recycled materials to be picked up. So I respectfully ask you, don't just vote for but fight for this policy. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Jesse Last
401 S Clarkson
Denver, CO 80209

June 06, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Write your letter here (Salsa will automatically include a salutation to your council members as well as your signature)!

Hello,

I am very interested in supporting pay for pound for trash and more regular recycling (as well as free compost pickup, if possible) I've seen this work in other countries and would love to see it work here. Let's encourage people to do what's right. And - for my household, we end up with two big bins filled with recycling and it becomes out of control every two weeks. I fully support this measure. Thank you!!

Allison Fries

Sincerely,

Allison Fries

3331 Decatur St

Denver, CO 80211

June 06, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Hello:

I am writing to ask you to support the Expanded Waste Services policy that will expand and improve waste collection services by providing free recycling and composting, and only charging for trash collection.

I am a life long resident of Denver and believe this policy is essential for improving the quality of life in Denver. Right now, there is no financial incentive for people to compost or recycle. This new policy will change that.

In addition, this policy will help our city combat climate change, one of the most pressing problems we face right now. By increasing our rates of recycling and composting, we will collectively take a positive step in reducing climate change.

Thank you for your support of this important policy.

Best regards,

Erika Walke

Sincerely,
Erika Walker
8070 East 26th Avenue
Denver, CO 80238

June 06, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Hello:

I am writing to ask you to support the Expanded Waste Services policy that will expand and improve waste collection services by providing free composting and recycling services and only charging for trash collection.

This will encourage everyone to compost and recycle and position Denver as a green and eco friendly city.

It will help combat climate change by reducing methane emissions from landfills. It will also help the Denver waste water system because more food waste will be composted rather than being run through garbage disposals.

Sincerely,
Stephen Walker-Weinshenker
772 ivy st
denver, CO 80220

May 24, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Hello,

I am writing to express my support for expanding recycling and composting for Denver. I live in an apartment complex and while I understand that this policy initiative only addresses single-family homes and smaller multifamily housing units, I would like to express my support to increase the sustainability of the City. I am looking forward to the next initiative in November that will work to expand recycling and composting at apartments and businesses. These are great plans and can make a huge difference that impacts everyone.

Best Regards,

Nick McMahan

Sincerely,
Nicholas McMahan
2248 N Clarkson St
Denver, CO 80205

April 26, 2022

RE: Support Pay-As-You-Throw in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Dear City Council,

As a resident of Denver who recycles, I notice that there are many weeks where my recycling cart doesn't have enough space for the amount of recycling I have, which poses a problem. Therefore, it is much needed to have a weekly recycling pick up. Having moved back in with my mother, I have received feedback from her that there is a need to motivate people to use less trash and recycle more. Additionally, bi-weekly composting without additional fees will be of great value, especially for residents who are passionate about composting, but haven't had the affordable means to do so. All these new efforts/measures will also help us catch up to other Cities when it comes to recycling and composting. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Alex Tavian

artavako@hotmail.com

Sincerely,

Alexander Tavian

4023 S Boston St

Denver, CO 80237

June 06, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

I support Expanded Waste Services in Denver.

Sincerely,
Caitlin OMara
2525 18th Street
Denver, CO 80211

June 01, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

My family has been part of the composting program here in Denver for over 10 years. After a few short months of both composting and recycling, my husband and I were astonished at the significantly reduced amount of trash in our black bin. As a result, we are passionate proponents for free composting and recycling and paid trash pickup as honestly, it's just good sense -- for the consumer and the environment. Plenty of our neighbors have wanted to do the right thing and compost, but understandably don't want to pay extra for it.

I was shocked to learn that Denver recycles and composts a mere 26% of our waste. We can do better! Please help us stop subsidizing trash.

I'm excited for this change and especially grateful that Denver is providing low-income assistance for the waste fee so everyone can participate.

Thank you for all you do and your support of this!

Sincerely,
Tracy White
408 S Gaylord St
Denver, CO 80209

June 06, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Please support free recycling and compost.

We have signed up for compost and we have noticed a marked decrease in the amount of trash we generate. We only have a small trash container.

It is an important step in improving our environment and the city.

Please work to implement this.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Donald Weinshenker
8070 East 26th Ave
Denver, CO 80238

May 21, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

I support the concept of "Pay as you throw" garbage as well as free recycling and composting.

Sincerely,
Jeff Neuman-Lee
2338 N Franklin St
Denver, CO 80205

June 01, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

I have been composting for a few years now, when the composting pilot program became available at my address. It always amazes me how much less landfill trash I accumulate now! I truly don't understand it, because it seems like what I'm composting in a household of 2 isn't *that* much! But if I have to think about how much trash we produce before starting to compost and how much we produce now, it isn't even close. Now, maybe I take the trash out every 3 weeks. I try to buy only what I need, use reusable bags at the grocery store, minimize single-use products, and it feels good.

But I also know that my individual behavior doesn't make much of a difference unless we offer these opportunities to everyone, city-wide. We know that what works is charging for what we don't want people to do (produce trash) and offering free services for what we want people to do (like recycling and composting). The way our waste management system currently operates is a missed opportunity for us to fight climate change. Recycling and composting are proven solutions that reduce greenhouse gas emissions now.

Therefore, Denver should change its waste system to where recycling and composting are provided without additional fees and charging for trash is the right way to go. For too long, residents who want to do the right thing, like composting, have to pay extra. Through our general fund, we have been subsidizing wastefulness and those who send more waste to the landfill, while those of us who have been doing our part have to pay more. That isn't right and I am excited to see this change.

I trust you to be the leader we need to create a healthier community for everyone.

Thank you for reading and for all you do,
Alejandra

Sincerely,
Alejandra Castañeda
3134 W 40th Avenue
Denver, CO 80211

June 01, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Dear Council Members,

I support expanded waste services in Denver! We owe it to our kids to be responsible about how we manage what we throw away.

Providing weekly recycling and biweekly composting to every Denver resident will help us reduce our climate footprint.

Additionally, changing the system to where recycling and composting are provided without additional fees and charging for trash is the right way to go. For too long, residents who want to do the right thing, compost have to pay extra. Through our general fund, we have been subsidizing wastefulness and those who send more waste to the landfill, while those of us who have been doing our part have to pay more. That isn't right and I am excited to see this change.

Also, with this change, Denver is providing low-income assistance for the new waste fee. This is important to ensure that everyone can participate.

Thank you,
Kelly

Sincerely,
Kelly Stainback-Tracy
4563 West 36th Place
Denver, CO 80212

May 25, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Write your letter here (Salsa will automatically include a salutation to your council members as well as your signature)!

Sincerely,
Sherrie Kroemer
1350 Verbena St
Denver, CO 80220

May 25, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

I'm writing to urge your support for Expanding Waste Services. I believe that Denver residents are very interested in improving our city's waste diversion numbers. I'm especially interested in the volume based pricing as a way to divert materials from landfills and increase recycling and composting. Thanks!!

