

**BLOOMINGTON.**

tomorrow. together. ●



# Bloomington Bulky Item Management Program

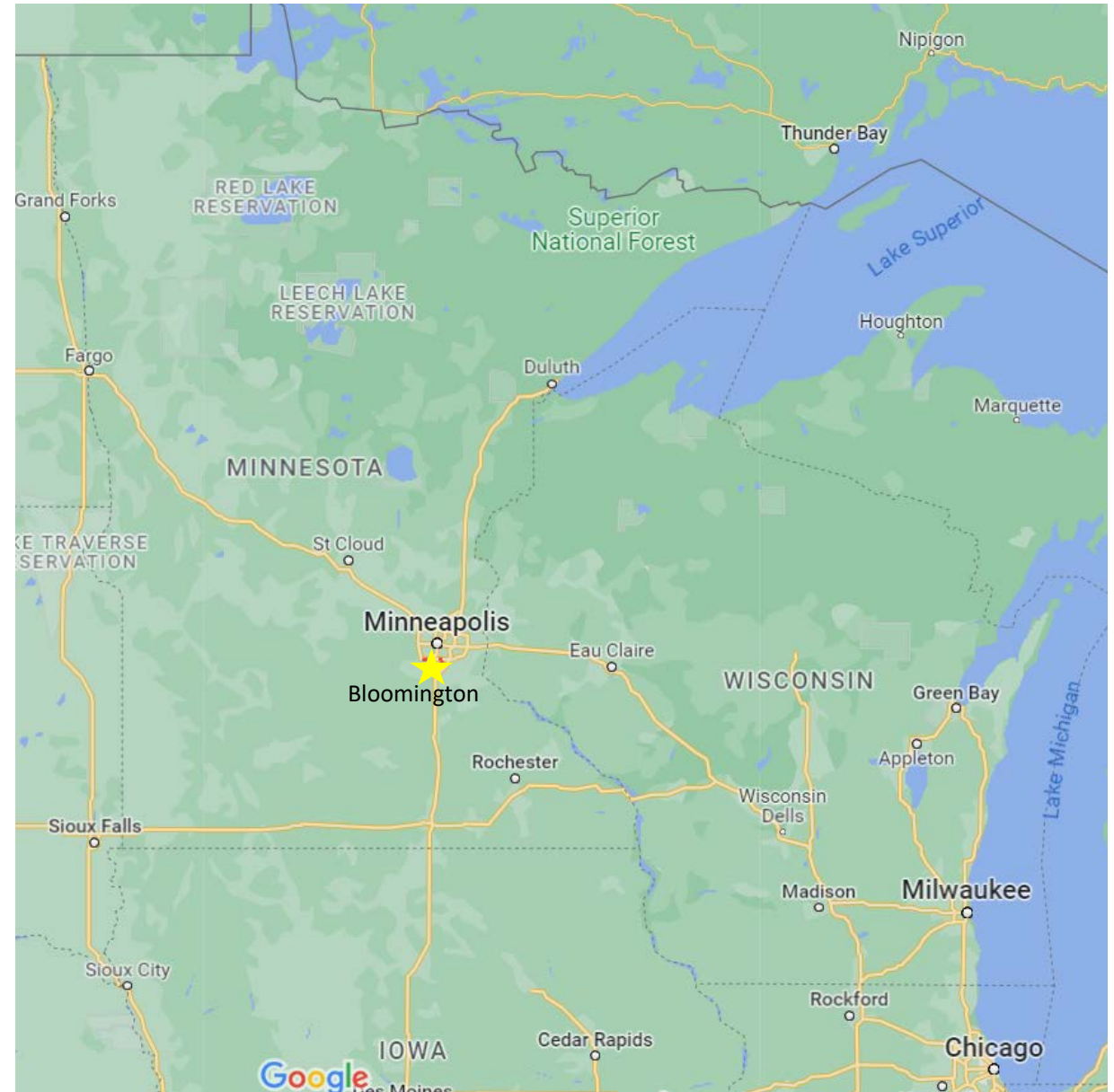
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May 17, 2023



