

Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force

Unofficial Minutes of April 16, 2015

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, California

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Margaret Clark, California League of Cities-Los Angeles Division
Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative
Ron Saldana, Los Angeles County Disposal Association

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Gail Farber, rep by Pat Proano, County of Los Angeles Dept. of Public Works
Grace Robinson Hyde, rep by Chris Salomon, County Sanitation Districts of
Los Angeles County
Jeffrey Gunzenhauser, rep by John Kaddis, County of Los Angeles Department of
Public Health

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Mayor Mary Ann Lutz, California League of Cities-Los Angeles Division
Dr. Sam Perdomo, Business/Commerce Representative
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative
Carl Clark, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc.
David Kim, City of Los Angeles
Michael Conway, City of Long Beach Public Works Department
Mitchell Englander, City of Los Angeles
Barry Wallerstein, South Coast Air Quality Management District
Enrique Zaldivar, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation

OTHERS PRESENT:

Carlos Ruiz, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Tranette Sanders, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Coby Skye, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Patrick Holland, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Gabriel Arenas, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Dale Sargent, City of Santa Clarita
Carlos Slythe, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Jason Jones, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Kathy Salama, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Wayde Hunter, NVC/GHNNC
Joe Vitti, NVC/GHNNC
Chris Sheppard, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Russell Bukoff, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Lena Wiegand, CalRecycle
Bereket Tadele, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Angelica Gunderson, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Wayne Fishback, Liberty Ranch

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 1:15 p.m., by Ms. Margaret Clark.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 19, 2015, MINUTES

Approval of the February minutes was postponed until the next meeting due to the lack of a quorum.

III. REPORT FROM THE ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE (ATAS)

Mr. Gabriel Arenas reported that during the Alternative Technology Advisory Subcommittee (ATAS) meeting there was a presentation by Mango Materials which is a company located in the Bay area. They have a microbial process that can turn methane into biopolymers which can be used to make multitude of plastic products.

The subcommittee discussed a revised concept document for a potential conversion technology conference for this year. They also discussed several edits to the document which will be included in a revised document to be distributed to the ATAS members prior to next month's meeting. The ATAS approved a motion to allow staff to move forward with putting the conference together.

It was reported that the Conversion Technology (CT) White Paper is undergoing a last round of revisions based on comments received as a result of the peer review process. Public Works consultants are developing an executive summary document for the White Paper.

In regards to CT project developments, Traacey Anthony of Alternative Resources Inc. (ARI) reported that over the past few weeks, they have been focusing on the Pitchess Detention Center project. ARI is reviewing the CT company database to confirm costs and operating assumptions for modeling purposes.

It was reported that the City of Sierra Madre recently held a meeting where a discussion took place for potential CT project at one of their facilities. Sierra Madre residents are open to the possibility.

Lastly, either May or June's ATAS meeting may take place at the County Sanitation Districts' Carson facility which currently has a food waste processing project. Logistics would still need to be worked out for that meeting.

IV. REPORT FROM THE FACILITY & PLAN REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE (FPRS)

Ms. Betsey Landis gave her report from the Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee. Ms. Landis reported that the FPRS spent most of their time discussing the updates of the AQMD consulting services for Analysis of Odor Control Problem.

Mr. Landis also updated the Task Force on the odor complaints. Over the last year in February the number of complaints increased by 150 percent. In March 2014, there were 164 complaints and in March 2015 there were 297 complaints. The FPRS came up with ideas to continue to work with the odor problem.

Ms. Landis reported that the FPRS also discussed the Application for a Finding of Conformance for the Azusa Land Reclamation Landfill which has been going on for a year. In January, Public Works sent a letter to Azusa asking for completion of their FOC application, but there has not been a response. The Subcommittee passed a motion for the Task Force to send another letter to Azusa.

V. REPORT ON CURBSIDE HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION SURVEY

Ms. Tranette Sanders gave an update on curbside and door-to-door household hazardous waste (HHW) programs. Ms. Sanders reported that staff conducted research on curbside and door-to-door HHW programs. The specific focus was programs within the County of Los Angeles. The research was based on jurisdictions reporting as door-to-door or curbside programs to CalRecycle through the Form 303.

Staff surveyed 51 jurisdictions throughout California, 13 of which are within Los Angeles County. After further investigation, only eight of the 13 County jurisdictions were actual door-to-door or curbside programs.

