

**Virtual Information Session #1**
**May 5th, 2025**

# Food Scrap Drop-Off Bins Project

City of Ann Arbor – Department of Public Works – Solid Waste

https://engage.a2gov.org/foodscraps

# Meeting Norms

- Commit to learning and avoiding speculation.
- Please remember the importance of rights and the dignity of others.
  - Critique ideas, not people.
  - Use thoughtful language so this can be a comfortable and respectful session for all participants.

# Public Engagement

- **The project team will conduct public engagement through online to:**
  - Propose project plan to residents
  - Answer questions from residents
  - Receive input from residents

# City of Ann Arbor - Project Staff


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# Agenda

Goals & Values

Project Overview

Engagement Activity

Questions

# Ann Arbor: Waste Goals & Values

- ✔ Waste reduction
- ✔ Landfill diversion
- ✔ Circular economy

A²ZERO

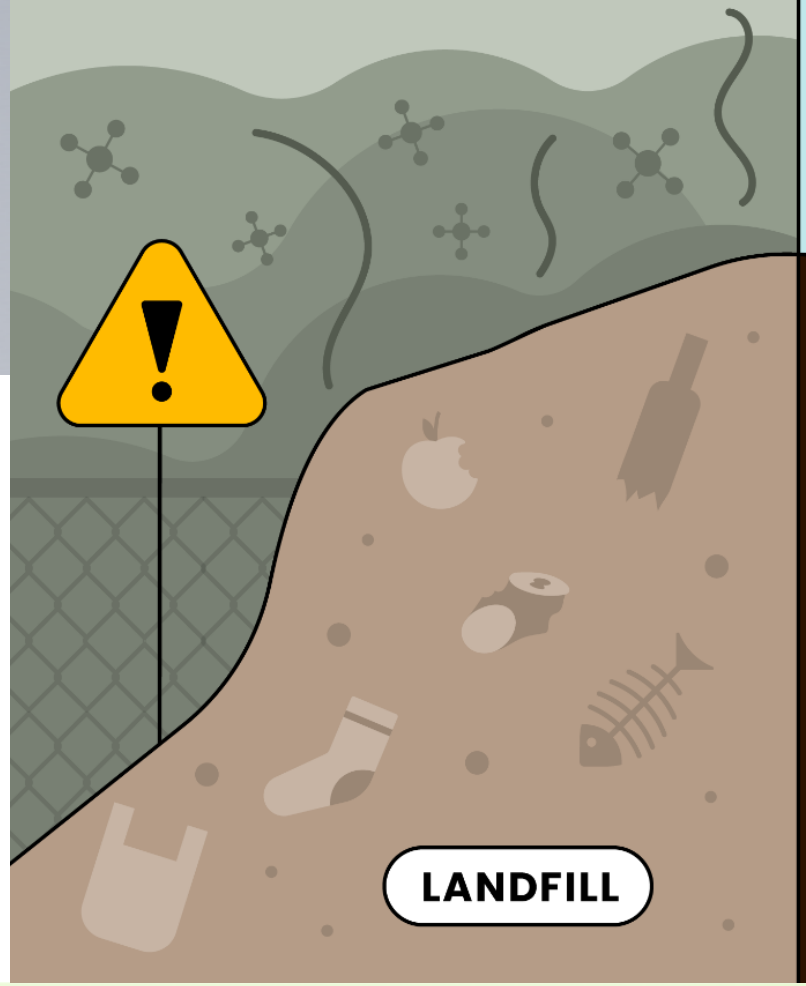
EQUITABLE • SUSTAINABLE • TRANSFORMATIVE

**“To change the way we use, reuse, and dispose of materials”**

- Strategy 5 of the City’s Carbon Neutrality Plan

# EPA | Compost Your Food Scraps to Combat Climate Change

*More than half of greenhouse gas emissions from landfills come from wasted food.*




*Composting food scraps reduces emissions, and using compost helps us adapt to a changing climate.*

**Decreases Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

Composting reduces methane emissions by keeping wasted food out of landfills. Applying compost to the soil reduces the need for chemical fertilizers, avoiding emissions from their manufacture and use.