# BLOOMINGTON

- Located in MN
- 10 minutes south of downtown Minneapolis
- ~90,000 people
- 4<sup>th</sup> largest city in the state
- 3<sup>rd</sup> largest city in the Twin Cities Metro-Area
- Home of the MOA, headquarters for large company headquarters like Health Partners, Toro & Ceridian
- Located along the Minnesota River. Almost 1/3 of Bloomington is reserved park land, including MN River Valley
- **Organized collection:**
  - Garbage, recycling, organics recycling, yard waste, bulky item pickup
  - ~22,000 households (single-family and duplexes and certain townhomes that opt in)



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# BACKGROUND CURBSIDE CLEANUP PROGRAM

- Provided a way to dispose of bulky items that are difficult to get rid of like couches and mattresses
- Began in 1964, with goal of helping to keep the City clean
- Service is paid for by all residents in single family homes and duplexes who have City garbage and recycling





# THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEM

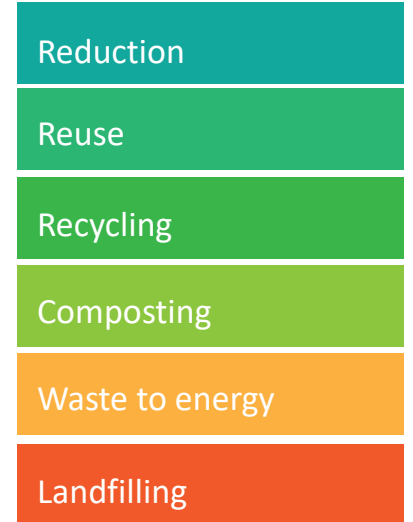
- Items collected were landfilled
- Hennepin County has a goal to recycle and compost 75% of waste by 2030
- In 2020, Curbside Cleanup generated 2,000 tons of garbage
  - 35% of the items disposed of as garbage could have been re-used or recycled

## Minnesota's waste hierarchy

Most preferred environmental option



Least preferred environmental option



# COSTS CONTINUE TO RISE

- Cost to landfill items is increasing significantly
- Cost to collect items continue to rise
- Operationally, program is difficult for haulers due to safety concerns and automation in trucks



# STEPS TAKEN TO MODIFY PROGRAM

- Studied environmental impacts of Curbside Cleanup Feb-Jun 2019
- Presented findings of Curbside Cleanup Study to Council July 2019
- Gathered ideas and developed options for sustainable alternative July 2019-Jan 2020
- Presented preliminary recommendations to Council May 2020
- Engaged with community on proposed plan March-April 2021
- Reviewed engagement results and refined recommendations May-June 2021
- Presented preliminary updated proposal to SC and Council working groups June – July 2021
- Engaged with community on updated proposal August 2021
- Presented updated proposal to City Council as an informational item September 13, 2021
- Approval of plan by Sustainability Commission September 21, 2021



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT METHODS









- [Let's Talk Bloomington Project Page](#):
  - Survey, Ask A Question Tool, Project Documents, Sustainability Commission video
  - 4.6K visited page, 2.2K read some of the project documents, and 1.4K took survey
- Focused Conversations:
  - BIPOC Community Leaders Meeting, facilitated and coordinated by COED and Public Health
  - Creekside Seniors Meeting, facilitated by Creekside
- Citywide Zoom Listening Sessions:
  - Four sessions held
- Direct phone calls/emails