Sincerely,
Lisa Haddox
1939 Fairfax St
Denver, CO 80220

June 07, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Thank you so much for reading this message, and for everything you do for the city of Denver. Denver is such a wonderful place to live and grow, and since moving here I've fallen immediately in love with the culture, the people, and the surrounding nature. As someone who both works in the sustainability industry and passionately pursues environmentalism outside of work, I cannot stress enough how important it is to 1) normalize recycling and composting and 2) make it easy, convenient and low-or-no cost.

We as a city have the opportunity to catalyze change and do our part to stop accelerating climate change impacts, and we can do this by passing the Expanded Waste Services policy.

Part of my job as a sustainability manager is educating and informing clients on how to spearhead change, and both incentives for 'green' actions and disincentives for 'autopiloting' all waste to the trashbin and landfill are both effective mechanisms. The Expanded Waste Services policy will enact the necessary incentives/disincentives to bring about significant change and meaningful progress in combatting landfill waste.

Accessible recycling and composting is a missed opportunity for us to fight climate change. Recycling and composting are proven solutions that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Providing weekly recycling and biweekly composting to every Denver resident will help us reduce our climate footprint. Additionally, changing the system to where recycling and composting are provided without additional fees and charging for trash is the right way to go. For too long, residents who want to do the right thing, compost, have to pay extra. We need to protect the future of our city, our citizens and our beautiful landscape by making these services accessible to everyone.

Through our general fund, we have been subsidizing wastefulness and those who send more waste to the landfill, while those of us who have been doing our part have to pay more. That isn't right and I am excited to see this change.

Methane is a greenhouse gas emission that is 20 times more potent than Carbon Dioxide (accelerating climate change much quicker), and municipal solid waste landfills are the third-largest source of human-related methane emissions in the United States. We have the opportunity to reduce our city's footprint by providing more accessible and affordable waste, recycling, and composting services for all.

Thank you again for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Madeline Hinchliffe

2424 W Caithness Place
Denver, CO 80211

May 25, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Please support expanded waste services and pay as you throw! I do my best to reduce my waste, and fill up a whole trash bin less than once a month. I shouldn't be paying the same fees as households that produce a lot of waste.

Thanks,
Mladen

Sincerely,
Mladen Gajic
1780 W Mexico Ave
Denver, CO 80223

May 25, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

I support this proposal. I've been happy to pay for composting since the option became available. I hope that some sort of education/monitoring is a component, as too often I see my neighbors' recycling in plastic trash bags.

Sincerely,
Angela Little
1162 Jackson St
Denver, CO 80206

May 25, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Dear Councilwoman,

I hope you will support this measure, as I do. Climate and environment are real and urgent issues. Denver lags far behind other cities and we can and must do better. This will substantially reduce landfill contributions and reduce methane/CO2 emissions. Let's act now and start to make a better environment for ourselves and our children.

Sincerely,

David Halterman
508 S Pontiac Way
Denver, CO 80224

Sincerely,
David Halterman
508 South Pontiac Way
Denver, CO 80224

May 25, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

I'm writing you to show my support for passing the Expanded Waste Services policy. It is sad how low Denver ranks in our landfill diversion and it's time we get with the times and adopt a policy similar to what leading cities have in place. Addressing the low levels of landfill diversion will have a positive impact on Denver's climate change goals as well as positive economic impacts by creating a circular economy that keeps good, blue/green collar jobs localized. It's time to bring our city's waste policies into the 21st Century.

Sincerely,
Will Pirkey
1640 S Umatilla St
Denver, CO 80223

May 25, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

I support expanded waste services in Denver and I hope you will too! It's time for Denver to move forward toward more sustainable practices.

Sincerely,
Kaye Mathews
2978 So Pontiac St
Denver, CO 80224

May 25, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

I am so excited about the Expanded Waste Services package! I moved to Denver from Boulder and it was a big contrast in what is available here compared to what I was used to in Boulder County. We know Colorado lags behind the nation in recycling and waste, and this would be a great way for Denver to step up and start to make a difference. Thank you for all you do for our community.

Sincerely,
Monika Heinbaugh
2987 Perry St
Denver, CO 80212

June 02, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

I support the expanded waste service plan in Denver. My household currently puts out only one bag of trash a week if even that much but we constantly have at least one full recycling bin. In fact we got a second recycling bin to deal with the volume of recycling we have. Additionally compost should be an included service for all households, it's easy, and at minimum this should be included for every property in Denver.

Denver should be doing all it can to reduce waste, lessen our impact on the environment and be equitable. This plan is a good step in those directions. Additionally since Denver sells its compost this seems like a way for the city to make additional revenue.

Sincerely,
Stephen Edwards
1395 S. Newport St
Denver, CO 80224

June 02, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

We would love to have expanded recycling. We always end up running out of room and if we miss a week things pile up and get out of control. Thanks!

Sincerely,
Adam Mordecai
2748 Ulster St
Denver, CO 80238

May 25, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Hello,

I'm writing to express my support for the proposed Expanded Waste Services policy. It's abundantly clear that Denver needs a comprehensive program to reduce the effects of climate change and this policy is one component. I believe this policy will be effective as it uses monetary incentives to drive behavior change. Please pass this policy to help create this change!

Sincerely,
Sean Reiter
4132 S Verbana St
Denver, CO 80237

March 18, 2022

RE: Support Pay-As-You-Throw in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Pay As You Throw is long, long over due in Denver. We must face the reality that most are only going to be motivated to reduce waste and compost/recycle more if there is a financial incentive. If people generate more waste, they should have to pay their fair share so we can protect natural resources and keep our open spaces clean!

Sincerely,
Gary Grewal
1935 N Logan St
Denver, CO 80203

June 02, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Hello,

My name is Emily Rader and I am a Denver resident living in the Fort Logan neighborhood. For the past seven years that I've been in the Greater Denver Area, I've never lived in a unit that offers recycling or composting - even for a fee. For this reason, every three weeks, I find myself driving over 30 minutes to drop off my recycling at the City & County of Denver's facility that is almost in Aurora. Every five or six days, I drive my compost bucket to a coffee shop 10 minutes from my house. The amount of time and money this takes is difficult enough for me as a middle-class white woman who owns a car. For other residents who may not have the same level of access, extra income to join a composting co-op, or flexibility in their schedules, these barriers are prohibitive enough to restrict them from recycling or composting at all.

It is disappointing to learn that Denver lags far behind other cities when it comes to recycling and composting - we only recycle and compost 26% of our waste, well below leading cities like Portland, OR (81%), Seattle, WA (54%), Salt Lake City, UT (40%), and Loveland, CO (58%). We have a tangible opportunity before us to fight climate change. Recycling and composting are proven solutions that reduce greenhouse gas emissions now.

Providing weekly recycling and biweekly composting to every Denver resident will help us reduce our climate footprint. Additionally, changing the system to where recycling and composting are provided without additional fees and charging for trash - with the important caveat that there are assistance programs for low-income residents - is the right way to go. For too long, residents who want to do the right thing - compost - have to pay extra. That isn't right and I deeply want to see this change.

