

Roadmap to a Sustainable Waste Management Future

Subcommittee Meeting

Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
900 S. Fremont Ave, Alhambra CA 91803
Conference Rooms B & C

Thursday, August 11, 2016
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

MEETING SUMMARY

Welcome and Introductions

Coby Skye, Public Works

- Attendees were welcomed and participants introduced themselves.
- A modification to the Roadmap meeting schedule was introduced. Meetings will be held every other month in the current format and in between months, focused meetings with key stakeholder groups as well as tours of facilities and businesses will be held. This new schedule format will start next month, with the next Roadmap meeting taking place in October.

Roadmap Annual Report to the Board

Vanessa Olivas, Public Works (Presentation begins on slide [#3](#))

- The Roadmap effort is completing its second year of implementation and as such the second annual report to the board is being prepared. The report will include this year's progress in implementing the Roadmap initiatives. Each Subcommittee Chair provided a brief presentation on the initiatives with progress that will be included in this year's report:
 - Chris Sheppard, Chair (County Unincorporated Communities) - Discussed LACoMAX, the County Material Exchange website; EPR; organics management as it relates to County Unincorporated Communities; pilot organics collection programs; development of a draft Construction and Demolition Debris Ordinance; waste characterization studies; Los Angeles County Food Redistribution Initiative (LACFRI), a food donation program; and preliminary discussions regarding a Recycling Ordinance that will help facilitate the permitting process of recycling facilities.
 - Jalaine Madrid, Chair (Regional/Countywide) – Provided an overview on the mass debris management plan; organics regionally; the recent Conversion Technology Conference; comparative greenhouse gas emission analysis; the Recycling Market Development Zone program; the Smart Gardening program; and multi-jurisdictional purchasing and sustainable funding. Also mentioned was the Bring Your Own (BYO) campaign, encouraging the use of reusable containers.

- Patrick Holland, Chair (County Operations) - Discussed organics management as it relates to County Departments; waste assessments at LACMA and USC Medical Center through the Commercial and Institutional Recycling Program; Public Works' demonstration garden and worm bins; a potential anaerobic digestion facility at a Sheriff's site; the County Departmental Recycling Program (CDRP); and working with the County Surplus program to increase diversion of materials going to landfills.

County Green Purchasing Policy Update and Discussion

Gerald Plummer, Internal Services Department (ISD)

- ISD has formed a Green Product Workgroup which consists of representatives from Public Health, Probation, Sheriff's, and Public Works to evaluate the County's existing Green Product policies and determine which policies should be updated. The Work Group will also identify new policies that should be developed.
- When developing new policies, the lifespan of products will be taken into consideration as well as price and labor costs to use the new product.
- Once policies are in place, Departments must be made aware of them and adhere to them.

County Department Waste Hauling Contract and Discussion

Wendy Mercado & Lois Giron, Internal Services Department

- ISD has been tasked to amend its Facility Ancillary Services Master Agreement (FASMA) to include organics and reporting requirements to comply with State regulations.
 - An addendum to the FASMA adds a new service subcategory to the Waste and Rubbish category: solid/organic waste removal, disposal, and recycling services.
 - The service requirements include organic waste recycling and new reporting requirements.
- ISD released a bid on June 30, 2016 for the new category. Six vendors will bid on the contract by August 31, 2016.
 - The County was divided into eight separate regions, with each vendor serving no more than two regions.
 - The agreement will go into effect on November 1, 2016. It will be the responsibility of each Department to contact the vendor to determine the number of bins for organics and the frequency of service they need.
 - If County facilities are leased and waste collection services are included in the lease, those agreements will remain. These facilities will still have to comply with State regulations.
 - The addendum will be valid through March 31, 2018, after which there will be a new Agreement.
 - Some County Departments that are large generators of organic materials should already be signed up for these services.

Breakout Sessions

- County Unincorporated Communities
 - Green Purchasing Guidelines for Schools and Businesses
 - Extended Producer Responsibility should be a consideration when selecting a vendor.

- Any guidance document should emphasize cost savings for the business or the school, including cost savings in other areas that can offset the typically higher initial cost of green products.
 - Award Programs and Green Business Certification (Strategy 1, Initiative B)
 - Certificate program versus advanced sustainability award.
 - Create a program that is easily recognizable that businesses will want to have.
 - Create different levels for businesses that want to go above and beyond.
 - Partner with the Los Angeles County Department of Consumer and Business Affairs (DCBA). Regional Planning will share the contact information for DCBA.
 - Questions
 - Can Schools piggy back on County procurement contracts?
 - What is the relationship between Charter Schools and School Districts?
 - Are private schools still governed by a private school district or is each school independent (example Catholic Schools)?
 - Organics Ordinance (Strategy 1, Initiative D)
 - Can requirements be included in the new business license process?
 - Should organics requirements be included in the recycling ordinance or be a separate ordinance? (separate seems most likely)
 - Will the Board support an ordinance that affects businesses?
 - Public Health has a relationship with schools in terms of inspecting cafeterias but it is different than the inspection for restaurants.
- Regional/Countywide
 - Multi-jurisdictional purchasing (Strategy 1, Initiative A)
 - Discussed how to pull resources together to focus on greener products.
 - Pros and cons of cities piggybacking vs. preparing their own Request for Proposals.
 - Could there be an ambitious goal of a Countywide Green Purchasing Ordinance?
 - Sustainable funding (Strategy 2, Initiative B)
 - As waste disposal revenues are decreasing, how can we manage or increase funding for waste diversion programs?
 - An increase in tipping fees is uncertain.
 - Consider EPR for many more products.
 - There is a need to partner with industry and engage the private sector.
 - Many items that represent a very small percentage of landfill waste cost disproportionately large amounts to handle properly.
 - Partner with the County Sanitation Districts to help start a list of problematic materials and how best to handle them.
 - Further public education on what materials are actually recyclable is needed.
- County Operations
 - Discussed County Policy and Green Procurement/Recycling Standards/Best Management Practices listed on the County Departmental Recycling Program Policy [webpage](#) and identified gaps in County contracts and everyday County operations/practices (Strategy 1, Initiatives A1 & A4)

