

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

Wednesday, December 14, 2016
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

MEETING SUMMARY

Welcome and Introductions

Patrick Holland, Public Works

- Attendees were welcomed and participants introduced themselves.
- Changes in Roadmap Subcommittee Chairs and Co-Chairs were discussed. The new Chairs and Co-Chairs are as follows:

Subcommittee	Chair	Co-Chair
County Operations	Nilda Gemeniano	Clark Ajwani
County Unincorporated Communities	Suk Chong	Saro Toutounjian
Regional/Countywide	Jalaine Madrid	Kawzar Vazifdar
Outreach and Education	Vanessa Olivas	Tranette Sanders

Mandatory Organic Waste Recycling

Kawsar Vazifdar, Public Works (Presentation begins on slide #[3](#))

- In November, Public Works distributed a memo to all County Departments with an update on commercial organic waste recycling requirements per Assembly Bill (AB) 1826.
- The timing and applicability of recycling requirements depends on the amount of waste a facility generates per week. In April 2016, facilities generating over 8 cubic yards of organic waste had to comply (tier 1); beginning January 1, 2017 facilities generating over 4 cubic yards of organic waste have to comply (tier 2).
- The Memo distributed to all County departments includes a list of County departments that Public Works identified under tier 1 and tier 2.
- If the facility falls under tier 1 or 2, options to comply include:
 - Source separate organic waste and sign up for organic waste recycling service
 - Recycle organic waste onsite or self-haul
 - Subscribe to a mixed waste processing that specifically separates and recycles organic waste
- November 1, 2016 - New waste hauling agreements with USA Waste, Southland Disposal, and Universal Waste Systems that include organic waste recycling services went into effect.

- If a County department does not have organic recycling services and does not receive hauling services through Internal Services Department (ISD), they can contact any of the County's non-exclusive commercial franchise haulers for organic waste recycling services.

La Salle Duong, Public Works (Presentation begins on slide #9)

- The County is responsible for identifying those businesses that fall into the two tiers; in 2015 1,300 commercial entities were identified in the County using commercial franchise reports.
 - Of these 435 businesses were classified as organics generators
 - 208 businesses fall into tier 1, 227 businesses fall into tier 2
- The Garbage Disposal District (GDD) Food Waste Pilot Program took place at two GDDs (Belvedere and Firestone) from October 2015 to November 2016. Approximately 60 businesses were provided free organic waste services. About 250 tons of food waste was collected.
- A one-year pilot program is currently taking place in partnership with the Sanitation Districts at the Puente Hills Materials Recovery Facility (MRF). Food waste is processed at the MRF so it can be used in anaerobic digestion at the Sanitation District's facility in Carson.
 - Three haulers have signed on, with one actively participating.
 - About 218 tons have been collected from grocery stores in the Hacienda Heights/Rowland Heights area.
 - Going forward, we want to increase hauler participation.

Facilities Ancillary Services Master Agreement (FASMA) Presentation

Wendy Mercado, Internal Services (Presentation begins on slide #14)

- FASMA is one of many master agreements managed by ISD. All County departments may use FASMA within the authorized process.
- FASMA has service categories and vendors can become qualified contractors under one or multiple categories. These categories fall into the following groups:
 - Abatement & Remediation Group
 - Consultants Group
 - General Services Group
 - Waste & Rubbish Group
 - The new category Solid/Organic Waste Removal, Disposal and Recycling Services was added to this group on May 12, 2016.
 - This new category was necessary because the previous rubbish services agreement did not include organic waste recycling services, a commercial waste recycling plan, or reporting requirements to measure, monitor and report waste/waste diversion to comply with AB 341 and AB 1826.
 - Contractors will submit monthly reports to the County via SWIMS, the Solid Waste Information Management System.

Lois Giron, Internal Services (Presentation begins on slide #23)

- ISD released a solicitation for the new rubbish category on June 28, 2016. The agreements were awarded to three haulers and are effective from November 1, 2016 to March 31, 2018.
- ISD Purchasing awarded agreements to:
 - Southland Disposal Company
 - Universal Waste Systems
 - USA Waste of California

- Departments that have new requirements for waste hauling should contact Carla at ISD Purchasing to request new service or make changes to existing services.
- Vendors should not be contacted directly by departments without notifying ISD, as this can lead to errors in pricing or wrong/outdated information being used when new bids go out.
- ISD has a contract for hazardous waste removal, including batteries. Departments must collect waste batteries in a central location before a vendor is called to pick up.

