



Thursday May 4, 2023

A vibrant, stylized illustration of a city skyline. The scene includes various buildings of different heights and colors (blue, yellow, orange), trees in green and brown, and a recycling bin with a blue recycling symbol. The background is a light blue sky with a few clouds. The overall theme is urban sustainability and recycling.

Welcome

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Agenda

1	Key Drivers
2	Curbside Waste Diversion
3	Policy Options and Stakeholder Engagement
4	Policy Recommendation
5	Implementation Considerations and Next Steps
6	Questions



Trail Waste Facility Landfill

- Ottawa's curbside residential waste comes to the Trail Waste Facility Landfill
- Expected to reach capacity: 2036 – 2038
- New landfill / alternative technology:
 - Cost: \$300M – \$450M
 - Time required to site: ~15 years
- Policy will increase diversion and discourage sending unnecessary items to the landfill – avoid filling up valuable airspace



Key Policy Drivers

Preserving the life of the Trail Waste Facility Landfill

Solid Waste Master Plan

“A Zero Waste Ottawa achieved through progressive, collective and innovative action.”

**Multi-Residential Waste Diversion
Strategy**

**Blue Box Program Transition to
Individual Producer Responsibility**

New Curbside Collection Contract

Future Organics Processing Capacity

Climate Change Master Plan

Provincial Food and Organic Policy Statement

Driving Change Through Curbside Waste Diversion Policies

Proven policies that encourage residents to change their waste disposal habits, with the goal of:

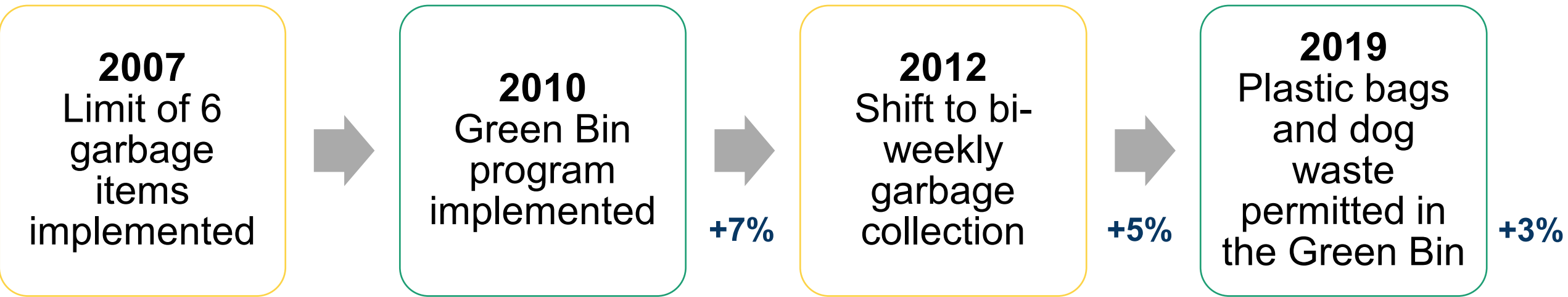
Reducing waste to landfill

Prolonging life of Trail Waste Facility Landfill

Increasing participation in waste diversion programs

Encouraging sustainable waste management habits

Existing Council-Approved Policies



***Increases to diversion rates**

It has been over 11 years since the last garbage policy implementation.

Curbside Collections at a Glance

- Current contract services:
 - 306,000 curbside homes
- Responsible for the collection of:
 - Garbage
 - Recyclables
 - Organics
 - Leaf & yard waste
- 82 per cent of the waste collected by the City is generated by curbside properties
 - In 2022, 132,000 tonnes of garbage was collected from curbside residents
- Project focuses on curbside waste diversion; large opportunity to divert waste from the Trail Waste Facility Landfill



Current Curbside Behaviours

- Average city-wide garbage set out: **2.1 items every two weeks**
 - 74% set out two items or less
 - 26% set out three items or more
- Almost all (96%) garbage set-outs are within the current 6 item limit



