

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

August 20, 2026

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ed Chen, League of California Cities
Margaret Clark, League of California Cities
David Fahrion, California Waste and Recycling Association
Jeff Farano, Sr., Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries
Jim Smith, Teamster Local 396, City of Los Angeles

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Robert Ferrante, rep by Sam Shammass, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts
Barbara Ferrer, rep by Tawny Ho, Los Angeles County Public Health
Wayne Nastri, rep by Philip Crabbe, III, South Coast Air Quality Management District
Mark Pestrella, rep by Cid Tesoro, Los Angeles County Public Works

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Bob Dowell, Long Beach Energy and Environmental Services Department
Joone Kim-Lopez, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation
Rafael Prieto, City of Los Angeles

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jonathan Brazile, Office of County Counsel Los Angeles County
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens
Khaled Alqam, Los Angeles County Public Works
Siya Araumi, Los Angeles County Public Works
Alexander Castro, Los Angeles County Public Works
Ana Diaz, Los Angeles County Public Works
Perla Gomez, Los Angeles County Public Works
Anna Gov, Los Angeles County Public Works
Tran Kiem, Los Angeles County Public Works
Londy Lin, Los Angeles County Public Works
Aaron Nolan, Los Angeles County Public Works
Carol Saucillo, Los Angeles County Public Works
Kawsar Vazifdar, Los Angeles County Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 1:12 p.m. by Mr. Cid Tesoro who served as Chair, representing Director Mark Pestrella.

II. APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 18, 2026, AND JULY 16, 2026, MINUTES

Mr. Ed Chen made a motion to approve the [June 18, 2026](#), and [July 16, 2026](#), minutes, and Mr. David Fahrion seconded. Minutes were approved unanimously.

III. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Siya Araumi provided the following State Legislative Update:

- The legislative session is nearing its end-of-month deadline.
- On August 13, 2026, the Senate and Assembly Appropriations Committees held crucial fiscal hearings to decide which bills advance to the floor, and which ones die for the session.
- All bills currently on the floor have until midnight on August 31, 2026, to pass their final votes and head to the Governor.
- The Governor has until September 30, 2026, to sign or veto bills.

There are seven bills on the [Legislative Table](#). The following Assembly Bill (AB) failed to pass the Senate Appropriations Committee by August 13, 2026, deadline, so is dead for this legislative session:

- [AB 27 \(Schiavo\)](#) amended June 19, 2025 – Personal Income Tax Law: Corporation Tax Law: Chiquita Canyon elevated temperature landfill event: exclusion.

The following six bills cleared their Appropriations Suspense File hearings on August 13, 2026, and now face final floor votes before reaching the Governor.

- [AB 28 \(Schiavo\)](#) amended August 21, 2026 – Solid waste landfills: subsurface temperatures.
- [AB 762 \(Irwin\)](#) amended August 20, 2026 – Disposable, battery-embedded vapor inhalation devices: prohibition and penalties.
- [AB 1153 \(Bonta\)](#) amended June 18, 2026 – Illegal disposal site abatement.
- [Senate Bill \(SB\) 501 \(Allen\)](#) amended August 17, 2026 – Responsible Battery Recycling Act of 2022: covered batteries.
- [SB 811 \(Caballero\)](#) amended August 13, 2026 – Hazardous materials: metal shredding facilities.
- [SB 936 \(Blakespear and Umberg\)](#) amended July 2, 2026 – Nitrous oxide: sales.

Ms. Margaret Clark requested clarification on how a failed bill's language can be moved into another bill. Mr. Araumi noted that legislators might have disliked some AB 27 provisions. However, the provision from AB 27, which makes payments tax-free for residents near Chiquita Canyon Landfill for tax years 2024 through 2029, was moved into SB 132, which was passed.

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

Mr. Araumi reported the following from the ATAS meeting:

The Subcommittee received a [presentation](#) from the City of Napa (City) on their anaerobic digestion (AD) technology, which processes high-solids organic waste streams and converts them into renewable natural gas at the Napa Recycling Composting Facility. The City's big advantage is that they have access to their own fleet and feedstock, and noted their current capacity is approximately 20,000 tons per year.

Ms. Clark asked if they are the only city in the state that can operate such a facility. Mr. Araumi noted two other AD facilities that exist; one north of San Francisco and the other in San Diego County, and that staff is working to have the San Diego facility present to the ATAS. He also highlighted key logistical factors for having AD facilities in Los Angeles County (County), such as required facility size, available land, access to feedstock, and capital expenditures. Discussion ensued.

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

Mr. Sam Shammass reported the following from the FPRS meeting:

Antelope Valley Landfill Finding of Conformance

Public Works staff are still reviewing the Antelope Valley Landfill Finding of Conformance application and plan to provide an update at next month's Subcommittee meeting.

Chiquita Canyon Landfill (CCL)

- In July 2026, CCL received 26 Notices of Violation (NOVs) from the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD), related to odor, compared to the 10 NOVs reported in June 2026
- Compared to July 2025, CCL received 5 NOVs.
- CCL continues to be under a Stipulated Order for Abatement (SOA) that was last modified on June 3, 2026.

