

Community Outreach Program – Zero Waste Funding

Zero Waste Q+A 2020

1. Q: How much funding is available for the 2020 funding year?

A: Thanks to the Sustainability Tax the funding for 2020 has doubled from previous years. There is \$100,000 of funding available for the 2020 funding year. And organizations can apply for a maximum of \$15,000 in funding, the previous maximum was \$10,000. The minimum amount is the same as prior years, \$1,000

2. Q: We are not a non-profit, does that disqualify us? Also, we might not fit the description of an organization that boosts zero waste.

A: Boulder County's Zero Waste Funding 2020 is open to communities in Boulder County, other incorporated and unincorporated communities within the service area, non-profit organizations, school districts, schools, private companies and individuals. Please note the insurance requirements in the application packet.

3. Q: Could you send me any information about the guidelines for the 2020 application? I'm curious to know more about the types of projects the Resource Conservation Advisory Board is seeking to support, and any focus areas or targets for 2020.

A: The application (guideline are included in the application) are found here: <http://www.bouldercounty.org/env/sustainability/pages/zerowastefunding.aspx>. As in years' past, the voting committee will be looking for projects that place "an emphasis on demonstrated resource diversion (new tons diverted from disposal)."

Examples of the kinds of programs that might be considered are listed below. We will continue to accept and consider applications for programs that fall outside of this limited focus.

- Curbside toters
- New transportation for single-stream recyclables or organics
- New bins for single-stream or compost collection of materials within municipal buildings
- Zero Waste education
- New technologies
- Reuse

4. Q: We are working on our application for the Zero Waste funding opportunity and wanted to ask if we could request funding for education and training of staff to move our organization toward zero waste?

A: Past funding has gone towards education and training, so such a proposal would be within the parameters of the Zero Waste funding program. The focus is on diverting materials from the landfill, so your proposal would need to include a way to measure diversion and program success.

5. Q: The Zero Waste Funding application packet states ineligible uses of funds includes “operational costs for existing programs”. Would a program that educated our staff, evaluate our current practices, assess and recommend methods of improving our recycling and efficiency be ineligible for this grant?

A: Past funding has gone towards education and training, so such a proposal would be within the parameters of the Zero Waste funding program, as long as the funding is not used for collection services or other operational costs that would be expected to be ongoing. The focus is on diverting materials from the landfill, so your proposal would need to include a way to measure diversion and program success.

6. Q: We are going to move our recycling drop-off facility from one site to another, due to the library expansion and to allow for future infrastructure growth opportunities. Can the zero waste funding be used for some needed infrastructure for this move, i.e. costs for concrete pads to hold the large recycling roll-offs, moving costs, etc.? The recycling facility move aligns well with a renewed community effort for zero waste education and outreach.

A: The project would be eligible for funding if it can demonstrate how waste diversion will be increased from current levels during the funding timeframe.