



## **QUESTION & ANSWER #2**

Request for Qualifications

Food Waste Hauling Services

Food Waste Processing

Management of Residential Disbursed Site Composting Program

Climate Smart Communities Certification Actions PE5

City of Plattsburgh, New York

Date of Issuance: 8/4/2025

Qualifications Deadline: 8/25/2025

## Question 1

**Document Section VI B 2: Waste disposal parameters customer would be required to adhere to:**

**Question:** Can you explain what parameters you might be speaking of? Would this be our agreement with our customer in terms of where the bins are placed, conditions of the collection site, etc.

**Answer:** Are there limits to what types of food waste your system will accept? Are there specific requirements on what types of bins must be used for waste collection? Please include any other parameters, or participation guidelines that traditionally are required by your hauling service.

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## Question 2

**Document Section VI B 6: Vehicle clearance specifications, if applicable**

**Question:** Do you mean actual clearance, like vehicle height?

**Answer:** Yes, this question refers to the physical specifications of the collection vehicles used—such as height, width, and turning radius—to assess their suitability for access to collection sites. It relates to vehicle clearance and overall maneuverability.

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## Question 3

**Document Section VI C 3: Number and location of composting sites managed**

**Question:** Do you literally mean compost sites, or are you referring to collection sites? Sometimes these terms are used interchangeably.

**Answer:** We are referring to “waste pick-up” or “collection” sites, not actual compost processing facilities.

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## Question 4

**Document Section VI C 4: Approaches used to ensure community engagement and proper usage of the sites**

**Question:** Assuming you mean composting sites, are you asking how we engage the surrounding community and address the impact of our operations?

**Answer:** In this context, “community engagement” refers specifically to participant engagement—how you educate and involve users of the collection or drop-off sites to ensure proper usage and program success. This includes how you will ensure participants are aware of what materials are accepted by your company for composting.

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## **Question 5**

### **Document Section VII 5: Definition of "project"**

**Question:** Can you define what you mean by "project"? Are you referring to a collection site, an educational campaign, or something else?

**Answer:** The term "project" can refer to any relevant initiative, such as a collection site, a waste diversion program, an outreach campaign, or any organized effort within a municipal or community context.

## **Question 6**

Does the City anticipate issuing an RFP following the RFQ within the calendar year?

**Answer:** The City is not anticipating issuing an additional RFP following the RFQ, but will know better after completing the RFQ on what its next steps will be.

## **Question 7**

Does the City intend on hiring a consultant or service provider to help design the program as a result of the RFQ?

**Answer:** The City is interested in understanding what waste hauling services are available, what the associated service rates are, and then will work to design a program that aligns with the City's Capacity and opportunity to scale such a program through time. Through this RFQ process, the City does hope to identify a service provider that will best align with the City's vision for this collection system.

## **Question 8**

Is the City currently working with a consultant on this initiative?

**Answer:** The City has been receiving assistance from the Clinton County Health Departments Eat Smart Waste Less Program, but has not hired an independent consultant to assist.

## **Question 9**

Is the City considering residential collection or a series of drop off locations through the City?

**Answer:** The City is considering drop off/ collection locations that would be disbursed throughout the City, though may initially start as a single, centrally located site that can later be scaled up to multiple dispersed sites on publicly owned property.

## **Question 10**

How does the City intend on funding the program- is the City's goal to fund a long term program or a pilot program for a short period of time?

Answer: The City has an opportunity to receive funding from Clinton County Health Department's Eat Smart Waste Less program to fund start-up costs once a better plan is formulated, and has received Common Council approval to move forward.

### **Question 11**

Would the City be amendable to a 2-week extension for the submission of the RFP response?

Answer: The City would like to hold the deadline for qualification submissions, and assess the need to advertise once the deadline has passed.