**Builds Climate Resilience**

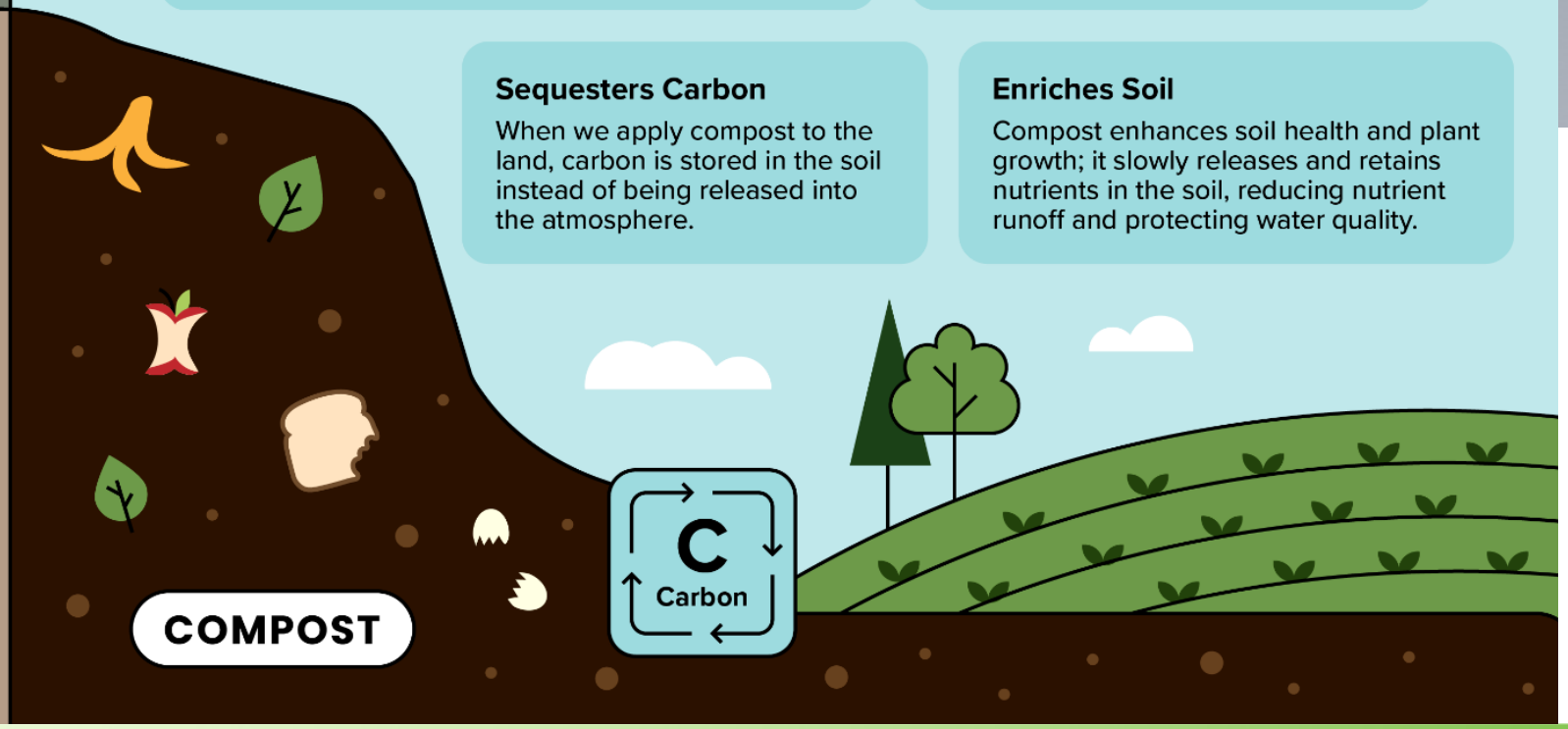
Compost enables soil to better absorb and hold water, helping to reduce erosion and flooding in heavy rains and retain water during droughts.

**Sequesters Carbon**

When we apply compost to the land, carbon is stored in the soil instead of being released into the atmosphere.

**Enriches Soil**

Compost enhances soil health and plant growth; it slowly releases and retains nutrients in the soil, reducing nutrient runoff and protecting water quality.



# Project Overview: Purpose and Need

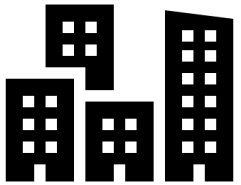
## Purpose

- To make composting more accessible for multi-family residents by introducing food scrap drop-off bins throughout the city



## Need

- Many multi-family residents do not have a convenient option to compost food scraps and have expressed desires for an expanded program



# Project Overview: Drop-Off Bins

- **Communal containers** serving several properties
- **Access-controlled** to prevent contamination
- **24/7 accessibility** through keypad and/or smartphone app
- **Secure enclosure** to prevent odors, pests & rodents



# Examples from Other Communities




Washington D.C.




