

How Did Guelph Achieve 68% Diversion in 2012?

RCBC Zero Waste Conference

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Topics for Discussion

- Introductory Comments
- Guelph: Facts & History
- Guelph's Strategic Plan:
Foundation for increasing diversion
- What changed to achieve 68%?
- What the future holds...
- Questions?



Introductory Comments

Received the 2012 Ron Lance Award from Waste Diversion Ontario for achieving the highest residential diversion rate in Ontario



Introductory Comments

- Diversion rate in 2012 was 68%
- Success due to:
 - Residential participation
 - Political support
 - Enthusiastic staff



Guelph: Facts & History



Guelph: Facts & History

- Population of approximately 125,000
- City provides fully integrated solid waste services to approximately 46,000 households
- Guelph has a history of environmental stewardship



Guelph: Facts & History

- Guelph's first composter opened in 1996
- Design capacity = 35,000 tonnes/year
- First municipal owned and operated composting facility in Ontario
- Aerobic composting in six channels with diesel turners

Guelph: Facts & History

Success or Failure?

- Successfully diverted over 100,000 tonnes of organic material from landfill in ten years
- Over 100 odour complaints over three years



Guelph: Facts & History

Success or Failure?

- City charged on nine counts of non-compliance, ultimately convicted on one count of creating a nuisance
- City pled guilty and paid \$40,000 fine plus victim surcharge

Guelph's Strategic Plan: Foundation for Increasing Diversion

- 2007 Strategic Plan
- "A leader in conservation and resource protection/enhancement"
- "Less waste per capita than any comparable Canadian city"
- Strategic Project = Construct a new Organic Waste Processing Facility (OWPF)

Solid Waste Management Master Plan

- Short term and long term (25 years) initiatives and programs to achieve these targets
- Approved by Council in September 2008



Solid Waste Management Master Plan

Three guiding principals and goals:

1. Minimize solid waste disposal requirements
2. Minimize impacts of solid waste diversion and disposal
3. Ensure fiscal responsibility

Solid Waste Management Master Plan

Conclusions and Recommendations:

- Waste minimization – adopt a Zero Waste Policy
- Construct a new Organic Waste Processing Facility (OWPF)
- Improve special event and open space recycling
- Waste minimization and education initiatives in schools
- Re-focus and re-develop waste reduction messages and promotions and education programs

Solid Waste Management Master Plan

Waste Reduction Targets

- 55% by end of 2012
- 65% by end of 2016
- 70% by 2021



**City of Guelph
achieved
68% residential
diversion
rate in 2012!**



What Changed to Achieve 68%?

2012 Residential Diversion Calculation:

- Generated: **43,759.99 T**
- Diverted: **29,642.54 T**
- Disposed: **14,117.45 T**