It is true that charging residents extra fees for trash services while we struggle against high inflation and the economic fallout of the pandemic is a hard sell. There are other players we should focus on too - such as construction companies - who produce the highest amount of waste in the city. However, climate change is such a massive threat-multiplier that we must take many different action steps at the same time to reduce our carbon footprint. Expanding waste services in Denver isn't a silver bullet, but it is an important piece of the puzzle and I wholeheartedly support it.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important proposal.

Emily

Sincerely,
Emily Rader
3667 W Union Ave
Denver, CO 80236

May 25, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

I am writing to ask for your support of the Expanded Waste Services policy for Denver.

Denver lags far behind other comparable cities in the country for recycling and composting.

In addition, for too long, residents who want to do the right thing and divert organic scraps from the landfill through composting have had to pay extra. Through our general fund, we have been subsidizing wastefulness and those who send more waste to the landfill, while those of us who have been doing our part have to pay more. That isn't right and I am excited to see this change.

I am also excited that Denver is providing low-income assistance for the new waste fee. This is important to ensure that everyone can participate.

I hope you'll support this critical step forward for Denver, our environment, and our climate.

Sincerely,
Beka Whitson
1274 Adams St
Denver, CO 80206

June 02, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Write your letter here (Salsa will automatically include a salutation to your council members as well as your signature)!

Sincerely,
Nathaniel Evans
1811 S Quebec Way, APT 53
Denver, CO 80231

June 02, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Write your letter here (Salsa will automatically include a salutation to your council members as well as your signature)!

I recycle and compost more than I use my trash and it has been difficult managing the biweekly recycling pick up. Please change the service to weekly. Denver's composting system is great and easy to use, please expand the program and include it as part of waste services instead of adding an additional fee. Thank you!

Blessings from,
Grace

Sincerely,
Grace Noel
1654 S Syracuse
Denver, CO 80231

June 02, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Please consider the proposed expanded trash and recycling program. As a family of four, I'm very proud that our weekly trash fits in one or two bags. The bulk of our "waste" is recycling and we often have more in two weeks than will fit in our large bin. I think that tiered pricing for trash volume will really incentivize people to make better choices about what goes into the landfill. Also, in regards to the composting program... we have been trying to compost on our own but a free city program would work much better. Surely in beautiful Colorado we can prioritize taking care of our resources better.

Sincerely,
Grace-Ann Westergren
8080 E 26th Ave
Denver, CO 80238

May 28, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

I'm writing to encourage you to support expanded recycling and composting in Denver.

We pay extra to compost through the city's program and encourage our neighbors to use our green bin for yard clippings and other compostables because we know not all of our neighbors can afford another line item in their monthly budgets. We're able to afford the fee but it feels like we're being penalized for being environmentally conscientious.

We also have 2 recycling bins because we recycle everything we can and it adds up fast, especially when boxes and recyclable containers are added to the mix. Weekly recycling pick up would help address the pile up.

It feels like Denver is missing this very straightforward way to encourage residents to make environmentally responsible choices a part of their daily habit. Ultimately, we all need to make changes to our lifestyles to support a habitable planet; why not start with these painless small steps?

Sincerely,
Cassandra Netzke
4689 Quitman St
Denver, CO 80212

May 25, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Write your letter here (Salsa will automatically include a salutation to your council members as well as your signature)!

Sincerely,
Susan Dellinger
35 Osceola St
Denver, CO 80219

May 25, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

I am very supportive and excited for the new expanded waste services proposal for Denver. Composting is critical for Denver being a more sustainable city because it ensures valuable nutrients go back into dirt rather than being stuck in a landfill for hundreds of years. It also reducing the carbon emissions of the food breaking down, because the organic matter breaking down in a landfill usually produces methane, which is a potent greenhouse gas. Recycling also helps reduce our carbon footprint and long term can create more local raw material streams for companies.

Please ensure the expanded waste policy passes!

Sincerely,
Evelyn Ritter
1901 E 13th Ave
Denver, CO 80206

May 23, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Please support expanded waste collection to encourage greater recycling and compost options.

Sincerely,
Elisha Rubin
2175 S Newton St
Denver, CO 80219

June 02, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Thank you for voting to support expanded recycling and composting in Denver! We have participated in the composting program for a few years and believe Denver can do more. We agree with the proposed incentive to reduce waste, based on the size of the trash bin and low income assistance, rather than a fee to compost. I'm excited to see this change. Weekly recycling collection would also help reduce Denver's climate footprint. Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,
Brina Larson
1585 Kearney Street
Denver, CO 80220

June 02, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Write your letter here (Salsa will automatically include a salutation to your council members as well as your signature)!
To Whom It Concerns,

I am writing in support of the proposed Expanded Waste Services Policy. As one who is concerned about conservation of resources, recycling, and minimizing waste, the proposal is a vast improvement over the current system. As someone who has relatively recently moved from a small town back east where recycling was huge and the community took pride in the amount of money it saved the town, I can see such a need in the city of Denver.

While we are avid recyclers, it is no secret that we need to build in monetary incentives for people to join the recycling club in numbers. Otherwise, many people just could not be bothered. The proposed system is more equitable as it rewards those who generate less trash by their consumer habits and by the amount they recycle. Paying more for a larger bin only seems fair, just like paying more for more water use.

Finally, it is disturbing to see how much organic yard waste is going into the landfill stream. This foregoes recycling and the wonderful generation of usable compost (we buy the city's compost every year). It also fills up landfills faster for no reason. Again, a monetary incentive will help more households to compost.

Thank you for considering this along with other progressive policies that will slow down our collective negative impact on the planet. It makes total sense for so many reasons. Honestly, I would go even farther to incentivize so more families will "care" enough to change their habits.

Sincerely,

Rob Kapner
1955 Jasmine Street

Sincerely,
Robert Kapner
1955 Jasmine Street
Denver, CO 80220

May 25, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

I am very concerned about climate change and pollution in Denver. It's disappointing to see a city with so much potential lag so far behind others in making common sense environmental policy changes to ensure a safe present and future for our citizens. We only recycle and compost 26% of our waste, well below leading cities like Seattle, WA, Salt Lake City, UT, and Loveland, CO which is at 58%. This is completely unconscionable. Further, this is a missed opportunity for us to fight climate change. Recycling and composting are proven solutions that reduce greenhouse gas emissions now. Providing weekly recycling and biweekly composting to every Denver resident will help us reduce our climate footprint.

Additionally, changing the system to where recycling and composting are provided without additional fees and charging for trash is the right way to go. For too long, residents who want to do the right thing, compost have to pay extra. Through our general fund, we have been subsidizing wastefulness and those who send more waste to the landfill, while those of us who have been doing our part have to pay more. That isn't right and I am excited to see this change, especially as a faithful composter.

Also, with this change, Denver is providing low-income assistance for the new waste fee. This is important to ensure that everyone can participate.

Sincerely,
Mandana Nakhai
90 Galapago St
Denver, CO 80223

June 02, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

I support more recycling and compost collection.

Sincerely,
John Skaradowski
7850 E JEWELL AVE
Denver, CO 80231

May 25, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Dear City Council,

I support the new trash and recycling program. On my alley in west Denver only 2 households have the green composting bins. This new program will make them available to all and so will make composting more cost efficient and reduce landfill burdens.

