



Town of New Castle
450 W. Main Street
PO Box 90
New Castle, CO 81647

Administration Department
Phone: (970) 984-2311
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www.newcastlecolorado.org

Agenda

New Castle Town Council Work Session

Tuesday, January 20, 2026, 6:30 PM

Virtual Meetings are subject to internet and technical capabilities.

To join by computer, smart phone or tablet:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7096588400>

If you prefer to telephone in:

Please call: 1-346-248-7799

Meeting ID: 709 658 8400

Follow the prompts as directed. Be sure to set your phone to mute until called on

- a.** **Discussion of Possible Ballot Initiative**
- b.** **Discussion of Colorado's Extended Producer Responsibility Program**



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Memorandum

To: Mayor & Council
From: David Reynolds
Re: Workshop Item: Discussion of Possible Ballot Initiative
Date: 1/20/26

Purpose:

The purpose of this workshop is to explore the potential of a 2026 ballot initiative. As Town Council may recall, during the 2026 budget discussions held in fall 2025, Council and staff reviewed several years of increasing expenses alongside declining revenues in certain General Fund categories. As part of those discussions, Council and staff considered the possibility of pursuing a 2026 ballot initiative to help bolster General Fund revenues. Since that time, Town staff has consulted with our political consultant and will provide an overview of recommended methods for gauging resident interest and identifying areas of potential community support related to this topic. Staff will seek input from Council regarding ways to move forward with the exploration of this initiative.



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Memorandum

To: Mayor & Council
From: David Reynolds
Re: Workshop Item: Discussion of Colorado's Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Program for Recycling
Date: 1/20/26

Purpose:

The purpose of this workshop is to introduce Council to Colorado's **Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Program for Recycling**, adopted by the State Legislature in 2022, and to discuss how the program may affect local recycling services, costs, and opportunities for reimbursement beginning in 2026.

Background:

In 2022, the Colorado Legislature adopted **House Bill 22-1355**, establishing a statewide Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) program for packaging and paper products. The law shifts the financial responsibility for recycling certain materials away from local governments and residents and onto the **producers** of those materials, such as manufacturers and brand owners.

Covered materials include most **packaging and paper products**, including **paper and cardboard used for shipping**. Producers that sell products in Colorado using these materials are required to participate in the program in order to continue doing business in the state.

Producer Dues:

Under the law, producers must:

- Register with a state-approved **Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO)**
- Report the amount and type of covered materials they supply into Colorado
- Pay **annual dues**, beginning in 2026, based on the weight and type of materials (e.g., paper, cardboard, plastic)

These dues are designed to reflect the **actual cost of providing recycling services** for those materials statewide.

Role of Circular Action Alliance (CAA):

Colorado has approved **Circular Action Alliance (CAA)** as the nonprofit Producer Responsibility Organization responsible for administering the EPR program.

CAA's responsibilities include:

- Collecting producer dues
- Developing and implementing a statewide recycling program plan
- Establishing minimum recycling service standards
- Administering a **recycling reimbursement program** for eligible service providers

Recycling Reimbursement (Rebate) Program:

Using the dues collected from producers, CAA will administer a reimbursement program that allows:

- Municipalities, counties, and other eligible recycling service providers to be reimbursed for the **net costs of recycling services** for covered materials

Eligible costs may include collection, hauling, processing, education, and certain capital expenses. While often referred to informally as a "rebate," the program is structured as a **cost reimbursement system** tied to documented services and performance standards.

Why This Matters to the Town:

As the EPR program is implemented:

- Recycling service costs currently borne by local governments may be **partially or fully reimbursed**
- New reporting, coordination, or service-level considerations may apply
- There may be opportunities to improve or expand recycling services with reduced local financial impact

Workshop Focus:

This workshop is intended to:

- Provide Council with an overview of the EPR program
- Clarify timelines and local relevance
- Identify potential implications and opportunities for the Town
- Receive initial Council questions and direction for future evaluation

No formal action is anticipated at this time.