



Kick-off Meeting Summary

Siting Advisory Group
Northeast Recycling and Transfer Station

Welcome

Penny Mabie (EnviroIssues, Facilitator) welcomed members of the Siting Advisory Group (SAG) and introduced **Margaret Bay** (King County Solid Waste Division, Project Manager) and **Polly Young** (King County Solid Waste Division, Communications Project Manager).

Attendees:

- Aaron Moldver, City of Redmond
- Amrit Bhuie, AR Environmental Consulting
- Andreas Kolshorn, At-large
- Chuck Price, City of Woodinville
- Dave Juarez, City of Redmond
- Diana Hart, City of Woodinville
- James Randolph, At-large
- John MacGillivray, City of Kirkland
- Kent Kronenburg, Republic Services
- Kristina Hudson, OneRedmond
- Leslie Miller, At-large
- Nick Harbert, Waste Management
- Sandy Cobb, Unincorporated King County
- Susan Vossler, At-large
- Tom Vaughn, DTG Recycling Services
- Tracey Dunlap, City of Kirkland
- William Louie, At-large
- William Su, Resident

Members were then asked to share why they joined the SAG and what they would consider to be the best outcome. Common answers include:

Reasons for joining SAG

- Interest in sustainability and environmental issues
- Interest in learning about the process of deciding a site for new transfer station
- Invested interest as an employee for waste management haulers

Best outcome for SAG's work

- Incorporate more sustainable and innovative practices in the design
- Finding a cost-effective solution
- Finding a site that is centrally located and easily accessible to the public
- Represent and listen to community values and input
- Minimize impacts to surrounding community
- Consider equity throughout process, acknowledging use of indigenous land and the environmental impacts communities of color face due to transfer station location

King County Solid Waste System

Margaret thanked SAG members for their ideas and concerns, echoing the importance of equity and cost-efficiency as values held by the project team. Margaret then provided an overview of the King County Solid Waste system and explained the role of transfer stations.

Q: There's a transfer station in Woodinville. Is it owned and operated by the County?

A: No, that site is owned and operated by a private company.

Q: When was the last County facility completed and how successful has it been in reducing waste to landfill?

A: The newest facility is the Factoria Recycling and Transfer Station in Bellevue, which was rebuilt in 2017. It's been very successful in sorting various types of recyclable materials and diverting them from the waste stream.

Siting Process

Margaret shared the siting study area/service area map with the SAG and noted that the study area is where the County is looking to locate a new station while the service area is the larger area that will be served by the new station. She also provided an overview of the siting process and noted that more detailed information will be presented at the next meeting.

Q: Kenmore and Bothell are near the boundary of the study area map. Is there another station close to those two cities?

A: There is a station in Shoreline. Accessibility of location in relation to existing stations was considered when creating this map. We didn't want to look at locations that were too close or too far from existing transfer stations.

Q: In the siting process overview you mentioned studying five sites. Is there a reason to be looking at that particular number of sites?

A: As we move further in the siting process, we may find that some locations are no longer viable options. Narrowing down to five locations allows for such instances to occur and still have sites left to consider.

Q: You mentioned beginning with fifteen sites. Will we be discussing those as well?

A: We'll be going over that process in more detail at the next meeting. One of the roles of this committee is to review the unranked top five site options and work to figure out a ranking order.

Ø Action item: Share information on how the County identified the original fifteen sites with SAG

Margaret then went on to explain the role that the SAG will play in the siting process. The SAG will review the potential sites and provide feedback to the County based on their perspectives as well as input SAG members hear from their communities.

Q: How does gathering input from the community work? Will community members who are not currently in the SAG be able to join the committee?

A: In addition to obtaining input from SAG members, the County will also be using surveys to gather input from the community. We are currently working on a survey and it will be shared closer to the end of the month. SAG members can also share what they are hearing from their communities with this group. Community members are welcome to listen in on these meetings as an audience member, and they will have a chance at each meeting to speak during the public comment period.

Ø **Action item: Share community survey once it's complete**

Q: Will there be a written summary of each meeting available to share?

A: Yes, and they will be posted on the project website.

Siting Advisory Group Charter

Penny gave an overview of the draft SAG charter, which was sent to group members in advance of the kick-off meeting. Penny asked members to review the charter before the next meeting and to identify any issues or suggestions they would like to add before finalizing the charter. Penny also asked members to copy her and Margaret on any communications shared from SAG members to community members.

Q: Will future meetings be scheduled and shared with us ahead of time?

A: Yes. Dates have already been set to align with the work of the technical team, but we do want to know what time would work best for SAG members. We'll be sending out a poll to SAG members to determine which time of day works best for most members.

Ø **Action item: Send link to a poll for SAG members to determine preferred meeting time**

Q: Will all meetings be virtual?

A: Since it is uncertain when it will be safe to meet in person again, all meetings will be held virtually for the time being.

Community Values

Penny asked SAG members to take two minutes to write down values their communities hold regarding transfer station siting. SAG members then shared the following community values with the group:

- Sustainability and environmental stewardship and innovative design
- Ease of accessibility for pedestrians and vehicles, minimal traffic impacts, consider proximity to existing stations to avoid overloading cities/neighborhoods
- Consideration of community needs, what do people need to know to see gaining a new transfer station as a positive change?
- "Be a good neighbor" to the best of our ability, being mindful of not-in-my-back-yard (NIMBY) reluctance
- Making decisions equitably, recognition of indigenous lands, consider how underserved and underrepresented communities are affected by the decision

- Mitigate impacts
- Maintain safe, reliable drinking water
- Cost of the project should be reasonable
- Open communication between King County and communities, share facility needs early on so people don't have false expectations
- Minimize noise disruption to residents
- Safety
- Use community input already provided to the County, such as on comprehensive plan

Public Comment

No public comments were shared at this meeting.

Next Steps

Penny and Margaret shared with the SAG that King County is offering a tour of their newest station, the Factoria Recycling and Transfer Station in Bellevue on Friday, October 23 with three available time slots, 9 a.m., 11 a.m., and 1 p.m. Margaret also shared that the County has some informational videos on transfer stations to share, including two recycling-focused videos of the Shoreline Recycling and Transfer Station and the Bow Lake Recycling and Transfer Station in Tukwila. Another video featuring garbage and recycling services at the Bow Lake station, expected to be completed around mid-November.

- Ø *Action item: Send sign-up sheet to SAG members for Factoria tour with information on safety protocols*
- Ø *Action item: Share link to Shoreline station video with SAG, share and post the Bow Lake video once it's complete*

Q: I thought Shoreline was the newest station, why aren't we touring there?

A: Factoria is the newest station, which is why we've selected it for the tour. The Factoria station also has a hazardous waste drop-off service we would like you to see. The Shoreline station does not have that feature.

Q: I'm looking forward to watching these videos! Is there odor control at the new facilities?

A: Yes, there are misting systems to contain odor.

Action Items for Next Meeting

- Ø Share information on how the County identified the original fifteen sites with SAG
- Ø Share community survey once it's complete
- Ø Send link to a poll for SAG members to determine preferred meeting time
- Ø Send sign-up sheet to SAG members for Factoria tour with information on safety protocols
- Ø Share link to Shoreline station video with SAG, share and post the Bow Lake video once it's complete