

FORM A – PROPOSAL COVER SHEET

SOLID WASTE ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM Project Requests Greater than \$10,000

Project Title: City of Grundy Center Recycling Improvement Project

Applicant Name: Rite Environmental, Inc.

Street Address: 110 Dunham Pl

City/State/Zip: Waterloo, IA 50703 County: Black Hawk

Mailing Address (if different): _____ PO Box: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Contact Person: Alex Tungland

Telephone Number: 319-429-3778 Email Address: alex@riteenvironmental.com

Applicant Type:

Local Government

Private For Profit

Private Not For Profit

Amount of Funding Requested: \$ 60,000

Amount of Applicant Cash Match Committed: \$ 15,000

Total Project Cost: \$ 75,000

OPTIONAL: Value of Other Project Related Applicant Resources \$ _____

Identify: _____

Facility Location: Waterloo

Project Service Area Description: City of Grundy Center

Is the targeted solid waste currently landfilled? Yes No

Is the targeted solid waste landfilled in Iowa? Yes No

Signature:  Printed: Alex Tungland

Title: Business Development Manager Date: 12/31/2020

FORM B – PROJECT NARRATIVE

**SOLID WASTE ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM
Project Requests Greater than \$10,000**

NOT TO EXCEED 8 PAGES OF TEXT – FOLLOW OUTLINE – USE HEADINGS

3 pg. narrative to follow

1. Project Description:

The City of Grundy Center Recycling Improvement Project (GRIP) will change the method of recycling collection in Grundy Center from hand collecting totes to automated collection via carts. It also includes an educational element. Marketing & educational content will focus on the value of recycling in general, what can and cannot be recycled and what GRIP specifically has accomplished.

2. Project Need:

Service Area - Grundy Center

Targeted Population - All Residents of Grundy Center

Type, source and amount of waste targeted - Residential trash, roughly 13 tons currently collected weekly

Current management method of targeted solid waste - Roughly 13 tons of residential trash is collected weekly via automated trucks from (1) 64 gallon cart at each house, roughly 2.25 tons of residential recycling is collected twice monthly by hand from (2-3) 18 gallon totes at each house. All residents currently pay for both services, regardless of whether they use them or not, through their utility bill from the City.

3. Project Objectives and Participation

Project objective - Showcase the value of recycling, make the process easier and divert a larger volume of material from the landfill.

Project goals -

A) Change the method of collection from manual (by-hand) collection of totes to automated collection of carts

B) Increase residential recycling participation and total volume of material diverted from the landfill by 10%

C) Decrease recycling contamination through education on proper recycling storage/transfer and items that can and cannot be recycled.

How project goals will be obtained, measured, sustained and justified -

A) a) the collection method change will be obtained by collecting the currently used totes and replacing them with 96 gallon carts.

b) we will be able to measure achievement by crosschecking our list of recycling "opt-ins" via postcard with our delivery list.

c) once the collection method change has been completed it will be sustained by maintenance of the carts and a 10yr manufacturer's warranty on the equipment.

d) changing the collection method is vital to the project because it eliminates the largest obstacle to participation; difficulty in transport of material to the curb. Rolling out a single covered cart versus multiple small, uncovered totes is significantly easier.

B) a) increasing residential recycling participation and the volume of material collected by 10% will be achieved by changing the collection method, making transport easier and the container size larger. It will also be achieved through ongoing education about the value of recycling.

b) we will be able to track participation changes over time based on the number of houses who are routed for service. The increase in recycling volume collected will be tracked by scale tickets received following collection.

c) once we have achieved a 10% increase in recycling participation and volume, most of which will come from the change in method of collection, we will be able to continue to make gains through the education and marketing elements of the program touting the importance of recycling vs landfilling residential waste.

d) increasing recycling participation even by 10% would increase the total volume of material collected from 2.25 tons per collection day to nearly 2.5 tons. With the improved collection method I think we can expect volume to increase even if participation remains the same. Currently we collect roughly 6lbs of material per house in Grundy Center, well short of the 10lb average of material we collect in other communities who have their material collected from carts.

