

County of Santa Clara

Recycling and Waste Reduction Commission
Integrated Waste Management Division

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TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

July 9, 2009

VOTING MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

ACTERRA

CALIFORNIA RESOURCE RECOVERY ASSN.

CITY OF CUPERTINO

CITY OF GILROY

CITY OF MORGAN HILL

CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

CITY OF PALO ALTO

CITY OF SAN JOSE

CITY OF SANTA CLARA

CITY OF SUNNYVALE

CLARA MATEO

COUNTY UNINCORPORATED AREA

SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY

WEST VALLEY CITIES

Maija McDonald

Richard Gertman

Cheri Donnelly

Tony Eulo

Tony Eulo

Lori Topley

Rene Eyerly

Donna Perala

Dave Staub

Mark Bowers

Julie Muir

Elizabeth Constantino

Bruce Olszewski

Marva Sheehan

Commissioners: Jamie McLeod, Chair; Ronit Bryant, Kansen Chu, Peter Drekmeier, Patrick Kwok, Evan Low, Cat Tucker, Kris Wang, Ken Yeager

VOTING MEMBERS NOT ATTENDING

CITY OF CAMPBELL
CITY OF LOS ALTOS
CITY OF MILPITAS
CITY OF MONTE SERENO
CITY OF SARATOGA
COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
SIERRA CLUB
SILICON VALLEY LEADERSHIP GROUP
TOWN OF LOS ALTOS HILLS
TOWN OF LOS GATOS

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Jill Boone	SCC
Clifton Chew	SCC IWM
Rob D'Arcy	SCC HHW
Matt Dalto	Allied Waste Services
Rob Eastwood	SCC Planning
Wendy Fong	SCC HHW
Karen Gissibl	City of Sunnyvale
Walter Lin	City of San Jose
Lisa Rose	SCC IWM
Dave Staub	City of Santa Clara
Ursula Syrova	City of Sunnyvale
Lisa Tulee	City of San Jose
Christy Wolter	City of San Jose

1. Call to Order

Tony Eulo, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m. A quorum of 10 was present. Those present introduced themselves.

2. Approval of Minutes

Richard Gertman made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2009 TAC meeting. The motion was seconded by Lori Topley. All present voted to approve the minutes. Those not present at the June 11, 2009 TAC meeting abstained.

3. Public Presentations

There were no public presentations.

4. Regional Approach to School Recycling Programs

Christy Wolter said the Go Green Schools Program started three years ago primarily as a recycling program. It has now morphed into a school environmental resource program. One of the biggest problems with the city program has been city lines and school district boundaries are different from one another. Christy is now looking at the Go Green Schools Program from a countywide level as well as a regional level. Two weeks ago, Alameda County, San Mateo County, San Francisco and the City of San Jose met to begin discussing a regional approach. Lisa Rose stated that there is a Green Business checklist for schools and that the Green Business Program has already certified several schools, both private and public throughout the County. Tony also noted that the subject of having a presence in schools was considered a couple of years ago but TAC decided not to make it a countywide effort due to the fact that schools have different and separate governance structures from district to district and city to city.

San Jose has been providing technical assistance, free recycling containers and some fun activities to kick off events at schools. On a broader level, they have developed an on-line resource kit and verbally help schools get in contact with other resources like Green Building, HCEP, etc.

A special follow up meeting will be set up to talk about schools (not as an ad hoc subcommittee) regarding the place of a countywide effort in both operations and curriculum. Clifton Chew will send out a request to all TAC members to respond to Christy if their jurisdiction is interested in the school discussion. Once she has a list of interested parties a meeting will be set up and held within the next month.

5. Division Manager's Report and Updates on Countywide Programs

Elizabeth Constantino announced that another NDFE amendment is needed and to contact Clifton Chew about listing any additional facilities.

- A. Disposal Reporting System – in the TAC packet.
- B. Green Business – in the TAC packet.
- C. Home Composting Education Program – no report.
- D. Recycling Hotline – no report.

6. Subcommittee Reports and Updates on Countywide Programs

- A. Household Hazardous Waste – Walter Lin provided some updates on the new facility. On June 23, San Jose City Council approved proceeding with the construction contract. They anticipate construction will begin August 31 with a soft opening in April 2010. At the same time, they are working with the architectural consultant about the second phase with an anticipated opening in the fall of 2011.

There was a question about the ever increasing expenses of HHW. Rob D'Arcy responded that the

subcommittee is going over end of year expenses. He said the high level of convenience for batteries and CFLs has resulted in an 80% return rate. The direct mail back from a partner (Orchard Supply Hardware) is quite large and he is trying to develop a return distribution system to reduce costs. Additionally participation is up and so is the corresponding tonnage with over 3M pounds expected this year.

Since 50% of the HHW waste stream is paint, Rob is supporting AB1343 which requires paint manufactures to develop and implement an EPR program to collect, transport, and process post-consumer paint.

