



Warragul Food Waste Survey Summary

Conor Blomquist, Avery Ingegneri,
Sydney Seo, Ari Trey-Masters



Process

Preliminary Work

- Received list of ~150 organizations
- Scheduled first appointments with small business
- Created Google Form Survey
- Mapped route and split up

Inside Team

- Walked around Warragul CBD
- Entered all visible food establishments
- Conducted google form survey and assessment or scheduled better time

Outside Team

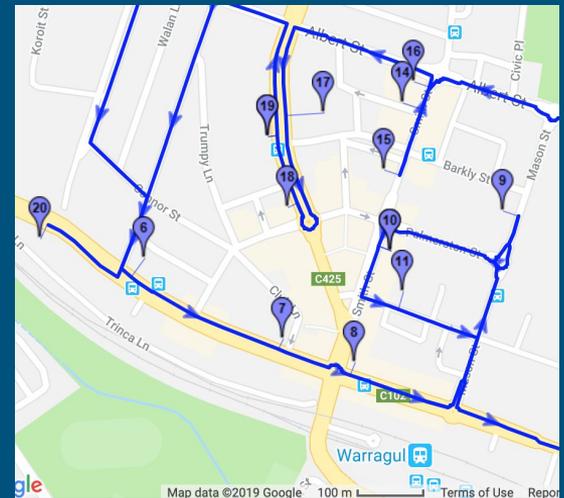
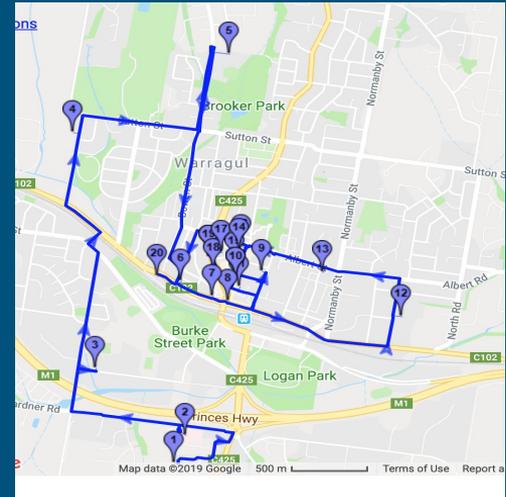
- Followed premade list of establishments outside of CBD
- Drove to the companies previously scoped out
- Conducted google form survey and assessment

Evaluation

- Analyzed survey data to ensure completeness and address any issues
- Conducted visual waste assessment based on food waste photos
- Wrote up preliminary report

Methodology Changes

- Car for greater mobility
- Route planners
 - RouteXL
 - Route Online
- Providing a simpler and more concise introduction to lower level employees



Survey Monkey Issues

- Could only submit survey once
- Some questions were ambiguous
- Some answers were not provided
 - Choices for specific questions were not reasonable
 - Example: Volume of waste bins
- Could not select more than one option for some questions
- No immediate access to the data for analysis

* 5. What size bin do you deposit food waste in the business?

10 gallon container

140 Litre

40 Litre

240 Litre

120 Litre

Other (please specify)

3. How many full time employees (on an equivalent bases) does your business employ?

0 - 9

200 - 999

10 - 99

1000+

100 - 199

Size of Facility in Square Metres/Number of Seats/Counter Service

Your answer _____

Number of Staff (EFTE) (Full Time)

