

Roadmap to a Sustainable Waste Management Future Working Group Meeting

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

Thursday, December 7, 2017
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

MEETING SUMMARY

Welcome and Introductions

Vanessa Olivas, Public Works

- Attendees were welcomed and participants introduced themselves.
- Attendees were informed that moving forward Focus Areas/Subcommittees will schedule independent meetings to discuss topics relevant to their Focus Area at the pace needed to achieve their established goals. Participants will be notified of the meeting dates and times.
- Attendees were informed that tours will continue to be scheduled. Participants were encouraged to suggest tour locations.

Summary of Waste Laws

Food Waste Recycling Implementation at Public Works Update

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

- Provided an update on the Public Works Food Waste Recycling Program and discussed Assembly Bill (AB) 1826 (2014) and Senate Bill (SB) 1383 (2016).
- A reason Public Works implemented the Food Waste Recycling Program is to satisfy the requirements of AB 1826. This California state law requires businesses, including County facilities, to arrange for organic waste recycling services if they generate over a certain threshold of organic waste each week.
- Although certain County facilities are required to comply with AB 1826, all County facilities will be required to comply with another organic waste law, SB 1383, by the year 2022.
- SB 1383 establishes statewide targets to reduce organic waste disposal 50% by 2020, 75% by 2025, and directs CalRecycle to prepare regulations to achieve these targets.
- Our goal is to ensure that all County facilities are model facilities, which includes complying with all State laws and regulations.
- Public Works sent letters to all County Departments in March 2016 and December 2016 reminding them of the need for County facilities to comply with AB 1826.
- Attendees were reminded that the Facility Ancillary Services Master Agreements (FASMA) contracts will be updated and become effective April 1, 2018 and therefore, the haulers may be different after the contracts are updated.

Discussion:

- An infographic is being developed to provide information to County Departments on reducing and recycling organic waste. Attendees were asked for feedback.
- There was a suggestion for a letter from the Chief Executive Office (CEO) to go out to each Department to emphasize the importance of compliance.

Puente Hills MRF & JWPC Plant - Organics Processing Presentation

Mark McDannel, Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (Presentation begins on slide [#17](#))

- The Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (Sanitation Districts) Wastewater Facilities have evolved to 11 wastewater treatment plants that stretch from the Antelope Valley and the Santa Clarita Valley to the ocean and jointly handle nearly 430 million gallons of wastewater per day.
- Food waste recycling steps were discussed, which includes pre-processing, anaerobic digestion, and energy recovery (slide [#19](#) of the presentation).
- The Sanitation Districts have been working on a four-year demonstration project with Waste Management, which demonstrated that co-digestion of food waste at a wastewater treatment plant is feasible and does not significantly impact treatment plant operations.
- They are in the processes of installing a Doda system at the Puente Hills Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) with a capacity of 165 tpd, which will be completed by April 2018.
- Discussed what the Sanitation Districts are currently doing including short term and long-term plans (slides [#26-30](#)).

Breakout Sessions

County Unincorporated Communities

During the meeting, we discussed the following initiatives under Strategy 1:

- Impacts of proposed SB 1383 regulations on generators (Initiative A2.E).
 - Increased accountability for generators and of County oversight and responsibilities (e.g. reporting, monitoring, enforcement).
 - Expansion of impacted generators to traditionally excluded groups (e.g. residents, food trucks, large temporary events, etc.).
- Challenges associated with affecting behavioral change (Initiatives C1-C3).
 - Cost disincentive.
 - Impact to number of responsibilities for employees and labor staff.
 - Limitations of non-exclusive commercial franchise system.
- Potential role that the Arts Commission may have in changing how organics recycling is viewed (e.g. “make it cool”) (Initiative A2.E).
 - Developing incentives for businesses such as restaurants by designing door decals.
 - Promoting early adopters of commercial organic waste recycling through publicity and partnership.
 - Giving early adopters a sense of ownership and stewardship.
- Commercial Food Waste Pilot Program (Initiative D1).
 - Current participation.
 - Ways to increase participation in the program.
 - Focusing on specific communities close to Puente Hills Material Recovery Facility and trying to build up enough interest in creating route density.

