



Less Waste, Better Baltimore
Rethinking our waste management future

Community Meetings 1&2

February 28, 2018

Edmondson Westside High School

March 11, 2019

Shake and Bake Family Fun Center

Facilitated by:

Geosyntec 
consultants

NEXIGHT GROUP

Introduction to the Consultant Team



Ross
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NEXIGHT GROUP

Geosyntec
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 **SECOND
CHANCE**
Retrain • Reclaim • Renew
a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation

Meeting Agenda



AGENDA	
2/28: 6:30pm–6:50pm 3/11: 9:30am–9:50am	Opening Session <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome and Opening Remarks• Overview of Meeting Format and Structure• Review of Baltimore Solid Waste Management and Recycling
2/28: 6:50pm–7:30pm 3/11: 9:50am–10:50am	Discuss Potential Challenges to Waste Reduction <p>Focus Question: What challenges do you anticipate to reducing solid waste and increasing the use of solid waste diversion approaches in Baltimore City?</p>
2/28: 7:30pm–8:25pm 3/11: 10:50am–11:50am	Brainstorm Options for Consideration <p>Focus Question: What solid waste management and diversion options would you suggest we consider in this study?</p>
2/28: 8:25pm–8:30pm 3/11: 11:50am–12:00pm	Closing

Welcome and Opening Remarks



Less Waste, Better Baltimore
Rethinking our waste management future

publicworks.baltimorecity.gov/lesswaste

Meeting Scope and Boundaries



GOAL: Active sharing of ideas through transparent process

- Intended to inform the City's long-term planning and decision making through 2040 and beyond
- Forward looking
- No final decisions will be made during the meetings

Stakeholders Invited to Participate

- Anchor Institutions
- Businesses
- Community organizers/leaders
- Economic development partnerships
- Elected officials
- Environmental protection groups
- Homeowners
- Other City agencies/partnerships
- Port Authority
- Schools
- Students
- Waste management companies

Meeting Ground Rules



GOAL: Active sharing of ideas through transparent process

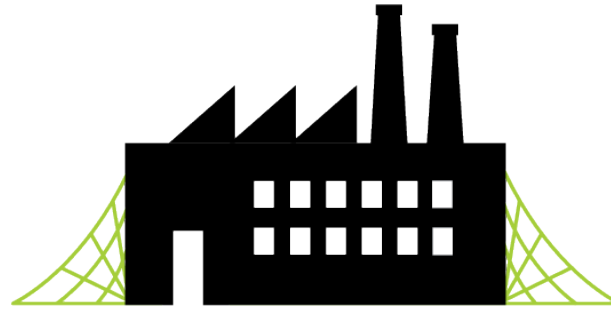
- ✓ Be respectful and listen to others
- ✓ Be collaborative
- ✓ Brainstorm – all ideas are good ideas
- ✓ Stay focused and on task
- ✓ Be concise

About the Project – Fast Facts



Landfill

The City-owned Quarantine Road Landfill—the only solid waste landfill in Baltimore City—is rapidly reaching its permitted capacity, with **approximately seven years remaining** at the current rate of disposal.



Waste-to-energy

The privately-owned Baltimore Refuse Energy Systems Co. (BRESKO) waste-to-energy (WTE) plant, where the majority of the City's waste is currently handled, is aging and **may not be a viable long-term option.**



Recycling

While the City does provide a variety of recycling options, the City's **recycling rates are among the lowest in Maryland.**

The Less Waste, Better Baltimore Project



A master planning effort to identify programs that will be implemented by the Department of Public Works to:

- Reduce the amount of materials generated
- Maximize materials diversion, reuse, and recycling
- Identify the best options for disposing of what's left

Process for Plan Development and Execution



Regulation under the Maryland Recycling Act (MRA)