# NEW PROGRAM ELEMENTS


Program Element	Concerns Addressed
<p>Hold re-imagined curbside cleanup every other year.</p> <p>Limit items accepted: Small items are not collected by haulers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Addresses concern residents had about not having access to a vehicle to bring items to drop-off</li> <li>• Convenience</li> <li>• Rummaging (community value, economic value, allows for reuse)</li> <li>• Reduces cost of program since held every other year</li> <li>• Reduces landfilling, since small items can be placed in garbage cart and processed at WTE facility</li> </ul>
<p>Hold annual drop off event for bulky recyclables</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keeps an element of the program accessible to multi-family residents</li> </ul>
<p>Implement a regular curbside pickup for reusable and recyclable items only.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourages reuse and recycling</li> <li>• Addresses concern residents had about not having access to vehicle</li> <li>• Convenient</li> <li>• Addresses concern regarding need to hold onto items for every other year Curbside Cleanup event</li> </ul>
<p>Hold swap events throughout the year for certain types of items (sports equipment, toys, gardening tools)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promotes reuse</li> <li>• Creates additional community events and opportunities for direct exchanging/rummaging</li> </ul>
<p>Provide more education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Addresses concern of not knowing what to do with items throughout the year</li> </ul>



# FITS WITH CITY STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Value	Old Program	New Program
Accessible for those without vehicles		
Accessibility for Multi-Family		
More Materials Recycled		
Low Cost		

# CITYWIDE RECYCLING DROP-OFF



**2022  
CITYWIDE  
RECYCLING  
DROP-OFF  
EVENT**

Bloomington's first annual citywide drop-off event for residents to get rid of large items and recyclable materials.

Learn more at [blm.mn/drop-off](http://blm.mn/drop-off) or call 952-563-8760.

CITY OF  
BLOOMINGTON  
MINNESOTA

**ITEMS ACCEPTED** **FEES MAY APPLY** *Cash or Check Only!*

**APPLIANCES (\$10 EACH)**

- Dehumidifiers
- Microwaves
- Stoves
- Refrigerators
- Washers/Dryers
- Water Heaters
- Air Conditioners

**ELECTRONICS (PRICE VARIES)**

**Electronics (\$10)**

- TVs
- Monitors
- Computers

**Other Electronics (NO CHARGE)**

- Cell phones
- Printers
- Stereos
- VCRs
- Speakers
- Computer accessories (keyboard, mouse)
- Cords

**TIRES (\$3 EACH)**

- Car or Truck Tires

**MATTRESSES & BOX SPRINGS (\$20 EACH)**

*Must be dry. No bed frames.*

**ITEM ACCEPTED (NO CHARGE)**

- Scrap Metal (Remove all pieces that are not metal)
- Bicycles (Any condition)
- Paper for Shredding (Staples are ok, remove all binders)

**ITEM NOT ACCEPTED**

- No Trash
- No Building Materials
- No Concrete
- No Furniture
- No Fluorescent Bulbs
- No Hazardous Waste
- No Yard Waste

**YEAR-ROUND DISPOSAL OPTIONS**

For year-round disposal options, visit [blm.mn/garbage](http://blm.mn/garbage) and [hennepin.us/green-disposal-guide](http://hennepin.us/green-disposal-guide).

- First event held in fall 2022
- 994 vehicles
- Expanded access to residents in multi-family dwellings
- Electronics, paper for shredding, appliances, tires, scrap metal, bikes, mattresses
- 61 tons recycled

# SWAP EVENTS

- First event held May 2022 for garden tools
- 1,300 pounds of material swapped
- Popular event
- [Reuse MN](#) offers webinars with more information about hosting swap events



# EVERY-OTHER-YEAR CURBSIDE CLEANUP

- Will be held every other year, on even years
- Limited number and types of items that could be set out
- Tonnage collected in 2022 was reduced by 36%
- Cost to landfill material continues to increase significantly

## Changes to 2022 Curbside Cleanup



### Cleanup Dates

- April 2  
East of Portland
- April 9  
Penn to Portland
- April 16  
France to Penn
- April 23  
Normandale to France
- April 30  
West of Normandale

### More Information

For a detailed acceptability list and preparation instructions, visit [blm.mn/cleanup](http://blm.mn/cleanup) or refer to February or March Briefings.

### Unusable Furniture

Limit of 2



### Appliances

Limit of 2



### Other Bulky Items

**New!** Limit of 4 items that cannot fit in small garbage cart, including but not limited to doors, windows, cabinets, grills, bikes, car seats, and sporting goods.



