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City Selects New Processor for Recycling

New Braunfels, TX – As of August 1, 2016, the City of New Braunfels has a new processor, called ReCommunity, for residential single-stream recycling. The new partnership will allow for recycling to continue in New Braunfels in a fiscally responsible and environmentally conscience manner.

New Braunfels residents can recycle a wide array of household items in their blue curbside cart, including, milk jugs, water bottles, detergent bottles, yogurt cups, butter tubs, newspaper, junk mail, magazines, cereal boxes, cardboard, steel and tin cans, aluminum cans, food and beverage glass bottles and jars, and cartons for dairy and shelf-stable foods. Last year, New Braunfels residents diverted approximately 5,500 tons of single-stream materials from disposal at the landfill.

Mike Mundell, Solid Waste Manager, applauds residents for their consistent recycling efforts. "Since the larger cart rolled out in 2010, residents have been doing great at recycling. However, as we are all aware, New Braunfels is a growing City. What is most important is that the right things are being put in the recycling cart; more volume can mean more contamination and, therefore, added costs. That's not something that we want to see in New Braunfels."

In March 2016, the City issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for processors. Each submitted proposal was evaluated and ReCommunity scored the most favorably. City Council approved the staff-recommended 3-year agreement on July 11, 2016.

ReCommunity is purely a recycling company, with 30 facilities throughout 14 states. Their facility, known in the industry as a Materials Recovery Facility or MRF (pronounced "murph"), where residents' recyclables are taken, opened in San Antonio in 2014. At the MRF, state-of-the-art technology and workers sort single-stream recycling into individual commodities in order to make it sellable to manufacturers that make recycled materials into new products.

For more information on recycling, visit <u>www.nbtexas.org/recycle</u> or call the City of New Braunfels Solid Waste & Recycling Division at (830) 221-4040.