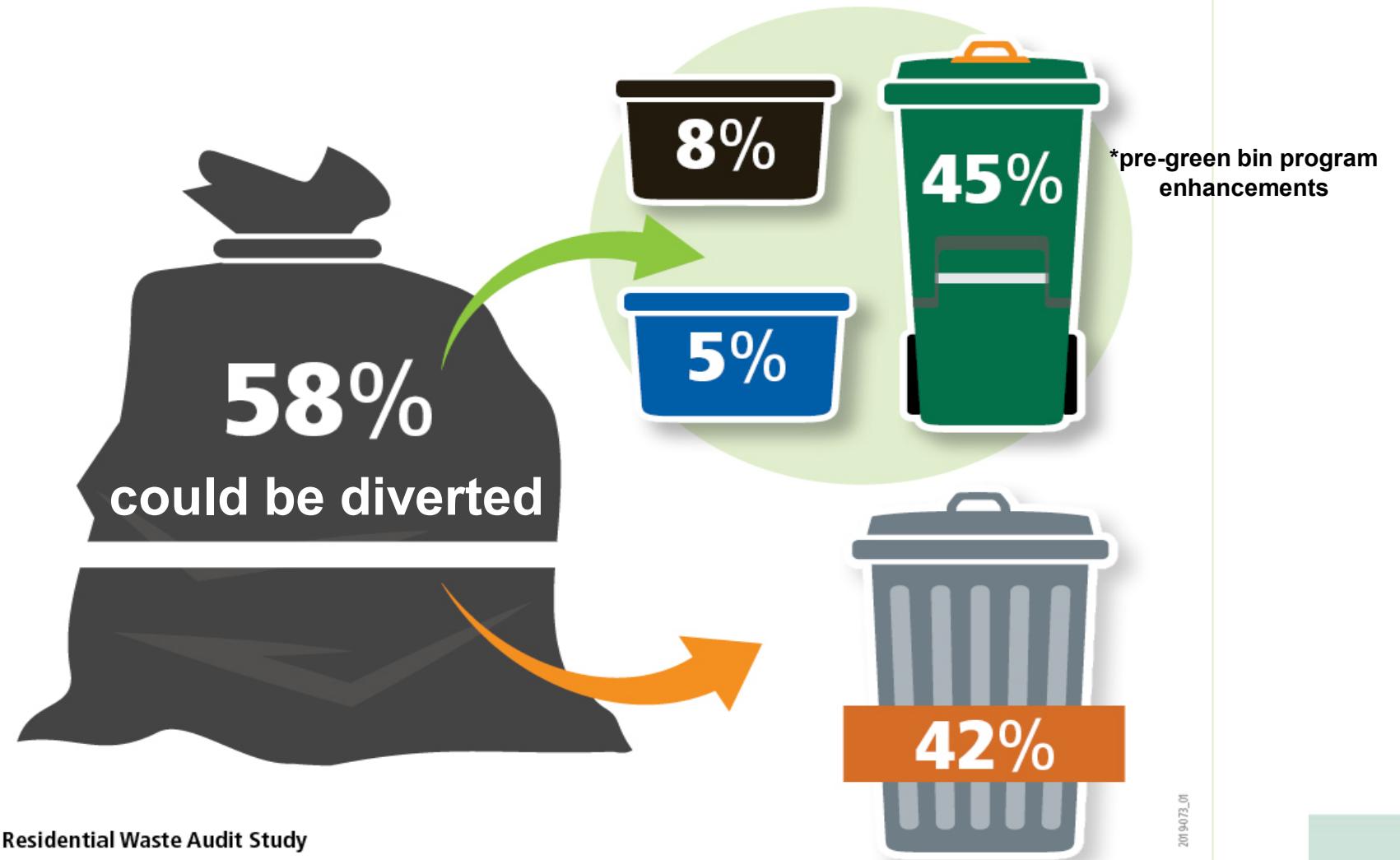
Some households set out large amounts of garbage and do not participate in diversion programs

Curbside Set-Out Study

Garbage Items Set Out	Percent of Households	Blue Bin Set Out	Black Bin Set Out	Green Bin Set Out
One or less	48%	87%	68%	73%
Two	26%	88%	69%	66%
Three	11%	85%	69%	65%
Four	6%	86%	67%	63%
Five	4%	82%	68%	58%
Six	2%	78%	66%	48%
More than 6	4%	47%	45%	36%

