

Joint MSWMAC/SWAC Advisory Committee Meeting

July 10, 2015 - 11:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.
King Street Center 8th Floor Conference Room

Meeting Minutes

MSWMAC Members	
Bill Pelozo, Chair	<i>Auburn</i>
Joan Nelson	<i>Auburn</i>
Susan Fife-Ferris	<i>Bellevue</i>
Sabrina Combs	<i>Bothell</i>
Brian Roberts	<i>Burien</i>
Barre Seibert	<i>Clyde Hill</i>
Laura Techico	<i>Des Moines</i>
Rob Van Orsow	<i>Federal Way</i>
Micah Bonkowski	<i>Issaquah</i>
Gina Hungerford	<i>Kent</i>
Jenna Higgins	<i>Kirkland</i>
John MacGillivray	<i>Kirkland</i>
Penny Sweet	<i>Kirkland</i>
Mary Jane Goss	<i>Lake Forest Park</i>
Diana Pistoll	<i>Maple Valley</i>
Carol Simpson	<i>Newcastle</i>
Stacia Jenkins	<i>Normandy Park</i>
Gary Schimek	<i>Redmond</i>
Beth Goldberg	<i>Sammamish</i>
Scott MacColl	<i>Shoreline</i>
Frank Iriarte	<i>Tukwila</i>
Paula Waters	<i>Woodinville</i>

King County Staff
Alejandra Calderon, SWD staff
Mendy Droke, SWD Staff
Jeff Gaisford, SWD Recycling & Environmental Services Manager
Kathy Hashagen, SWD Staff
Michael Huddleston, Council Staff
Beth Humphreys, SWD Staff
Morgan John, SWD Staff
Ross Marzolf, Councilmember Lambert Staff
Laila McClinton, SWD Staff
Pat D. McLaughlin, SWD Director
Meg Moorehead, SWD Strategy, Communications & Performance Manager
Mike Reed, Council staff
Thea Severn, SWD staff
Ben Thompson, King County Auditor's Office
Diane Yates, SWD staff
Guests
Doreen Booth, SCA
David Della, Waste Management
Suzette Dickerson, Teamsters 117

SWAC Members	
April Atwood	Kim Kaminski
Jerry Bartlett	Kevin Kelly
Elly Bunzendahl	Keith Livingston
Joe Casalini	Barbara Ristau
Gib Dammann - Absent	Philipp Schmidt-Pathmann
Jean Garber	Stephen Strader – Excused
Stacia Jenkins	Thomas Wray – Excused
Sean Kronberg – Absent	Bill Ziegler - Absent
Jose Lugo – Excused	

Minutes:

No minutes were reviewed at this meeting. MSWMAC and SWAC will review and approve minutes from their May meetings in August.

Updates

MSWMAC's Paint Product Stewardship Letters

Legislation did not move forward in the special sessions. There may be some interest from Sen. Benton to support this bill in the next session. SWD recommends that MSWMAC not send letters expressing disappointment in the lack of action.

Jenkins moved that MSWMAC send a letter to legislators that have played an active role in supporting paint stewardship expressing gratitude and saying that we look forward to supporting the work next year. The motion passed unanimously.

Secure Medicine Return

The U.S. Supreme Court decision in *PhRMA, et al. v Alameda County, et al.* is: **Petition denied**. No further action will be taken by the Court. More information is available at the following link. <http://www.supremecourt.gov/search.aspx?filename=/docketfiles/14-751.htm>

Mattress/Box Springs Request For Information (RFI)

The division received three responses to the RFI from Blue Marble Materials in southern California, St. Vincent de Paul in of Lane County in Oregon and Spring Back Mattress Recycling NW in Tacoma, Washington. The per mattress fee in the RFIs ranged from six to thirty dollars. In some cases the fee included transportation. In others it assumed that the mattresses were delivered to their facility. The responses to the RFI included information about the markets for the materials recovered from the mattresses. The division will use the information gathered in this RFI to inform future planning.

Next steps are to evaluate the feasibility of moving a county sponsored recycling event which includes mattresses from the White Center to the Bow Lake transfer station to test how mattress recycling may be handled at division facilities with sufficient space. The division will also talk with the City of Seattle about their experiences during their pilot when they will accept mattresses for recycling at their South Transfer Station. The advisory groups will receive additional updates as the project progresses.

Roadmap to 70%

The division continues to discuss the Roadmap to 70 percent with stakeholders including commercial haulers, the Public Issues Committee meeting of the Sound Cities Association, and various city council meetings. These conversations are beginning to generate the attention and engagement to move the concepts from goals toward reality. McLaughlin offered to meet with cities or organizations to provide information about the Roadmap to 70%.

Some meeting attendees were less sanguine about the degree of progress that has been accomplished. A member said the division should consider partnering with the SCA to create a process that is both effective and sensitive to political issues. Another noted the need to provide clear, concise information to help those not familiar with the issue to understand the need. A third suggested that the advisory groups could choose to play a more active role to help move the process forward. Finally a member stated that it is important to encourage multi-family recycling and make it consistent throughout the region.

Women's Pre-Apprenticeship Program Tours Factoria Construction Site

The division values the diversity of employees in its workforce. In many areas recruitment has been successful in providing that diversity. However it is challenging to recruit women in the skilled trades and service maintenance areas. In addition to ongoing participation in the Women in Trades fair, seventeen women in the Apprenticeship and Non-Traditional Employment for Women (ANEW) pre-apprenticeship program toured the construction site for

the new Factoria Recycling and Transfer Station. A former apprentice conducted the tour which allowed participants to see how helpful the apprenticeship program can be for women interested in non-traditional employment.

