

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

Minutes of June 15, 2017

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
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative
Ron Saldana, California Waste and Recycling Association
Sam Pedroza, California League of Cities-Los Angeles Division

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Mark Pestrella, rep by Carlos Ruiz, County of Los Angeles Dept. of Public Works
Enrique Zaldivar, rep by Reina Pereira, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation
Cynthia Harding, rep by Dorcas Hanson-Lugo, County of Los Angeles Department of
Public Health
Grace Hyde, rep by Sam Shammas, County of Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles
County

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Sam Perdomo, Business/Commerce Representative
David Kim, City of Los Angeles
Rafael Prieto, City of Los Angeles
Wayne Nastri, South Coast Air Quality Management District
Jack Hadijinian, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division
Craig Beck, Long Beach Public Works Department
Mitchell Englander, City of Los Angeles

OTHERS PRESENT:

Dale Sargent, City of Santa Clarita
Joe Vitti, SCL-CAC
Wayde Hunter, NVC/SCL-CAC/GHNNC
Elizabeth Fisher, Valley Vista Services
Jennifer Wallin, CalRecycle
Patrick Holland, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Clark Ajwani, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Caren Alvarez, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Saeid Shirzadegan, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Trishena Robinson, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Gabriel Esparza, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Kristin Keating, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Tranette Sanders, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Morena Guardado, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 1:16 p.m. by Ms. Margaret Clark.

II. APPROVAL OF MAY 18, 2017, MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Mike Mohajer and seconded by Ms. Betsey Landis to approve the May 18, 2017, minutes as corrected. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Mr. Clark Ajwani provided a report from the Alternative Technology Advisory Subcommittee meeting. He informed the Task Force members that Mr. Mark McDannel from the County Sanitation District (CSD) provided a PowerPoint presentation updating the Subcommittee on the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts' (LACSD) Food Waste Recycling Program. LACSD is currently receiving source separated food waste at the Puente Hills Materials Recovery Facility (Puente Hills MRF), where it is then relayed for further processing. LACSD also receives 62 tons per day (tpd) of food waste at their Joint Water Pollution Control Plant (JWPCP) in Carson.

Mr. McDannel mentioned that their plan to expand the program consists of three projects. The first being the ability to do all food waste pre-processing at Puente Hills MRF without assistance from private sector by purchasing a DODA system. DODA is a food waste bioseparator system and expects to be installed at the MRF in March 2018. The second project consists of converting their existing compressed natural gas fueling station at JWPCP to a compressed renewable natural gas (biomethane) fueling station. The Third project entails expanding the amount of digestible food waste at JWPCP.

It was asked if the presentation included cost and Mr. Ajwani mentioned the Puente Hills MRF expecting to keep the current tipping fee at \$85 per ton and they are also working on a cost per gallon for haulers to deliver slurry at the Carson Plant. Ms. Margaret Clark would like staff to look into more programs for the food recycling/donations. Mr. Ajwani stated that the Commercial Franchise section is developing a food waste donation program and working with non-profit organizations to expand the donation efforts. Ms. Reina Pereira also stated that the Los Angeles City's Franchise program, which will be implemented on July 1, 2017, will require a food reuse and recovery before the processing.

Mr. Mike Mohajer stated the CSD will be providing a tour of the Puente Hills MRF for the ATAS.

Mr. Ajwani also reported that the 2017 Conversion Technology Workshop is still being planned. Staff has prepared a Workshop Plan, received comments from the Subcommittee and will finalize the plan to send to Public Works Administration for approval. Staff expects to have a potential date for the workshop by the next Task Force Meeting.

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

Ms. Betsy Landis reported the total number of complaints made to the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) hotline regarding odors at Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL) from April 2017 to May 2017 decreased by 84 percent from 116 to 19 complaints. In comparison with May 2016, the number of complaints decreased by 37 percent from 30 to 19 complaints. The total number of complaints received by SCAQMD since 2009 was 10,836. The total number of complaints received by SCAQMD in 2017 was 863. The total number of Notices of Violation (NOV) since 2009 is 215. As of June 15, 2017, SCAQMD issued zero NOVs to SCL in the month of May.

Ms. Landis reported that graphs provided to the FPRS by staff depicted the number of complaints and the amount of leachate removed at SCL. The amount of leachate Republic has been capturing has increased and may be the reason why the complaint numbers are looking better. The FPRS will be watching to see if this is a long-term trend

Ms. Landis also stated that the Task Force received a letter from Republic on June 5, 2017, stating that the Task Force is overstepping its bounds by asking for more information on the intermediate cover enhancement project, which they feel the Task Force has no authority to do so. Ms. Landis stated that County Counsel had previously sent a letter to Mr. Sherman stating that the Task Force does have authority to request information and asked staff to re-send the letter previously sent from County Counsel to Republic Services via e-mail.

Ms. Landis also reported there was an update on Chiquita Canyon Landfill. On June 27, 2017, the Board of Supervisors will be holding a meeting to review the CUP for the Chiquita Canyon Landfill, and five different entities appealed the new CUP.