New York City




City of Boston

# Examples from Other Communities



# Project Overview: Food Scraps



ALL Plate Scrapings



Dairy & Eggs



Meat & Bones



Fruits, Vegetables Pits, & Peels



Breads, Grains, Pasta, & Rice



Coffee Grounds & Paper Filters

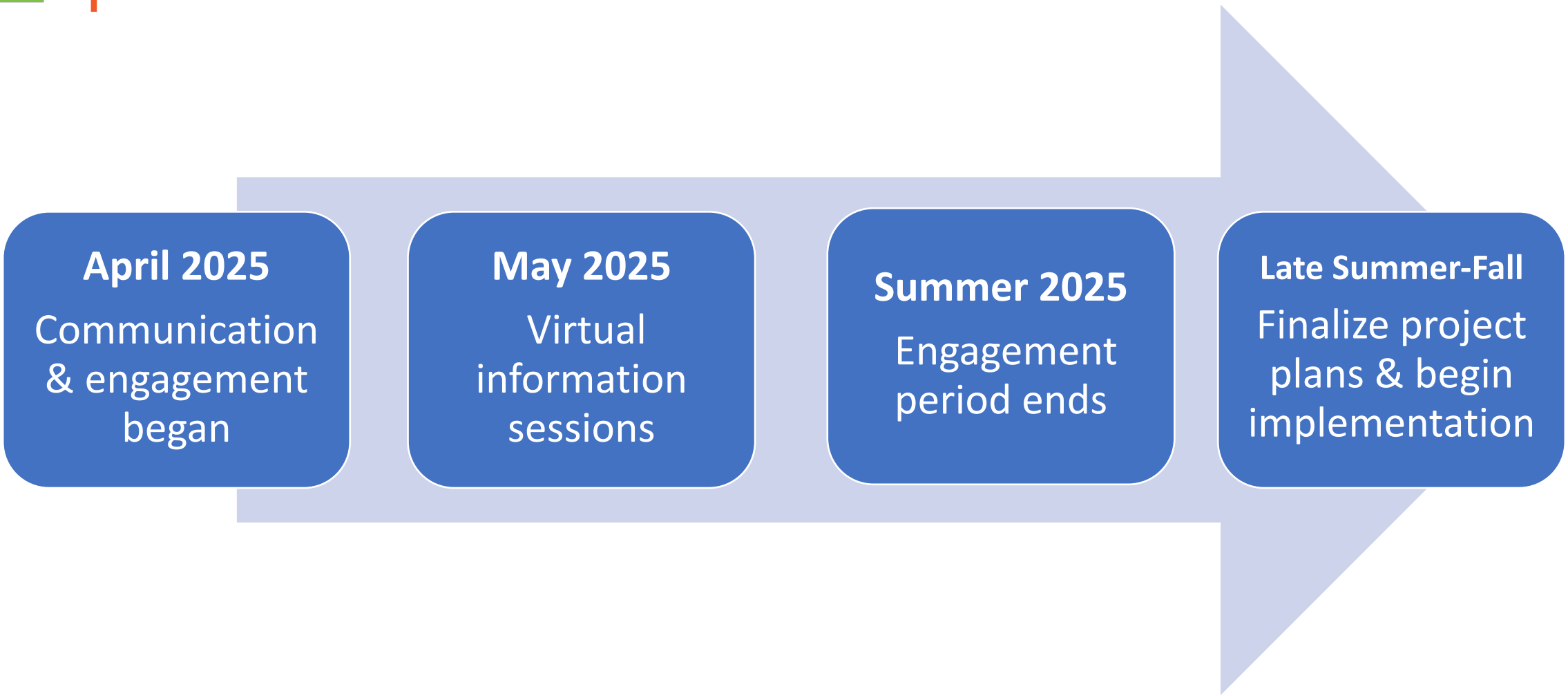


Paper Bags used to Collect Food Scraps



Cut Flowers & Houseplants

# Project Overview: Timeline



# Project Overview:
# Possible Impacts to Residents

- City staff will be surveying potential site locations
- May require temporary lane or sidewalk closures
- Potential use of sidewalk amenity zone
- Potential loss of parking space



# Communication & Updates

You can stay updated on major project developments by following the engagement page:

engage.a2gov.org/foodscraps




Once drop-off bins are ready for use, we plan to notify residents through:

- Direct outreach
- Community events
- City Communications

# Locations of Drop-Off Bins

- We plan to start with **10 initial locations** with 2 bins at each
- Locations haven't been decided yet — **we need your suggestions!**

