

MSWAC Advisory Committee Meeting

February 11, 2022 - 11:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Virtual Meeting (Zoom)

<u>MSWMAC Members</u>	
Jon Gire	Bellevue
Emily Warnock	Bothell
Robin Tischmak	Burien
Steve Friedman	Clyde Hill
Ed Hawthorne	Enumclaw
Chris Searcy	Enumclaw
Rob Van Orsow	Federal Way
Tony Donati	Kent
John MacGillivray	Kirkland
Jenna McGinnis	Kirkland
Penny Sweet, Chair	Kirkland
Phillipa Kassover	Lake Forest Park
Jeffrey Perrigo	Lake Forest Park
Amy Shaw	Maple Valley
Ross Freeman	Mercer Island
Robert Clark	Newcastle
Earnest Thompson	Normandy Park
Micah Bonkowski	Redmond
Aaron Moldver	Redmond
Linda Knight, Vice Chair	Renton
Julie Pursell	Renton
Rori Kirkpatrick	Sammamish
Mason Giem	SeaTac
Cameron Reed	Shoreline
Dylan Gamble	Snoqualmie
Jason Rogers	Snoqualmie
Rachel Best-Campbell	Woodinville
Diana Hart	Woodinville

<u>King County Staff</u>
Eyasu Ayalew, Seattle-King County Public Health
Mai Bui, SWD staff
Joy Carpine-Cazzati, Haz. Waste Management Program
Emily Coleman, SWD staff
Kathy Hashagen, SWD staff
Brian Halverson, SWD staff
Patty Liu, SWD staff
Pat McLaughlin, SWD Director
Hannah Scholes, SWD staff
Andy Smith, SWD staff
Adrian Tan, SWD staff
Terra Rose, King County Council Staff
Dorian Waller, SWD staff
John Walsh, SWD staff
<u>Guests</u>
Quinn Apuzzo, Recology
Erin Gagnon, Ridwell
Han Kirkland, Waste Management
Laura Moser, Waste Management
Kazia Mermel, Sound Cities Association
Diana Wadley, Washington State Dept. of Ecology

Call to Order and Introductions

Chair Sweet called the meeting to order at 11:17 a.m.

Chair/Vice Chair elections

Sweet and Knight were unanimously elected as Chair and Vice Chair respectively.

Meeting Minutes

Van Orsow moved to approve the January meeting minutes; Thompson seconded. The meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

SWD Update

On Jan. 27, we held a virtual open house about the South County Recycling and Transfer Station. It was well attended. The facility design is at 90% and this meeting gave the public an opportunity to learn more about the new transfer station. The community was engaged, and we received positive feedback in terms of features and services.

Re+ Community Panel

SWD received 35 applications from people interested in serving on an RE+ community panel that's being formed to help King County reduce waste and address the impacts of climate change at the neighborhood level.

The application process targeted individuals with lived experience in communities most impacted by climate change, and environmental and racial inequities. The first virtual meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, March 2.

Relevant lived experience is language from the King County Strategic Climate Action Plan. The intent is to bring together members of communities disproportionately impacted by climate change due to historic racial, social, environmental, and economic inequities. Examples include BIPOC communities, immigrants and refugees, people living with low incomes, communities with disproportionate pollution exposure, women and gender non-conforming people, LBGTQIA people, people that live and work outside, those with existing health issues, people with limited English skills and other climate-vulnerable groups.

Juno

Early this month we visited an Advanced Materials Recovery Facility (AMRF) run by Georgia Pacific using a technology called [Juno](#). The facility in Toledo, Oregon processes 100,000 tons per year. The process recovers 60% of the materials from an unsorted municipal solid waste (MSW) stream. We anticipate testing the technology with our own waste to see what kind of recovery can be achieved.

King County Legislation on WTE Advisory Committee

In response to a question Waller said she has been working with Van Orsow and MacGillivray to draft letter to the Regional Policy Committee offering MSWAC's advice or assistance as they debate the ordinance that recommends creating a new waste to energy advisory committee. Others are also invited to share their voices. Waller will send the draft to MSWAC members. You should see it in your inbox soon. SWAC has taken a similar action and want to review and sign a similar letter.

Legislative Update

Tan and Scholes briefed MSWAC on the 69th session of the Washington State Legislature. The session day runs through March 11, 2022.

The following legislation did not move further forward during this legislative session

- SB 5697 – RENEW Act (includes EPR for packaging and paper products)
- SB5658 – Truth in labelling and recycled content
- HB 1801 Repairability index
- SB5492 – EPR for wind turbine blades.