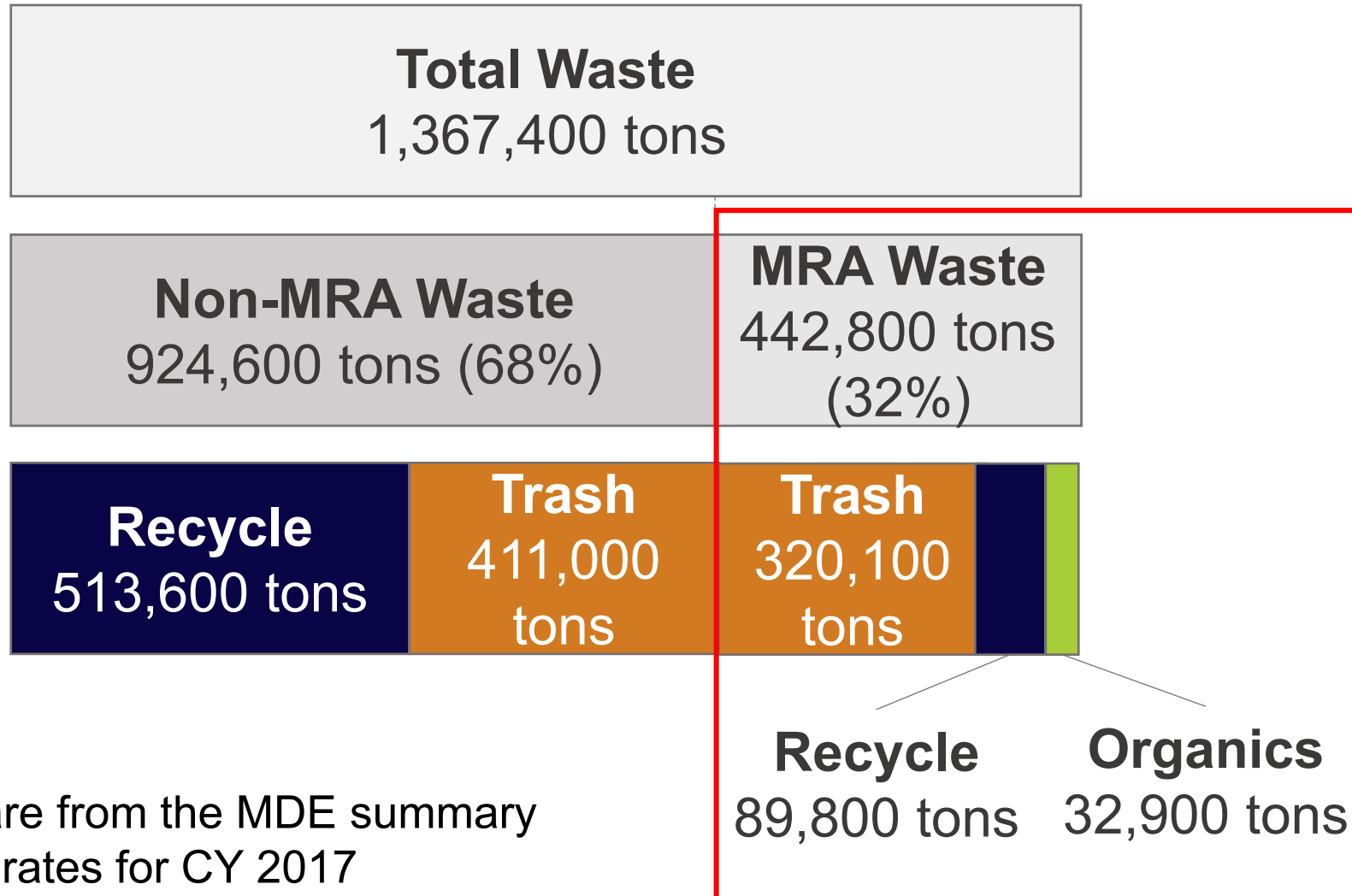
- The MRA establishes recycling goals for all Maryland Counties based on population
 - The current goal for Baltimore City is **35%**
- To allow fair measurement across counties, waste and recycling is divided into MRA and non-MRA materials
- The average MRA Recycling Rate for all Maryland Counties in 2017 was 45%
 - Baltimore City achieved **24%**

Regulation under the Maryland Recycling Act (MRA)

- What counts toward MRA recycling?
 - ✓ Paper, Cardboard, Plastic, Glass, Metal
 - ✓ Compostable Organics (Yard Waste, Brush, Leaves, Food Scraps, etc.)
 - ✓ Misc. (e.g., in 2017, Baltimore recycled tires, textiles, wood and pallets, batteries, amongst other materials)
- What doesn't count toward MRA recycling?
 - ✗ Antifreeze, Asphalt, Concrete, Construction and Demolition (C&D) Debris, Scrap Automobiles, Scrap Metal, Sewage Sludge, Soils, Waste Oil, ...