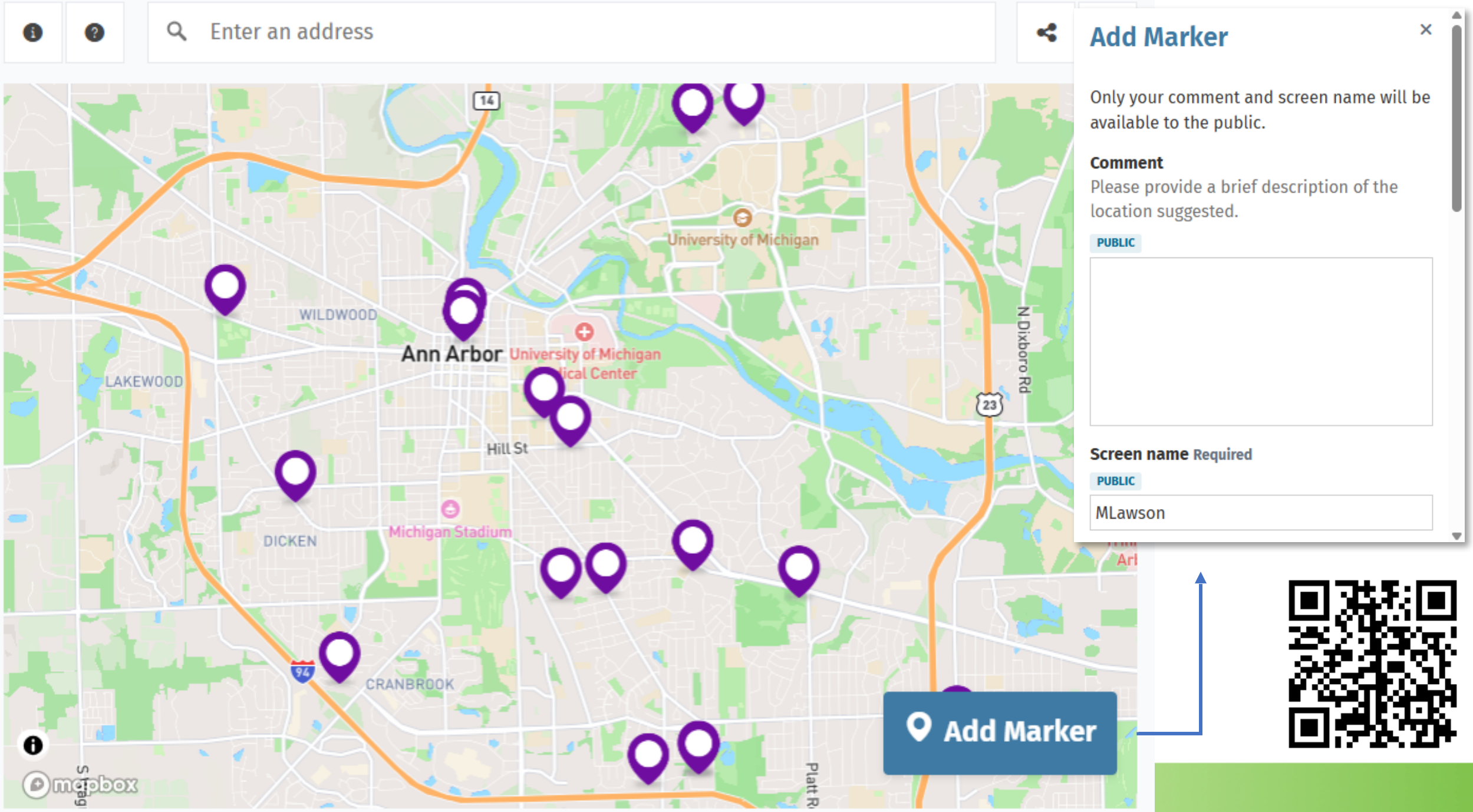
We're looking for locations that are:

- ✔ **Public & easy to access**
- ✔ **Central to multi-family properties (apartments, condos)**
- ✔ **Places you already visit or pass by often**

# Engagement Activity

**Where would you like to see a food scrap drop-off bin located?**

To provide input, scan the QR code
or visit [engage.a2gov.org/foodscraps](engage.a2gov.org/foodscraps)


Enter an address
Add Marker
Only your comment and screen name will be available to the public.
Comment
Please provide a brief description of the location suggested.
PUBLIC
Screen name Required
PUBLIC
MLawson
Ann Arbor
University of Michigan
WILDWOOD
LAKEWOOD
DICKEN
CRANBROOK
Hill St
Michigan Stadium
N Dixboro Rd
Add Marker
mapbox



# Questions

# Thank You!

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