I also support paying less for small trash bins, count me in! good work city council, thank you,

Weston Wilson
2505 Yates St.
Denver, CO 80212

Sincerely,
Weston Wilson
2505 Yates St.
Denver, CO 80212

May 28, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Write your letter here (Salsa will automatically include a salutation to your council members as well as your signature)!
Howdy, Amanda, Robin and Debbie!

Dana Miller here - I want to connect with y'all about the proposed Waste Management program that would charge for trash bins, and would recycling and composting.

I am super excited about this program - so many communities across the country are already successfully using a similar model and I look forward to an increased involvement in recycling and composting with this pay as you throw program.

I am involved with a group called Grow Local Colorado - we grow food in numerous gardens around town to donate to communities in need. I am confident that our volunteers support this proposed program as well - composting is a big deal to gardeners!

Please consider supporting this when it comes up for a vote in June.

Most sincerely,
Dana Miller

Sincerely,
Dana Miller
1270 Leyden St
Denver, CO 80220

May 28, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Dear Councilperson CdeBaca,

I am writing to you today as your constituent that you support expanded waste services in Denver. Denver lags far behind other cities when it comes to recycling and composting - we only recycle and compost 26% of our waste, well below leading cities like Seattle, WA, Salt Lake City, UT, and Loveland, CO which is at 58%.

Providing weekly recycling and biweekly composting to every Denver resident will help us reduce our climate footprint.

This new system will:

Provide weekly recycling collection; providing weekly compost collection for those who want it at no additional cost; create a "volume-based pricing" or "pay-as-you-throw" model for trash collection; and create an instant rebate program to help low-income households pay for trash collection services.

Please vote yes to this proposal. I am an avid recycler, but my heart breaks when I see so much throw away. We need to do better as a city and community.

Thank you for your support,
James Rogers

Sincerely,
James Rogers
2020 Arapahoe St.
Denver, CO 80205

May 25, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

I live in a 77-unit multifamily building. Unlike single family detached units, which consume far more resources per capita, we must pay extra to get both recycling and composting services at our building. This while our tax dollars go to subsidize single family trash and recycling services. This is not only inequitable but it discourages recycling in locations where collection is most efficient. Because in the case of our building for example, trash, recyclable materials and compost for 77 households can be picked up at a single location!

Through our general fund, we have been subsidizing wastefulness, households who send more waste to the landfill, while those of us who have been doing our part have to pay more. Changing the system to where recycling and composting are provided without additional fees, and charging for trash is the right way to go. For too long, residents who want to do the right thing, have to pay extra. Providing weekly recycling and biweekly composting to every Denver resident will help us reduce our climate footprint.

Sincerely,
Elizabeta Stacishin
1250 N Humboldt St Apt 703
Denver, CO 80218

June 03, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Dear Denver City Council,

The recycling rates in Colorado are, frankly, embarrassing. Why are we doing so well on LEED buildings, on energy performance ratings, and lag so far behind on our recycling?

I urge you to support the proposed Expanded Waste Services policy for Denver. The proposed policy will expand waste services for the 180,000 residences who have their waste collected by the City and County of Denver by:

- Providing weekly recycling collection;
- Providing weekly compost collection for those who want it at no additional cost;
- Creating a "volume-based pricing" or "pay-as-you-throw" model for trash collection;
- Creating an instant rebate program to help low-income households pay for trash collection services.

Over 9,000 communities across the country with similar systems experience waste diversion

rates two to three times higher than Denver's low rate of 26%. Our waste diversion rate is much

lower than similarly-sized cities that have a volume-based pricing program for trash collection.

Expanding access to weekly curbside compost collection is an urgent climate change solution.

When landfilled, food scraps and yard waste contribute to methane emissions, a powerful

greenhouse gas that is 84 times more potent than carbon dioxide in trapping heat in the

atmosphere. By composting organic discards instead of landfilling them, we not only reduce

greenhouse gas emissions from landfills, we can also produce a local compost amendment that,

when applied to soils, builds healthier and more drought-resistant soils that result in more

nutrient-dense food and increased rates of carbon sequestration from the atmosphere. Our

current system charges for curbside compost collection, presenting a barrier to residents who

want to divert their organic waste from the landfill.

The proposed Expanded Waste System also increases recycling collections from biweekly to

weekly. With more online ordering than ever before, residents' recycling carts are filling up with

cardboard boxes and other valuable recyclable materials faster than their trash carts. With the

current biweekly collections, recycling bins can fill up before collection day, and valuable recyclable materials end up in trash bins rather than recycling bins, going to landfills rather than being recirculated through our local economy.

Providing these new, expanded services comes at an additional cost. Therefore, we fully support changing our system to be more equitable by charging residents for the amount of trash they send to the landfill. If trash is treated as a utility, similar to water and energy, the funds generated from trash collection will support expanded recycling and compost collections.

Residents, businesses, and multi-family buildings would not be subsidizing sending single-family home waste to the landfill through the general fund. Instead, residents would only pay for what they use.

I strongly support this bill so that we can be a leader, instead of a laggard, in recycling!

Sincerely,
Renee Azerbegi
1449 7TH STREET
Denver, CO 80204

May 26, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

I am writing to urge you to pass an Expanded Waste Services policy that will expand and improve waste collection systems in our city.

Denver lags far behind other cities when it comes to recycling and composting - we only recycle and compost 26% of our waste, well below leading cities like Seattle, WA, Salt Lake City, UT, and Loveland, CO which is at 58%. This is a missed opportunity for us to fight climate change. Recycling and composting are proven solutions that reduce greenhouse gas emissions now. Providing weekly recycling and biweekly composting to every Denver resident will help us reduce our climate footprint. Additionally, changing the system to where recycling and composting are provided without additional fees and charging for trash is the right way to go. For too long, residents who want to do the right thing, compost have to pay extra. Through our general fund, we have been subsidizing wastefulness and those who send more waste to the landfill, while those of us who have been doing our part have to pay more. That isn't right and I am excited to see this change. Also, with this change, Denver is providing low-income assistance for the new waste fee. This is important to ensure that everyone can participate.

Sincerely,
Toni Thibodeaux
970 Cook St
Denver, CO 80206

May 29, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Please vote to make the privilege of collecting our trash by mandatory fees. So many other cities do. I'm embarrassed that denver doesn't.

Sincerely,
Deborah Hart
875 s corona
Denver, CO 80209

May 29, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Denver is so far behind on diverting waste unlike we were at the fore front of legalizing marijuana. We need to continue being a leader for the front range metro area!

Sincerely,
Melissa Kyer
5190 Clay St
Denver, CO 80221

June 03, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Dear Ms. Torres, Ms. Ortega, and Ms. Kniech,

Thank you for taking time to consider expanding waste services in Denver. I am saddened by the large amounts of trash that we currently send to the landfill, and disheartened to see my neighbors putting food and other compostables in the trash.