How and what you measure is important, especially when comparing to what other cities/counties are doing

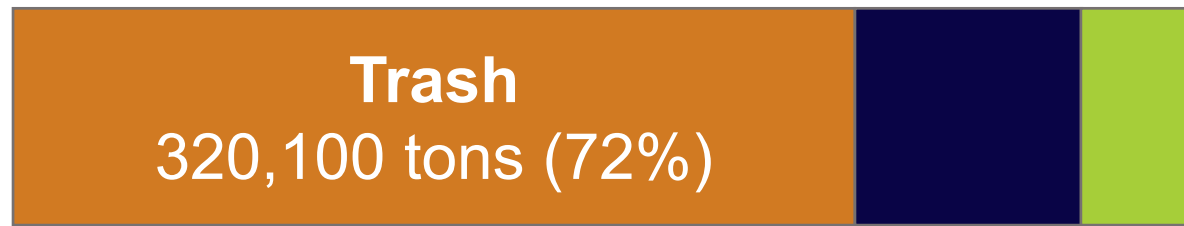
Total Waste Generation



Note: Tonnages are from the MDE summary of MRA recycling rates for CY 2017

MRA Waste: Recycling/Disposal Overview

MRA Waste
442,800 tons (32% of total waste)



Quarantine Rd. Landfill
149,600 tons (47%)

BRESCO
156,900 tons (49%)