Curbside Waste Diversion Rates

**Total
curbside
residential
waste
going to
landfill**



Policy Options Considered

Clear bags for
garbage

Partial Pay-As-
You-Throw
(PAYT)

Firm garbage
item limits

Material Bans on
recyclable and
organic material

Reducing the
garbage item
limit

Stakeholder Engagement Participation

20,064

Responses to the
online public
survey

1,000

Responses
through
purchased
representative
sample

4

Public dialogue
sessions

5

Focus-group
sessions with
equity-deserving
individuals

5

Sessions with
Solid Waste
Services staff

2

Meetings with
collection
contractors

4

Responses from
Stakeholder
Sounding Board
members

What We Learned – Community Concerns

Privacy

Single-Use
Plastics

Availability of
Clear Bags or
Garbage Tags

Compliance

Cost

Added Time
for Collection

Equity

Approach to
Enforcement

What We Learned – Public Engagement

Garbage Item Limit

- Strong majority of respondents (81% panel; 78% public) support reducing the garbage item limit
- Desire for equitable garbage service

Policy Option

- Strongest support for partial PAYT through public engagement (31% panel; 40% public)
- Offers flexibility for households

Special Considerations

- Some respondents (15% panel; 23% public) said they produce unavoidable waste that would make it difficult to comply
- Top concerns: diapers, non-hazardous medical waste, and non-recyclable plastic packaging

Policy Recommendation



Partial Pay-As-You-Throw Program

- **55 tags per household** (annually distributed as part of Solid Waste user fee)
- Every garbage item **must be tagged** in order to be collected
- Option to **purchase additional tags**

Policy Recommendation



Expand Special Considerations Program

- City's program to now include non-hazardous medical waste
 - Program already includes children's diapers and incontinence waste



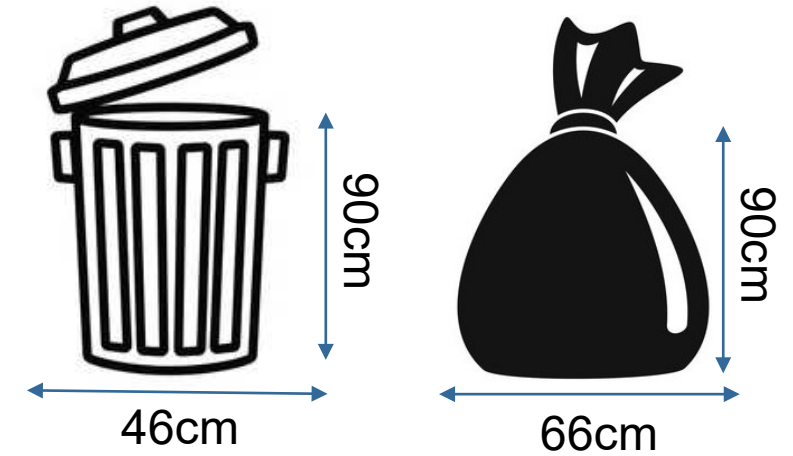
Implementation Plan and Readiness Update

- Direct staff to report back on City-wide implementation plan
 - Similar approach was taken for 2019 Green Bin program changes

Acceptable Item Set-Outs

Under the Solid Waste Management By-law:

- Maximum weight of **33lbs**
- **No loose garbage** inside container



Examples of how to use garbage tags



Estimated Policy Outcomes

	Year 1	Year 5
Garbage Tonnage Reduction (per capita)	Up to 19%	Up to 28%

- Estimated **increase** in curbside **waste diversion rate**: Up to **6%**
- Estimated **increase** in curbside **recycling tonnages**: Up to **19%**
- Estimated **increase** in curbside **organics tonnages**: Up to **8%**

Implementation Considerations

Promotion and Education

- Starting three months ahead of policy implementation
- Reminder of existing programs and tools

Approach to Enforcement

- Phased in, enhanced education and communication for those not complying
- Monitoring of potential illegal dumping

Cost and Tag Availability

- Explore different retail options to allow flexibility for households (local retailers, online)

