Limited Recycling

Tampa is working toward the state mandated 75% recycling rate that includes trash that is sent to waste-to-energy plants. According to the state’s calculation, Tampa’s recycling rate is 51%, excluding waste-to-energy the rate is 6%. The City of Tampa has exclusive rights to collect residential and commercial trash and residential recycling and yard waste. If multi-family buildings and businesses want recycling pick-up they must contract with a private company. Although Tampa is in the early-stages of developing a recycling program, the city is exploring new initiatives including: mandatory commercial recycling, construction and demolition recycling programs, and residential and commercial organics programs. Each of these programs create an opportunity for the city to introduce policies that raise standards for workers and promote economic growth as the city works toward achieving its goal of creating a healthier local economy that relies on recycled materials.

Sources:
Department of Solid Waste and Environmental Management
City of Tampa Comprehensive Plan - Solid Waste Element