

# County of Santa Clara

Recycling and Waste Reduction Commission of Santa Clara County  
Recycling and Waste Reduction Division

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## TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES August 8, 2019

### VOTING MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

ACTERRA	Maija McDonald
CALIFORNIANS AGAINST WASTE	Richard Gertman
CITY OF CUPERTINO	Alex Wykoff
CITY OF MILPITAS	Elaine Marshall
CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW	Lori Topley
CITY OF PALO ALTO	Paula Borges
CITY OF SAN JOSE	Alana Lowrie
CITY OF SANTA CLARA	Karin Hickey
CITY OF SUNNYVALE	Karen Gissibl
CLARA MATEO	Michael Gross
COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH	Roel Meregillano
COUNTY RECYCLING AND WASTE REDUCTION	Bill Grimes
COUNTY UNINCORPORATED AREA	Teresa Curiel
SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY	Bruce Olszewski
SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT	Kirsten Struve
WEST VALLEY CITIES	Marva Sheehan

**Commissioners:** Susan M. Landry, Chair ~ Mary-Lynne Bernald ~ Pam Foley ~ Linda J. LeZotte ~ Anthony Phan ~ Rod Sinks ~ Nancy Smith ~ Cat Tucker ~ Mike Wasserman ~ Kathy Watanabe

**VOTING MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE**

CITY OF CAMPBELL  
 CITY OF GILROY  
 CITY OF LOS ALTOS  
 CITY OF MONTE SERENO  
 CITY OF MORGAN HILL  
 CITY OF SARATOGA  
 CLEAN WATER ACTION/CLEAN WATER FUND  
 SIERRA CLUB  
 SILICON VALLEY LEADERSHIP GROUP  
 TOWN OF LOS ALTOS HILLS  
 TOWN OF LOS GATOS

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Zoraya Atayde	Green Waste
Jocelyn Baird	Recology
Mark Bowers	Self
Clifton Chew	SCC RWRD
Mary Conn	Second Harvest of Silicon Valley
Michael Geiss	Republic Services
Linda Grand	City of Milpitas
Shikha Gupta	City of San Jose
Chuck Muir	City of Palo Alto
Julie Muir	PSSI/Stanford Recycling
Roger Ross	SCC AEM
Dave Staub	City of Santa Clara
Ursula Syrova	City of Cupertino
Tracy Weatherby	Second Harvest of Silicon Valley
Michele Young	SCC RWRD

**1. Call to Order, Introductions and Acknowledgements**

Alana Lowrie called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m. A quorum of 19 was present. All present introduced themselves.

## 2. Approval of Minutes

There were no minutes to approve, item deferred until next meeting.

## 3. Public Presentations

There were no public presentations.

## 4. Palo Alto's Foodware and Deconstruction Ordinances

Paula Borges and Chuck Muir gave a presentation on Palo Alto's Foodware and Deconstruction Ordinances.

Paula discussed the background and phases of the Deconstruction Ordinance and gave a Deconstruction & Construction Materials Management Summary. She said the City of Palo Alto has a Sustainability Climate Action Plan which includes 95% diversion from landfill by 2030. In 2018, they updated the Zero Waste Plan which included 48 initiatives with short term initiatives focusing on reducing C&D materials going to landfill and encouraging the community to stop using disposables and using reusables. The highlights include: Salvage survey required on all projects by City approved reuse organization; deconstruction and source separation will be required on all projects with materials delivered to City approved materials recovery facility; and GreenWaste to haul all materials if using containers, some contractors can still self-haul but still must source separate and deliver materials to City approved processing facilities.

Chuck Muir provided a handout on the Disposable Foodware Reduction Ban. When the Zero Waste Plan was updated in 2018, one of the initiatives was to ban disposable foodware. Submitted surveys to all 484 food establishments in Palo Alto and got 25% response. Using the data, reformulated the ordinance and took it to Council which approved a ban starting January 1, 2020 on plastic utensils, plastic straws, plastic stirrers and other plastic accoutrements (picks etc.). By 2025 ban disposables for take-out. Produce bags at grocery stores have to be compostable. Worked with ReThink and converted 6-10 facilities to reusables for dine-in and then goals in phase II include new construction for food services have dishwasher or vendor for dishwash service. ZWED will take the biodegradable PLAs.

## 5. Nomination and Vote for TAC Officer Vacancies

Alana Lowrie said she included a memo in the TAC packet for members to be able to see the vacancies.

Bruce Olszewski made a motion to fill the following vacancies: Karin Hickey be Vice-Chair and Lori Topley as Ad Hoc Legislation chair. The motion was seconded by Karen Gissibl and all present voted to approve.

## 6. Recycling and Waste Reduction Commission (RWRC) update

Bill Grimes said there is a tentative meeting schedule for the end of this month. There is only one outstanding issue but doesn't seem to warrant a meeting by itself. TAC members did not have any other issues to add.

## 7. Division Manager's Report

**A. Disposal Reporting System** – available on-line.

**B. Other** – Bill Grimes said the fiscal year ended and wrapping up reports. Green Business Recognition Event is September 10.

