

MSWAC Advisory Committee Meeting

November 08, 2019 - 11:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.
King Street Center 8th Floor Conference Room

Draft Meeting Minutes

<u>MSWMAC Members</u>	
Diana Soliday	Algona
Bill Pelosa	Auburn
Joan Nelson	Auburn
Stephanie Schwenger	Bellevue
Sabrina Combs	Bothell
Barre Seibert	Clyde Hill
Tony Donati	Kent
Jenna McInnins	Kirkland
John MacGillivray	Kirkland
Penny Sweet – Chair	Kirkland
Phillippa Kassoover	Lake Forest Park
Asea Sandine	Mercer Island
Carol Simpson	Newcastle
Aaron Moldver	Redmond
Stacy Auer	Redmond
Linda Knight—Vice Chair	Renton
Anthony Rychkov	Sammamish
Autumn Salamack	Shoreline
Diana Hart	Woodinville

<u>King County Staff</u>
Josh Marx, SWD staff
Glynda Steiner, SWD Deputy Director
Jeff Gaisford, SWD staff
Annie Kolb-Nelson, SWD staff
Hilary Leonard, SWD staff
Dorian Waller, SWD staff
John Walsh, SWD staff
Joy Carpine-Cazzanti, SWD staff
Alejandra Calderon, SWD staff
Kerwin Pyle, SWD staff
Doug Chin, SWD staff
Terra Rose, KCC
<u>Guests</u>
Cynthia Foley, Sound Cities Association
Quinn Apuzzo, Recology
Marcella Manibusan, Waste Management
Wendy Weiker, Republic Services
Carla Johnson, Republic Services
Philipp Schmidt-Pathmann

Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting commenced with the Call to Order and Introductions.

Meeting Minutes

The October 2019 MSWAC minutes were unanimously approved.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Updates

SWD Deputy Director Glynda Steiner presented the SWD update:

Waste-to-Energy Feasibility Study

The Waste-to-Energy (WTE) Feasibility Study and the Organic Market Development Plan were passed out of the Committee of the Whole on November 4 and will be placed on the consent agenda for an upcoming Council meeting.

Media Highlights

Waste Today published a story on October 31 detailing SWD's grant opportunities related to construction and demolition debris recycling. King5 and Komo News each ran a story about the WTE study and the Committee of the Whole meeting where the study was discussed.

Landfill Neighbor Meeting

On October 29 SWD hosted the biannual meeting for neighbors of Cedar Hills to provide an opportunity for neighbors to ask questions and learn about current projects. About 15 neighbors attended.

New Wastewater Treatment System

Last month, SWD completed installation and began operation of a new wastewater pretreatment system at the Enumclaw Recycling and Transfer Station. The intent is to improve the water quality discharged from the facility and meet pretreatment requirements. The system satisfies the terms of a settlement agreement reached with Waste Action Project, an environmental advocacy group that seeks to uphold the requirements of the Clean Water Act.

Pelosa asked where the Enumclaw wastewater ends up. Steiner responded it goes into the public sanitation works through the sewer but there are onsite pretreatment requirements by Ecology.

Mattress Recycling

Gaisford reported that in September the pilot mattress recycling program extended to Shoreline. 29 mattresses and box springs were collected in the first month. One of the provisions of the program is the vendor, DTG, can bring back any mattresses unsuitable for recycling. Since the pilot began at Bow Lake in June 2017, only 1 percent have been rejected and in the last year no mattresses were rejected.

McInnis asked if customers pay the garbage fee to recycle their mattresses. Gaisford responded they do and part of the pilot is figuring out the cost of the program.

Schwenger asked what happens to the mattresses once they are collected. Gaisford answered they go to DTG in Renton where they are disassembled, and the parts are sold to material recyclers.

December MSWAC Meeting

The December MSWAC meeting will be a joint meeting with SWAC and the Seattle advisory committee. The primary objective of the meeting is to provide an update on the Responsible Recycling Task Force and discuss the recommendation for an extended producer stewardship program.

SWAC Update

Sweet noted new members joined SWAC in October and the meeting otherwise followed the same agenda as MSWAC.