KOST Holiday Campaign

Tranette Sanders, Public Works (Presentation begins on slide #[29](#))

- Every year Environmental Programs runs a campaign during the holidays. The campaign is a partnership with radio station KOST 103.5. The theme this year is “Sustainable is Attainable.”
- The theme will be used throughout the year, changing based on the season. The goal is to promote a year-round lifestyle change, not just during the holidays.
- Our ambassador is Mark Wallengren who does the evening drive on KOST. A series of commercials for the campaign will be played on KOST through the holidays.
- The Banners on the KOST website will take visitors to a contest or the CleanLA.com website for sustainability tips.
- To engage listeners, a contest will be held where listeners can win a TV or amusement park tickets for providing their info and a sustainability tip.
- We are hoping to generate 7.3 million impressions with this campaign via radio and online ads.
 - Samples of the radio commercials were played for the group.

Breakout Sessions

- County Unincorporated Communities – Commercial Organics Recycling
 - Provided updates on two Commercial Organic Recycling programs being developed for the County Unincorporated Communities (CUCs) and discussed challenges regarding SB 1383 (Strategy 1, Initiative D).
 - Senate Bill 1383
 - This bill requires the state board, no later than January 1, 2018, to begin implementing a comprehensive strategy to reduce emissions of short-lived climate pollutants to achieve a reduction in methane by 40% by 2030.
 - The bill also establishes specified targets for reducing organic waste in landfills.
 - A 50-percent reduction in the level of the statewide disposal of organic waste from the 2014 level by 2020.
 - A 75-percent reduction in the level of the statewide disposal of organic waste from the 2014 level by 2025.
 - Discussed various challenges the bill will impose on jurisdictions.
 - Will commercial organics recycling be sufficient or will it be necessary to expand organics recycling to the multi-family and residential sectors to meet compliance?
 - May need to amend current trash collection contracts to include organics recycling programs.
 - CUC Food Waste Pilot

- Discussed details regarding the pilot, the processing of the material, and final destination.
 - Food Donation and Recovery Outreach Program
 - Staff provided an overview of the food donation program that Public Works is developing.
 - Next steps will include identifying charities and non-profit organizations that are willing to accept donated food.
 - Homeless shelters and missions were recommended to be added to the recipient list.
 - Data collection and tracking of the donated food needs to be coordinated.
 - Discussion to expand subcommittee to include various stakeholders
- Regional/Countywide – Organics Processing Challenges.
 - The City of Burbank arranged a tour of 3 sites in Atwater Village that facilitate the reuse of materials from movie, TV, and commercial production sets that achieve very high diversion rates. Public Works is coordinating with the City of Burbank to coordinate a similar tour for Roadmap participants in the near future. (Strategy 1, Initiative A)
 - The 1996 Good Samaritan Act encourages the donation of food and grocery products to nonprofit organizations for distribution to needy individuals and protects donors from liability associated with food donation. The food must be donated to a non-profit organization with the proper facilities and experience to distribute food and that will distribute the food at no cost (Strategy 1, Initiative C)
 - CalRecycle has allocated \$10 million for food waste prevention and food rescue grants for FY 16-17. Nonprofit organizations without the proper facilities to handle and distribute food can apply for these grants to obtain funding to upgrade their facilities. (Strategy 1, Initiative C)
 - The City of Burbank is working to develop a food rescue and donation program at schools. The goal is to start the program at the start of the next school year. (Strategy 1, Initiative C)
 - Some restaurants use mobile apps to advertise unsold edible food that would otherwise be disposed. Customers can purchase this food at discounted prices when restaurants are closing for the night. (Strategy 1, Initiative C)
 - DPW will schedule a meeting with the City of Burbank to learn more about LA Shares, a non-profit program that take donations of reuseable goods and materials from the local business community and redistributes these items to non-profit agencies and schools throughout Los Angeles, and discuss ways to increase the usage of LACoMAX, a service where users can post listings of available materials as an alternative to disposing these materials as waste. (Strategy 1, Initiative A)
- County Operations – Departmental Recycling Including Organics
 - Discussed further implementation of the County Departmental Recycling Program (CDRP)
 - Explore ways to organize space at facilities with space/operational constraints for collection and/or storage of materials for recycling (Strategy 1, Initiative A1)