Denver lags behind other progressive, environmentally-minded cities in its waste collection and disposal efforts. I was just in Seattle this past weekend and noticed compost bins alongside trash bins in most restaurants and on street corners--here, it seems like people don't even know what compost is or how to do it effectively, let alone have free access to it!

By continuing to charge for compost services, we are being inequitable in our efforts to include all persons of all income levels in sustainability efforts. What's more, we are disincentivizing composting while incentivizing sending materials to the landfill—precisely the opposite of what we should be doing.

I appreciate your consideration and I look forward to seeing progress made on this issue.

Thanks for all you do to support our neighborhoods and our city!

Best,

Mikkela Blanton
1331 Newton St.
Denver, CO 80204

Sincerely,
Mikkela Blanton
1331 Newton St.
Denver, CO 80204

May 30, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

We are counting on you to keep our City on track. Please don't allow ANY essential service to be made 'pay as you go' for individual residences. Trash and garbage pick up IS TOO IMPORTANT TO GET REDUCED. KEEP IT FREE FOR ALL and KEEP IT AS PLENTIFUL AS NEEDED. That's why we have city and county taxes of various kinds. Pay for services we need through the taxes we pay.

We need your voice out there for us! Thank You. God Bless You.

Esther Bright
Montbello-Gateway

Sincerely,
W Esther Bright
15555 E, 40th Ave - Unit 11
Denver, CO 80239

March 21, 2022

RE: Support Pay-As-You-Throw in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Hello Ms Kniech, Ms Ortega and Mr Clark,

I'm writing today in support of the Pay-as-you-Throw system for waste and I urge you to support the policy. My husband and I currently pay for the city composting bin and we are amazed by how much we have used it over the past year+ that we've had the service. While we were eager to compost for many years, we held off because of the cost, even though our household income didn't prevent us from fitting it into our budget.

While I personally don't see the need for weekly recycling, because we all know that recycling isn't actually as productive as we'd like it to be, and some manufacturers like to make us think it is, I won't advocate against the weekly recycling pick-up.

What I think is most important are these three elements:

1. Free composting and extensive education efforts for all Denverites - including those living in multi-unit housing properties.
2. Free recycling and extensive education efforts to get all Denverites recycling properly (there are still people who think they should put recycling in plastic bags!) - including those living in multi-unit housing properties.
3. Fee-based garbage pick-up to incentivize more people to compost and recycle.

I fully recognize that education efforts can only do so much; you can't force someone to read a brochure that comes in the mail they rarely pick-up from their mailbox because they are too tired from working or too busy with other commitments. But regular outreach and partnerships with a range of media outlets and community leaders could go a long way because the pay-as-you-throw effort will only truly work if people use the services and use them correctly.

Which leads to my last point (which is actually #2 above). All multi-unit housing properties in Denver should be required to have recycling bins/facilities on their property and encourage residents to use them. It's disgraceful that Denver, Colorado does not already do this! I lived in NYC before coming here and all of the buildings, including walk-ups, had recycling available. If NYC can do it, Denver can. There is just no excuse for it. And residents want it! A friend who lives in a building nearby regularly laments the lack of recycling facilities in her building and drops her compost off at our house nearly every week.

Please vote for pay-as-you-throw, encourage your fellow council members to do as well, and let's get this done!

Thanks so much for your time and attention to this important issue.

Best,
Lisa Alcorn

Sincerely,

Lisa Alcorn
243 S Downing St
Denver, CO 80209

June 08, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Please consider allowing for more services to help Denver residents reduce what goes in the trash. Our family has personally done all we can by switching for a smaller trash bin and bigger recycling bin, as well as compost services. Looking around our neighborhood, there is so much potential for neighbors to be doing more. i know economics are a factor, so it would be great to try to design new services that keep this is mind.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Fox
1396 S Kearney St
Denver, CO 80224

June 08, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

To whom it may concern,

We support weekly compost at no cost, weekly recycling collection and trash fees based on the size of bin as well as rebate for low income families. As a household of four with two small children, every week we have to make the choice between storing our extra recyclables or throwing them in the trash can. We fill our recycle bin weekly and would just love to be able to recycle freely and feel the fees for trash would incentivize us and others to reduce our landfill contributions. We already pay for a green bin (and would be happy to get one for no cost) but would be happy to see our neighbors utilize the service and help keep compostables out of landfills. Thanks!

The Bala Family

Sincerely,
Rebecca Bala
1730 s Kearney st
Denver, CO 80224

May 30, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

The world is set to hit 2 degrees Celsius by 2050. At 2 degrees Celsius parts of Southwest Asia and regions of the Persian Gulf and Yemen will become uninhabitable for human life without permanent air conditioning. I will be 46. The Colorado River provides power for over 780,000 homes in the southwestern U.S and provides water for over 40 million people; yet in the last two decades the river's flow has been about 20% less than the average flow in the 20th century. Crop failures are nearly 5 times more likely by 2030. By 2050, the amount of plastic in earths oceans will surpass the amount of fish. Considering these statistics, my future looks grim. My future looks like one where I will need to fight tooth and nail to survive. I want to know that my local government cares about my future. I want to know that they care about my survival, and the survival of my generation and the lives of those in younger generations than mine. The lives of children who were just born, who deserve a wonderful life, not one filled with struggle. I believe as of 2022 we must do all that we can to contribute to a better world. Composting enriches soil, helping it retain its moisture and suppress plant diseases and pests, while it also increases the natural process of plants capture of CO2. It is vitally important, as food waste that ends up in the landfill actually does the opposite of capturing CO2 from the environment, it produces methane. Not to mention it wastes the water, gasoline, energy, labor, land, and fertilizers used to make the food. For my future, for yours, for the future of todays children I encourage you to do all you can to fight against Climate Change at home, to your friends and family, but especially in our government, this is where change begins. Thank You.

Sincerely,
Grace Brummett
1544 S Emerson St
Denver, CO 80210

May 26, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Hi, I support this initiative because I think it is vitally important for us to divert as much waste from the landfills as possible and also compost our organic material to support our food systems. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Andrea Pierce
3011 N Marion St
Denver, CO 80205

May 31, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

I love our city, and in so many ways we are head and shoulders above our neighbors but there are some serious places we're lacking. One of them is our recycling and composting rates where we lag behind so many others. Our city only recycles and composts 26% of our waste-- which is simply too low. We as a city won't meet our climate goals without tackling our waste problems. And in our low income neighborhoods and for those living in apartments access to recycling and composting is a huge issue. Throwing something in the trash doesn't need to be status quo, our city has great programs ripe for expansion. And adopting these tools city-wide are proven solutions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Providing weekly recycling and biweekly composting to every Denver resident will help us reduce our climate footprint.

Additionally, changing the system to where recycling and composting are provided without additional fees and charging for trash is the right way to go. For too long, residents who want to do the right thing, compost have to pay extra. Through our general fund, we have been subsidizing wastefulness and those who send more waste to the landfill, while those of us who have been doing our part have to pay more. That isn't right and I am excited to see this change.

Also, with this change, Denver is providing low-income assistance for the new waste fee. This is important to ensure that everyone can participate.