C) a) decreasing recycling contamination will be obtained through educational content marketed to Grundy Center residents over months where waste and recycling volumes are highest (NOV-JAN)

b) the means for marketing our educational content will be through print via the Grundy Register, digitally through Google AdWords, the City of Grundy Center's and Rite Environmental's websites, our social media pages and with leaflets made available at City Hall and Rite Environmental.

c) over the course of six years, the most cost effective and impactful marketing methods are sure to change so annual evaluation of the best medium to convey our message will be necessary. The content itself will change as well, once we have peaked participation we will transition to

d) improving the quality of the material collected will ensure that a lower percentage of the total volume collected ends up in the landfill.

Project participants' relevant experience and role –

Rite Environmental is the current hauler for all waste (residential and commercial) produced in the City of Grundy Center and is contracted to provide the service on a 7 year agreement that commenced 1/1/2020. Rite has provided recycling services since 2011 and expanded to waste collection in 2016. Rite currently serves a 50 miles radius of Waterloo and has thousands of commercial & residential waste and recycling customers. With respect to this project, Rite will provide the content for the recycling opt-in postcard, twice monthly recycling collection, all reporting data and all marketing/education content.

The City of Grundy Center is contracted with Rite Environmental to provide waste removal services on a 7 year agreement that commenced 1/1/2020. The City previously contracted with another hauler for 20+ years and worked with them to set up the existing recycling program. In June 2020, the City conducted a recycling survey exploring the possibility of switching from hand collected totes to automated collection via carts and over 70% of respondents favored the change to carts (based on over 200 respondents).

4. Project Impact

Amount and type of solid waste to be diverted – Grundy Center residents currently produce roughly 13 tons of household waste weekly and 2.25 tons of recycling twice monthly. If the project meets its goals of increasing the volume of its recycling stream by 10%, we could reasonably expect to divert an additional .5 ton (1000lbs) of material each month from the landfill.

How this project addresses the Department's targeted waste streams for the current fiscal year- Rite will collect recyclable material curbside - specifically plastics #1-7, cardboard, mixed paper and metal cans – in an effort to minimize the amount of that material going to the landfill.

Calculate the avoided costs over one year, three years and five years – the per ton disposal fees of mixed recycling are significantly higher than to dispose of the material via the landfill, even with new cardboard/paper mills coming online in the United States we cannot anticipate much improvement in the disparity between landfilling material versus recycling it over the next three to five years. Currently, after all transportation, sorting and tipping fees have been accounted for recycled material has an average net cost of \$75 per ton, landfilling the material comparatively costs \$42.25 per ton. Were the costs to stay flat the additional cost to recycle the 10% increase in recycled material would be \$196.50 in the first year, \$589.50 over three years and \$982.50 over five years. Recycling market realities aside, the material disposal cost does not compare to the priceless value in extending the lifespan of the landfill and the decrease in net carbon emissions gained by diverting that material.

Number, type and wage scale of jobs retained – This project will have a net neutral impact on employment as it relates to the service provided. Rite Environmental, as an organization, will be able to move to entirely automated collection and one driver will be retained at an hourly wage of \$25/hr.

Project replicability – The project is very replicable. Grundy County generally, has ample room for advancement in recycling participation and collection method. For example, currently there is no program available to rural residents who would like to recycle. Most incorporated towns within Grundy County (Wellsburg, Reinbeck, Dike and Conrad) all have recycling programs but like Grundy Center have the material collected manually or at drop-sites in slotted containers which makes transport for residents (and haulers) inconvenient. Some smaller incorporated towns within the county do not have a recycling program at all (Stout, Holland, Beaman).

Project sustainability – As the Department knows, change in the waste removal and recycling industry with regards to collection methods are slow and typically revolve around technological improvements to trucks. Carts collected by automated trucks is the best the industry has to offer now and looking at the investments by the worlds' leaders in the industry it seems likely that this method of collection will continue for some time as R&D departments seem more focused on decreasing fuel emissions (via electrifying their fleets or switching to CNG). Technological improvements to Municipal Recycling Facility sorting equipment will hopefully have a trickle down effect in improved material values and decreased tipping fees for recyclable material.

FORM D – BUDGET NARRATIVE

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Applicant Name: Rite Environmental, Inc.

Applicants are required to submit a budget narrative that details specific budget line items and their role in the project.

Applicants are encouraged to discuss other resources committed to the proposed project.