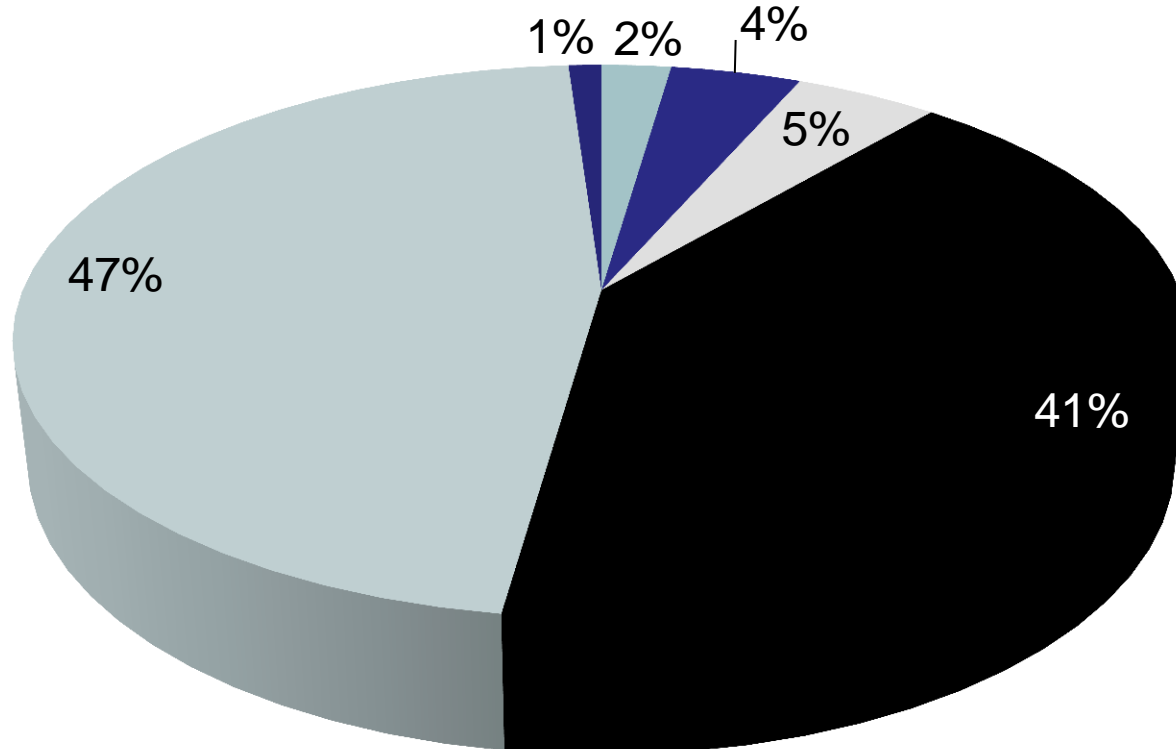
What Changed to Achieve 68%?

Residential Waste Diverted by Material Type:

- Deposit Return/LCBO: **677.73 T**
- Backyard Composting: **1,271.80 T**
- Grasscycling: **1,391.50 T**
- Residential Recyclables Diverted: **12,148.14 T**
- Residential Organics Diverted: **13,833.84 T**
- MHSW: **319.53 T**