2020 Workplan

Various SWD staff presented topics for the 2020 Advisory Committee Work Plan

Gaisford presented on the 2020 Legislative Session. The 2020 session will be short at only 60 days. A preview of bills anticipated include the introduction of the Plastic Bag Ban (HB 1205/SB5323), a battery stewardship bill, a sharps stewardship bill, and a bill for container deposits. Gaisford asked the committee if they would like SWD to provide a blank letter of support/ do not support ahead of the bills and the general consensus from the group was yes.

Walsh presented on Regional System Planning in 2020. Discussion topics will include the Zero Waste of Resources Plan, extending ILAs, updating the Comp Plan, future business models, and long-term disposal planning.

In his absence, SWD Director Pat McLoughlin prepared a statement by video outlining his vision for a collaborative regional waste system. He challenged the committee to envision long-term disposal planning that focuses on the 70 percent of waste taken to the landfill that could have otherwise been recycled. The current business model is not structured in a way that incentivizes our recycling goals and the situation calls for stakeholders to come together to develop a new system.

Schwenger asked if King County is seeking to extend the ILAs beyond the current terms ending in 2040. Walsh answered that in order to plan for long-term disposal the group needs to decide how they would like to move forward with the ILAs.

Knight asked for King County to involve the committee earlier in preplanning the Annual Workplan to allow the cities to be proactive in setting the agenda. Walsh responded that the March meeting will serve as a workshop for the committee members to decide how to engage on topics.

Walsh presented on the Responsible Recycle Task Force. 2020 topics will include a presentation on the results of the Materials Recovery Facility residuals study and implementing the process discussed in 2019 for Action 3A, the recycling and compost bin best practices list for materials collection.

Pelosa asked if King County plans to present a summary of the Arcadis Waste-to-Energy study. Walsh responded that they could give a 15-minute update at a future meeting.

Honaker presented on the 2021-2022 Rate and Rate Restructure. The rates charged by SWD are approved by the King County Council on a biennial basis. SWD will brief the advisory committee on the rate process, proposed rate, and a rate restructure for the 2023-2024 biennium.

Schwenger asked for examples of strategies that could be used to decouple the rate from disposal fees. Honaker responded a consultant in 2017 recommended doing something like an account fee or a container fee. It would be more focused on how we can move away from a consumption driven model to a model aligned with our strategic goals.

Marx presented on Delivering a Regional Organics Plan. SWD will bring forward the residential contamination reduction research and outreach, the Universal Compost Contract, and provide an update on the Organics Plan implementation.

Kassover asked what the Universal Compost Contract entails. Marx responded the contract is part of King County's sustainable purchasing program to help employees make sustainable choices when purchasing materials such as concrete and paper. We can provide uniform specifications for government compost purchases.

Simpson asked if King County could help cities develop a program to do their own composting with the organic materials they produce. Marx responded that while King County is not the expert because we don't make compost there's nothing stopping cities from doing more of their own composting. SWD is doing a study on Vashon to determine the feasibility of King County creating compost there on a small scale. Once we know more, we'll share that information with you.

Knight commented that there are cities that have a diversion program for reusing their leaves. For example, Renton uses the material in their landscapes instead of sending it to Cedar Grove. Cities could share info about best practices on managing organic waste with each other.

Simpson commented that part of the 2020 agenda could be cities presenting on their best practices. Marx answered that SWD could also gather that information and incorporate it into the technical assistance program.

Chin provided an update on the South County Regional Transfer Station (SCRTS). SWD will provide updates on the design process throughout the year and seek committee feedback.

Sweet asked if there are lessons learned from the SCRTS process that could be applied to the Northeast Recycling and Transfer Station project. Chin responded that they've learned a lot about siting from SCRTS. There are several challenges present on the SCRTS site such as a steep slope, wetlands, and a stream. Additionally, the SCRTS project aims to meet the most ambitious environmental certification yet by fulfilling the requirements for the Living Building Challenge petal certification.

MacGillivray asked what the engineers' estimate of the total cost for the station will be. Chin responded that while it's difficult to know the cost of the project at this stage of design, the budget is currently set at \$133 million. Steiner added that one of the things SWD has done differently with SCRTS is putting a high priority on receiving feedback on the design from our own employees. We've spent a lot of time engaging employees and many extensive meetings learning what employees want to see at the new station to enhance their experience.