SWD Hosts Regional Junk Vehicle Training

SWD's Junk Vehicle Investigator teamed up with the Washington State Patrol to provide Junk Vehicle/Vehicle Identification (VIN) training at the Bow Lake Recycling and Transfer Station conference room on June 3.

SWAC Update

Most of the May SWAC meeting was devoted to discussing the roadmap to 70% recycling. Details are available in the [draft May meeting minutes](#). Key points included:

- Although there were a couple suggestions for alternative metrics, most SWAC members agreed that 70 percent recycling is the best way to express the overarching goal, rather than, for example, reducing disposal to no more than X pounds per person per year. A member suggested that while 70 percent recycling is currently a reasonable measure, if packaging is reduced in the future, it may no longer be the best measure.
- Members suggested the cities be required or encouraged to spend county grant money on actions that are aligned with the county's 70 percent recycling goal. A member also suggested targeted grants, such as a grant to reduce food waste.
- It was suggested that establishing more consistent collection and packaging processes throughout the county would make education more cost effective. A member also noted that in addition to focusing on 70 percent recycling, we should also look at switching to every other week collection of garbage, recycling, and yard waste to reduce carbon emissions.
- SWAC Chair Garber asked MSWMAC Vice Chair Chris Eggen if he had the sense that cities were willing to be aggressive despite not favoring mandates or bans. He said there is support for significant action in many cities, and resistance in others. A SWAC member noted that bans and mandates work in other countries.

Coordinated Prevention Grant

The State Legislature has cut the Coordinated Prevention Grant budget by almost 50 percent from \$29.6 million to \$15 million. In response, the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) set up a workgroup to determine how those limited funds would be distributed. The chosen option is to allocate \$100k to each county. Then the balance of the funds will be distributed. This will result in an almost 60 percent decrease in the amount of funds received by King County for distribution to cities.

The grant money is frequently used to support recycling events and education. Members noted that some of the impacts may include cutting or stopping summer internships with the University of Washington/Bothell, reducing or changing a planned program for reusable lunch containers in schools and reduced organics, outreach and schools programs. It will be particularly difficult for smaller jurisdictions.

Comprehensive Plan

Severn noted that the division clearly heard from the advisory groups that it is time to move forward with updating the comp plan; to look at the actual plan rather than discussing theory. She directed the groups' attention to the [Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan Update Schedule](#) noting that though the schedule is aggressive the completion date has changed from the previous version to allow for the significant discussion over the past few months. The division has continued to work on the Collection and Processing; and Waste Prevention and Recycling chapters while the discussions were underway.

Comments included:

- A member said that though the Road to 70% is included in the Waste Reduction and Recycling chapter the division should consider working with the SCA to address city concerns. The Road to 70% is one of the "hotter" topics and the schedule may be unrealistically aggressive. It may not have allowed sufficient time for discussion with cities in multiple venues. The SCA will want to discuss both high-level concepts and more detailed implementation plans.
- A member asked that alternatives to disposal be broken out more clearly, perhaps into its own chapter with supporting details about options and various technologies rather than being distributed within the existing plan structure. Currently alternatives appear in the disposal chapter and some of the alternatives are not disposal.
- Another member said that there is sufficient language in the existing chapters as they are currently drafted to cover alternative disposal technologies.
- A member noted that the groups have met three times discussing the Road to 70% and suggested that at least three additional meetings would be needed in order to agree on a draft concept to begin to present to the cities. Then several months would be needed to meet with cities and said it is likely that a decision won't be made until spring of 2016. He said that the Road to 70% is the cornerstone of the comp plan. To get it right will take time.
- A member reminded the division that it is important to address the economic component when discussing the Road to 70%.
- A member emphasized that the plan isn't intended to solve every problem – just what will be addressed in the next six years. The twenty year planning horizon is included to inform those decisions.
- Fee restructuring is included in the Finance chapter. Before the plan is compiled and completed the division will revisit chapters written earlier in the process to determine if changes or additional information is needed.

Transfer Plan Report

Solid Waste Division Director Pat D. McLaughlin provided a [presentation](#) about the Transfer Plan Report. He noted that the final report has been transmitted to Council and is available on the [website](#).

Comments included:

- If there is a ban of yard waste and wood the division will work with businesses, site a drop box or pursue other options to ensure a recycling alternative is available.

- Redirecting commercial haulers to transfer stations that may be further away would increase their expenses and those costs would most likely be passed on to their customers.
- The operating costs shown in the presentation do not include mitigation costs.
- The plan assumes that Houghton will close and replacement capacity will be available by 2023.
- Council has asked the King County Auditor to review the plan. The plan including appendices is 600 pages. It will take time to look at the report for both the auditors and Council staff. The plan is not currently included on Council's calendar. Council input on the plan would impact the development of comp plan chapters.
- Achieving the Road to 70% by 2020 is aggressive. The [King County Waste Monitoring Program: Market Assessment for Recyclable Materials](#) shows that there is capacity in the region to handle mandatory organics recycling. Since that report, the City of Seattle has redirected their organics to compost facilities east of the mountains and in Snohomish County making even more capacity available. A SWAC member noted that though capacity is available, it is not limitless.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.