- The next SOA status hearing is scheduled for September 16, 2026, when new conditions are expected to be added to the order.
- From August 1 through 11, 2026, CCL received 10 NOVs and 450 odor complaints.
- Since January 2023, there have been 505 public nuisance NOVs including violations for odor for abatement, gas system safety, construction involving asbestos, and blowing dust.

Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL)

- In July 2026, there were 50 odor complaints reported to the AQMD hotline. Of those, 5 were classified as trash odors, 31 were listed as No Field Response, 1 was listed as landfill gas odor, and 13 were classified as None. No NOVs were issued by AQMD.
- Compared to June 2026, odor complaints increased from 26 to 50, and compared to July 2025, complaints decreased from 101 to 50.
- AQMD issued a total of 44 NOVs for the 2026 calendar year.
- To date in August 2026, there have been 55 odor complaints, which is less than half as what was reported last year. No NOVs have been issues since April 23, 2026.

Finding of Conformance

There was discussion on the Second Quarter 2026 Monitoring Report for SCL:

- SCL disposed of approximately 620,000 tons in the Second Quarter of 2026. Compared to the First Quarter, the disposal tonnage decreased by about 6 percent.
- The beneficial reuse material total for the Second Quarter of 2026 was 26,000 tons. Compared to the First Quarter of 2026, the beneficial reuse material increased by about 53 percent.

Transition to Paperless Subcommittee Meetings

There was discussion on paperless Subcommittee meetings, which will also be discussed under the next agenda item.

Mr. Tesoro asked if there was discussion on why landfill odor complaints at SCL dropped by half in July 2026 compared to July 2025. Mr. Shammas stated that SCL has been working with Mr. Eugene Tseng of the Local Enforcement Agency and has made major improvements. Most notably, installing automated controls on the gas wells, which allows them to prioritize gas collection volume over gas quality. Mr. Tseng's group also installed laser systems to monitor emissions every

15 seconds and adjust operations. Additionally, they added new pumps to the flooded wells to remove more water.

Mr. Wayne Hunter agreed with Mr. Shammass' update that the automated gas wells and high-volume pumps are major improvements at SCL. In addition to the highly effective pumps, Mr. Hunter noted that pin wells are also improving SCL, which are 20-foot vertical pipes used to extract additional gas near the surface.

VI. TRANSITION TO PAPERLESS TASK FORCE MEETINGS

Ms. Carol Saucillo informed the Task Force that starting September 17, 2026, Task Force and Subcommittee meetings will be paperless, and that digital materials will continue to be provided in agendas, which can be found on the Task Force [website](#). Additionally, agendas will continue to be emailed to commissioners one week before scheduled meetings. The change in meeting format will reduce paper waste since many printed copies are left at the check-in table after meetings.

Mr. Jeff Farano asked how the public will access meeting documents. Mr. Chen offered that people could view minutes and documents online before the meeting, which is how he prepares. Mr. Farano's concern was that some people might show up without checking online first. Mr. Chen suggested attendees could use their mobile devices. Mr. Tesoro noted that staff will monitor the transition and if it becomes a trend for the public to need printed copies, then hard copies can be made available. Mr. Farano also shared his concern about proper notification to the public and whether the change in format is legal. Mr. Jonathan Brazil with County Counsel noted that the Board of Supervisors (Board) uses a similar process.

Mr. Hunter noted sharing the same concerns at the previous two Subcommittee meetings. Because the meetings will not transition to hybrid format, Mr. Hunter stated they must fully comply with the Brown Act. He raised several key concerns regarding digital-only access including attendees without laptops not able to view digital documents, laptop batteries could run out of power during meetings, and infrastructure needs with the Alhambra Room needing more than one outlet for attendees to charge their electronic devices.

Mr. Smith requested confirmation on whether the meeting documents were available on the Task Force [website](#) so the public could look online and print

documents before attending meetings or so they may access them on their cell phones if they do not have a laptop. Mr. Tesoro confirmed yes.

Mr. Hunter noted that because the meetings are held in person, meeting documents should be available to members of the public who attend. Ms. Clark suggested making five printed copies available as a one- to two-month test before transitioning to a paperless process. Mr. Tesoro stated that staff would monitor the transition and provide hard copies if needed. Mr. Farano noted that the issue is a Brown Act legal question that should be referred to legal counsel rather than treated as an experiment. Mr. Brazile stated that the Board follows a similar paperless process, with meeting materials posted online and hard copies available upon request and noted that paperless meetings are generally permitted. He offered to consult with Commission Services regarding compliance.

Ms. Clark asked if there are enough electrical outlets at Board meetings for people to plug in their electronic devices. Mr. Brazile was unsure but doubted the older Board room had accessible outlets. He explained that his understanding of the Brown Act focuses on advance notice rather than document availability at meetings but could consult with Commission Services.

Mr. Hunter clarified that his concern was primarily for the public because the onscreen agenda is also difficult to read. He suggested providing printed copies at the door, which the public may also use for notetaking. Additionally, expecting attendees to bring laptops is unrealistic.

VII. CALRECYCLE UPDATE

CalRecycle Representatives were unable to attend the meeting, but the [update](#) can be found in the [agenda](#).

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:43 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Thursday, September 17, 2026, at 1 p.m.