She also reported that the Calabasas Landfill Finding of Conformance (FOC) is currently being worked on. Mr. Sam Shammass provided the Subcommittee with a large-scale map of the Calabasas Landfill.

Finally, Ms. Landis reported that there was discussion on the FOC reports, in which there were some discrepancies regarding Waste Management's reports for the Antelope Valley and Lancaster Landfills. Waste Management did not use a unit of measure, such as tonnages, to describe the amount of materials received, only percentages. Staff will be requesting that Waste Management provide the data in tonnages.

V. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Ms. Caren Alvarez provided an update on current legislation and reviewed items on the attached [legislative table](#).

AB 378 (Garcia, Holden, and Garcia) – Greenhouse Gases, Criteria Air Pollutants, and Toxic Air Contaminants. Mr. Mike Mohajer made a motion to send a letter of opposition unless amended, seconded by Mr. Carlos Ruiz. Motion passed unanimously.

AB 954 (Chiu) – Food Labeling: Guidelines: Quality and Safety Dates. Mr. Mohajer made a motion to send a letter of support, seconded by Mr. Ruiz. Motion passed unanimously.

AB 1132 (Garcia) – Nonvehicular Air Pollution: Order for Abatement. Mr. Mohajer made a motion to send a letter of support, seconded by Mr. Ruiz. Motion passed unanimously.

AB 1180 (Holden) – Hazardous Materials: Motor Vehicle Tires that Contain Zinc Oxide Substances. Mr. Sam Pedroza made a motion to send a letter of support, seconded by Mr. Mohajer. Motion passed unanimously.

AB 1219 (Eggman) – Food Donations. Ms. Margaret Clark made a motion to send a letter of support, seconded by Mr. Mohajer. Motion passed unanimously.

AB 1288 (Eggman) – Solid Waste: Management: Funding. Staff stated this is a spot bill and recommended to watch at this time.

AB 1294 (Berman and Acosta) – Solid Waste: Plastic Products. Mr. Mohajer made a motion to send a letter of support, seconded by Mr. Pedroza. Motion passed unanimously.

SB 49 (De Leon and Stern) – California Environmental, Public Health, and Workers Defense Act of 2017. Staff recommended to watch at this time.

SB 100 (De Leon) – California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program: Emissions of Greenhouse Gases. Mr. Mohajer made a motion to send a letter of opposition unless amended, seconded by Mr. Ruiz. Motion passed unanimously.

SB 102 (Senate Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) – California Beverage Container Recycling and Litter Reduction Act: State Property. Staff recommended to watch at this time.

SB 168 (Wieckowski) – Beverage Container Recycling Act of 2017. Staff stated this a 2 year bill and recommended to watch at this time.

SB 448 (Wieckowski) – Local Government: Organization: Districts. Mr. Mohajer made a motion to send a letter of opposition, seconded by Mr. Ruiz. Motion passed unanimously.

SB 705 (Allen) – Expanded Polystyrene Food Service Containers. Staff stated this is a 2 year bill and recommended to watch at this time.

VI. SUNSHINE CANYON LANDFILL STATUS UPDATE

Mr. Gabriel Esparza provided an update on the Sunshine Canyon Landfill. Mr. Esparza stated that staff previously provided an update regarding the NOV issued by the Department of Regional Planning to Republic Services on October 25, 2016, based on a referral made by Public Works due to Republic Services lack of response to odor mitigation requirements imposed by Public Works. Republic's request for appeal of the NOV was considered before a Hearing Officer on May 2, 2017. At that hearing, the Hearing Officer made her determination and denied Republic's Appeal of the NOV.

On May 11, 2017, Republic Services paid the penalty fees of \$174,000 to the County Department of Regional Planning, and in a letter from Republic, they stated the checks and payments are being delivered under protest and without waiver of BFI's (Republic's) right to seek judicial review of the Hearing Officer's decision at the May 2, 2017, hearing.

Regional Planning provided staff with reference to Los Angeles County Code Chapter 22 which states: "The decision of the hearing officer shall be final and effective on the date of decision, and it shall not be subject to further administrative appeal."

As of now Regional Planning has not received a notice of judicial appeal from Republic Services on this issue.

VII. CHIQUITA CANYON LANDFILL STATUS UPDATE

Mr. Saeid Shirzadegan provided an update on Chiquita Canyon Landfill. On April 19, 2017, the Los Angeles County Regional Planning Commission approved the Chiquita Canyon Landfill's conditional use permit. However, there have been 5 appeals from the Landfill's operator and the surrounding communities regarding this approval. The appeals will be discussed in the Board of Supervisor's meeting on June 27, 2017. Staff will monitor the event and will give you updates at the next Task Force meeting.

VIII. FIVE-YEAR PLAN FOR THE WASTE TIRE RECYCLING MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Patrick Holland provided an update on the State's Five-Year Plan for the Waste Tire Recycling Management Program (WTRMP). Mr. Holland stated that a monthly public meeting was held on May 16, 2017, and during that meeting there was an action item on the agenda for the Adoption of the Five-year plan for the WTRMP Report due July 2017, which is the 9th edition, and covers FY 2017/18 through 2021/22. This report is required as part of SB 876 to provide comprehensive measure to extend and expand States regulatory measures related to waste tires.