(1200) Postcards and stamps will be used to determine which residents want a recycling cart delivered to their home for recurring collection. The messaging to be portrayed on them and info collected from them will be crafted by Rite Environmental, approved by the City of Grundy Center's council, mailed out by the City of Grundy Center and returns will be tabulated by the City of Grundy Center. The tabulated returns will be reported to Rite Environmental who will develop a route and deliver carts accordingly.

(1125) 96 Gallon Carts will be the conveyance by which all recycling material will be collected in Grundy Center. They will be delivered to residents near the end of April. Recycling will be collected from them on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month via one of our automated side loading trucks. The surplus 75 carts will be available as replacements for carts that require maintenance, growth in new homes and, long-term, may be made available to the town's commercial customers who wish to expand the materials they recycle.

The digital and print marketing line is intentionally left vague because the means for marketing our message will change over time. Over a 6 year period we cannot anticipate how people will consume information. At least initially, the major means will be through broadcast and print media, leaflets available from the Grundy Center City Hall and at the Rite Environmental office, Google AdWords and social media. Since the budget available for marketing and education is relatively small (when spread out over 6 years), much of the content will be targeted to specific times of the year when the largest volumes of waste/recycling are collected (the holidays; November-January) and targeted to mediums that are specific to the geographic area the program serves (Examples: digitally through geotargeting on Google AdWords or Facebook or in print through small town newspapers like the Grundy Register). The hope is that these targeting methods will yield greater impact. The content portrayed will be used to reinforce education on what is and is not recyclable, the value of recycling, the availability of the recycling program (and that residents are already paying for it) and what GRIP has achieved year to date.

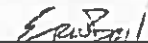
Additionally, Rite will provide labor and equipment necessary for implementation of the project including, but not limited to, a laborer and truck/trailer to deliver carts and collect totes, a driver and automated truck to collect material twice monthly and office personnel to develop the collection route, develop the opt-in postcard and communicate between all involved parties.

FORM E

COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING AGENCY REVIEW AND COMMENT FORM

SOLID WASTE ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM Project Requests Greater than \$10,000

See Application Guidelines for appropriate Comprehensive Planning Agency contact information

Applicant Name: Rite Environmental, Inc. Date Application Received: December 21, 2020
Comprehensive Planning Area Agency Name: Iowa Northland Regional Council of Governments (INRCOG)
Signature:  Title: Environmental Planner I / IWE Area 3 Rep
Date: December 30, 2020

1. Is the proposed project consistent with the solid waste comprehensive plan or Environmental Management System participant goals? Please elaborate.

This project is consistent with the INRCOG Solid Waste Comp Plan. INRCOG is dedicated to reducing the amount of recyclables in the Black Hawk County Landfill.

2. Is the Agency aware of competitors for the targeted solid waste materials identified in the application? If yes, will the proposed project adversely affect the operations of the competing entity and how?

No, there is no competition.

3. Is all or a portion of the targeted solid waste materials currently landfilled? If not, please elaborate.

Any contaminated recyclable materials need to be landfilled. Current methods facilitate contamination.

4. Can the project, as proposed, be considered to have a regional impact on the targeted solid waste stream? If not, is there the potential for it to be expanded to have a regional impact and how?

Yes. Automated collection, which Rite Environmental already has the equipment for, will allow operations to save time and effort. Many residents keep recycle bins outside which allow material to become weathered and contaminated with yard waste. This makes the material non-recyclable. This project can also be replicated and tailored for other areas.

5. Are the landfill diversion figures proposed in the application consistent with the solid waste comprehensive plan figures? If not, how are they inconsistent?

Yes.

6. In the Agency's opinion, does the applicant's project staff have the experience and knowledge to successfully implement the proposed project? Please elaborate.

Yes. Rite Environmental, Inc. is a well established, well organized organization.

7. Does the Comprehensive Planning Area agency feel the project is viable as proposed, given current and projected populations, the available solid waste stream, and current and proposed landfill diversion activities? Please elaborate.

INRCOG feels this is a viable project to aid the reduction in recyclable materials from landfills. Allowing an easier recycling process for residents, as well as reducing the amount of contamination will aid in recycling efforts.

