



Sunnyvale

DRAFT

Solid Waste Division Updates

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Sustainability Commission, Jan. 20, 2026



Agenda

- Commercial and Multi-family Food Scraps
- Single Use Plastics/Reusable Party Pack
- Edible Food Recovery
- Multi-Family Bulky Item Program
- SMaRT Station Upgrades
- Grant Projects
- Commodities Market

Commercial Food Scraps

- Commercial roll-out for food scraps and yard trimmings began 2023
- 95% compliance; all large generators routed
- Staff continuously working to finish last 5% (75 left to go!)

SUNNYVALE ORGANICS GENERATOR COMPLIANCE 2025



Multi-Family Food Scraps

- Pilot program with consultant to study outreach methods for multi-family homes
- Selected five complexes plus one control, three rounds of different outreach
- Best results:
 1. Standardize enclosures
 2. Knock n' Talk (direct interaction)
 3. Social norming door hangers

TAKE FOOD SCRAP RECYCLING TO THE NEXT LEVEL!

Right now, 30% of the food scraps in your community are getting recycled. That means 70% are still going in the wrong container. Will you help us get to 100% by recycling yours?



ARE YOU DOING YOUR PART TO REDUCE WASTE AND HELP THE ENVIRONMENT?

It's easy to start—simply put food scraps, plate scrapings and spoiled food from the fridge or pantry into a clear plastic bag. Coffee filters and tea bags are even ok! Place your bagged food scraps in the brown cart located in the enclosure.

Scan for more information



Reusable Foodware: Restaurant Mini Grants



- City offers mini grants (up to \$400) for reusable foodware for restaurants
 - Annual savings from not purchasing disposables: \$1,600 to \$18,000
 - Reduction 590 – 1,650 lbs. garbage/year
- Consultant began field work April 2025
- Goal of 50 businesses in one year; 32 businesses confirmed

Reusable Party Pack

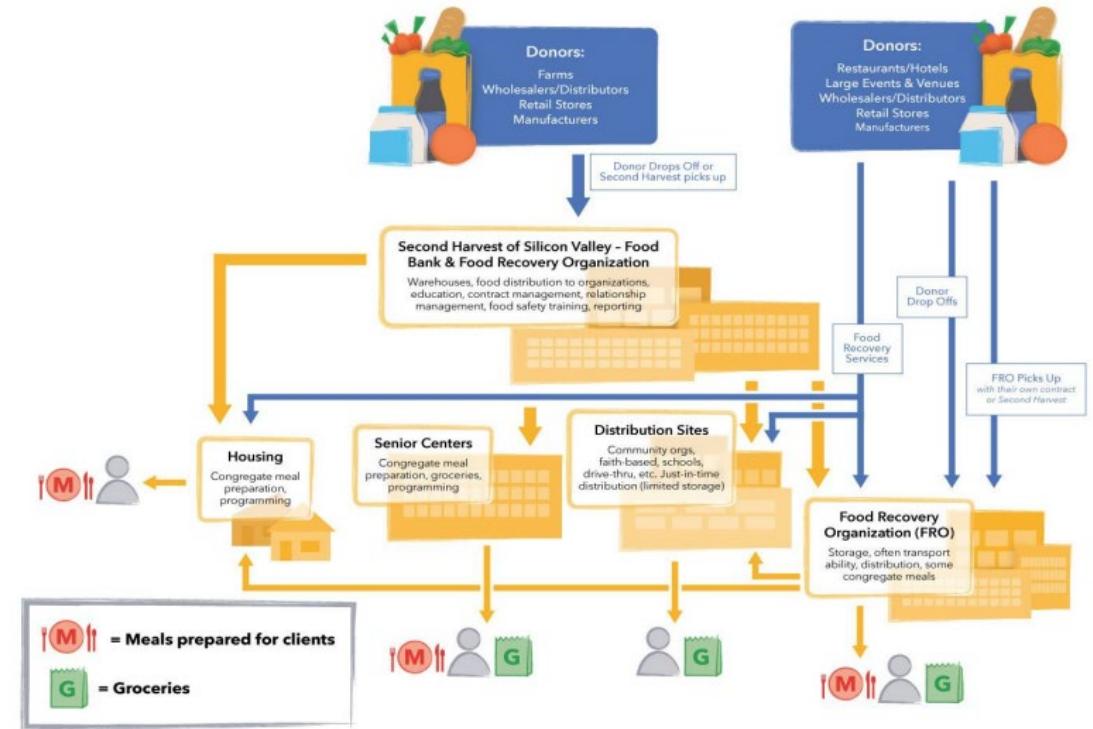
- Two packs of 25 place settings
 - Plates, cups, bowls, utensils
- Residents don't need to wash, just lightly rinse
- Went live Oct. 2025
- Received 15 requests so far!