Your answer _____

Final Data Analysis

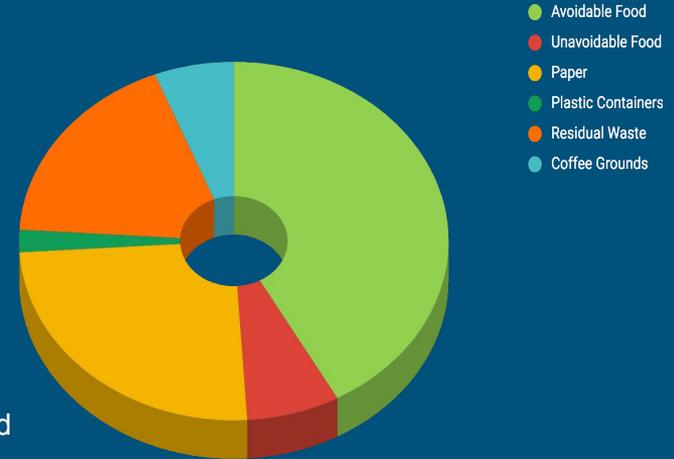
- Last day of survey
- Visual inspections of previous photographs
 - Rough estimates of waste percentages
- Compiled success rate
- Outlined report and started preliminary draft



Example of Food Waste Assessment Data

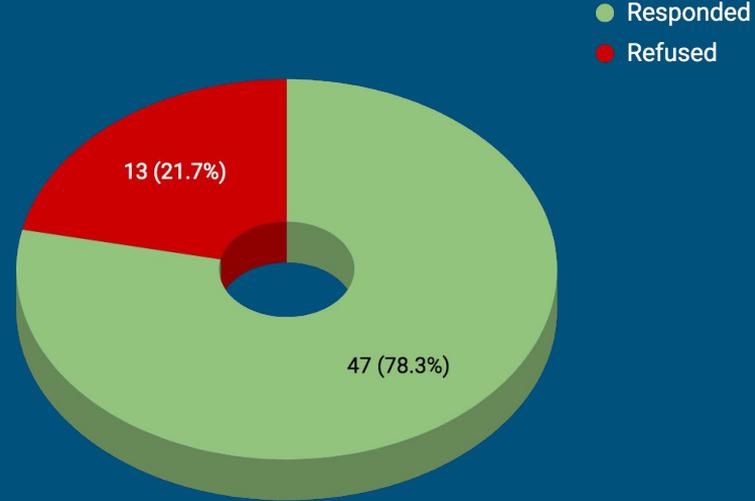
Earth Market Cafe

- Type: Café
- Size: N/a
- Types of Waste: General Waste, recycling, and paper/cardboard (6x general waste, 6x recycling, 1x 660L cardboard)
- Number of bins: 6
- Size of bins: 240 L
- Pick up: 1x per week
- Full at end of week: 100%
- Notes: Food waste in pig bins, not much food waste. Separate for recycling and cardboard. 12 bins shared by multiple companies (hairdresser, cafe, etc.)
- Waste Breakdown
 - 42% Avoidable Food
 - 7% Unavoidable Food
 - 25% Paper
 - 2% Plastic Containers
 - 18% Residual Waste
 - 6% Coffee Grounds



Final Results

- 78.3% hit rate
 - Very positive response from local businesses
- Reasons for refusal
 - Trash and recycling both going to landfill
 - Did not see a benefit from participating
 - Time constraints or manager not present
 - Need for prior appointments for larger organizations
 - Franchising rules
 - Not allowed to see the waste bins behind the counter
 - Language Barriers



Discoveries

- Very Sustainable Food Waste Practices
 - Perishables donated to charities, given to farmers/chickens/pigs, composted
 - Generally, more sustainable in smaller places, less sustainable in larger
 - More related to connections to farmers and focus on food
- Lots of enthusiasm towards the project from most of the surveyed companies
- Most companies would like different bins for recycling
 - Majority of the companies had paper/cardboard, but nothing for food waste
- Could benefit from educational campaign to disseminate information
 - Some are very good, some could use improvement

Going Forward

- Next Steps
 - Integrate data into ABBA data
 - Check out another community to determine if Warragul is representative
- Potential Changes for next time
 - Reach out to larger businesses the week before via phone or email
 - Work with local government to conduct assessment of franchises
 - Arrange sheet in terms of addresses to better map routes
 - Provide education to businesses afterwards
- Finding Value Added Processes
 - Commercial vs Social vs Environmental
 - Example: Coles vs Scato Plus providing compost to mushroom growers

Thank you,
Any Questions?