Mr. Holland stated that the first plan was adopted in March 2001 and subsequent plans every two years after that. The programs of the plan include: enforcement, remediation, hauler and manifest, research, and market development. CalRecycle is seeking out stakeholder input as part of the process and conducted a workshop on November 16, 2016, which included discussions of proposed revisions to the budget allocation and program activities.

Mr. Holland also stated that the proposed plan includes: developing long-term demand for recycled tires, ensuring protection of public safety and the environment, and fostering information flow of technology and product development. The key findings of report were the recycling rate of used tires fell to 81 percent in 2015, down from an all-time high of 93 percent in 2012. Some of the possible factors attributing to this include the dynamic of waste tire exports and the impact to tire-derived fuel due to reduction in global fossil fuel costs. The current market development plan continues to focus on increasing processing of California waste tires into products. Per Sally French of CalRecycle, the Request for Approval of the Five-Year Tire Plan was approved

at the May monthly meeting. The Plan will take effect on July 1, 2017, or when the Governor signs the FY 2017/18 State Budget.

IX. UPDATE ON THE REGIONAL/COUNTYWIDE ORGANIC WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Ms. Trishena Robinson provided the Update on the Regional/Countywide Organic Waste Management Plan. Ms. Robinson stated that a link containing the initial preliminary draft of the document was sent via email to the Task Force on September 15, 2016, for a 30-day review and comment period, which was eventually extended until December 2016. On May 1, 2017, a link to the latest draft of the document, which included all appropriate comments received up until that point, was sent to all members of the Task Force in a meeting invite for the Public Works Organic Waste Management Workshop.

On May 23, 2017, staff, as well as representatives from our consultant TetraTech BAS, held a workshop and presented information on the recently drafted Los Angeles County Countywide Organic Waste Management Plan. The Workshop was attended by about 100 people, with representatives from CalRecycle, the waste collection industry, other County agencies, and 37 cities, including the cities of Los Angeles and Long Beach.

The Workshop provided information on the Countywide Organic Waste Management Plan, which is a planning document that describes the current state of organic waste disposal, recycling, and diversion within the County. Information was also provided on an options analysis of various organic waste collection programs, which many of the cities found particularly beneficial, as well as a section on the markets for organic products. The presentation concluded with a discussion of what the County unincorporated area is currently doing, such as providing education, outreach, and monitoring to businesses, and information on our food waste pilot programs.

Immediately following the Workshop, there was a 'question and answer' session with good discussion and very positive feedback from the audience in attendance. We've also received appreciative emails indicating that this information will prove helpful as other jurisdictions are preparing their own plans.

Following the workshop, an email was sent out to the over 400 invitees with links to the complete document, the PowerPoint presentation, as well as an audio recording of the Workshop, in case they were unable to attend or watch.

All comments received up to this point were considered and incorporated appropriately. Additionally, an email was sent out to all members of the

Task Force on May 31, 2017, reminding each member that the deadline to submit final comments was June 8; 2017, however, if anyone has any final comments we can take them right now, as we are in the process of finalizing the document.

Ms. Reina Pereira made a comment that the City of Los Angeles will be providing comments within the next two weeks, it was stated that the earlier the better since there are some internal deadlines. Mr. Mike Mohajer made a comment that he would like the definition of organic waste to be consistent with the definition in AB 1826. The Task Force provided comments to add a discussion to the Regional/Countywide Organic Waste Management Plan to include land application, mulching, and quarantine zones.

X. CALRECYCLE UPDATE

Ms. Jennifer Wallin provided an update from CalRecycle stated that she would be happy to bring any concerns back to CalRecycle that the Task Force may have and after an extensive conversation on the legislation and how to get more traction in Southern California since it seems that most items effect Northern California.

Ms. Wallin also stated that the 2016 annual report was released June 2017 and is due by August 1, 2017. Ms. Wallin also stated the SB 1383 Workshop will be held on June 21, 2017, in Sacramento, which will be webcast and a local workshop on June 26, 2017, in the City of Lakewood. She also stated that there are a few grants available, which are the 2016/17 Food Waste Prevention and Rescue Grant Program due by July 18, 2017 and 2017–18 Used Oil Payment Program (OPP) due by June 29, 2017.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Wayde Hunter commented that he would like to thank staff for changing the allotted times listed for the agenda items to more accurately reflect the actual amount of time that will be spent on the items but he would also like to suggest that we make the time for the legislative update be about four minutes per bill under discussion to make it even more accurate.

Mr. Hunter also commented on the committee members that are not present and reflected on the Task Force minutes. Mr. Hunter feels that each member needs a designated alternate and if the member cannot attend then the designated alternate needs to be present.

XII. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 20, 2017, in conference room B.

The meeting adjourned at 3:07 p.m.

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