Equity Considerations

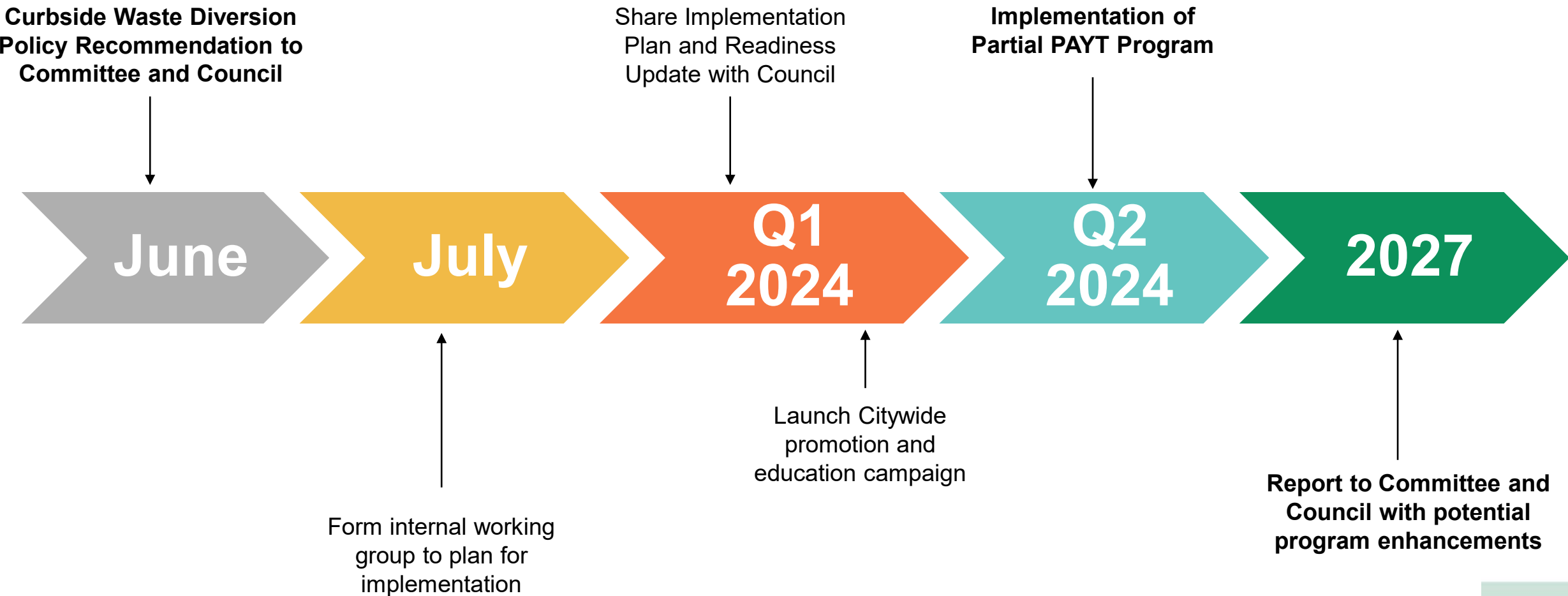
- Low-income households
- Large households
- Urban, suburban and rural

Estimated Financial Considerations

- Proposed option will cost an estimated:
 - One-time Capital Costs: up to \$3.5 million
 - Temporary staffing to support program rollout, robust promotion and education campaign, additional green bins
 - Ongoing Operating Costs: up to \$1.5 million
 - Increase in organics processing budget, print and distribution of garbage tags and 2 FTEs to support education and enforcement
 - Potential cost recovery from additional tag sales:
 - Recommended tag cost based on full-cost recovery: \$3
 - Estimated \$450,000 in Year 1 to \$400,000 in Year 5



Proposed Next Steps



*Regular program reviews to measure success and diversion rates through Solid Waste Master Plan annual updates

Summary

- Strong resident support for reducing garbage item limit and delivering equitable, flexible service
- Partial Pay-As-You-Throw: 55 tags per household distributed annually with ability to purchase additional tags as required
 - 3 of 4 garbage set-outs are within recommended limit
- Supports up to 19% waste reduction per capita and up to 6% increase in waste diversion
- Supports City's goal of prolonging the life of the Trail Waste Facility Landfill
- Aligns with municipal and provincial targets relating to waste reduction and diversion

Questions?

