

Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee

August 14, 2015 - 11:15 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
King Street Center 8th Floor Conference Room

Meeting Minutes

Members	
David Hill	<i>Algona</i>
Diana Quinn	<i>Algona</i>
Bill Peloza, Chair	<i>Auburn</i>
Joan Nelson	<i>Auburn</i>
Stephanie Schwenger	<i>Bellevue</i>
Sabrina Combs	<i>Bothell</i>
Brian Roberts	<i>Burien</i>
Barre Seibert	<i>Clyde Hill</i>
Chris Searcy	<i>Enumclaw</i>
Rob Van Orsow	<i>Federal Way</i>
Micah Bonkowski	<i>Issaquah</i>
John MacGillivray	<i>Kirkland</i>
Penny Sweet	<i>Kirkland</i>
Mary Jane Goss	<i>Lake Forest Park</i>
Carol Simpson	<i>Newcastle</i>
Stacia Jenkins	<i>Normandy Park</i>
Jeralyn Roetemeyer	<i>Redmond</i>
Gary Schimek	<i>Redmond</i>
Frank Iriarte	<i>Tukwila</i>
Chris Eggen, Vice Chair	<i>Shoreline</i>
Uki Dele	<i>Shoreline</i>
Paula Waters	<i>Woodinville</i>
Zach Schmitz	<i>Woodinville</i>

King County Staff
Laura Belt, SWD staff
Alejandra Calderon, SWD staff
Anna Fleming, SWD staff
Beth Humphreys, SWD Staff
Morgan John, SWD staff
Pat D. McLaughlin, SWD Director
Meg Moorehead, SWD staff
Thea Severn, SWD staff
Diane Yates, SWD staff
Guests
David Della, Waste Management
Megan Evans, City of Issaquah intern
Jean Garber, SWAC Chair
Kevin Kelly, Recology CleanScapes
Geneva Schlepp, City of Issaquah intern
Molly Spiller, City of Kirkland intern

Minutes & Agenda Review

In the May minutes, the following sentence was revised as follows: "Motion was made stating that the MSWMAC prepare one letter thanking the House and one to the Senate Environmental Committee expressing disappointment that paint product stewardship bill did not pass and stating support for them to take it up again next year. The May minutes were approved as amended.

The July minutes were approved as written.

Updates

SWD

Families can now recycle unwanted booster and car seats in Seattle and King County. Through a pilot program, Total Reclaim now accepts booster and car seats at its recycling facility in

SODO at a cost of \$5 to \$7 per seat. In addition, Recology CleanScapes' Issaquah, Bothell, and Burien stores offer free booster and car seat recycling for residents whose solid waste is collected by Recology CleanScapes (Issaquah, Maple Valley, Carnation, Burien, SeaTac, and Des Moines). Residents from other jurisdictions can recycle their seats for a \$10 fee. Residents of Bellevue can bring their car seats to the Republic Customer Care Center in Bellevue to be recycled free-of-charge. More information available at <http://recycleyourcarseat.org/new-car-seat-recycling-options-for-seattle/> and <http://recycleyourcarseat.org/where-do-i-recycle-my-seat/>.

Each spring, businesses in King County outside of the City of Seattle are invited to apply for recognition as a Best Workplace for Waste Prevention and Recycling. This year, the Solid Waste Division named 112 local businesses to its ninth annual list of Best Workplaces. The 2015 list spans a wide array of businesses in King County – from education to transportation – but also includes cities. 14 cities and one water district made the list and of these, six made the honor roll, meaning they have made the list for five or more years.

City of Bellevue (honor roll)
City of Bothell
City of Federal Way
City of Issaquah (honor roll)
City of Kent (honor roll)
City of Kirkland
City of Lake Forest Park

City of Mercer Island
City of Redmond (honor roll)
City of Renton
City of SeaTac (honor roll)
City of Shoreline
City of Snoqualmie
City of Tukwila (honor roll)

The division has decided to no longer accept CD, VCR, and DVD players at the Shoreline station, effective October 1, 2015. Only a small number has been brought to the station since January 2013. Shoreline residents will have other recycling options available, such as Goodwill and Desert Industries, as well as other Take it Back Network and e-Cycle Washington members.

On July 21 and 22, the King County Roads Division completed road striping at the Renton Transfer Station and Enumclaw Transfer Station. The work was done to enhance traffic lane delineation and help the public safely access the sites.

On July 29, four detectives from the King County Special Crimes Unit visited the Bow Lake Recycling and Transfer Station to look for evidence connected to a dead body found in a duffle bag next to a dumpster in SeaTac two days earlier. At the request of the Sheriff's Office, the garbage from the dumpster was brought to Bow Lake by Recology CleanScapes so detectives could search for evidence. SWD complied with the request, placing the waste in an isolated area of the station, which allowed normal operations to continue at the station uninterrupted. After the investigation, the garbage was processed with other trash brought to the station that day and sent to Cedar Hills for disposal.