Edible Food Recovery

- Successfully participating in Santa Clara County Regional Food Recovery Program
- 82 commercial generators in City
- In 2024, City's food recovery orgs/services recovered 682,267 lbs.
 - Compared to 651,316 lbs. in 2023

Figure 6: Preliminary food recovery mapping in Santa Clara County



MFD Bulky Item Program Launched!

- Program went live 1/2/26
- Residents and property staff can make appointments
- Properties with 250+ units get automatic weekly pickup
- Accepts furniture, large electronics, mattresses, rugs – no home appliances (white goods)

INTRODUCING

The Multi-Family Bulky Item Pickup Program!

Starting January 2026, multi-family residents can make appointments to get rid of bulky items for no cost. **Each multi-family unit can schedule TWO FREE appointments per calendar year** — two bulky items per appointment. See list below for generally acceptable items.



Full list of acceptable items on Sunnyvale.ca.gov.

These appointments are **NOT** meant for home appliances like refrigerators, stoves, toilets, washer/dryer units, etc. Household hazardous waste will not be accepted – make a free drop-off appointment at HHW.org or 408-299-7300.

Just follow these easy steps to make an appointment:

- 1 Go to Sunnyvale.ca.gov/RecyclesRight or use the Sunnyvale Recycles Right app
- 2 Click on the button that says "On-Call Pickup"
- 3 Type in the address for the main office of your multi-family complex – no unit # necessary
- 4 Enter the two bulky items you want to get rid of
- 5 Pick the date for your appointment

Questions? Call 408-730-7262 for assistance.

Before setting out your bulky items:

- Be sure to make an appointment. Items will only be picked up with an appointment.*
- Ask your property manager for your bulky item pickup location.
- Your bulky items must be in the pickup location by 7 a.m. on your appointment day.
- Do not set items out earlier than one day before your appointment.

*Multi-family homes with 250+ units will have automatic weekly pickup. Residents don't need to make an appointment for collection.



Scan here to make an appointment

SMaRT Station®

- Major Achievements since we met last year:
- NextGen Retrofit Project
- SVCE Grant – Admin. Building Electrification (\$110,000)
- CalRecycle Grant – Beverage Container Infrastructure (\$6.575 Million)
- State Sales Tax exemption (\$2.1 Million)
- Commodities Market Update



SVCE Grant – Office Building Electrification (\$130,000)

City's second all-electric public facility

- Replacing the existing fossil-fuel equipment with high-efficiency equipment
 - ◆ Rooftop heat pump HVAC units, heat pump water heaters, and associated mechanical and consultant costs
- Office building will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve indoor air quality for staff and visitors.
- 2024 - 838 therms of natural gas  4,441 kg of CO₂ emissions.
- Aligns with the City's municipal facility decarbonization and energy resilience goals in the CAP (Move 2.E).

CalRecycle Beverage Container Quality Infrastructure Grant (QIG1) - \$6.575 Million

- Will offset some of the SMaRT Station® NextGen Project costs.
- The grant-funded equipment will enable the recovery of:
 - Aluminum cans
 - Ferrous metals
 - Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET)
 - High-Density Polyethylene (HDPE)
 - Polypropylene (PP)
 - Glass
 - Carton containers
- Increase the purity of recovered materials



California Alternative Energy and Advanced Transportation Financing Authority (CAEATFA) – Sales Tax Exemption

- Staff secured a \$2.13M sales tax exemption for SMaRT Station equipment under the NextGen Project.
- This reduces the sales tax paid to 0.645%, generating significant cost savings for Sunnyvale and Mountain View ratepayers.
- CAEATFA approved Sunnyvale's application on December 9, 2025.
- City Council authorized the City Manager to execute the agreement on January 13, 2026.

Commodities Market

- In a strong holding pattern - prices continue to be down across the board and with not change expected for the near future.
- We are currently marketing the following commodities:
 - Mixed paper
 - OCC 11/12
 - PET A grade (CRV/Buyback material)
 - PET B grade (MSW and curbside material)
 - HDPE Mixed color/natural
 - Polypropylene 5
 - Mixed rigid plastic
 - UBC aka aluminum cans
 - Scrap Aluminum
 - Tin
 - Scrap Steel
- Experiencing some short-term delays at the port, mainly due to the lack of demand overseas combined with holidays.





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Thank you!