Creegan presented on the Northeast Recycling and Transfer Station (NERTS). SWD will provide updates on the design process throughout the year and seek committee feedback.

Kassover asked for an overview of the siting timeline. Creegan responded that they hope to have a short list of feasible sites by the end of 2020 and in 2021 will conduct the Environmental Impact Study.

Calderon presented on Equity and Social Justice (ESJ). SWD will conduct ESJ trainings on community engagement practices, diversity hiring practices, and illegal dumping in 2020 for the committee to engage with, ask questions, and share their own efforts.

Sweet asked if King County as a whole shares the same hiring practices as SWD. Calderon responded that divisions in King County are at different levels of adopting ESJ practices and SWD is more advanced overall. The new King County ESJ Strategic Plan will help other divisions get up to speed.

Peloza asked if King County has a policy on hiring veterans. Calderon responded that King County has a veteran fellowship program, similar to an apprenticeship.

Lui presented on the Cedar Hill Site Development Plan. Once a draft of the Environmental Statement (DEIS) is ready, SWD will share it with the committee. In September SWD will recap the DEIS and preview the final Environmental Impact Statement.

Pyle presented on the Mattress Recycling Pilot Project. SWD began collecting mattresses at Bow Lake in June 2017. The program expanded to Shoreline in September 2019 and will expand to Enumclaw by end of 2019. Since the start of the pilot 105 tons of mattresses have been collected. In 2020 SWD will offer an update and seek feedback.

Kassover requested a report on where the materials go once the mattresses are disassembled.

MacGillivray asked if the pilot will be expanding to Factoria or SCRTS. Pyle responded that SCRTS is highly likely and they are considering Factoria but space is an issue.

Waller presented additional topics for the committee to consider including the Ardagh Glass Recycling Plant, multi-family recycling, and the Hazardous Waste Management Program.

Knight asked for a timeline on when the county is making decisions on the Ardagh Glass property. The timeline will impact when a presentation should be scheduled.

Sweet commented that SWAC wanted a segmented conversation with the stakeholders in the Ardagh Glass issue, but a full conversation with everyone in the room may be more effective.

Kassover commented that she wanted to hear from King County that there is a collaboration between SWD and the other stakeholders to ensure glass recycling can continue in the region and resolve the issues. Glass recycling is rare in the rest of the country. Knight added that as an advisory committee the group needs to show support for maintaining a glass recycling facility in the region and making the necessary improvements.

Waller asked when the committee would like a report to take place. Kassover asked for SWD to figure out the land use decision timeline in order to schedule the report. If the committee is to have a voice in the process, then it should be heard when it's useful, not after.

Auer commented that Redmond is putting a lot of energy behind tackling multi-family in the coming year and might have some insights for the group.

Sweet asked that multi-family be added to the list for follow up.

Knight commented that the Haz Waste team could provide quarterly updates to keep the committee apprised on their ongoing work.

Schwenger suggested a summary of the Waste-to-Energy study, a report on what's happening with MRF residuals, and regular updates from the Recycle Right campaign be added to the workplan.

Knight seconded the request for more information on what is happening with residuals and the Responsible Recycling Task Force to ensure focus is not exclusively on plastic bags and wrap, but other materials as well. Walsh added that the Zero Waste of Resources Plan addresses some of what is being discussed around material recovery.

Schwenger asked for a follow up on the launch of the plastic bag and wrap collection including if there have been fewer slowdowns at the MRF, what implementation has been like, and any proposed statewide legislation.

McInnis added there she'd like an update on the communication toolkit for the campaign, the type of plastic being collected, and if there are contamination issues.

Knight commented that the committee should remain nimble and active in asking for more information or retooling the workplan as the year goes on and new challenges arise.

Kassover commented that she appreciates the ability to be nimble and the committee was able to pull it off throughout China Sword. It would be good for the cities to share best practices with each other, as McInnis did with her presentation on code. Waller requested that members notify him if they have a subject they'd like to present on in 2020.

Molder suggested each meeting include 10 minutes for a city project to be showcased.

Member Comment

Waller noted he will be out of the office the next week for vacation and will not be responding to emails.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 1:14pm.

DRAFT