8. Other Comments

Consistently with our Comp Plan, we believe that educational efforts are a major factor to change current social tendencies to dispose of solid waste through the landfill stream. Rite Environmental, Inc. has methods to effectively track any changes and progress to recycling efforts.

Minority Impact Statement

Pursuant to 2008 Iowa Acts, HF 2393, Iowa Code Section 8.11, all grant applications submitted to the State of Iowa which are due beginning January 1, 2009 shall include a Minority Impact Statement. This is the state's mechanism to require grant applicants to consider the potential impact of the grant project's proposed programs or policies on minority groups.

Please choose the statement(s) that pertains to this grant application. Complete all the information requested for the chosen statement(s).

- The proposed grant project programs or policies could have a disproportionate or unique positive impact on minority persons.

Describe the positive impact expected from this project.

Indicate which group is impacted:

- Women
- Persons with a Disability
- Blacks
- Latinos
- Asians
- Pacific Islanders
- American Indians
- Alaskan Native Americans
- Other

- The proposed grant project programs or policies could have a disproportionate or unique negative impact on minority persons.

Describe the negative impact expected from this project.

Present the rationale for the existence of the proposed program or policy.

Provide evidence of consultation of representatives of the minority groups impacted.

Indicate which group is impacted:

- Women
- Persons with a Disability
- Blacks
- Latinos
- Asians
- Pacific Islanders
- American Indians
- Alaskan Native Americans
- Other

- The proposed grant project programs or policies are not expected to have a disproportionate or unique impact on minority persons. Present the rationale for determining no impact.

All residents of the City of Grundy Center will have equal opportunity to participate in the recycling program.

I hereby certify that the information on this form is complete and accurate, to the best of my knowledge:

Name: Alex Tungland

Title: Business Development Manager

Definitions

"Minority Persons", as defined in Iowa Code Section 8.11, mean individuals who are women, persons with a disability, Blacks, Latinos, Asians or Pacific Islanders, American Indians, and Alaskan Native Americans.

"Disability", as defined in Iowa Code Section 15.102, subsection 5, paragraph "b", subparagraph (1):

b. As used in this subsection:

(1) "*Disability*" means, with respect to an individual, a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of the individual, a record of physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of the individual, or being regarded as an individual with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of the individual.

"Disability" does not include any of the following:

- (a) Homosexuality or bisexuality.
- (b) Transvestism, transsexualism, pedophilia, exhibitionism, voyeurism, gender identity disorders not resulting from physical impairments or other sexual behavior disorders.
- (c) Compulsive gambling, kleptomania, or pyromania.
- (d) Psychoactive substance abuse disorders resulting from current illegal use of drugs.

"State Agency", as defined in Iowa Code Section 8.11, means a department, board, bureau, commission, or other agency or authority of the State of Iowa.

Applicant Disclosure

The Applicant must provide the following information. This is a continuing disclosure requirement from application submittal through agreement end date (if funding is awarded).

1. During the last three (3) years, has the Applicant received written notification from a state agency that a debt is owed to a state agency or a debt is being enforced through the Income Offset Program (including the state child support recovery unit if the Applicant is an individual) that will in any way impact receipt of monies awarded through this program? Yes No

If yes, provide the date by which the Applicant will or has satisfied debts owed to or being collected by the state.

2. During the last three (3) years, has the Applicant had a contract for goods and/or services terminated for any reason, or has the Applicant received a notice of breach, notice of default, or similar notice? Yes No
If yes, provide full details related to the termination or notice.

3. During the last three (3) years, describe any damages or penalties or settlements pertaining to contract disputes under any of the Applicant's existing or past contracts as it relates to goods and/or services performed that are similar to the goods and/or services contemplated by this application. If so, indicate the reason for the penalty, damages or exchange of property, goods, or services and the estimated amount of the cost of that incident to the Applicant.

None.

4. During the last three (3) years, list and summarize all litigation, threatened litigation, administrative or regulatory proceedings, or similar matters to which the Applicant or its officers have been a party. Any such matter commencing after submission of an application, and with respect to the successful Applicant after the execution of a contract, must be disclosed in a timely manner in a written statement to the Department's contract officer.

None.

I hereby certify that the information on this form is complete and accurate, to the best of my knowledge:

Name: Alex Tungland

Title: Business Development Manager