A LONG-RUNNING SUCCESS STORY IN A LARGE CITY

IN 1993, Worcester’s municipal budget crisis forced the City to adopt a bag-based PAYT waste reduction and recycling program.

In the first week, Worcester’s recycling rate shot from 2% to 38%, and their solid waste volume dropped 47% between the year before the program and the year after.

RESULTS OF OVER 20 YEARS OF PAYT IN WORCESTER:

- 400,000 tons of trash diverted
- 2,000,000 Tons of additional recycling
- Savings of more than $10 million in waste disposal savings
- 43% Recycling rate, among the best in MA and far higher than the statewide average of 30%

ANNUAL POUNDS OF TRASH PER CAPITA 2017

- NATIONAL AVERAGE: 803 LBS
- WORCESTER MA: 241 LBS

BAG-BASED PAYT WITH CURBSIDE TRASH & RECYCLING COLLECTION