Thea Severn will be leaving SWD in October. Thea has been instrumental in the division's policy and planning efforts, and will be greatly missed.

Other

The City of Redmond's new contract with Waste Management will continue to offer embedded yard waste and recycling for curbside customers, and will offer food waste collection for commercial customers and multi-family.

The City of Burien is considering an ordinance to mandate garbage pick-up for all residential customers. The ordinance would serve as a code compliance tool to manage residences where garbage is collected for years and sometimes becomes a public health issue.

At the end of July Recology CleanScapes opened a store in Bothell that serves as a drop-off center for hard-to-recycle items. Also, in order to reduce truck trips and traffic on streets that are served by both Recology CleanScapes and Waste Management, the City of Bothell is working with the two haulers to provide an option for residents to switch service providers.

Business Planning: Update

Product Family Champions Alejandra Calderon and Laura Belt gave an [update](#) on the status of the division's business planning.

Discussion included:

- The current landfill height limit of 800 feet relative to mean sea level is written into the division's operating permit. Increasing the height would likely require negotiations with the Department of Health, public involvement, and further environmental analysis.
- The division's greenhouse gas emissions inventory of 39,000 MtCO₂e includes emissions and offsets. Emissions include the landfill gas from the Cedar Hills Regional Landfill and the nine closed landfills, fuel for division vehicles and other equipment, as well as emissions from office equipment and supplies. The division's offsets include recycling at transfer stations, and do not include landfill gas collected because the credits are sold. The division expects more offsets from its resource recovery efforts.
- At the request of several members, the September MSWMAC meeting will include a presentation on the division's carbon-neutral program.
- The division is considering all options for expanding the range of materials recovered at King County transfer stations. This could include mattresses, tires, and Styrofoam.
- Mechanical sorting and pick lines are possible configurations for increased resource recovery at transfer stations. Space is the biggest limiting factor.
- A member asked why the single-family sector would be the target of a mandatory separation enforcement program, given that multi-family residences are increasingly common. Calderon explained that the program referenced would be in unincorporated King County, in which customers are primarily single-family households.
- Zach Schmitz expressed an interest in learning how the division is evaluating the cost of an enforcement program in unincorporated King County.
- Schmitz noted that if the division were to increase its efforts to develop local markets for recyclable materials, this could potentially create competition with established market development programs.

- Vice Chair Chris Eggen applauded the division for leading by example by focusing on recycling in unincorporated King County. Eggen also expressed his support for using grants as positive incentives for cities to increase recycling. He commended the division for including waste-to-energy in its analysis as it allows for energy recovery of materials that are marginally recyclable, while cautioning that it may have implications for resource recovery.

Transfer Plan Report: Questions and Discussion

In response to broad feedback from cities indicating that they are not prepared to take action on the Transfer Plan Review Report 2, action on the motion was moved to September. McLaughlin noted there are a number of areas of alignment as well as areas for which there is not alignment. The division is seeking MSWMAC's recommendation for next steps.

Discussion included:

- Mary Jane Goss expressed her concern that the mitigation strategies do not make for equal distribution of demands on the road and highway system. Closure of the Houghton station without a Northeast replacement station creates a traffic impact that is outside of the studied impacts. This includes a significant increase in traffic in Lake Forest Park, which has already seen an increase due to the SR 520 toll, and will likely see another large increase with the North Link Light Rail extension. The only item that is eminently supportable is a low-cost bulky waste collection pilot program.
- Stacia Jenkins noted that the complex mitigation strategies proposed run counter to the goals of building uniformity, increasing recycling, and reducing carbon emissions.
- Eggen noted that while a 70 percent recycling rate is something the advisory committees have agreed on and is included in the Comp Plan, it is not clear that it is the best measure.
- John MacGillivray expressed concern that there is no contingency plan in case the demand management strategies fail. He stressed the need to begin identifying potential sites for a station in the Northeast region, and noted that the City of Kirkland just completed identifying potential sites in Kirkland with the help of the county. He also underlined the importance of compressing the timeline as much as possible.
- Sabrina Combs agreed that it is important to begin discussion around siting and to look at all available options. She noted her concerns around introducing differential rates, reaching a 70 percent recycling rate, and funding enforcement programs.
- Paula Waters stated that the Woodinville City Council would not support siting a transfer station in its city. She noted that the Brightwater water treatment facility and a recycling center are already placing a burden on the city's streets, and that a transfer station would worsen the problem.
- Schmitz added that Woodinville agreed on the financial costs of building a Northeast station, and still supports looking for potential sites in the region.
- Barre Seibert expressed his concern that the cost of service would increase while the level of service would decrease for Clyde Hill residents if a Northeast transfer station were not built.
- Carol Simpson reiterated the concern about a traffic increase in Factoria.