Sincerely,
Becky Long
4510 Logan Street
Denver, CO 80216

May 26, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

I want to see policies that encourage recycling and composting and discourage waste.

Sincerely,
Heather Colwell
1606 Eudora Street
Denver, CO 80220

June 13, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Yes to expanded waste services in denver!

Sincerely,
Kat Davenport
4367 N Clay St
Denver, CO 80211

May 26, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

I completely and utterly agree with this new recycling and composting initiative. Denver is far behind climate goals and change is needed.

Thank you

Sincerely,
Darwin Roth
1950 Jasmine St
Denver, CO 80220

March 30, 2022

RE: Support Pay-As-You-Throw in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

I have lived in a town that contemplated and ultimately implemented a pay-as-you-throw garbage collection system. Before the program started, I remember people discussing how everyone would find ways around the system, most likely by illegally dumping their trash elsewhere. I remember my father complaining about having to purchase specific town trash bags to comply with the program. I remember a lot of loud complaints without any real concerns behind them, and I also remember that those complaints vanished within a year of the program launching (and I also noticed that illegal dumping hadn't really increased anywhere in my town).

One noticeable change after implementation was seeing the town trash bags in front of every house. Residents had to have purchased these bags, and presumably, many remembered that purchase as they loaded their waste into the bags. I imagine countless people decided against throwing their aluminum cans in that bag, preferring to recycle those cans instead and save the precious space in the trash bag. We need the same mentality shift here--Denver currently diverts just 26% of its waste, lagging far behind comparable cities. We need people to compost their food instead of throwing it in the landfill. We need people to feel personally connected with the underwhelming trash system currently in place so that concerned citizens start doing something to improve waste diversion in Denver. Composting and recycling are effective and easy early steps to reduce methane emissions and help combat the climate crisis. But from my experience, we won't see people compost or recycle correctly en masse until there are economic incentives in place that kickstart behavior change.

I should know--I've been cleaning up streets and parks around me in North Cap Hill for almost two years. I have personally removed around 5,000 pounds of garbage from Denver's streets while also keeping my alley clean and correcting my neighbors' mistakes when they throw bagged recyclables in their purple carts or try to toss boxes and cans into the landfill dumpster. I have done my part and have gone above and beyond to try to improve waste collection in Denver. Please, do yours and pass this legislation so that everyone else can start doing their part. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Brandon Auger
1761 North Washington Street
Denver, CO 80203

June 08, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Write your letter here (Salsa will automatically include a salutation to your council members as well as your signature)!

I am ALL for supporting recycling and compost for years and rarely have any regular trash.

Please vote this through!

Karen Stewart

Sincerely,
Karen Stewart
1553 South Locust St
Denver, CO 80224

May 26, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

I would really appreciate the opportunity to have weekly recycling and free compost, and would gladly trade that for a pay as you throw system! Thank you!

Sincerely,
Aaron Browning
2989 Perry St
Denver, CO 80212

May 23, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Please support expanded waste services in Denver. For climate change, we need to use every tool possible (recycling and composting are proven solutions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions). And the proposed policy is much more fair - those of us who do our best to recycle and compost should not have to pay more than those who are not willing or are unable to pay for it at all.

Sincerely,
Jason Moses
1050 S Monaco Parkway
Denver, CO 80224

May 27, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Write your letter here (Salsa will automatically include a salutation to your council members as well as your signature) Thank you for your commitment to our community and to those who are economically challenged. I am writing in support of the expanded waste services. I believe the measures put in place to ensure my neighbors with lower incomes can participate for the betterment of the environment without hardship on themselves have adequately been taken into consideration. I encourage your support. Our world is in crisis from environmental degradation and this is one measure that can take one small step to help abate a tsunami of unprecedented problems we have never addressed before. This is a start. Thank you in advance for your support.

Bonita

Sincerely,
Bonita Bock
2437 Downing St
Denver, CO 80205

May 27, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Dear Council Member,

I strongly support expanded waste services in Denver. It's absolutely time to improve our city services in this area. We must have the following.

Weekly recycling collection;

Weekly compost collection for those who want it at no additional cost;

Create a "volume-based pricing" or "pay-as-you-throw" model for trash collection;

Create an instant rebate program to help low-income households pay for trash collection services.

Please support a sustainable future for our city. We have to do everything we can to make our city and planet a more liveable place, and it starts locally.

Thank you for making this a reality for our city.

Katrina Brink

Sincerely,

Katrina Brink

1520 Meade St

Denver, CO 80204

June 08, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

I love this idea! Apparently many people need to be persuaded to recycle more and to compost. I was amazed when I started composting how much less trash we had! We need to make it as easy as possible to participate. We need to reduce our greenhouse emissions and the more that people compost the more we can achieve that.

Yes Yes Yes!!

Sincerely,
Jeannine Sawicki
1405 S Jasmine Way
Denver, CO 80224

April 21, 2022

RE: Support Pay-As-You-Throw in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Please support the Expanded Waste Services program. I just moved here from the west coast and I'm appalled at the amount of trash in this city and the lack of effective waste services.

Sincerely,
Daizee Torres
4547 Biscay St
Denver, CO 80249

April 20, 2022

RE: Support Pay-As-You-Throw in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Write your letter here (Salsa will automatically include a salutation to your council members as well as your signature)!

I am writing to ask you to support the Expanded Waste Services Policy.

When I became aware of the harmful impact of disposing of organic matter in our trash, I committed myself to composting everything that crossed my path that was possible. I was grateful the the City of Denver had an option for compost pickup and I did pay for it. In addition I informed all my neighbors of this opportunity. Most had been unaware of both the resulting gas emissions and the opportunity to do something about it. I'm proud to say, most of my block is now on board.

I believe we could tip the rest of the hold-outs in favor along with many other Denver residents with the terms of Expanded Waste Services Policy. This is a way we can act locally to have an impact on reducing our climate footprint.

Thanks for your support.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,
Tricia Huth
1633 Humboldt St.
Denver, CO 80218

May 12, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Dear Council members,

The climate needs our help and we have a responsibility to fight climate change NOW. Recycling and composting are proven solutions that reduce greenhouse gas emissions today. This is a crucial next step that we cannot afford to miss.

Providing weekly recycling and biweekly composting to every Denver resident will help us reduce our climate footprint. Additionally, changing the system to where recycling and composting are provided without additional fees and charging for trash is critical in creating better habits for the environment and for the future of our planet.

Through our general fund, we have been subsidizing wastefulness and those who send more waste to the landfill, while those of us who have been doing our part have to pay more. That isn't right, I am excited to see this change and hope you'll agree.

To ensure everyone can participate, this change will also provide low-income assistance for the new waste fee, giving everyone an equal opportunity to create the change we all so desperately seek and need for humankind's future.

Please join me in advocating for an equitable and sustainable waste management system.

Best,
Jack

Sincerely,
Jack Bobzien
2221 West Center Ave.
Denver, CO 80223

May 12, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Dear Council members,

The world and climate needs our help and we have a massive opportunity and responsibility to fight climate change NOW. Recycling and composting are proven solutions that reduce greenhouse gas emissions today. This is a crucial next step that we cannot afford to miss.