### Mattresses or Boxsprings

Limit of 2



### Bundled Brush

Branches must be less than 3 ft long x 3 in diameter. Bundle and tie securely in load one person can carry. Limit of what can fit in one level truck bed.

### Construction & Demolition Materials

Limit of what can fit in one level truck bed. Including but not limited to drywall, siding and lumber. Lumber must be stacked and no longer than 5 feet.

Residential waste only. No contractor or business related materials.



### Not Accepted

- **New!** No general junk pile
- **New!** No small items that can otherwise fit in garbage cart
- Electronics, including computers and TVs
- Tires
- Toilets, tubs and sinks
- Hazardous waste, including paint and fluorescent lights
- Propane tanks
- Railroad ties
- Batteries

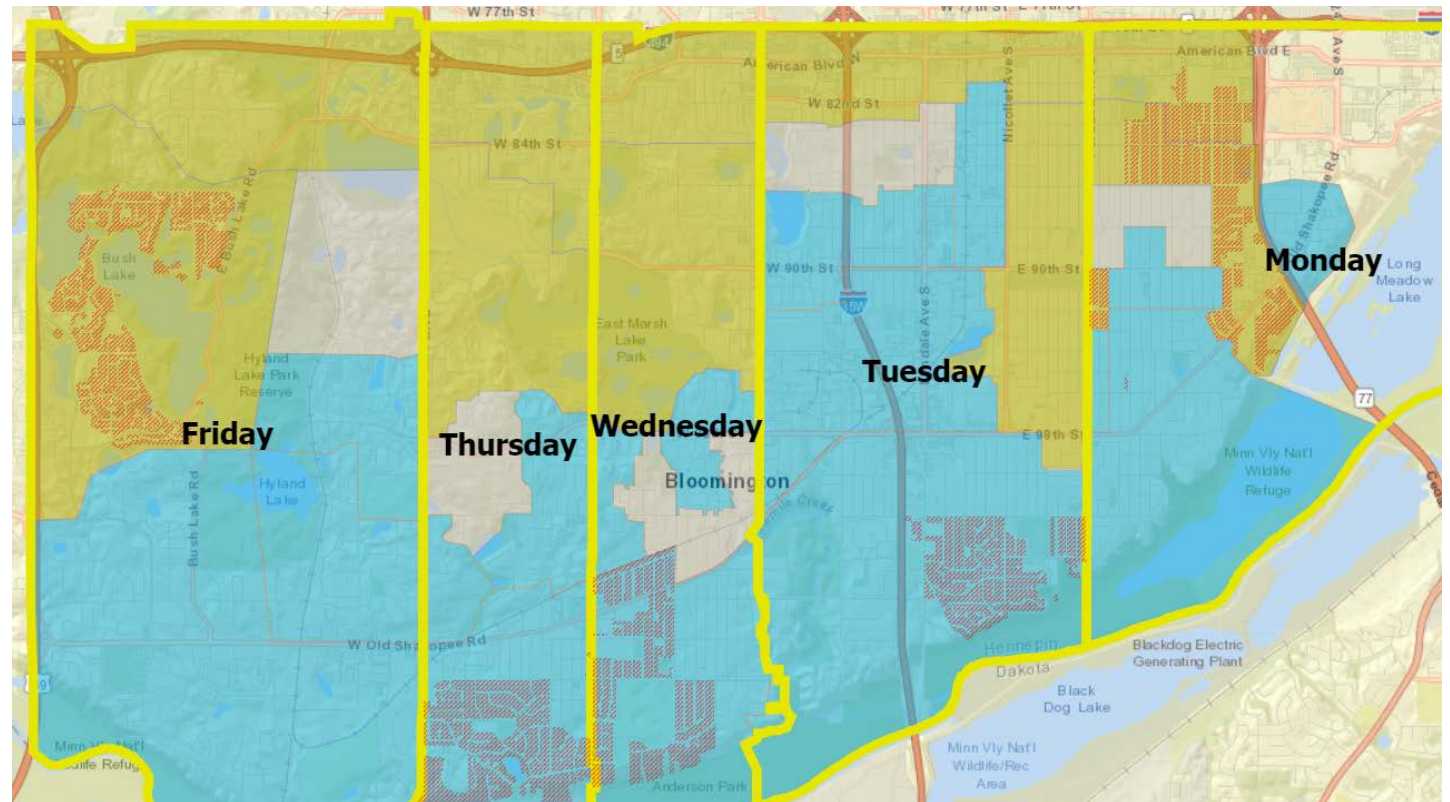
Many items not accepted can be disposed of at:  
Hennepin County Drop-Off Facility  
1400 W 96th St, Bloomington, 55431  
612-348-3777  
Fees may apply for some items