- David Hill noted that city concerns about traffic congestion and road deterioration are appropriate based on the City of Algona's experience. He added that while Woodinville's position is understandable, so is the concern that the county would be significantly behind schedule if the strategies do not work.
- Stephanie Schwenger stated that Bellevue is pleased that King County has retained the option of a Northeast transfer station. Schwenger echoed concerns around traffic, environmental impacts, and regional equity.
- Jerallyn Roetemeyer requested a brief overview of the [King County Auditor's Report](#). McLaughlin noted that the auditor approached some of the analysis differently but found agreement with the process, conclusions, and recommendations.
- McLaughlin acknowledged the need for clarification on how the business plan and Comp Plan are aligned and will spend time at the next meeting providing that clarity. He noted that the 10-year business plan must support the Comp Plan, not supersede it.
- SWAC Chair Jean Garber gave a brief overview of SWAC's draft motion. She noted that the report's recommendations run counter to the division's commitment to carbon neutrality and equity and social justice.
- Jenkins asked if the auditor was tasked with seeking the best outcome for the county or with conducting a comprehensive analysis. McLaughlin explained the division was tasked with determining the relative feasibility of concepts that were identified in the first Transfer Plan Review. The auditor reviewed the division's process and analytical approach. The county is concerned about impacts to the system as a whole, some of which are hard to identify.
- Penny Sweet reiterated the need to compress the timeline and urged cities to identify potential sites for the Northeast station.
- McLaughlin provided some context about the timeline proposed in the recommendation. In order to best understand the effectiveness of some of the mitigation strategies, a 12-month window is needed to implement programs, test their effectiveness, and write up results.
- Goss made the following motion: "I move that the King County Solid Waste Division request from cities sites that might be available for siting a Northeast station."
- Sweet suggested the following amendment:

"I move that MSWMAC support King County approval of the 2015 Transfer Plan Review Final Report and its recommendations, including:

- Do not design and build a new Northeast Recycling and Transfer Station now, but take steps to keep it as a viable, timely option for the future if needed.
- As a contingency, immediately begin identifying preliminary siting criteria and a siting process for a new Northeast Recycling and Transfer Station to run concurrently with the testing of demand management strategies. Identify alternative sites and prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for each potential site.
- The Houghton Transfer Station should close no later than 2023, which is seven years later than the 2016 closure originally planned in 2006, and approximately four years later than shown in the timeline in the Draft 2013 Solid Waste Comprehensive Plan update.

- Develop and test the following demand management strategies:
 - Conduct a pilot program to test the effectiveness and potential impacts of using demand management strategies, including web cameras to inform customers of station activity in real time.
 - Work with private industry customers and stakeholders to develop a low-cost bulky item collection pilot in target regions of the county by May 2016.
 - Research point of sale (IT system) needs to support differential pricing for transactions at the transfer stations and identify implementation needs by May 2016. Implement necessary technology changes by September 2017.
 - In 2016, begin a 12-month pilot to test the effectiveness and potential impacts of extended hours and incentive pricing. Following the pilot, transmit a report and recommendation to Council in March 2018.
- Identify the steps needed to achieve 70 percent recycling rates.
- Continue Comp Plan process with city partners and other stakeholders to address key policy issues and produce a draft Comp Plan for review in early 2017.
- Upon adoption of the Comp Plan, the system's infrastructure should be reassessed to ensure it fully supports the adopted strategies and goals of the system."
- Eggen noted that Sweet's amendment should be considered a separate motion.
- Goss withdrew her motion.
- Goss made the following motion: "I move that MSWMAC support requesting that King County consider the impacts of the regional transfer system decision on the regional transportation network." Simpson seconded the motion.
- Pelosa stated that the language for the two motions will be distributed to members. He asked for comments about the proposed motions within two weeks.
- Eggen reminded the committee that their role is to provide a recommendation to King County on next steps. He suggested that these two issues may be more easily handled separately. Goss' motion would recommend that King County defer action until an analysis of regional transportation impacts of the plan is completed, and Sweet's motion would recommend a parallel process of siting and testing the demand management strategies.
- Hill asked about the urgency of the matter. McLaughlin explained that the division is anticipating being called before Council on this matter, and will be asked "what do your advisory committees think about this?" No date has been set for Council to act on this matter.
- Pelosa offered to extend the two-week deadline for comments if needed. No members requested an extension.

Process and Timeline for Researching Alternative Disposal Technologies: Presentation

The committee chose to move the presentation to the September meeting agenda.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.