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To ensure everyone can participate, this change will also provide low-income assistance for the new waste fee, giving everyone an equal opportunity to create the change we all so desperately seek and need for humankind's future.

Please join me in advocating for an equitable and sustainable waste management system.

Sincerely,
Natalie George
4411 Yates St
Denver, CO 80212

April 21, 2022

RE: Support Pay-As-You-Throw in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Denver positions and promotes itself as a green sustainable city but we lag so far behind and recycling and composting it's embarrassing.

As our city continues to grow vertically we need to provide recycling and composting services to those living in apartment and low income housing

I'm all for growing our city but we need to do so sustainably and offering these services that others offer freely or with a pay as you throw system is the best solution for denver, And this will set an example for other cities around Colorado in the US follow.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Childs
4739 Stuart St
Denver, CO 80212

April 06, 2022

RE: Support Pay-As-You-Throw in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

I am a current graduate student in University of Denver's Environmental Management and Policy program. I care deeply about this city's waste and recycling. When I purchased my current home 7 years ago and signed up for my trash and recycling bins, I was given an option of cart size. I choose the smallest one. To this day, I don't think I have ever seen another small cart in my neighborhood. There are no incentives or inspiration in place for people to throw away less! I think there have been 3 times in 7 years that my garbage cart has been full. My point is, with more frequent recycling pick-ups and compost widely available, most households can get by with a small cart. This is how the system should be. The amount of diverted product from the landfill will be staggering. I think this new system is becoming the norm for big US cities and it would be embarrassing if Denver was not participating.

Thank you for your time and consideration!!

Sincerely,
Anne Marie Wilson
4595 beach court
denver, CO 80211

April 21, 2022

RE: Support Pay-As-You-Throw in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

It's high time for Denver to prioritize composting and recycling! Right now we are laggards on the composting and recycling front with only 26% of our waste being recycled or composted. I work in sales and we always talk about how proper incentives are ones that drive the behaviors you want to see. In this instance, that would mean making recycling and composting services free, and perhaps, even charging for trash! This will encourage people to buy in bulk, shop items with less packaging, and support our local retailers rather than shopping online. As someone in a household that recycles and composts, I can't attest to how valuable these resources are! We are throwing out so much less! Our biggest problem is that our recycling fills up the fastest, yet is picked up the least often. I'm excited about this possible change for the community!

Sincerely,
Brooke Perna
380 Elati st
Denver, CO 80223

April 21, 2022

RE: Support Pay-As-You-Throw in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Write your letter here (Salsa will automatically include a salutation to your council members as well as your signature)!

Sincerely,
Megan Paschke
1000 south broadway
Denver, CO 80209

April 22, 2022

RE: Support Pay-As-You-Throw in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

I am no longer a Denver residential trash customer as I live in 45 unit condo in Lowry. But I have still spent the past five years working tirelessly on the pay-as-you-throw strategy as a way to increase our efforts in composting, recycling and reducing our carbon footprint. We all have a part to play.

Upon moving to the condo, I immediately got composting in our building (Scraps provides pick-up twice a week) and now have most of my building composting, many who had never composted before. As you well know, part of our property taxes pay for residential trash service which we cannot use; we have to additionally pay a trash hauler. Our building decided it is important to do our part and pay an additional \$6.50 a month per unit to add composting in our building on top of what we have to pay for trash and recycling.

Thanks to many good suggestions by council, the expanded waste services proposal is crafted in a way now that is good for all: recycling pick up every week (thanks Councilwoman Sawyer!); financial assistance for those who need it; a more equitable solution for businesses and multi-unit dwellers; and of course increasing our diversion rate.

Now its time for council to do your collective part; please vote on behalf of our planet. We all must take every step possible, at the most grassroots level. Please support the expanded waste services proposal.

Sincerely,
Renee Arrington
6619 E Lowry Blvd
Denver, CO 80230

May 27, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Write your letter here (Salsa will automatically include a salutation to your council members as well as your signature)!

Please help this city make improvements in composting and recycling. I think with a little push and the right information, Denver's citizens can learn how to use the compost and recycle bin properly. I currently pay for my compost bin and because of this, I only use the smallest trash bin, and I often only have to place it at the curb every other week because I don't accumulate enough trash every week.

I am a professional photographer who often works for news organizations. I spent time photographing for a newspaper at Denver's landfill and the one up north used by Loveland's residents. It was staggering to see the waste and the seemingly endless lines of trucks hauling and dumping their waste. Every citizen should be required to tour the Denver facility in person, just to understand and gain some perspective. Has each council person toured Denver's landfill?

Sincerely,
Kathryn Scott
1632 Clermont St.
Denver, CO 80220

June 14, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Dear council members,

Thank you so much for taking the time to read my letter today. It means a lot!

I'm writing today to urge you to move forward with the Expanded Waste Services Policy which is to be voted on next week, June 22nd.

Creating a more equitable and sustainable waste system would be so beneficial to Denverites. Many folks either don't know about composting, or unable to pay extra for it, so if it is included in the trash collection free, we would be able to expand this service to more people.

Waste diversion, especially Composting, is huge and can help Denver take a huge step forward when it comes to tackling climate change. Composting is a proven solution to reducing greenhouse gases.

People already make an effort to recycle, and this program would allow them to do so with confidence. And same as with composting, the more we can keep out of the landfill, the more greenhouse gases we reduce, the bigger our impact in fighting climate change.

With more folks composting and recycling, it can greatly reduce the size of trash bins they need, which in turn allows them to then purchase the smaller size of trash container, which is the suggested solution for waste diversion in this policy. For years, people who have been trying to do the right thing by composting and recycling have had to pay extra. Not to mention, Denver would be offering assistance to low-income families and individuals. By giving people this cost incentive, we are helping them save money and feel better about their contribution to the fight against climate change, and making Denver a more sustainable city.

Cities like Seattle, Salt Lake City, and even even Loveland are leading the way in waste diversion. We can easily help set the standard, and pave the way for other cities in the Denver metro area to follow suit. All it takes is a little spark to get something like this going!

Again, I am asking that you please move forward with the proposed Expanded Waste Services Policy, for the best interest of Denver. Denver is an amazing city that we all love so much, and I am passionate about making it the best place it can possibly be, just like you are as well.

Thank you so much for all you do!

Sincerely,
Desi

Sincerely,
Desi Klaer
4190 E Warren Ave
Denver, CO 80222

April 22, 2022

RE: Support Pay-As-You-Throw in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Write your letter here (Salsa will automatically include a salutation to your council members as well as your signature)!

I'm a Denver resident who's very concerned about the effects of the City's current waste management system on our community and our planet. I support the proposed Extended Waste Services policy and ask that you please vote for it. It only makes sense to charge for environmental harmful trash pick-up and offer compost and recycling pick-up at no charge to encourage Denver residents to do the right thing - compost and recycle.

Denver is a city known for its proximity to great natural beauty, something I appreciate deeply. It's important that we demonstrate our care for this beauty, and the sustainability of the planet.