Recycle
89,800 tons

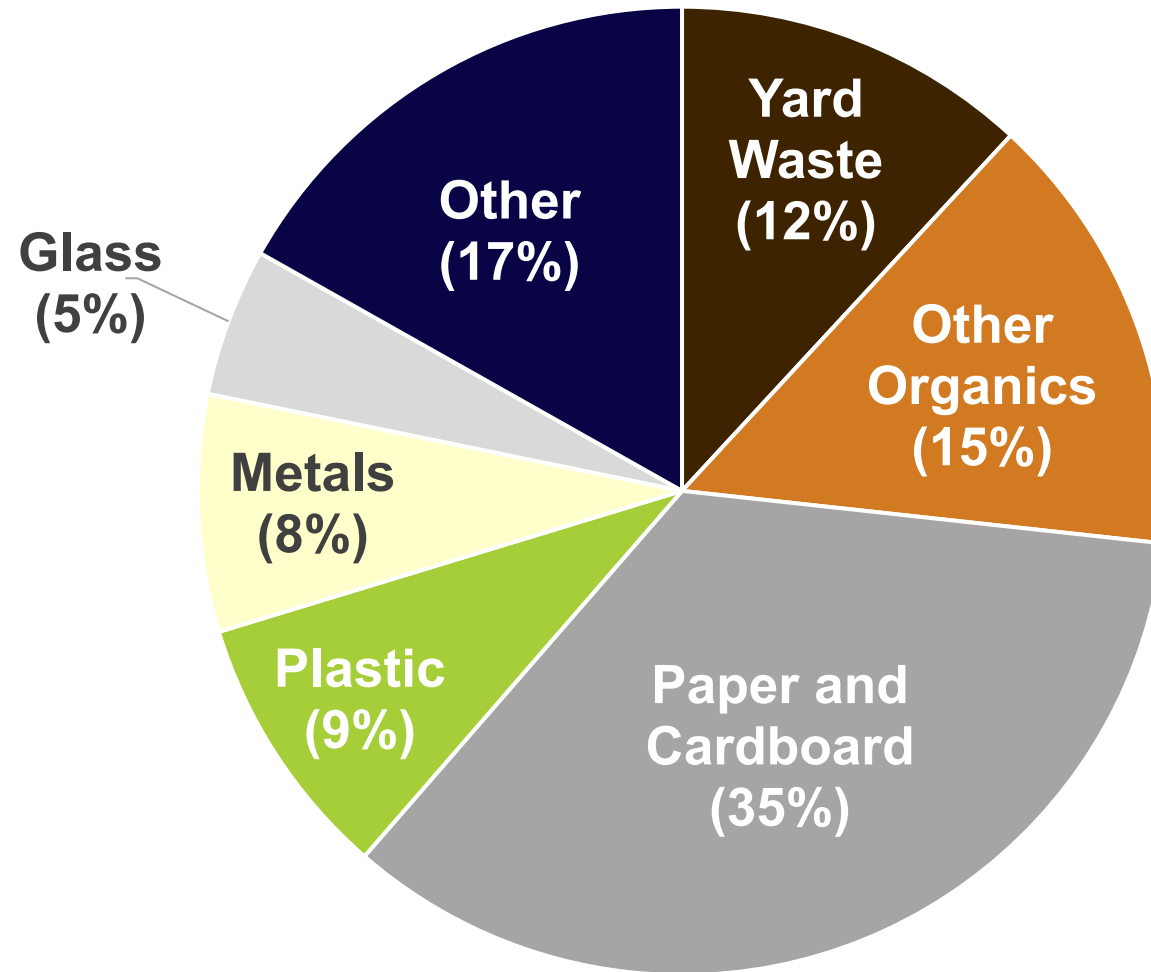
Organics
32,900 tons

MRA Recyclables
122,700 tons

Used to Calculate the City's Reported
MRA Recycling Rate of 24%

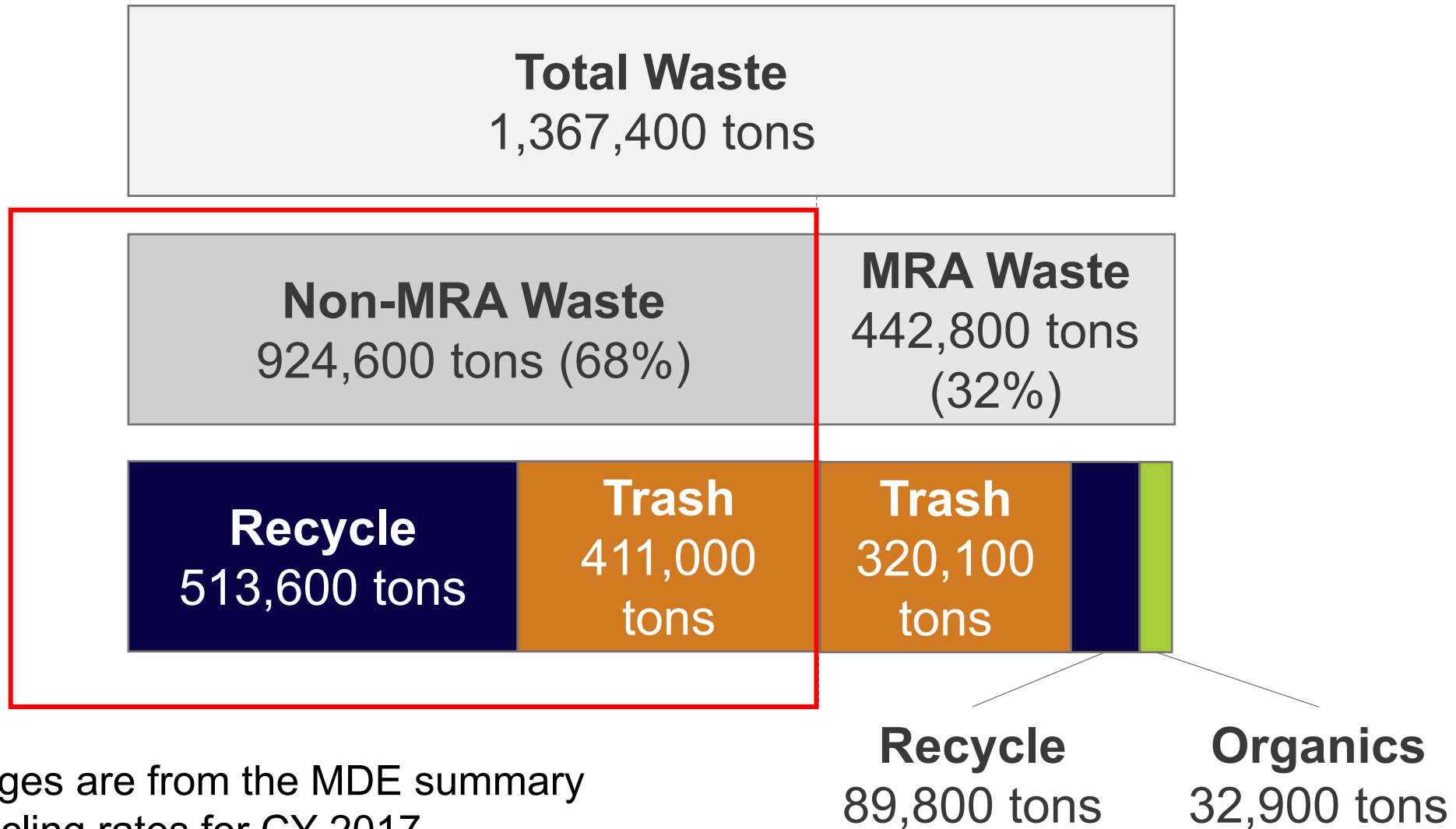
Note: Tonnages are from the MDE summary of MRA recycling rates for CY 2017

Composition of MRA Recyclables



Note: The waste breakdown for MRA recyclables is from the MDE summary of MRA recycling rates for CY 2017