- B. Implementation – Tony Eulo said the IS Subcommittee did meet but did not get through the budget or have enough time to discuss the Audit. An additional meeting date at the end of August is being coordinated through Meeting Wizard.

A question was posed regarding the long term funding situation since our goal is waste diversion and funding is tied to waste tonnage. The issue will be looked at once the budget crisis has been resolved. The issue will be looked at once the immediate budget issues are resolved.

- C. Legislation – Mark Bowers provided a handout on several bills of interest and deleted all the 2-year bills. The following bills were discussed:

AB222 biofuels and energy

AB479 amended to drop jurisdictional diversion and drop the tip fee increase

AB747 schools establish recycling programs

AB925 bottle cap issue (litter vs. recycling)

AB1173 Rob opposed as written without EPR approach but is undergoing revision.

With the state's budget stalemate, no bills will be moved until the budget is resolved.

- D. Operations – No report.

- E. Public Education – No report.

- F. Source Reduction/Recycling – No report.

- G. Ad Hoc AB939 – Elizabeth asked to have all the surveys back by July 31st. There was a question about counting direct vs. indirect costs. It was suggested that each city do the best they with the understanding that there may be follow up questions for further clarification. Only five jurisdictions have returned the survey: Gilroy, Milpitas, Morgan Hill, Santa Clara, and Saratoga.

- H. Ad Hoc Disaster Debris Planning – Clifton Chew said he and Elizabeth Constantino attended a webinar that provided some specifics and details on regional collaboration. The one being developed is a 7.9 magnitude earthquake on the San Andreas Fault for the initial sixty days following such a disaster.

Lisa Tulee said the scope involves ten nation wide efforts going on with three on the west coast: LA, San Francisco Bay Area and Seattle. Within our region two cities have been selected to develop a local operations plans: Oakland and San Jose. She wanted to make sure that the San Jose side is coordinated on a countywide level. URS is the contractor of record and set up the structure and organization of the plan.

Lisa was invited to be part of the TAC Disaster Debris ad hoc subcommittee.

- I. Ad Hoc Organizational Study – Mark Bowers said the County had received four proposals and will try to set up a review panel. Tony asked that a potential recommendation be at the next or following TAC meeting.

J. Ad Hoc Zero Waste – Richard Gertman said he is trying to find a meeting date.

7. Future Agenda Items / Guest Speakers

NDFE Amendment.

8. Informational Updates and Announcements

Mark Bowers had two items: 1) SWANA Gold Rush Chapter is holding its monthly meeting on July 15 at the GreenWaste Recovery facility on Charles Street. Please contact Mark if you would like to attend the lunch (\$20) and tours of the Charles Street MRF and Zanker Road MRF; 2) The SMaRT Station is being audited by the IRS on the tax exempt bond funding and looking at three issues: i) \$25M in bonds issued in 1992 and refinance in 2003 with documentation that shows the money was spent within three years; ii) did not have any arbitrage (make additional money from original funds) ; and iii) show the bond funds were used for tax exempt purpose. (Have more than one contractor run the facility otherwise it would appear that the facility would be for private industry). There is no statute of limitation on audits.

Julie Muir had two items: 1) CRRA Conference in August at Rancho Mirage and planning has begun for the 2010 conference in Sacramento and the 2011 conference in San Diego; and 2) NRC and Keep America Beautiful merger vote will be sometime in August.

Dave Staub said it has been challenging to distribute 5,000 reusable bags. He has distributed about 85% through libraries, community events, senior/community centers to date.

Cheri Donnelly said Cupertino staff members and the City's solid waste consultants were (in July) evaluating a proposal that Council had received from the City's current hauler, Los Altos Garbage Company (LAGCo). Cupertino staff and consultants were gathering information in order to write an exclusive RFP for the City's current hauler, LAGCo.

Rene Everly said she has been on the job for four weeks, the transition to the new hauler (GreenWaste Recovery) is in its 10th day and things have been going smoothly with no problems.

Elizabeth Constantino said Adaptive Arc made a presentation to the County Agriculture Department about a gasification process to help dispose of agricultural plastic "mulch". There was some discussion about additional applications of the process. An email will be sent to TAC members to see if there was any interest in having Adaptive Arc make a presentation prior to a TAC meeting.

Donna Perala said San Jose won the SWANA Gold Excellence Award for their multi-family program. Jo Zientek & Christy Wolter will accept the award at the September conference.

Tony Eulo asked if everyone got the "Save the Date" email from CIWMB Local Government Central regarding AB32 (mandatory commercial recycling measure). Since not everyone had received the notice, Tony asked Clifton Chew to forward the email to TAC members.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:07 p.m.

NEXT SCHEDULED TAC MEETING: August 13, 2009 @ 1:30 P.M.