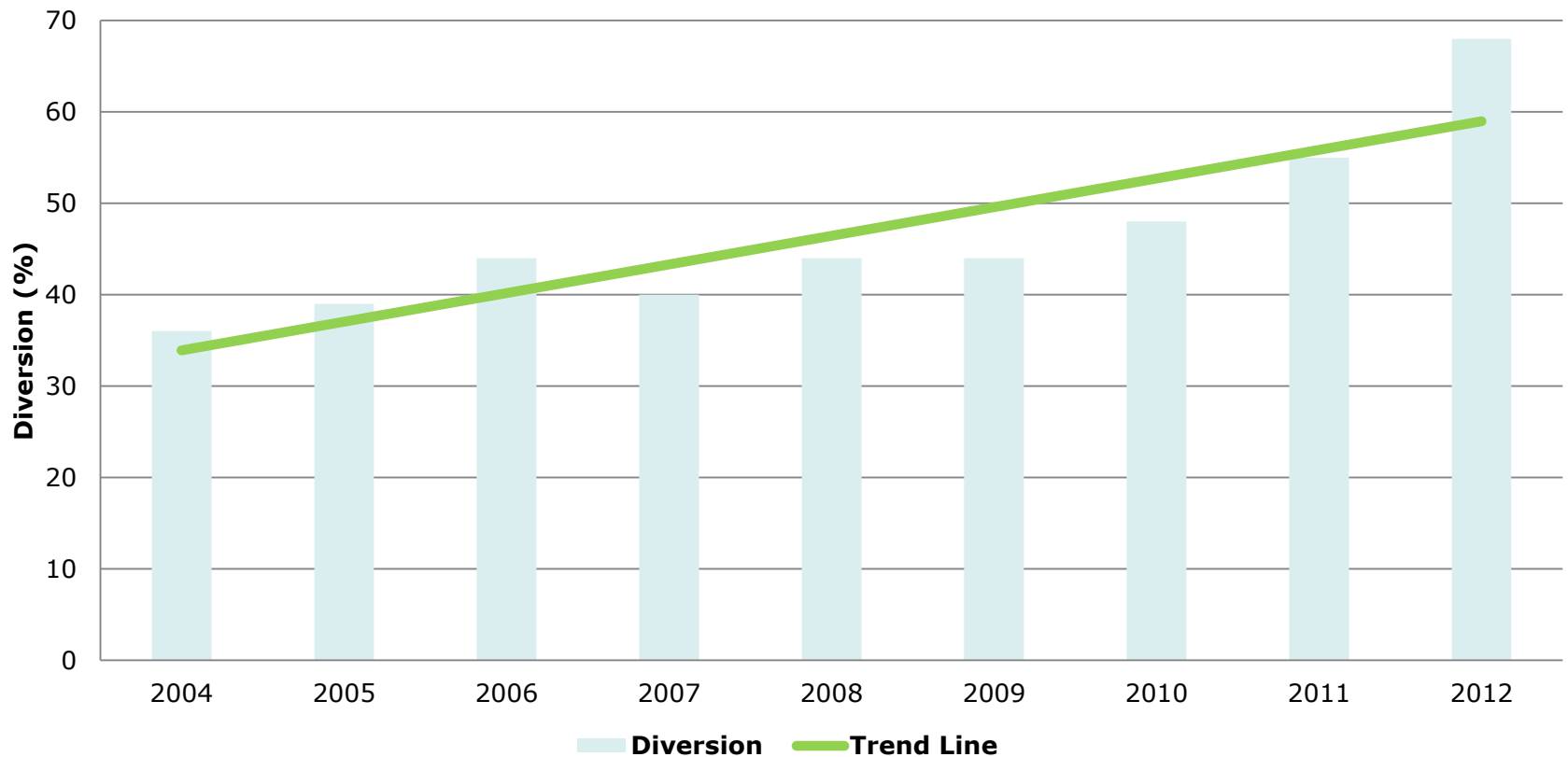
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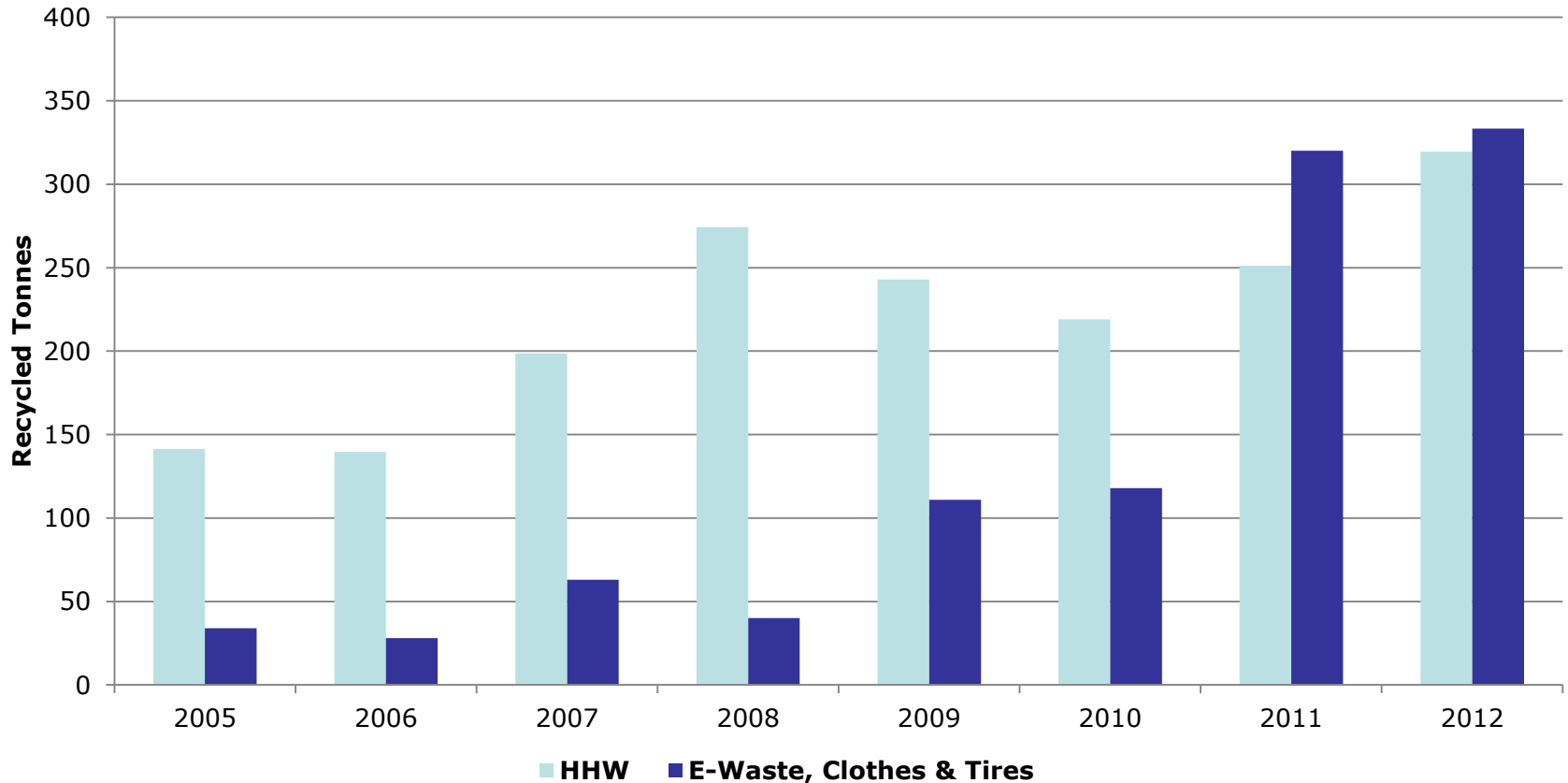
What Changed to Achieve 68%?