HB 1810 Right to Repair

It will:

- Require manufacturers of digital electronic products (i.e., those with a screen) to provide owners and independent repair businesses with access to parts, tools, and specifications.
Passed out of rules and is ready for the House floor.

HB 1663 Landfill methane gas reduction

It will:

- Require landfills to install a gas collection and control system and/or submit an annual report based on their size and amount of methane emissions.
This bill could impact five closed landfills in King County.

HB 1799 Organic materials management.

It will:

- Require changes to divert organic material from landfills and reduce methane emissions such as:
 - Providing organics collection services to certain populations
 - Local governments must buy back finished compost from processors
 - Some businesses must separate organic waste
 - Reducing legal liability for food donations
 - Establishing the Washington Center for Sustainable Food Management
 - Update compostable products labelling
 - Creating a compost reimbursement program for farming operations
- Expecting a vote on the house floor before the Feb 15 deadline.

HB 1896 - EPR for Batteries

It will:

- Establish an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for batteries that requires battery producers to fund and organize the collection and reuse and recycling of batteries in WA.
The bill would mean that battery producers would reimburse those that collect and recycle batteries.

Re+ Update

Lui asked the committee to provide feedback on the Re+ introduction briefing document. She thanked those that had already provided feedback saying many of the issues identified would be addressed in further fast start items. Send further feedback to Lui at Plui@kingcounty.gov.

The Re+ community Panel is a diverse group of community members that live, work, and volunteer in King County who will help guide SWD in the equitable implementation of Re+. There are 10 panel members with lived experience as a frontline community member. The first meeting is planned for March 2nd where they will work on team cohesion and agreement.

[NextCycle Washington](#) is a statewide effort to nurture processes that incorporate waste prevention, repair, reuse, recycling, and/or composting. It is incorporating feedback from the public meetings. About 95 people attended. There are two tracks that will launch in June. The first is prevention and reuse, the second is recycling.

The simple, online application process for the Re+ Circular Economy Grants will launch at the beginning of the 2nd quarter. These grants support local business or community projects that prevent or divert organics, plastic, and paper.

The Re+ briefing with the Executive's office went well. The focus is to really engage with cities and other parties. Of course, MSWAC will be involved but the efforts should go beyond this group. We would like to influence alongside other influencers, work together and leverage relationships. This will require outreach and we need to begin the dialogue now. We know there is interest in disposal, but over the next several months we want to drive toward commitments around resource management, so the pile is much smaller, and options are much broader.

Briefing documents for Fast Start Actions are expected in March. The Re+ Plan Draft will be done in April with a Final done in May. Re+ is planned to be launched in June.

2023-2024 Rate Proposal

The objective of the presentation was to review the yard waste rate path and the early Re+ budget for 2023-2024, discuss effort to find savings and introduce "de-coupled" rates. In addition, members heard about the extended bonding subcommittee and preview upcoming MSWAC rate briefings.

In 2020, the general opinion was to move the yard waste fee toward cost recovery quickly. After reviewing the projected rate increases through 2025, members expressed no concerns with continuing on that path.

The Re+ budget is being developed but is expected to be approximately \$7M in this biennium and the next. Members heard the types of things that will be included.

The division is reviewing how funds allotted to the division are allocated throughout the organization. Changes in processes occur over time and COVID changed how we do business. This process will align the funds to the function and will also include reviewing the budget by work group, looking for potential savings. We will do this before we go further in the budget process.

The Extended Bonding Sub-Committee reviewed the potential impact of extending the Interlocal Agreements (ILA's) from 2040 to 2060 to allow us to issue longer terms bonds and keep the rates lower. After considering many aspects including timing, increased interest costs and more the sub-committee recommends deferring the decision on extending ILAs until the long-term disposal option is closer to being decided.

This month, we will continue to collect data and information. There will be a rates update in March. In April we will have a draft letter of support for you to consider and we will brief the Executive. In May we will transmit the legislation to the Executive. In June, the Executive will transmit the legislation to Council.

Halverson reminded members that we hope to know if the new rate structure will be approved by the end of March. If Council approves it, discussions on how to implement the change with haulers could begin then and do not have to wait until later in the year when Council acts on the rate.

Searcy requested a pie-graph showing how each of the Re+ components make up that \$7M.

Member Comment

Waller will invite SWD's new Equity Inclusion and Belonging manager to the next MSWAC meeting.

Thompson was happy to hear about Juno and the possibility of a trip to the site. He recommended that MSWAC also communicate with the Nakadai and Mono Factory who claim to recycle close to 100% of all garbage and solid waste that is collected. He volunteered to help with translation services if needed and hopes it will be brought forward for discussion.

Andy Smith is the interim Recycling and Environmental Services Section Manager.