

Joint SWAC/MSWMAC Advisory Committee Meeting

June 16, 2017 - 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
King Street Center 8th Floor Conference Room

Meeting Minutes

MSWMAC Members	
David Hill	Algona
Diana Quinn	Algona
Bill Pelozo	Auburn
Alison Bennett	Bellevue
Nav Otal	Bellevue
Eddie Lou	Bothell
Austin Bell	Burien
Barre Seibert	Clyde Hill
Chris Searcy – Vice Chair	Enumclaw
Rob Van Orsow	Federal Way
Micah Bonkowski	Issaquah
John MacGillivray	Kirkland
Penny Sweet – Chair	Kirkland
Phillippa Kassover	Lake Forest Park
Carol Simpson	Newcastle
Eberly Barragon	Redmond
Gary Schimek	Redmond
Linda Knight	Renton
Beth Goldberg	Sammamish
Uki Dele	Shoreline
Scott MacColl	Shoreline
Kellye Mazzoli	Woodinville

King County Staff
Gemma Alexander, SWD staff
Jamey Barker, SWD staff
Jeff Gaisford, SWD staff
Matt Hobson, SWD staff
Beth Humphreys, SWD staff
Ross Marzolf, KC Council staff
Pat D. McLaughlin, SWD Director
Laila McClinton, SWD staff
Meg Moorehead, SWD staff
Yolanda Pon, Public Health - Seattle King County
Terra Rose, KC staff
Eben Sutton, SWD staff
Christie True, DNRP Director
Guests
Ella Williams, Sound Cities Association
Evan Griffiths, CH2M
Janet Prichard, Republic Services
Casey Desmond, Waste Management

SWAC Members	
April Atwood	Kevin Kelly – Vice Chair
Elly Buzendahl	Keith Livingston
Gib Dammann	Ken Marshall
Karen Dawson	Stephen Strader
Jean Garber - Chair	
Kim Kaminski	

Minutes:

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

Updates

Solid Waste Division (SWD) Update

Harbor Island

Several entities have expressed interest in utilizing the Harbor Island property.

Transfer Station Credit Cards

The County has completed the upgrades to its credit card system that restores the fast processing time.

Comp Plan Environmental Review

The division will be releasing a Determination of Significance and Request for Comments on the scope of the Environmental Impact Statement as part of its environmental review for the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan very soon. Once released, there will be a 21-day comment period.

Environmental Awards

The division has received four awards (3 gold and one silver) for compliance wastewater discharge permits at its transfer stations.

Photography

Division staff will be taking pictures of today's meeting for use in the Comp Plan.

Staff Change

Strategic Planning Manager Matt Hobson is leaving the division for a position with local consulting firm, FCS. He will be missed at the division. SWAC Chair Jean Garber expressed her regret at Hobson's departure and wished him well in his new position.

Waste to Energy Third Party Review

Chair Garber inquired about how the consultant was selected, the scope of work, and associated costs. She expressed dismay that the third-party review is done by a consultant with ties to the incineration industry.

Division Director Pat McLaughlin replied that Normandeau has an established state contract that allows the division to work quickly on this time-sensitive task and that most of the work will be performed by a subcontractor CDM Smith. The consultant is not evaluating all disposal options, but will be identifying the best waste to energy (WTE) technology for consideration amongst other disposal options. They will also fill gaps in our knowledge about waste export.

The scope of work has been completed and will be shared with the committees. The cost of the study is \$233,000.

Comp Plan Discussion

Presentation

SWD staff Beth Humphreys [presented](#) the division's proposed waste prevention and recycling goals, targets and actions.

As recommended by the committees, the division met with city recycling coordinators to review the proposed actions from the 2013 Draft Comp Plan. Those meetings resulted in a new list of proposed actions, comprising revised and updated actions from the previous list and some additional actions from the "roadmap to 70%" that was developed after the 2013 plan. The new list is intended as a menu of options, with no requirement for cities to adopt any single or collection of actions.

Small Group Activity

The committees broke into small groups to discuss the new list and identify which actions should be implemented "sooner" and which "later." Small groups returned their lists to the division for tabulation [[attachment](#)]. Cities are welcome to consult with their recycling coordinators and provide further input after the meeting.

Comments:

- Many of the actions are already underway in some cities. The division feels this is an indicator that the list reflects the direction the region is moving in recycling.
- There should be a third column to identify items that require further discussion.
- Actions should be ranked for importance in addition to timing. The division responded that at this time, the goal is to determine which actions to include in the Comp Plan. Once actions are included in the Plan, there will time to work out implementation priorities and methodologies.
- Since many actions are interrelated, they should be grouped accordingly in the final presentation.

Presentation

The presentation continued with a review of the division's proposed waste prevention and recycling goals, targets and actions, and information about proposed collection standards.

Discussion Questions:

- Do you agree with the collection standards for single-family?
- Do you agree with the collection standards for multi-family?
- Do you agree with the list of designated recyclable materials?

Discussion:

- It is unfortunate that regional landfills with good landfill gas collection must still use Ecology's default models that reflect much lower collection efficiency than is locally achieved.
- The division tracks greenhouse gas reductions from recycling at transfer stations, but does not include greenhouse gas reductions it does not directly manage – such as from city curbside recycling programs. This reduces the risk of double counting.
- Committees should receive a primer on greenhouse gas modeling. The division agreed to add it to a future agenda.

- So far, the discussion has only related to quantity of recycling, but contamination is a serious issue and should also be addressed.
- In February, the division reported current recycling rates to be 56% for single family; 15% for multifamily; and 68% for nonresidential.
- Several comments related to the growing importance of multifamily housing as a source of waste, an opportunity to improve recycling rates, and a significant factor in future planning. The division agreed that multifamily is significant, but noted that this portion of the waste stream is only 8% of all regional waste (generation) and improvement in all waste streams is necessary to achieve 70 percent recycling.
- Proposed service standards recognize the challenges in multifamily, and the fact that basic recycling improvements must be made before attempting significant organics recycling.
- It was suggested that multifamily service include extra end-of-month garbage pickup and beginning-of-month recycling pickup to handle the waste generated when tenants move.
- There was discussion about whether goals were achievable. Division staff commented that the targets presented break down the existing regional goal of Zero Waste of Resources into actionable pieces, and that the goals are realistic based on what is currently in the waste stream. The question is whether we are prepared as a region to commit to taking the action required to accomplish the goals.
- Aggressive goals are valuable but it's important to consider the cost effectiveness of each incremental step in achieving them.
- Bill Pelosa noted that as a policymaker, one needs to make assumptions to be able to move forward, and make adjustments as you move forward. Since one has to start somewhere, he suggests accepting the division's assumptions and adjusting as necessary. Also, ban mattresses, tires, and Styrofoam from the landfill.

Rate Restructure

Matt Hobson made an initial [presentation](#) on a proposed restructuring of the solid waste rate. In 2014 the Sustainable Solid Waste Management Study recommended restructuring the solid waste rate to be sustainable even as the division achieves its waste reduction goals. The division is exploring three possible new rate types (and combinations of the three) for the upcoming 2019-2020 rate.

To be selected, the new rate structure should be revenue neutral to the division during the 2019-2020 period; improve rate stability; minimize rate impacts to different customer classes; and provide a low income rate option for self-haul customers.

Committee members had many questions about the rate structure options. This topic will be revisited in greater depth next month at the individual committee meetings.

Public Comment

Public comment was eliminated in favor of a five-minute extension to the meeting to allow discussion of the rate restructure presentation.