Thank you for your support of this very important policy!

Sincerely,
Sue Kilgore
2963 Ash St.
Denver, CO 80207

May 27, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

I am a resident of Denver Council District 10 and am passionate about the need to decrease the waste stream that enters our landfill.

I have worked very hard at the state level with a coalition of groups that includes Ecocycle, Recycle Colorado and the Colorado Sierra Club to help pass legislation which will increase Colorado's abysmal waste diversion rate but Denver is a huge source of the problem and we CAN do more. I strongly support paying more for trash service based on the amount of trash a household or business produces and making it easier to recycle with weekly collection and universal access to compost collection.

75% of the materials Denver puts in the Landfill could have been recycled or composted. All of that unnecessary buried material produces methane- an extremely potent green house gas. Reducing that waste stream is a relatively simple way to reduce the GHG emissions that are creating the climate crisis we face today. We all can do more to avert the disasters that climate change will heap on my grandchildren. All children deserve a future not saddled by the mistakes of those who can make significant change today.

Please support Expanded Waste Services in Denver.

Thank you,

Jan Douglas

Sincerely,

Jan Douglas

661 N Lafayette St

Denver, CO 80218

May 27, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

We need expanded waste services now!

Sincerely,
Alainna Belknap
1202 Logan St
Denver, CO 80203

April 22, 2022

RE: Support Pay-As-You-Throw in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Write your letter here (Salsa will automatically include a salutation to your council members as well as your signature)!

I strongly urge you to support an expanded waste system that charges for trash pick-up based on the amount of trash a household creates, but also provides recycling and compost collection free of charge. This is a system proven to give incentive for greater recycling and composting, while encouraging all to produce less landfill trash.

Sincerely,
Sue Torfin
3139 W. 40th Ave.
Denver, CO 80211

June 14, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Dear council members,

Thank you so much for taking the time to read my letter today. It means a lot!

I'm writing today to urge you to move forward with the Expanded Waste Services Policy which is to be voted on next week, June 22nd.

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Cities like Seattle, Salt Lake City, and even even Loveland are leading the way in waste diversion. We can easily help set the standard, and pave the way for other cities in the Denver metro area to follow suit. All it takes is a little spark to get something like this going!

Again, I am asking that you please move forward with the proposed Expanded Waste Services Policy, for the best interest of Denver. Denver is an amazing city that we all love so much, and I am passionate about making it the best place it can possibly be, just like you are as well.

Thank you so much for all you do!

Sincerely,
Jason

Sincerely,
Jason Buijs
828 jasmine street
Denver, CO 80224

May 27, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Hi, I am writing to ask for your support in improving Denver's woefully low rates of recycling and composting. There is no excuse for not doing our part to reduce the amount of waste we send to landfills and contribute to greenhouse gas emissions. We are already seeing the devastating effects of climate change in our beautiful state, and we must protect it.

Let's help get Denver at least on par with other cities across the country to show we can be a leader in fighting climate change by reducing our waste and methane emissions. Organic matter like food waste emits methane when buried in landfills, instead of absorbing carbon from the air when composted. Composting has a triple net-win positive effect and is one of many tools we must use to lower our carbon footprint.

Please show Denverites that you care by helping make our city greener, and better for all. Thank you for your time!

Sincerely,
Leah Dorzweiler
100 Park Ave W
Denver, CO 80205

June 14, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

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Thank you so much for all you do!

Sincerely,
Victoria Hernandez
1600 Glenarm Pl Apt 1005
Denver, CO 80202

June 14, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Dear Candi, Robin, and Deborah,

Thank you so much for taking the time to read my letter today. It means a lot!

I'm writing today to urge you to move forward with the Expanded Waste Services Policy which is to be voted on next week, June 22nd.

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Thank you so much for all you do!

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Jamiah Aguabella
3436 Walnut Street
Denver, CO 80205

June 14, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

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Thank you so much for all you do!

Sincerely,

Rachel Nagel

Sincerely,
Rachel Nagel
1320 quince st
Denver, CO 80220

June 14, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Dear council people,

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I'm writing today to urge you to move forward with the Expanded Waste Services Policy which is to be voted on next week, June 22nd.

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Thank you so much for all you do!

Sincerely,
Brooke

Sincerely,
Brooke Henderson
8300 Fairmount Drive
Denver, CO 80247

May 27, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

I am writing to express my full support for the proposed Expanded Waste Services policy. I moved to Denver almost 4 years ago and was shocked by the lack of recycling infrastructure when my first apartment did not have access to recycling. I first learned about Pay As You Throw as a concept when I first started networking in the sustainability and food waste scene in Denver, and have always thought it was a great model! It has worked well in other cities and can work well here! Denver has been far behind most other major cities of it's size in terms of sustainable waste management, and this policy is an opportunity to propel our city forward and reduce our carbon footprint!

Protecting our planet is something that I am personally passionate about, and I also love food, so I currently work at a food recovery nonprofit called We Don't Waste where I am the Programs & Education Manager. In my work, I educate students of all ages about food waste as an environmental and social issue, as well as provide tips and tricks to reduce food waste at home. Households are where the largest percentage of food waste comes from so expanding access to compost by making it free will have a huge impact and make Denver a cleaner and greener city by decreasing the greenhouse gas emissions that food waste emits.

Please vote to pass this policy to help our city fight climate change!

Thank you!

Sincerely,
Julia Lennon
339 S Downing Street
Denver, CO 80209

June 10, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

I support the "pay as you throw" trash pickup program for Denver.

Sincerely,
Jason Roon
1713 S. Leyden St.
Denver, CO 80224

June 10, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

I am so excited by the chance for Denver to divert more waste from landfills! We already pay for our compost to be collected and we live in an apartment building so this won't effect our household costs but I still wholeheartedly support it! Composting is so important for our environment and we need all the good rich hummus we can get to grow our crops with less chemical fertilizers and less water! It's an all around awesome idea and I hope the entire city council gets behind it!

Sincerely,
Anne Goolsby
1376 N Pearl St
Denver, CO 80203

June 14, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

Dear Denver City Council reps,

You've probably seen this message now! My fiancé and I are both big proponents of this expanded waste policy, and even though most of the letter is the same, the sentiment is just as important. Hope to see this policy pass soon!!

Thank you so much for taking the time to read my letter today. It means a lot!

I'm writing today to urge you to move forward with the Expanded Waste Services Policy which is to be voted on next week, June 22nd.

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Again, I am asking that you please move forward with the proposed Expanded Waste Services Policy, for the best interest of Denver. Denver is an amazing city that we all love so much, and I am passionate about making it the best place it can possibly be, just like you are as well.

Thank you so much for all you do!

Sincerely,
Joey

Sincerely,
Joey Muckler
8300 Fairmount Drive
Denver, CO 80247

June 05, 2022

RE: Support Expanded Waste Services in Denver!

Dear Ms. Kniech,

This is a no brainer! Incentivize good behavior and mitigate the waste.

Sincerely,
Kate Haslem
1395 S Newport St
Denver, CO 80224