- County Strategic Plan - Net Zero Waste.
- Ban on EPS food containers and Plastic Carryout Bags at County operations, facilities, and events.
- Energy and Environmental Purchasing Policy.
 - Purchase of Re-refined Oil and Recycled-Content Paper.
 - Purchase of black laser toner cartridges – New Managed Print Services (MPS) contract provides free Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) replenishment for their printers/copiers.
- Departmental Recycling Board Directives
 - Utilizing & Procuring Recycled-Content Paper and Reducing Paper Use
 - Collection and Recycling of Paper and Beverage Containers-Need to confirm correct staff are fully informed of new Paper Recycling contracts
 - Recycling Used Printer Cartridges and Electronic Waste Surplus Policy-Have Recycling Coordinators provide quantities of printer cartridges recycled by department
- Recommended to consider Life-Cycle Analysis including End-of-life Management prior to purchasing new technology, products, and services to reduce material procurement, especially those that are updated on a recurring basis. (Strategy 1, Initiative A4)
- Recommended to explore ways to efficiently communicate to appropriate County staff regarding updated policies, standards, practices, etc. discussed at recurring workgroup/stakeholder meetings (Roadmap, Recycling Program, Surplus Program, Facility Managers, etc.). (Strategy 4, Initiative A)
- Outreach and Education
 - Discussed green product purchasing and how to encourage purchasing with the end in mind.
 - Fact Sheets, providing reminders of existing policies, etc.
 - Status of Sustainability Flyer
 - Flyer was finalized and will be available on the Roadmap website and County Department Recycling Program websites. Additional options for distributing the flyer to County employees were also discussed.
 - “On the Road to Zero Waste” – Student work developed by a handful of high school students from various schools.
 - Discussion was on how to recognize their work and encourage other students to do the same. Ideas included presenting them with a Certificate of Recognition at an upcoming Roadmap meeting.
 - Bring Your Own (BYO) Countywide Campaign
 - Discussed a two-phase Campaign – Target audience for the first phase would be County Departments. The second phase would target the general public.
 - Develop timeline for BYO Campaign; target date for launch to coincide with Earth Day 2017.

Next Steps and Open Discussion

- A representative from each subcommittee provided a brief summary of their subcommittee’s discussions.

Next Subcommittee meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 13, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

Meeting Participants

County Operations	
Carlos Zimmerman	Beaches & Harbors
Maral Tashjian	Beaches & Harbors
Candelaria Rodarte	Internal Services
Lois Giron	Internal Services
Wendy Mercado	Internal Services
Michelle Hochstein	Probation
Quang Ly	Public Health
Beda Sasis	Public Social Services
Fabiola Carrillo	Regional Planning
Cesar Sevilla	Registrar Recorder
Mike Kosoyan	Registrar Recorder
Arlene Morales	Public Works – EPD
Caren Alvarez	Public Works – EPD
Ingrid Mayer	Public Works – EPD
Nilda Gemeniano	Public Works – EPD
Patrick Holland	Public Works – EPD

County Unincorporated Communities	
Marge Santos	CEO
Gerry Villalobos	Public Health
Allen Ma	Public Works
Connie Chung	Regional Planning
Kristen Holdsworth	Regional Planning
Christopher Sheppard	Public Works – EPD

Regional/Countywide	
Benjamin Lucha	City of Palmdale
Frank Estrada	Animal Care and Control
Inna Sarac	Medical Examiner-Coroner
Sergio Bravo	Mental Health
Trishena Robinson	Public Works – EPD
Jalaine Madrid	Public Works – EPD
Clark Ajwani	Public Works – EPD
Armando Aguilar	Public Works – EPD

Outreach and Education	
Ken Pellman	ACWM
Scott Hunter	ACWM
Jennifer Lieu	Arts Commission
Isaura Capell	Auditor-Controller
Bernadette Garcia-Silva	Public Health
Dorcas Hanson-Lugo	Public Health
Kathy Salama	Public Works
Tranette Sanders	Public Works – EPD