



# Public Works

2525 13th Street • Boulder, Colorado 80304 • Tel: 303-441-3900  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 471 • Boulder, Colorado 80306 • [www.BoulderCounty.org](http://www.BoulderCounty.org)

**DATE:** July 1, 2024

**TO:** Commissioner Ashley Stolzmann, Chair  
Commissioner Marta Loachamin, Vice-Chair  
Commissioner Claire Levy

**FROM:** J. Cody Lillstrom, Deputy Director  
Steve Durian, Director

**SUBJECT:** Waiver of Bid Requirements for Boulder County Recycling Center Operations Agreement

## **Request:**

The Resource Conservation Division requests a waiver of the formal procurement requirements for the operations agreement of the Boulder County Recycling Center for five years.

## **Budget:**

The anticipated annual cost for these services is approximately \$5,700,000. This project will be funded out of the Resource Conservation Fund 199.

## **Background:**

1. The current contract term for operation of the Boulder County Recycling Center by Eco-Cycle, Inc. (“Eco-Cycle”) was from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. The Board of County Commissioners last approved a waiver of formal procurement requirements for Eco-Cycle’s provision of these services on July 11, 2023.
2. Boulder County and Eco-Cycle have been closely monitoring legislative initiatives, particularly those passed in 2022 related to Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for recycled materials. These initiatives have the potential to bring radical changes to the marketing of recyclable materials and the fees associated with processing them. As a result, a longer-term contract to operate the Boulder County Recycling Center could generate significant financial benefits. By granting a five-year bid waiver to Eco-Cycle for these services and entering into a contract amendment for an additional five years to June 30, 2029, we can better adapt to these potential changes swiftly and effectively, ensuring the continued success and financial stability of the recycling center.
3. Eco-Cycle has an impressive track record, having operated the Boulder County Recycling Center for over twenty years. Their extensive experience has led to a wealth of historical and institutional knowledge regarding Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) operations. Moreover, Eco-Cycle is recognized as a leader in providing community education programs that contribute to increased diversion rates in Boulder County, making them an invaluable partner in achieving our zero waste goals.
4. By retaining Eco-Cycle as the current operator, we ensure a seamless transition with no disruption to the operations or service levels of the Boulder County Recycling Center. Leveraging their extensive experience and deep familiarity with the facility, Eco-Cycle is uniquely equipped to maintain the highest standards of service quality, operational efficiency, and effectiveness. Choosing Eco-Cycle to continue operating the BCRC guarantees uninterrupted operations, allowing for a smooth transition that minimizes any potential impact on recycling services for Boulder County residents.

**APPROVALS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Durian, Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Courtney Gabriel, Purchasing Manager

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_ - *Receipt acknowledged by the Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair, Board of County Commissioners

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners