



SPU Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)

February 3, 2021 Meeting Notes
Webex
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm

*Co-Chair: Dirk Wassink
Co-Chair: Nico Onoda-McGuire*

Committee Members	Present?	SPU Staff	Role
Kelsie Blanthorn	Yes	Sego Jackson	Solid Waste LOB Policy Liaison
Lizzie Szorad	Yes	Jemini Davis	Solid Waste Administrative Support
Adam Maurer	Yes	Susan Fife-Ferris	Solid Waste Planning & Program Management Division Director
Rachtha Dahn	Yes	Katie Lynd	Community Affairs Liaison
Alessandra Pistoia	Yes	Socorro Medina	Recycling & Composting Multifamily Program Manager
Dirk Wassink	Yes	Becca Fong	Solid Waste Residential Outreach Program Manager
Nico Onoda-McGuire	Yes	Stephanie Schwenger	Solid & Hazardous Waste Lead Planner
Joel Dashnaw	Yes	Heather Trim	Guest
Brie Kuhn	Yes	Hannah Scholes	Guest
		Carolyn Bowie	Guest
		Diana Wadley	Guest

1. Regular Business

- SWAC Co-Chair, Dirk Wassink called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.
- Members and guests introduced themselves. Prompted by the SWAC chair, they each shared their name and the type of museum they would create if given 5 million dollars.

2. CROP: Contamination Reduction Outreach Plan

Socorro Medina and Becca Fong led a presentation on the Contamination Reduction and Outreach Plan (CROP), which is a state requirement from the Dept of Ecology and will be part of the SW Plan.

- The suggested approach is to document existing contamination reduction strategies in the following:
 - Regulations
 - Contracts & operations
 - Enforcement
 - Education
- Document existing data
- Identify data gaps & future strategies.
- Suggested timeline:
 - Feb/Mar 2021: SW staff provides program-specific information and feedback.
 - Mar/Apr 2021: SWAC provides feedback.
 - Apr/May 2021: Finalize draft and share with Ecology.
 - July 1st, 2021: Submit final document to Ecology.

A **SWAC member asked**, “Please provide an example of the reduction strategies in Regulations, Contracts & Operations, Enforcement and Education”.

SPU Response: First contamination offense is an “oops” tag. From there, it is escalated to a warning and could ultimately lead to a fine or your trash not being collected at all.

A **SWAC member asked**, “What have been the results of using this plan?”

SPU Response: We began to take gradual steps towards connecting the different groups within the Solid Waste Line of Business. This started with staff working on the same floor to make it easier to collaborate.

3. Solid Waste LOB Updates

General Updates

- **SWLOB COVID Response:**
 - Frontline workers over 65 are being prioritized for vaccination if the City received supplies of the vaccine.
- **2020 Waste Prevention & Recycling Plan:**
 - Letters are being sent out to Recycling businesses; FAS on-board to help with the licensing requirements in a way they never have before (huge success).
 - We have (with IT’s support) developed a new app for recyclers to use for reporting.
 - FAS is partnering with us in a more meaningful way to ensure that recyclers report, which is a requirement to obtain their business license.
 - Due to COVID, we are hoping to delay the due date until 10/1 again. SWAC will be asked to write a letter for incorporation, and we will circle back with timeline soon.
- **Solid Waste Plan:**
 - Nothing new to report, but you just heard about the CROP, which must be incorporated into our Plan.
- **Outreach, Education & Technical Assistance**
 - Staff is working hard to figure out what will work for 2021.
 - Continuing with numerous on-line efforts but expanding some in-person opportunities as possible.
- **People, Culture & Community (PCC) Branch**
 - New branch made up of Community Affairs, EJSE, Customer Response, Clean City Programs, Human Resources, and Utility Accounts.
 - Rotating leadership every 6 months to give the leaders of each of these groups an opportunity to lead and site on SPU’s E-team.
 - This means that Clean City Program is no longer in the SW LOB. CC is made up of all general funded activities.

4. Legislative Updates

Sego Jackson led a presentation to provide the following updates on ongoing legislation.

- **Delay in State Bag Ban**
 - Was to start January 1, 2021.
 - Preempts local authority (including Seattle's ordinance in place since 2012 & amended 2017).
 - Governor's Proclamation delaying start date 30 days did not change preemption date.
 - Legislation has extended all Governor's Proclamations until end of COVID-19 Health Emergency.
 - Working to fix so Seattle's ordinance is not preempted until State Law is implemented (HB 1053).
- **Extended Producer Responsibility for Packaging & Paper Products [HB 1118/SB 5022](#)**
 - Worked with [NWPSC](#) policy team to develop, including: Cities of Olympia, Spokane, Tacoma; King & Kitsap Counties. Also, Zero Waste WA, Latino Community Fund, Seattle Aquarium, Oceana, Surfrider, Puget Sound Keeper, Assoc. of WA Cities, etc.
 - Based on key reports released in last year: [KC/Seattle EPR Framework Study](#) & [Container Deposit Studies](#)
 - [Plastic Packaging Study](#) submitted to Legislature. [PSI EPR for PPP Report](#)
 - Establishes producer financed EPR program to finance collection, transport, & processing of curbside, MF, & drop-off recyclables, instead of rate payers/government.
 - Seattle could continue contracting for services, but costs recovered through Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO).
 - Push for full EPR approach will be in 2022 Session.
- **PSSB 5022 – Three Elements for 2021**
 - Ban on many Expanded Polystyrene Foam products: (Foam coolers, plates, cups, food service containers, loose fill packaging materials).
 - Single-use utensils, lids, straws, & condiment packets only provided if requested by customer.
 - Beverage container post-consumer recycled content requirements & reporting.
- **Miscellaneous Bills:**
 - Right to Repair [HB 1212](#)
 - Organic Waste Goal [SB 5286](#)
 - Wheat Straw for Bags [HB 1145](#)
 - EPR for Recycling Wind Turbine Blades [SB 5174](#)
 - Industrial Symbiosis [SB 5345](#)
 - Adjusting Drug Take Back Law [HB 1161](#)
 - Delay Implementation of Solar Panel Recycling [HB 1393](#)

5. Breakout Room Topic Discussion

The SWAC members were asked if they would be open to discussing additional solid waste topics during SWAC meetings in a breakout session.

- A SWAC member likes the idea along with coming up with a list of topics to discuss.
- It can also be an optional post-session if not all SWAC members are interested.
- An opportunity to provide feedback will also be included in the follow-up survey.

6. Around the Table & Community Insights

- Special Items Collection event will be taking place in Capitol Hill on February 27th. Katie can send out more information about the event if anyone is interested.

Adjourned 6:40 p.m.