

September 10, 2018

Edward L. Gentile Jr., P.E. Director of Public Works Darien Town Hall 2 Renshaw Road Darien, CT 06820

Dear Mr. Gentile:

This proposal is written as a follow-up to our various conversations regarding a pilot program for "compostable material" at the Town of Darien Recycling and Refuse Center, located at 126 Ledge Road, Darien.

City Carting will contract with a third-party vendor, "Curbside Compost," to perform the service. Based on our multiple discussions with them, they have recommended that the program start with 4 x 32-gallon toters, to be serviced twice per week during the months of April – September, and once per week during the months of October – March.

Additionally, they have recommended that the program be offered free of charge to the residents of Darien. Experience has taught them that participation rates are almost three times as high when the program is free, compared to a program that charges residents. We understand from you that the program will be free to any resident who has a valid permit (sticker) to enter the facility, which includes the vast majority of residents.

The end-use processing facilities are focused on the contamination percentages of the inbound product and we understand that you will educate residents on what can and cannot be recycled. We suggest that the toters are "manned" in the initial stages of the program to ensure that contaminants are not put into them. We understand that in order for your program to gain traction and grow, the material must be hauled to a facility that permits the use of compostable bags.

Town-wide advertising and visible signage at the transfer station will also ensure that the program starts and continues the correct way.

Acceptable materials include: ALL FOOD (fruits & vegetables, meat & poultry, fish & shellfish, dairy products, bread & pasta, rice & grains, egg shells, chips & snacks, nuts & seeds, leftover/spoiled/expired food), coffee grounds, tea bags (no staples), cut flowers, compostable bags. Residents are also permitted to use brown craft paper bags as well as black & white newsprint to line their bins in place of compostable bags.

The cost of the program as outlined above is as follows:

- 1. \$75 per service (2 times per week 6 months; once per week 6 months)
- 2. \$4.50 per toter (4 toters)
- 3. 10% administration fee

Estimated cost of the pilot program for one year (Note: the number of toters will vary depending on resident participation):

\$801 per month (April – September)

- 26 weeks x \$150 (2 pickups) = \$3900
- 26 weeks x 4 toters x \$4.50 = \$468
- 10% administrative fee = \$436.80

\$443 per month (October - March)

- 26 weeks x \$75 (1 pickup) = \$1950
- 26 weeks x 4 toters x \$4.50 = 468
- 10% administrative fee = \$241.80

We are available to discuss this draft proposal further and will attend a meeting or site visit with our vendor at a time and date of your convenience.

Tom Slattery

Sincerely

City Carting & Recycling