Total Waste Generation, Baltimore City (2017)

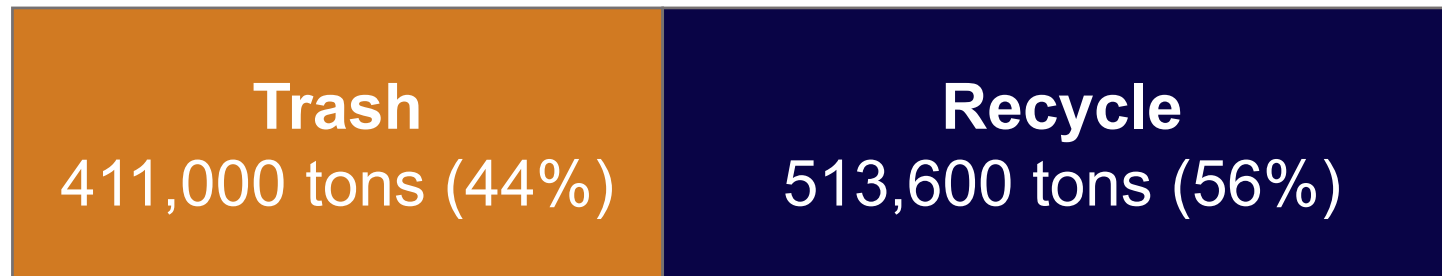


Note: Tonnages are from the MDE summary of MRA recycling rates for CY 2017

Non-MRA Waste: Recycling/Disposal Overview



Non-MRA Waste
924,600 tons (68% of total waste)



Quarantine Rd. Landfill
190,000 tons (46%)

