

Roadmap to a Sustainable Waste Management Future Working Group County Operations Subcommittee Meeting

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

Thursday, October 11, 2018
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

MEETING SUMMARY

Welcome and Introductions

Nilda Gemeniano, Public Works

- Attendees were welcomed, and participants introduced themselves.

Recap of Previous Meeting (August 2018)

Nilda Gemeniano, Public Works

- A presentation was given about on-site food waste processing technologies available as an alternative to hauling.
 - The technologies that comply with AB 1826 requirements are anaerobic digesters and in-vessel composters.
 - Liquefiers and dehydrators do not comply with AB 1826 but can make handling organic waste easier.
- A presentation was given on Public Works' food waste collection program and the pilot composting project at the Public Works Headquarters cafeteria.
- Meeting attendees were reminded that all County facilities will eventually need to comply with SB 1383.
- Some of the challenges to implementing County food waste recycling programs were discussed. County departments can lower hauling costs by internally reviewing food purchasing, storage and consumption processes as well as optimizing waste and recyclables collections.

Accomplishments of Past Roadmap Year

Nilda Gemeniano, Public Works (Presentation begins on slide [#4](#))

- Ten County facilities were visited as part of the Commercial and Institutional Recycling Program (CIRP) contract, including the Industry Sheriff's Station, Athens Park, Los Verdes Golf Course, Twin Towers Correctional Facility and other County facilities.
- Various County departments have installed hydration stations.
- The Internal Services Department (ISD) executed contracts with four waste haulers, for the new Facility Ancillary Services Master Agreement (FASMA). The new agreements require haulers to provide County facilities with collection of food waste, green waste, and recyclables, at an additional cost.

- Public Works piloted a mobile organics collection program at various department events.
 - About 3,400 pounds of food waste were diverted through this program.
 - The food waste was processed and sent to the Sanitation Districts' Joint Water Pollution Control Plant in Carson, where it was anaerobically digested and converted to electricity.
 - About 1,200 pounds of food waste were diverted through on-site composting.
- Project specifications for County capital projects were revised to require County projects to recycle or reuse construction and demolition debris in accordance with the County Green Building Standards Code, and for the County to assess liquidated damages on contractors who fail to comply with the specifications.

Priority Tasks for New Roadmap Year

Nilda Gemeniano, Public Works

- The subcommittee was asked to share what their departments are planning to do in the next Roadmap year. (Strategy 4, Initiative B4a)
 - The Sheriff's Department uses Mannington carpet at their facilities. The manufacturer will take back free-of-charge any of their old carpet that is palletized and transported to their facility. Adrienne, the Sheriff's Department Recycling Coordinator, is working with her facilities team to make sure they use this option when carpet at Sheriff facilities is replaced. (Strategy 1, Initiative B1)
 - Alternate Public Defender will continue to purchase sustainable products which are identified by special icons or markings in vendor catalogs.
 - Parks & Recreation will re-evaluate their waste hauling service as well as continue to pursue the purchase of sustainable products, and to coordinate equipment lending between department facilities. (Strategy 1, Initiative A1 & A6)
 - Public Works is working on a departmentwide Recycling Coordinator Survey. The survey is being developed and is expected to be circulated by early 2019.
 - At the Countywide level, Public Works had successful outreach events for the Beverage Container Recycling Program at the East Los Angeles Library and at Belvedere Park. The next scheduled outreach event will occur at City Terrace Park. (Strategy 1, Initiative C1)
 - Public Works will have a meeting with the Facilities Manager for the Hall of Administration to schedule a presentation that will be given to all the facility managers of tenant County departments. (Strategy 1, Initiative A3)
 - The Recycling Coordinator for the Department of Regional Planning shared contact information for the Hall of Records' facilities management. There will be an outreach plan for the Hall of Records in 2019. (Strategy 1, Initiative A3)
 - A consultant for Public Works is developing an instructional video that will educate County employees on waste reduction and recycling best management practices. The Roadmap Working Group can provide feedback and may help distribute the video once it is available. (Strategy 4, Initiative B3)

