

# Single Stream Recycling Discussion

February 12, 2018

Department of Public Works

# What is NATIONAL SWORD?

China is the largest buyer and seller of recyclables in the world.

Due to HIGH levels of contaminated recycling that ends up as trash, National Sword was initiated, setting strict standards and basically telling the world “stop sending us your garbage”.

US Material Recovery Facilities (MRF's) are forced to invest in cleaning up their act, processing fee's drastically increase across the country while the value (\$\$\$) of recycling plummets.

# How does this affect Belmont

- One year ago, MRF's would have 2 separate staging areas for the processing of recyclables, Single and Dual stream. The majority of communities in the Boston area are single stream recycling. MRF's are investing in processing SINGLE STREAM RECYCLING ONLY and phased out dual stream.
- On July 1, 2018, Belmont will be collecting recycling as SINGLE STREAM.

# Collecting Single Stream we have a choice

Manual



Automated



# Manual Single Stream

Mix all clean recyclables in existing containers or barrels.



# Automated Single Stream

- Mix all clean recyclables in TOWN issued 96 gallon container



# Estimated costs

## Manual

FY19 \$688,176

FY20 \$712,262

FY21 \$737,191

FY22 \$762,993

FY23 \$789,698

FY24 \$817,337

option year

## Automated

- Cost includes Town issued 96 gallon cart

FY19 \$716,850

FY20 \$741,940

FY21 \$767,908

FY22 \$794,784

FY23 \$822,602

FY24 \$747,392

option year minus barrel  
cost