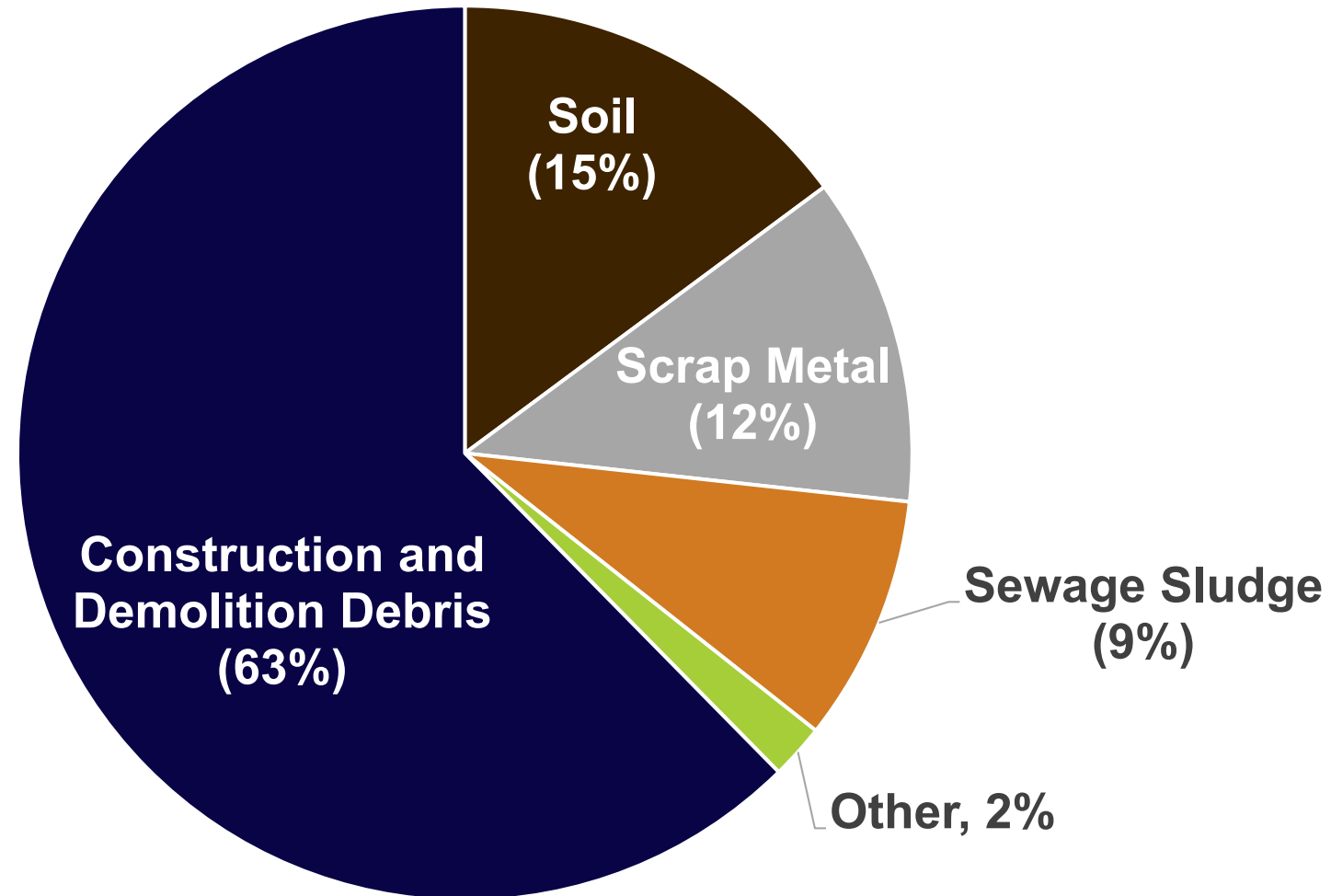
BRESCO

Approx. 221,000 tons (54%)

**Non-MRA
Recyclables**

Note: Tonnages are from the MDE summary of MRA recycling rates for CY 2017

Composition of Non-MRA Recyclables

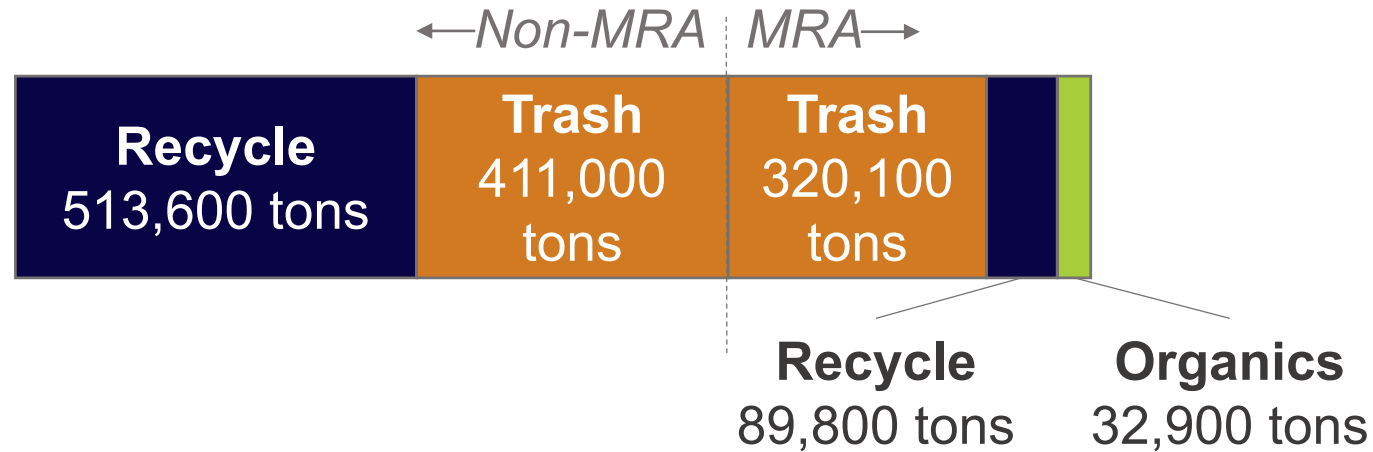


Note: The waste breakdown for non-MRA recyclables is from the CY 2017 Baltimore City MRA Report

Challenges To Address



Present



Future

What can we do to **REDUCE** waste generation?

How can we **INCREASE** recycling

How can we **DECREASE** trash

Where should we send trash we can't recycle?

Can we **SEPARATE** organics

Can we compost food scraps with yard waste?

Are there **JOB CREATION** opportunities in **RECYCLING** and **REUSE**?

Focus Question 1



What challenges do you anticipate to reducing solid waste and increasing the use of solid waste diversion approaches in Baltimore City?

Focus Question 2



What solid waste management and diversion options would you suggest we consider in this study?

Thank you for your time and contributions!



Next Steps

- Consultant team compiles findings from community meetings and analyzes it along with survey input and additional research to develop draft report on potential system improvements
- Two additional meetings will be held in May (preliminary date) for the community to review and respond to the initial findings

Other ways you can provide input:

- Fill out the survey: publicworks.baltimorecity.gov/lesswaste (closes at 5pm, Tuesday, March 12)
- Email us: lesswaste@baltimorecity.gov