## 8. Subcommittee Reports and Updates

- A. Enforcement** – Roel Meregillano said they did not meet but CalRecycle has asked the LEAs to inform solid waste facilities and business with their jurisdiction to fulfill the requirements of AB901, to register at the States RDRS.
- B. Household Hazardous Waste** – Bill Grimes said they did not meet but wanted people to know that County Counsel has resolved some language issues regarding the sharps ordinance and it was finalized on July 29. Thus, the operational date, two month from the issuance of the Final Notice of Determination will be September 29, 2019 and they are required to have significant components in place and operations by that date. The sharps kiosks are not restricted by federal law (DEA) or Board of Pharmacy requirement as much as meds kiosks so we are hopeful to see a more widespread distribution.
- C. Legislation** – Mark Bowers said SWANA submitted 28 pages of comments for SB1383. There may be one or two more rounds of comments but there is a deadline to finish the project in December or else they have to start over again. Air District Rule 13-2 will have three meetings in August.
- D. Operations** – did not meet.
- E. Public Education** – Ursula Syrova said they are working on the extension of the contract with Gigantic Ideas Studio and also with SCVURPPP on joint messaging (possible to program proposal to IC in fall).
- F. Source Reduction/Recycling** – Lori Topley said they met on July 24 had two items: 1) got a report from Robin Martin on Silicon Valley Food Rescue about the original agreement and the extension for this fiscal year. There is a Food Rescue Steering Committee that Joint Venture leads, although it is not a regional task force that we hoped to have, they talk about the future of food rescue. They may have a funding request for the future. The project that came from the original agreement was A La Carte which now lives with Loaves & Fishes. They will have five trucks at the end of this year, two of which will be fully funded by Facebook for their campuses. Robin also discussed what San Mateo County is doing with their full-time coordinator at the County level; and 2) working with Food Waste Reduction Project with SCS Engineers. They provided a lot of information regarding NRDC and getting close to refining target behaviors our pilot will focus on. They want to do a targeted survey (50-100 intercept surveys) in targeted communities that have data from their waste characterization study about food waste disposal to be able to measure effectiveness.

Lori Topley also said the Ad Hoc Foodware subcommittee also met once and it is more complicated than the other ordinances that have been worked on in the past. Next meeting is on the 20<sup>th</sup> and interested parties need to contact Lori since it does not go to the entire distribution list.

- G. South Bay Green Gardens** – Karin Hickey presented on behalf of Lina Prada-Baez. Paid promotion on social media began on July 25 and since then traffic to the website has gone up 115%. Want to develop a more formal outreach and engagement plan so they will be submitting a survey through TAC asking jurisdictions what their limitations are and what they are able to do to push messages out. Valley Water ordered trowels with the website branding for giveaways at events. Will be participating at the Harvest Festival at Martial Cottle Park. Considering having another photo contest.

- H. Ad Hoc Legislative** – did not meet.

## 9. Program Update

- A. Composting Education** – in packet.
- B. Green Business** – no report.

C. Recycling Hotline – in packet. Bruce Olszewski said he is getting new students and will be making changes to the website. They will be updating all the listings on the website.

**10. IC Update** – did not meet.

**11. Items for Future Agenda/Guest Speakers**

Request to have TAC meet at Martial Cottle Park to see the worm metropolis.

Bruce Olszewski suggested Ted Reiff from The ReUse People give a presentation on deconstruction.

Tracy Weatherby can provide presentation on grocery rescue.

**12. Informal Updates and Announcements**

Clifton Chew announced that the nominations are being accepted for NGO representation at TAC (to be selected by the RWRC) due December 1, 2019.

Bruce Olszewski had three items: 1) he wrote a letter to the editor in response to a carpet fee letter but it didn't get published; 2) RePlanet closed and CDR updated the website and has a list of facilities that accept material; and 3) showed a headline in the paper "California Goal of Reducing Trash is a Wasted Effort" and was commented that the writer of the article does not necessarily get to write the headline.

Mark Bowers said CAW annual fundraiser is August 28 at 6PM in Sacramento.

Julie Muir announced that CRRA is this weekend.

Michael Gross invited everyone to see the new Zanker robots October 11 at Zanker Recycling.

Paula Borges said Palo Alto updated refuse collection ordinance and one of the items is requiring colored bags: blue tinted for recycling; green compostable for organics and clear for garbage [commercial accounts]. She is now the solid waste manager for Palo Alto.

Lori Topley said they were allowed to put their recycling center address at the RePlanet closed locations in Mountain View.

Karin Hickey announced a job opening for a staff analyst.

Karen Gissibl said Sunnyvale is looking for a replacement for Mark Bowers' position.

Chuck Muir had samples of the various colored bags Paula had mentioned for people to check out.

Kristen Struve announced the Water District will be releasing three different grants soon.

Alana Lowrie had three items: 1) thanks those who provided feedback on the City Recycle Right website; 2) new slogan "San Jose recycles clean, no food, no liquids, no problem"; and 3) Deputy Director along with Biocollection will be presenting at CRRA on the plastic residue pilot.

**13. Adjournment\*\***

The meeting adjourned at 3:42 p.m.

THE NEXT SCHEDULED TAC MEETING: September 12, 2019