



**July 21st, 2010**

**Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 Fifth Avenue**

**Room 4096**

**5 p.m.-7 p.m.**

*Chair: Signe Gilson*

*Vice Chair: David Ruggiero*

*Secretary: Laura Feinstein*

**In attendance:** Signe Gilson, Chair; Laura Feinstein; Carl Pierce; David Ruggiero; Rita Smith; David Traylor

**Absent:** Mark Gibbs; Todd Johnson; George Kukahiko

**Staff:** Vicky Beaumont; Linda Rogers, Tim Croll, Deborah Caul, Corinne Brown of SPU IT

**Guests:**

5:04 pm Call to Order

## **Administration:**

### **Chair Report:**

- June 2010 minutes approved
- **June action items:**
  - SWAC developed cover letter to accompany the 2009 Solid Waste Annual Report

## **Monthly Topics:**

### **4. Solid Waste Rates Proposal – Briefing and Discussion**

- Deborah Caul presented a briefing of the 2011-2012 rates proposal presented to City Council. Highlights included:
  - No major changes to the existing rate structure
  - Continued 2010 cost reductions help mitigate the increases
  - Major driver of the 2011 rates is the loss of revenue due to the poor economy and lack of Green Fee (on disposable bags)
  - 2012 rates driven by financing for transfer stations
  - Proposed rates transitioning towards cost of service
- Discussion held relating to:
  - Base Operating & Maintenance – revenues down
  - New Operating & Maintenance – on-going replacement of containers; was previously under contractors costs
  - Capital financing – expected bond issue for 2010 pushed out to mid-2011
- Typical monthly bills – reviewed what changes will look like for single family residences, residential dumpster, small commercial, and self-haul (per ton) to transfer station
- Financial performance actual 2009 through proposed 2012
- The SWAC noted the funding for a pilot to test single family every other week garbage collection in 2011. They will talk about it more at the next meeting.
- **Action Item:** Rita to draft recommendation to City Council to create an optional line on customers' bills where they may contribute some small amount to community-based waste prevention initiatives (e.g. grants). Like the renewable energy "green tags" the electric utilities promote. Rita will cycle through the SWAC for review; she will distribute first draft by 7/28; the SWAC to review and submit comments to Rita for finalizing document first week of August

## 5. Annual Recycling Report & Recycling Program Alternatives – Briefing and Discussion

Tim Croll reviewed and discussed selected potential strategies to help reach 60% recycling goal in 2012. These strategies will be included in on-going staff level discussions, and are expected to be included in the 2009 Annual Recycling Rate Report presentation to our council committee on Sept 14. As of end of 2009, the City of Seattle reached 50.1%, and increase of 1.1% over 2008.

- If 64,000 additional tons of waste had been recycled or diverted in 2009, would have reached the 60% reduction goal
- Reviewed strategies of what we can do to help reach this goal
  - 2011 targeted pilot project for Every-Other-Week (EOW) garbage collection
- Further discussion with City Council to be held September 14<sup>th</sup> (moved forward from August 10<sup>th</sup>)

## 6. SPU Web Testing - Review

- Corinne Brown of SPU IT group reviewed the prototype revised SPU external web. Solicited input from the SWAC for suggestions and comments on the proposal. During review, many comments and suggestions were made for modifications, further review, etc. Overall, general opinion is that the prototype is a huge improvement over existing site.

## 8. Wrap Up

### Recommendations :

- No new recommendations from this meeting – refer to April meeting

### Action Items:

- Rita Smith to draft SWAC position statement for Council on the Solid Waste Rates proposal for 2011-2012

### Preliminary Agenda for Next Meeting – August 18, 2010

- Approve meeting minutes for July, 2010
- Viewpoints on alternative disposal technologies: Guest Jeffrey Morris – life cycle costing of incineration
- EOW 2011 garbage pilot

### Future meeting items:

- **September** – Waste Prevention Annual Report – review 2009 results and give guidance on what want to see in new comp plan draft.
- **Future** – 2010 Work Plan items, invite expert on modern landfills

7:00 PM Meeting adjourned.