Items exceeding limits will be left behind by the hauler at the curb. Residents will need to arrange for their disposal. Many items can be taken to Hennepin Drop-Offs, or picked up for an extra service fee by scheduling with Utility Billing at 952-563-8726.



# MONTHLY PICKUP OF BULKY ITEMS FOR REUSE AND RECYCLING

- Contract with Better Futures Minnesota
- Once a month pickup of reusable and recyclables items
- Pilot began in November to 4,000 homes
- Citywide rollout begins in June





# HOW IT WORKS

- On the first full week of each month, residents can set out certain reusable or recyclable items for pickup
- Residents must schedule pickup two business days ahead of time with Better Futures
- No extra cost to utilize service



# ITEM ACCEPTED

## LARGE ITEMS

Furniture, large appliances and rugs must be in good, working condition. Mattresses and box springs must be dry. Some mattresses will be recycled, others will be reused.

- Mattress
- Box spring
- Large appliance
- Furniture - Couch, chair, table, coffee table, shelf, bed frame, etc.
- Rugs - Cannot exceed 10 feet in length

## MEDIUM ITEMS

- Bicycles - Any condition
- Powered lawn/snow equipment - Working condition only
- Toilets
- Sinks
- Cabinets - Doors must remain attached
- Solid core doors
- Windows - No broken glass
- Light fixtures - No fluorescent fixtures or bulbs. No shiny gold or brass elements.
- Grills - Any condition

## BUILDING MATERIALS

Amount that would fit in the back of standard size pickup truck bed (50 cubic feet or less).

- Lumber - Must be 4 - 12 feet long, and free of nails.
- Trim - Must be free of nails
- Tile - Must be a complete box
- Plywood - No less than 4x4 ft
- Bricks
- Pavers
- Fencing
- Miscellaneous scrap metal

## ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED

- Plumbing materials (PVC)
- HVAC materials (ducting)
- Electronics
- Hazardous waste, including chemicals and paint
- Batteries
- Propane tanks
- Tires
- Garbage
- Carpet
- Shingles
- Yard and tree waste

## TOOLS

All tools must be in working condition.

- Power tools
- Garden tools
- Hand tools
- Toolbox with misc. tools

# QUANTITY LIMITS

Choose one of the following pickup offerings monthly:

- Up to 2 large items, OR
- Up to 1 large item and 2 medium items, OR
- Up to 1 large item and 50 cubic feet of building materials, OR
- Up to 3 medium items, OR
- Up to 2 medium items with 50 cubic feet of building materials

In addition, collection of 4 tools may be requested with any pickup.

Number of items set out monthly cannot exceed limits above, but can be less.

**Items that are not reusable or recyclable will not be accepted.**

Contact City Utility Billing to schedule a pickup from your garbage hauler of those items. Collection fees may apply.

# MONTHLY PICKUP RESULTS

	Pilot Area Monthly Avg Tons	Citywide Monthly Tons Estimate
Appliances	0.23	1.15
Building Material	0.30	1.52
Furniture	0.40	1.98
Home Goods	0.07	0.34
Mattress	0.29	1.47
Rec Equipment	0.03	0.13
Tools	0.06	0.32
Misc Metals	0.05	0.23
Grand Total	1.43	7.15
<b>Citywide Annual Tons Diverted in Year 1 Goal 100 TONS</b>		



# FULL PROGRAM RESULTS

- **Waste Diversion:**

- Estimate recycling and reusing 205 tons of bulky items in Year 1 of program

- **Costs:**

- Old Curbside Cleanup Program cost roughly \$1.1 million in 2021
- New program costs roughly \$700K annually
- Residents are charged a Bulky Item Management Fee on Utility Bill for program. This fee is \$3.71 per month and was reduced from old Curbside Cleanup Fee of \$4.42 per month.



