

# 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 October 13, 2016

### VOTING MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

ACTERRA	Maija McDonald
CALIFORNIA PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL	Rob D'Arcy
CITY OF GILROY	Tony Eulo
CITY OF LOS ALTOS	Chris Lamm
CITY OF MILPITAS	Elizabeth Koo
CITY OF MORGAN HILL	Tony Eulo
CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW	Lori Topley
CITY OF PALO ALTO	Paula Borges
CITY OF SAN JOSE	Alana Rivadeneyra
CITY OF SANTA CLARA	Karin Hickey
CITY OF SUNNYVALE	Mark Bowers
CLARA MATEO	Michael Gross
COUNTY RECYCLING AND WASTE REDUCTION	Bill Grimes
COUNTY UNINCORPORATED AREA	Wendy Fong
SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY	Bruce Olszewski
SIERRA CLUB	Heidi Melander
WEST VALLEY CITIES	Scott Holt

**Commissioners:** James R. Griffith - Chair; Linda J. LeZotte – Vice Chair, Michael F. Kotowski, Manh Nguyen, Teresa O'Neill, Greg Scharff, Rod Sinks, Jan Pepper, Cat Tucker, Mike Wasserman

**VOTING MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE**

CITY OF CUPERTINO  
CLEAN WATER FUND  
COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH  
SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT  
SILICON VALLEY LEADERSHIP GROUP  
TOWN OF LOS ALTOS HILLS

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Gil Cheso	Republic Services
Clifton Chew	SCC RWRD
Karen Gissibl	City of Sunnyvale
Tammy Green	SCC RWRD
Peggy Horning	City of San Jose
Elizabeth Panduro	GreenWaste
Ed Ramirez	City of San Jose
Alyssa Rice-Wilson	San Jose Conservation Corps
Lisa Rose	SCC RWRD
Dave Staub	City of Santa Clara
Ursula Syrova	City of Cupertino

**1. Call to Order**

Tony Eulo, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. A quorum of 17 was present. Those present introduced themselves. The TAC meeting was temporarily adjourned to get quorum for the Implementation Committee Meeting. Mark Bowers made a motion to temporarily adjourn TAC. The motion was seconded and all present voted to approve the motion. TAC re-adjourned at 1:46 p.m.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

Mark Bowers made a motion to approve the September 8, 2016 minutes. The motion was seconded and all present voted to approve the minutes. Those not present at the September 8, 2016 TAC meeting abstained.

**3. Public Presentations**

There were no public presentations.

#### 4. Biomass Update

Michael Gross said the legislature passed bills in support of the industry to have 150MW of energy come from biomass - but focused on forest waste and not urban wood waste from C&D. The bio-fuel suppliers met with the Governor's office and was told to develop a legislative strategy that goes along with the story that landfills will be overflowing with wood waste. One problem is there were thirty three biomass plants and now there are twenty two. Some of the remaining biomass plants are far away from urban areas. Industry will meet with the Governor's office again to put forward a proposal to do an emergency proclamation with regard to the material for 400MW of electricity from agriculture and urban sources. This is a Hail Mary and more likely will need to work with legislature to get a mandatory purchase agreement for the biomass industry to use certain percentages for producing clean energy.

#### 5. Illegal Dumping

Alana Rivadeneyra said she wanted to mirror the AB1826 roundtable and discuss what others are doing with regard to illegal dumping. San Jose has been working to prevent illegal dumping and by managing the flow of what is getting dumped. She introduced Ed Ramirez who is spearheading their illegal dumping efforts. Their official start day was July 5 with a staff of four people with five vehicles - two garbage contractors and three flatbed trucks. They respond to illegal dump complaints called in from residents/business throughout the city. They are averaging 31 calls a day not including those to the department of transportation for road hazards or blocked sidewalks. They are also responding and collecting hazardous waste complaints to reduce the number of emergency calls to the fire department. Since the start of the program they have received 2,100 service requests which has resulted in collecting: 900 mattresses; 510 shopping carts; 225 tons of debris. Additionally, crews are averaging five self-discoveries daily which accounts for another 100 mattresses/month. Staff also provides preventive maintenance at 50 of the identified 140 hot spot locations and 40 alleyways. The City recruited haulers (Republic and GreenTeam) to assist in residential areas one day a week. GreenTeam collects about seven tons per week and Republic collects about two and half tons per week. They also use the Sheriff's Department Weekend Work Program which has an average of eight participants per day Monday through Friday. The program is funded using their AB939 funds and another source.