Residential Diversion



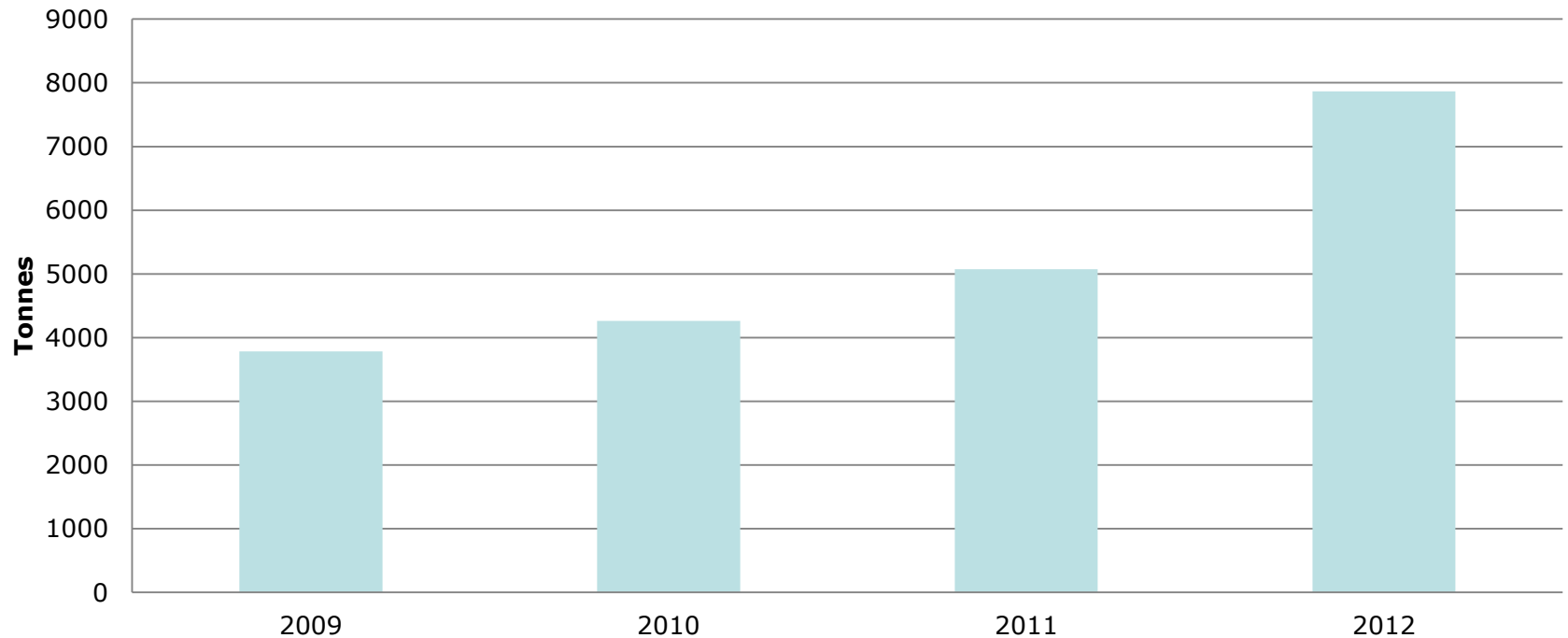
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HHW and E-Waste, Clothes, and Tires Recycled