- Research operations of facilities that house multiple County departments to ensure diversion/recycling of materials/products (Strategy 1, Initiatives C3, D1, E1c & Strategy 2, Initiatives B1, C2, C3, C4 & Strategy 3, Initiatives B1, C1 & Strategy 4, Initiative B2, B4)
 - Develop further outreach to avoid contamination in beverage container recycling bins (e.g. - cartons, trash) (Strategy 1, Initiative A3)
 - Explore ways to ensure reporting of diversion/recycling, especially of those that are operation-specific such as battery recycling, document destruction, and organic waste recycling (Strategy 2, Initiative A2, B2a, B3)
 - Research how departments are actually recycling motor oil used in their equipment and vehicles and ensuring the purchase and use of re-refined motor oil (Countywide ISD fleet service contract and/or in-house) (Strategy 1, Initiative A1)
 - Consider contacting Department Fleet Coordinators about related Roadmap concerns
 - Make Department Recycling Coordinators aware of County ISD Scrap Metal removal/recycling contracts available (Strategy 4, Initiative B1, B3)
 - Discussed the need to research how donation stores are getting increased product turnover to enhance the County Surplus Program (Strategy 1, Initiative A2, A4)
 - Discussed considering the enhancement of existing contracts (Strategy 2, Initiative B3, C)
 - Research County waste hauling contracts with businesses (since most businesses lease) for tips to ensure service/reporting of diversion from leased facilities of County operations
 - Revisit hauling contracts for facilities with large open public spaces (e.g. - Beaches and Harbors) to ensure diversion/recycling of materials/products
 - Explore ways to ensure timely and proper implementation and reporting of service contracts
 - Discussed considering the development of contracts to divert other materials (Strategy 2, Initiative B3, C)
 - Research vendors to take back materials (e.g. - mattress program, uniforms/textiles)
- Outreach and Education – Bring Your Own Campaign, Beverage Container Recycling Outreach Program, and Public Works Organics Recycling Plan
 - Discussed the “Bring Your Own” (BYO) campaign and short briefings on the Beverage Container Recycling and cafeteria Food Waste Collection projects.
 - Discussed the BYO proposed two phase approach, which would target County departments first and then the general public.
 - The discussion included a tentative launch date of February 2017, campaign goals, and brought about a series of questions to find efficient ways for promotion. The following are several suggestions offered:
 - Providing materials to recycling coordinators for distribution
 - Posting on MyLACounty.gov (including paycheck site)
 - Postings in lunch rooms and cafeterias
 - Outreach at employee events
 - Having ISD send out a mass email to all Departments

- Radio advertisement for public awareness
 - Working with eateries for local advertisement
 - Outreach at public events, including farmer markets
 - Social Media
- There were concerns relating to the public sector aspect of the campaign. Representatives from Public Health stated “to-go” containers could be a potential challenge due to contamination issues. However, they were going to review this topic with their management teams and consider alternatives.
 - Provided an overview of the Beverage Container Recycling Program which includes outreaching to multi-families and 5-10 County facilities with heavy public and staff foot traffic.
 - The draft outreach plan for Public Works food collection project was provided for review and input.

Next Steps and Open Discussion

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

The next Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 9, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.

Meeting Participants

County Unincorporated Communities	
Connie Chung	Regional Planning
Kristen Holdsworth	Regional Planning
Allen Ma	Public Works - WMD
Caren Alvarez	Public Works - EPD
La Salle Duong	Public Works - EPD
Larissa Yu	Public Works - EPD
Saro Toutounjian	Public Works - EPD

Regional/Countywide	
Amy Hammes	City of Burbank
Will Simons	DPSS
Armando Aguilar	Public Works - EPD
Jalaine Madrid	Public Works - EPD
Kawsar Vazifdar	Public Works - EPD
Trishena Robinson	Public Works - EPD

County Operations	
Frank Estrada	Animal Care and Control
Carlos Zimmerman	Beaches and Harbors
Maral Tashjian	Beaches and Harbors
Adrian M. Deherrera	Child Support Services
Lois Giron	Internal Services
Wendy Mercado	Internal Services
Inna Sarac	Medical Examiner - Coroner
Sergio Bravo	Mental Health
Ada Lopez	Probation
Michelle Hochstein	Probation
Shikari Nakagawa-Ota	Public Health

Outreach and Education	
Leigh Behrens	City of Long Beach
Bernadet Garcia-Silva	Public Health
Bitu Tishbi	Public Health
Dee Hanson-Lugo	Public Health
James Dragan	Public Health
Lucy MacDonald	Public Health
Monica Galimberti	Public Health
Kathy Salama	Public Works - SPSO
Theresa Hernandez	Public Works - EPD
Tranette Sanders	Public Works - EPD
Vanessa Olivas	Public Works - EPD

County Operations - Continued	
Fabiola Carrillo	Regional Planning
Nick Morell	Sanitations Districts
Richard Sigur	Sheriff
Angelica Gunderson	Public Works - EPD
Arlene Morales	Public Works - EPD
Clark Ajwani	Public Works - EPD
Nilda Gemeniano	Public Works - EPD