# BETTER FUTURES MINNESOTA

- Who is Better Futures Minnesota
- LCCMR (Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources) grant
- Scheduling pickups
- What happens to the materials
- Visibility
- Pilot lessons learned



# WHO WE SERVE

Better Futures Minnesota embraces a population of men who are locked out of society, living in chronic poverty, with histories of incarceration, persistent unemployment, untreated mental illness, addiction, and homelessness.



The men that we serve are justice system involved with criminal records and are currently on Probation/Parole.



The majority of the men that we serve have never had a lease or a mortgage in their own name.



On average our men have three felony level convictions with an average of 12 years of incarceration.



Most of our men have little to no work experience, and for some, employment with Better Futures represents their first full-time job.

# WHY WE SERVE

Better Futures Minnesota is focused on breaking down barriers to employment for the men we serve, helping them build a foundation for success so that they can provide for their families and community.



## SECOND CHANCES

Our men have repaid their debts to society and deserve a fair chance at turning their lives around.

## PERSONAL REDEMPTION

For some of our men they alone have been their own biggest stumbling blocks. We want to provide them with the tools and structure to help them succeed.

## WORK MATTERS

We provide our men with on-the-job training and real-world work experience to help them transition to permanent full-time employment.

## LOCKED OUT OF OPPORTUNITIES

A disproportionate number of black men convicted of felonies, incarcerated, and then released confront high barriers to employment.

# SOCIAL ENTERPRISE BUSINESS LINES



## DECONSTRUCTION

An environmentally responsible alternative to demolition. Our OSHA certified crews systematically dismantle structures with hand and power tools, diverting the majority of construction and demolition waste from landfills for recycling and reuse.



## REUSE WAREHOUSE

We carry salvaged building materials such as flooring, doors, lumber, cabinetry, appliances, lighting, tubs, and more—at a fraction of new retail cost for sale in store and online.



## WASTE DIVERSION

We partner with multiple Minnesota cities and counties to divert solid waste from the State's landfills through our curbside collection services, coordinated collection days, pop-up reuse events, and appliance recycling services.



## PROPERTY SERVICES

Our teams provide year-round building maintenance, lawn care, snow removal, and commercial office cleaning services to businesses, schools, and local governments.

# WASTE DIVERSION

Better Futures Minnesota is at the forefront of waste diversion in Minnesota. With the funding support of a State appropriation grant, Better Futures Minnesota is working to divert 15,000 tons of solid waste from the State's landfills and transfer stations, through Reuse, Repurpose, and Recycling over two year period.



## CURBSIDE PICKUP

The city of Bloomington is partnering with us to collect bulky reusable and recycling items at the curb to reduce the number of these items that end up going to a landfill. Residents can schedule a monthly pick up of certain reusable and recyclable items.



**ENVIRONMENT  
AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
TRUST FUND**



# PICK-UP SCHEDULING

1

Bloomington resident calls into dedicated phone line or completes web form

2

BFM Curbside Collection team member contacts resident to confirm pick-up

3

A determination is made on whether or not the item is acceptable

4

Curbside Collection Manager enters pick-ups in route management system

5

Collection crew is given route assignment





# MATERIAL HANDLING

- Resold
- Donated
- Recycled
- Landfilled



# BETTER FUTURES MINNESOTA & THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

- Evolution of relationship – Clean-up events > Idea > Pilot > Reality
- Who's watching – City of St. Louis Park, City of Minneapolis & others
- Pilot lessons learned – You don't know what you don't know, there is an appetite for this service, expect the unexpected, you can't do it alone



# Questions?



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