Ms. Sanders stated that according to the door-to-door programs, a door-to-door HHW program is defined in state regulations as "a program operated by a public agency, or its contractor, that collects household hazardous waste from individual residences, and transports that waste in an inspected and certified hazardous waste transport vehicle to an authorized household hazardous waste collection

facility” (California Health and Safety Code, Section 25218.1(c)). A curbside HHW program is defined as “a recycling program that collects materials set out by households for collection at the curb at intervals not less than every two weeks”. “Curbside collection program” does not include redemption centers, buyback locations, drop-off programs, material recovery facilities, or plastic recovery facilities (California Public Resource Code, Section 42301 (b)).

Staff’s research so far has produced the following information:

There are three types of door-to-door programs/services: 1) HHW Collection programs which collect includes certain household chemicals, universal wastes, sharps, pharmaceuticals, and miscellaneous items such as mercury and compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) 2) electronic waste (E-Waste) computers, printers, keyboards, televisions, VCRs, scanners, cell phones, fax machines, stereos, radios, alarm clocks, hair dryers, and electronic games; and 3) programs that collect used motor oil only.

All of these programs require scheduling an appointment directly with the hauler for collection. The resident must identify the type of materials and quantities at the time of scheduling. A collection date is then assigned, and a kit is then mailed to the resident based on the products identified. The resident is responsible for packing the kit and clearly labeling each product identified at the time the appointment was made. Unlabeled products will not be taken and will be left behind. Waste Management is the hauler serving all but two of the city programs. Programs are generally included as part of the cities’ residential franchise agreements. A small fraction of households utilize these programs, typically from less than 1% to 3%.

The types of items collected by these door-to-door programs are limited based on program type. E-waste only programs; used oil only programs; no pharmaceuticals, sharps, or mercury accepted with some programs; and unlabeled items not accepted with some programs.

A few programs only pick up 1 to 4 times a year, and most programs substitute bulky item pickups for HHW pickups. Some cities are charged for certain material types such as used oil and they are charged per household based on material type. Others cities have a flat rate per household.

Program Funding and Costs: Programs are funded through the following methods: residential franchise agreements, grants – such as a fixed HHW budget, and miscellaneous revenue sources.

Specific or itemized costs to the cities are difficult to determine since programs are included as part of their franchise agreements. Some costs are reimbursed through grants.

While the programs are beneficial to the residents they serve, they are not full, comprehensive HHW collection programs. Given the service limitations and low participation rates. These programs appear to be designed to complement , rather than substitute, other programs such as temporary/mobile events and permanent centers. Staff will continue to investigate specific program costs and research jurisdictions outside of the Los Angeles County.

Mr. Ron Saldana commended staff for the report and being proactive.

VI. SUMMARY OF CALRECYCLE'S STATE OF DISPOSAL REPORT

Ms. Bereket Tadele gave the attached presentation summarizing the "State of Disposal in California" report that CalRecycle released in March of 2015. The presentation covered the following topics from CalRecycle's report existing on a *statewide* basis: Disposal and diversion rates, disposal scenarios, projected landfill capacities, waste flows, waste characterization, and landfill fees.

VII. CALRECYCLE UPDATE

Ms. Lena Wiegand reported on the following items:

- AB 1826 (Solid Waste: Organic Waste) – Stakeholders are having a meeting in Sacramento and on April 28, 2015, Cal Recycle will have a meeting in Diamond Bar.
- AB 1594 (Compostable Organics Management) – Starting in 2020 green waste will no longer count as ADC.
- Four Grants are available:
 - Greenhouse Gas Reduction - The budget is \$25 million for 2015-2016. The application will be release late April or the beginning of May.
 - LEA Grant Program – Applications are due May 21, 2015. Available budget is \$1.5 million.
 - Tire Amnesty Program – Applications are due April 29, 2015. This grant funds business to use crumb rubber rather than virgin rubber.
 - City/County Payment Program – Applications are due June 23, 2015.

Mr. Ron Saldana made a comment on the greenhouse gas reduction program. Mr. Saldana suggested CalRecycle consider the fact that Southern California has a high population when awarding the grants.

VIII. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Chris Sheppard gave an update on the [attached legislative table](#). Since the Task Force did not have quorum, staff was directed to review previous positions the Task Force has held and to draft letters accordingly.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

X. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next Task Force meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 21, 2015, in Conference Room B.

The meeting adjourned at 3:29 p.m.

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