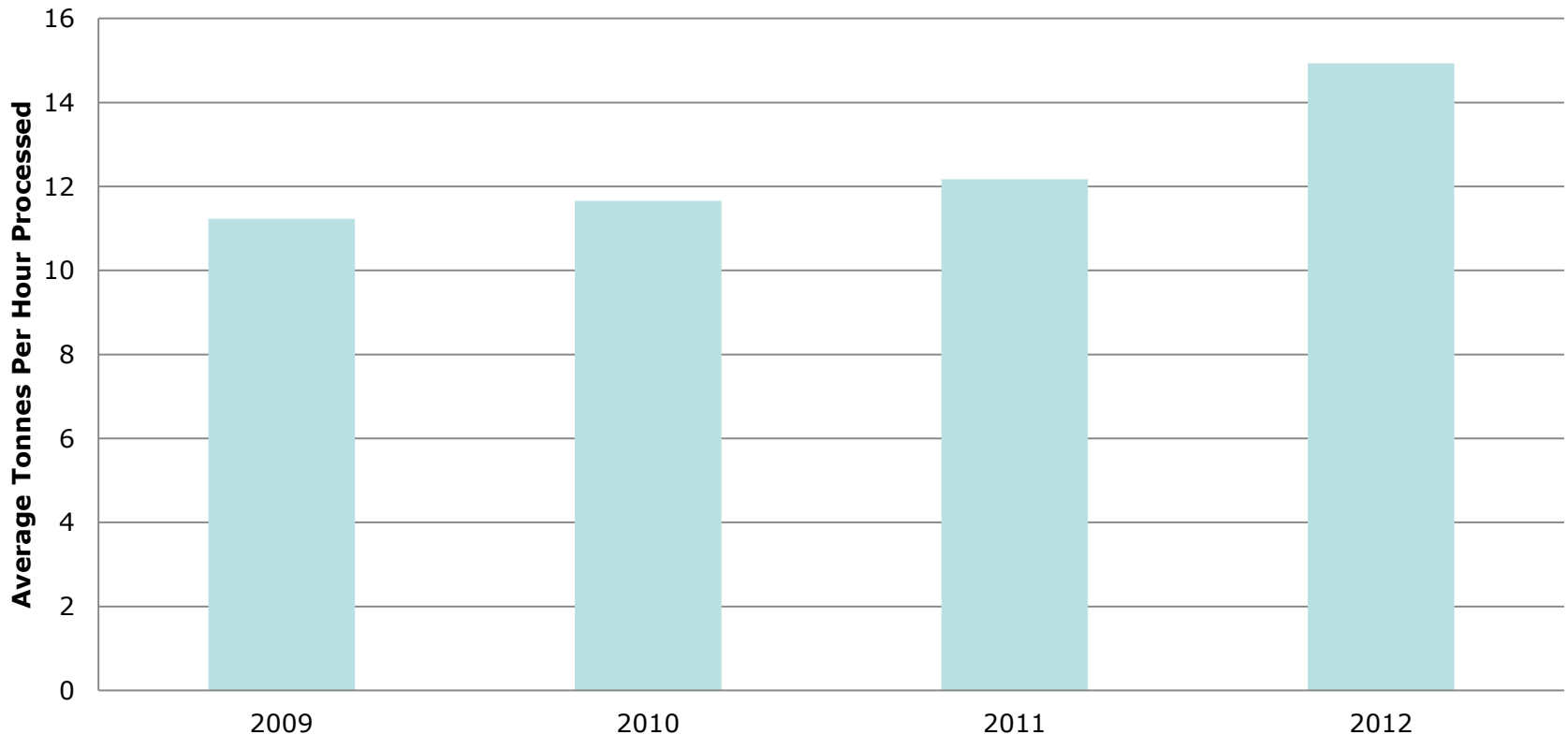
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Construction & Demolition Waste Diverted from Landfill