The bulky item program provides two free pick-ups per year (six items total at three each) for residential customers and unlimited pick-ups for commercial customers. City Council approved enforcement fines of \$2,500 for first violation; \$5K for second and \$10K for third or more. So far, 31 warning notices have been issued and two administrative citations issued and collected at \$2,500 each.

The program collects about 89 gallons of waste oil per month from backyard mechanics, multi-family dwellings and illegal mom and pop haulers. Not much other HHW is collected.

Michael Gross was at a meeting in Alviso where people were complaining about illegal dumping by homeless and at homeless encampments. Ed and his crew have been working with many partner agencies and groups to clean up these areas and are putting up barriers to prevent more dumping. Another source is RV waste which has no dumping stations in San Jose. Five-gallon buckets of bio-waste is commonly found and is costly to dispose.

Bruce Olszewski said SJSU did a study using Terra Flex app taking photos and mapping areas of illegal dumping.

## 6. Legislative Priorities

Mark Bowers assumed everyone reviewed last year's priorities and asked if there was anything that needed to be added or deleted. It was noted that banning of organics is already covered as is biomass. Lori Topley made a motion to forward a favorable recommendation and that the RWRC adopt the 2017 Legislative Priorities. The motion was seconded and all present voted to approve.

## 7. RWRD Update

Lisa Rose said she achieved quorum and noted the items on the agenda for the October 26 meeting. On the agenda is: The 16<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the NDFE; Five-Year Report added to consent; election of officers; Legislative Priorities; Mark Bowers will provide legislative recap; and, TAC minutes. Every other week garbage service will have to wait to see if it is adopted and running for a period of time before reporting.

Sunnyvale can make a presentation on the "State of the Cart" split cart food scrap collection as well as SAFE program for animal feed.

## 8. Division Manager's Report and Updates on Countywide Programs

A. Disposal Reporting System – report in packet. Bill Grimes said Newby was very late in reporting. The online system was tested with Zanker and received positive feedback. The developer will make changes and begin with training of facilities next week. Sacramento County attended and was interested in the program. Staff will present the online reporting system at a future TAC meeting.

B. Other –

- Staff is working with Cupertino, Palo Alto and San Jose in developing Scope of Services for Composting Capacity/Organics Diversion Study and assume they will help in review the proposals as they come in.
- Clifton Chew requested that jurisdictions update their voting designee by sending him on official letterhead the designees.
- TAC elections are in December and asking for nominations.
- The TAC Holiday Potluck Luncheon in December will need a location. Michael Gross offered Alviso Yacht Club but was suggested for another year rather than consecutive meeting locations. Mark Bowers suggested the Community Center in Sunnyvale.

## 9. Program Update

A. Green Business – Report in packet. September 28 was the Green Business Recognition Event at 70 West Hedding. Tony noted that cities are welcome to host their own recognitions and County staff would attend to support and celebrate the businesses.

B. Composting Education – No Report.

C. Recycling Hotline – No Report. Bruce Olszewski noted he is down a manager.

## 10. Subcommittee Reports and Updates on Countywide Programs

A. Eco-Gardens – Peggy Horning said they met September 16 and wrote a script for the "How to Use this Website" but when it was brought forward the contractor modified it significantly. The group decided to redo it using Jackie Davidson's voice and use the regional waste water facility contacts to assist with the video. The poster has been reviewed and approved with some changes

in fonts, Peggy will be requesting funding to purchase fonts for the poster. There is also has a new logo/seal that was developed for the poster. Instead of asking for funding for a How to Compost Video, the group decided to revisit the compost education program video series for both backyard composting and vermicomposting. They will use message similar to poster on seed packets for outreach at events.

It was noted that another potential member cannot attend Friday meetings and the subcommittee will consider moving the meeting date.

- B. Enforcement – Did not meet.
- C. Household Hazardous Waste – Wendy Fong said they met and will meet November 1 to discuss the possible tactics for outreach.
- D. Legislation –The legislative report was in the packet. Mark wanted to discuss ballot initiatives specifically Prop 65 and 67. Prop 67 is the referendum to overturn the statewide bag ban. There is broad support in the form of endorsements from newspapers, environmental groups and cities and counties. Prop 65 muddies the water on how bag fees are used. County, Sunnyvale and SWANA endorsed Yes on 67. Sunnyvale and SWANA endorse No on 65 while County was neutral.