- In the upcoming year, Public Works will be focusing on Strategy 1, Initiative A (Institutionalize Waste Prevention and Source Reduction). (Presentation begins on slide #7)
 - Under Initiative A, Public Works will continue to identify areas of excess waste and create source reduction policies within the framework of the budget.
 - Waste assessments will continue to be conducted as are part of the CIRP contract.
 - Public Works will continue to focus on promoting Bring Your Own (BYO).
 - Public Works will continue to explore on-site organic waste recycling with the help of our CIRP contractor.
 - Public Works will also continue to develop templates for programs and policies and implement them at facilities and operations.
 - This will include further developing and distributing sample contract language, fact sheets, flyers, etc. that County employees can use as resources.
 - Public Works will evaluate purchasing practices, by updating County contracts, and reviewing and enhancing the County's Green Purchasing Policy to purchase more environmentally-friendly products.
- Under Strategy 1, Public Works will also focus on Initiative B (Advocate for Extended Producer and Manufacturer Responsibility and Initiative C (Make Sustainability Easy and Discourage "Trashing" at County Facilities).
- Public Works will also be focusing on Strategy 3, Initiative C (Local Green Business and Market Development), by promoting the use of recycled materials generated from County operations at County facilities wherever feasible.

Implementing Diversion Programs

Nilda Gemeniano, Public Works

- The subcommittee was reminded to look out for bulletins on the new FASMA contracts, as well as invites to Departmental Recycling Program and County Surplus Program meetings. (Strategy 1, Initiative A3)
- The Departmental Recycling Program has released a newsletter to distribute to Department Recycling Coordinators to inform them of recycling opportunities. Feedback on the newsletter was requested from the group. (Strategy 1, Initiative A3)
 - A survey was sent in August 2018 to Department Recycling Coordinators requesting feedback on how to improve the program and what topics they would like featured at meetings.
- A question was asked if the Solid Waste Information Management System (SWIMS) also includes weight information of waste pickups. Haulers do not weigh each pickup; the truck is weighed at the transfer station. In the future, Public Works would like to be able to weigh each load as it is collected.
- A question was asked on updates to the County's Green Purchasing Policy. Updating the policy will be a priority for the new Roadmap year. After doing some research on green office products, Public Works found several alternatives to commonly purchased items that are more environmentally friendly. Public Works

will contact ISD to arrange a meeting to revise the policy in the near future. (Strategy 2, Initiative B3)

- During the next Roadmap year, Public Works plans to circulate a survey to obtain information on the purchasing practices of various departments. Prior to drafting the survey, Public Works will evaluate its own purchasing policies and practices.
- Public Works will also be focusing on motor oil and oil filters. In 1998, the Board passed a motion requiring all County departments to purchase recycled oil for County vehicles.
 - Public Works has been replacing its vehicles with electric vehicles (EVs). There are some questions on the effectiveness of medium-duty electric trucks.
 - The rush to convert to electric vehicles might be shortsighted if the lifecycle analysis of the electricity that is being used by EVs is not considered. County departments are urged also to consider “near-zero emission” vehicles, such as those that run on renewable natural gas, that may have a smaller carbon footprint.
- Meeting attendees were reminded that used toner cartridges can be donated via the County Surplus Program. Alternatively, as Xerox is a contract printer equipment vendor, County departments have the option to employ the free takeback program of Xerox for their used toner cartridges. (Strategy 1, Initiative B1)
- During site visits for the CIRP contract, it was noticed that some County facilities are located close to one another; those County facilities that are in close proximity could partner to contract for recycling services, such as organic waste and paper, to reduce costs. (Strategy 2, Initiative C2)
- Meeting attendees were reminded that the next tier of AB 1826 begins in January 2019 and that all County facilities that generate at least four cubic yards of trash each week will be affected.
 - SB 1383 will require that all organic waste generators have organics recycling service, including residential lots, effective in 2022.
 - Unlike AB 1826, SB 1383 will have penalties for generators that are not compliant.

Meeting Participants

NAME	DEPARTMENT
Ken Pellman	ACWM
Violet Contreras	Alt. Public Defender
Iris Reign	Arts Commission
Isaura Capell	Auditor-Controller
Ted Lo	Internal Services
Alex Mena	Parks & Recreation
Chris Sheppard	Public Works - SPSO
Tera Haramoto	Public Works - SPSO

NAME	DEPARTMENT
Bernadet Garcia-Silva	Public Health
Oscar Chica	Regional Planning
Anna Petrosyan	RR/CC
Adrienne B. Ferree	Sheriff
Francisca Mandujano	Public Works - EPD
Jason Jones	Public Works - EPD
Kawsar Vazifdar	Public Works - EPD
Kimberly Lyman	Public Works - EPD
Mireille Nseir	Public Works - EPD
Nam Doan	Public Works - EPD
Nilda Gemeniano	Public Works - EPD
Patrick Holland	Public Works - EPD
Veronica Murray	Public Works - EPD
Vigen Abramyan	Public Works - EPD