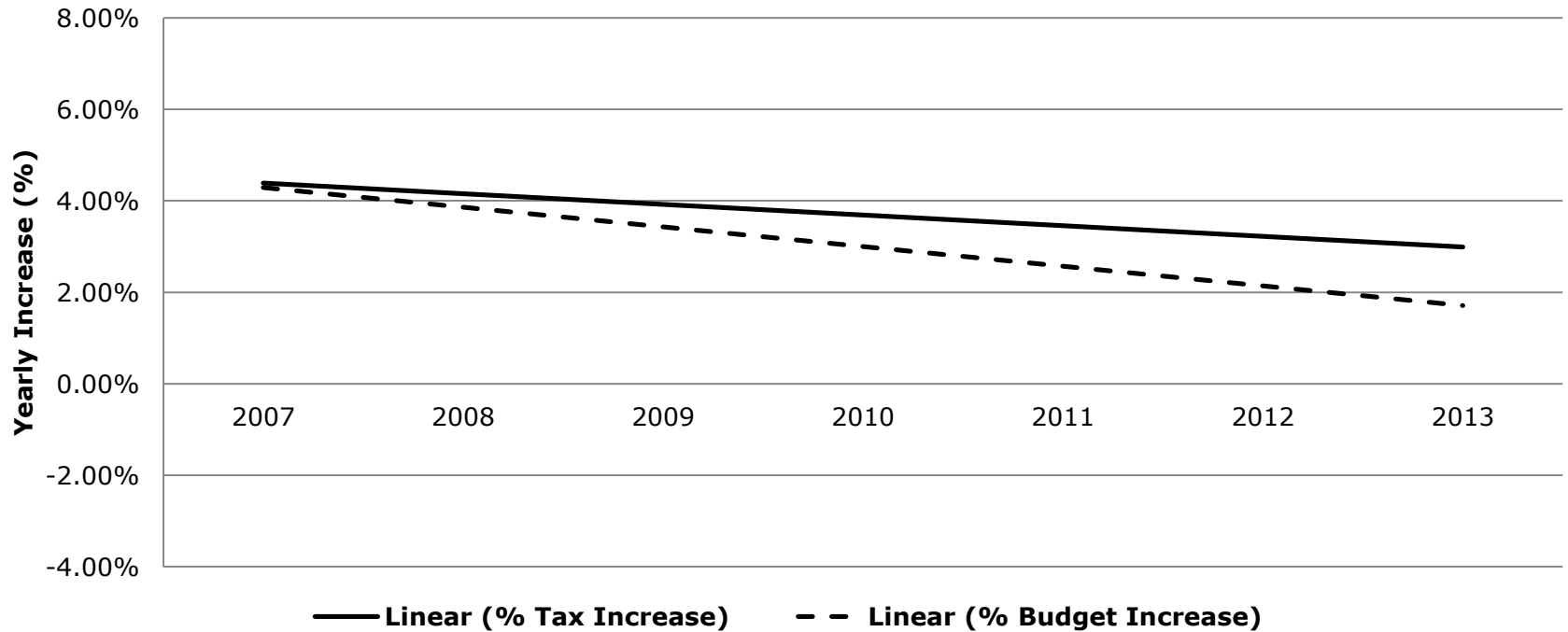
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Materials Recovery Facility Processing Rate for Curbside Blue Bag Materials



What Changed to Achieve 68%?

**% Solid Waste Resources Budget Increase
vs. % Property Tax Increase**



What the Future Holds...

Currently updating our Solid Waste Management Master Plan

- Anticipate waste reduction target of 70% in next couple of years
- Collection at high rise apartments with negative impact on diversion
- Focus on increased promotion and education
- Diversion of new materials at Public Drop Off or other non-traditional methods

Questions?



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