Regional/Countywide

During the meeting, we discussed the following (Strategy 3, Initiative A-B):

- Countywide Sustainability Plan is currently being prepared by the CEO
 - Plan will include chapters for various sustainability issues, including solid waste, and will have some overlap with the Roadmap.
 - First draft of the Plan will be released in Summer 2018 and Public Works will have an opportunity to review and provide feedback.
 - Plan will require significant outreach to various communities in Los Angeles County.
- Public Works is preparing the Countywide Organic Waste Management Plan
 - Will determine if the County's 15-year needs can be met utilizing the existing organic waste processing capacity.
 - Will require Public Works to conduct outreach to cities in Los Angeles County.
- Public Works is preparing the Countywide Siting Element
 - Describes how the County and the cities within the County plan to manage the disposal of their solid waste for a 15-year planning period.
 - Will require outreach to waste industry and cities to identify and vet potential locations for conversion technology projects.
 - Public Works will need to conduct outreach to cities prior to local adoption of the Countywide Siting Element.
- The Regional/Countywide Subcommittee and the Chief Sustainability Office plan to coordinate their outreach efforts in the future.

County Operations

Discussion included priority initiatives and brainstorming milestone tasks, knowledge gaps, and experts needed to comprehensively discuss issues related to tasks and initiatives (Strategy 1).

- Assist County departments in managing their organic waste (Initiative D1).
 - Discussed various types of organic recycling projects that can be piloted at different departments.
 - Roadmap presentations can be conducted at department board deputy meetings and high-level department administration meetings to help keep departments accountable.
 - Department recycling coordinators can work with department procurement and facility managers to confirm application of related County policies.
- Assist County departments in contracting more sustainable products and services (Initiative A2).
 - Procure sustainable products and services.
 - Help keep departments accountable.
 - The CEO can send a memo to department directors to include a MAPP goal regarding solid waste management and green supplies/services procurement.
 - Roadmap presentations can be conducted at department board deputy meetings and high-level department administration meetings.
 - Department recycling coordinators can work with department procurement managers, department fleet managers, and department surplus coordinators to confirm application of related County policies.
- Assist with establishing or amending County policies regarding solid waste management (Initiatives A2 & 4).

- The Green Purchasing Policy can be amended with the help of Internal Services Department. A policy can be developed to require departments to use re-refined instead of conventional motor oil and to recycle motor oil.
- Further develop a framework to monitor and measure the success of waste reduction programs at County facilities (Initiative B1).
 - Data can be collected Countywide with the help of the Chief Information Office, and it can be collected by department.
 - Reporting requirements can be included in contracts.
 - Help keep departments accountable, involve department management in reporting to continue compliance and innovation of related department programs. These tasks can also be implemented in leased County facilities with the help of CEO Real Estate group.

Outreach and Education

Discussed proposed goals/focus for next reporting year:

- Continue to promote the Bring Your Own (BYO) campaign to County staff and Regionally (County Operations/Regional/Countywide, Strategy 4).
 - Use Social Media.
 - Develop program toolkit.
 - Work with County departments to get the message out.
- Develop a Food Waste Prevention and Source Reduction Outreach Program.
 - Reach out to Andre Villasenor, EPA, to discuss potential collaboration.
 - Participate in available webinars to learn what is already being done.
- Establish partnerships to enhance outreach and education opportunities (Regional/Countywide, Strategy 4 - Initiative A1c).
- Explore Grant Opportunities (County Unincorporated Communities, Strategy 2 – Initiative C5).

Meeting Participants

Name	Department
Andrea	SD1
Robert Meneses	Public Defender
Eve Lopez	Public Works EPD

COUNTY UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITIES	
Iris Reign	Arts Commission
La Salle Duong	Public Works EPD
Suk	Public Works EPD

REGIONAL COUNTYWIDE	
Rita Kampalath	CEO
Carlos Slythe	Public Works EPD
Patrick Holland	Public Works EPD
Gerald Ley	Public Works EPD
Kawsar Vazifdar	Public Works EPD

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION	
Bernadet Garcia-Silva	Public Health
Christian Olmos	Consumer & Business Affairs
Vanessa Olivas	Public Works EPD
Tranette Sanders	Public Works EPD
Theresa Hernandez	Public Works EPD
Angelica Gunderson	Public Works EPD

COUNTY OPERATIONS	
Candelaria Rodarte	Internal Services
Bertha Ruiz-Hofmann	Parks & Recreation
Alex Mena	Parks & Recreation
John Allen	Children Support
Frank Estrada	Animal Care and Control
Chris Shepperd	Public Works - SPSO
Clark Ajwani	Public Works EPD
Kimberly Lyman	Public Works EPD
Nilda Gemeniano	Public Works EPD
Francisca Mandujano	Public Works EPD
Arlene Morales	Public Works EPD