AB1103 – it is difficult to determine what this bill will do but haulers wanted to see it happen. Mark would like to see it apply to trucks backhauling material (cardboard, film, organics, etc.) as it looks like they are operating a transfer station outside the franchise agreement but was excluded in final language.

AB 1419 – CAW bill managed by Theresa Bui – reclassifies one type of hazardous waste (leaded CRT glass) as not being hazardous waste.

AB 1669 – would give bidders on Franchise Agreements 10% preference if they agree to retain workers.

AB 2153 – significant if you are accepting car batteries from the public – makes core charges part of a state system and gives certain amount of time to refund customers' core charges.

SB 778 – vetoed by Governor – this was the automotive oil changing bill that would have made auto shops recommend oil changes only at intervals recommended by manufactures. Oil change services like Jiffy Lube and Oil Changers were brought in to the discussion so far as state regulation of their employees, who are not currently regulated by the Bureau of Automotive Repair.

SB 1229 – limited accomplishment – easier for pharmacies to take back meds by reducing their liability.

SB 1383 – this bill would reduce organics to landfill 50% by 2020; 75% by 2025 – will likely have cost impacts for haulers and jurisdictions as food waste is included

There was a question asked about door to door HHW collection. Mullin bill was stalled and dead for now. Will likely be revived in next session; we all need to look forward and think about what we are asking from Pharma in addition to pharmaceuticals.

- E. Operations – Did not meet.
- F. Public Education – Karin Hickey said the subcommittee met September 27 and Emily Coven with Recyclist gave a presentation on social media and outreach. She said the Save the Food campaign is ready to go. Alex Wykoff, chair HHW Subcommittee, was invited to discuss the Earthquakes ad campaign at the next meeting. There was a suggestion that PubEd send a recommendation to jurisdictions to coordinate information regarding the Save the Food campaign.
- G. Source Reduction and Recycling – Karen Gissibl said there was a meeting on September 29 and SVTP, contractor for Food Rescue, gave an update on FoRC. They also submitted quarterly report

and a draft strategic plan. At a previous meeting a member offered up facilitators for Customer Driven Innovation training for FoRC members.

## **11. IC Update**

Tony Eulo said IC members: approved audit report/direction for finalizing the report; approved annual report; and reviewed the budget and designed a path for moving forward. There will be a November meeting. A request for budget ideas will be sent out next week similar to past years.

## **12. Items for Future Agenda/ Guest Speakers**

Scheduled for the November Meeting: Annual HHW update; Go Box presentation; Tour of Charles Street MRF (before IC) first fifteen people; Michael Gross said Ricky Lopez will give presentation on Recycling Markets; Pharmaceutical update.

For the December Meeting: Election of Officers; possible review of single use refillable propane containers.

For the January Meeting: local ban on organics in landfills.

## **13. Informational Updates and Announcements**

Rob D'Arcy said manufacturers have submitted their plans and he has spent a great deal of time with County Counsel formulating a response to the plan.

Heidi Melander noted that Mountain View had another Repair Café. She also saw an article on Sweden removing tax on repairing items versus throwing them away.

Michael Gross announced Zanker installed new processing operations that will take all the residuals and run them through a shredder with trommel screens, then sort lines. He is hoping for a 35% increase in diversion on stuff that is currently disposed. It should work well for bulky items.

Maija McDonald said she participated in a large plant exchange and was helping with clean-up and had the experience of telling people not to put hazardous material in trash.

Ursula Syrova said Cupertino has been running Save the Food videos on local channel and getting the logo on the poster.

Karen Gissibl announced that on September 20, City Council approved single family dual cart food scraps program.

Bruce Olszewski said there was a new manager at CDR, Bret Clark and there is still one vacant manager position.

Mark Bowers said there were some personnel changes: Sandy Jensen was promoted to Solid Waste Specialist; Lisa Coelho filled the Admin Aide; Sheena Griffin filled a new Admin Aide position; and Ursula's old position was filled by Barbara Smith.

Tony Eulo said Recology South Valley provided a tour of the natural gas fuel facility for garbage trucks.

## **14. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:24 p.m.

THE NEXT SCHEDULED TAC MEETING: November 10, 2016