

Meeting Notes



## SPU Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)

August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012

Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 Fifth Avenue

Room 5965

5 p.m.-7 p.m.

*Chair: Julie Pond*

*Co-Vice Chairs: Katie Kennedy, Wendy Walker*

*Secretary: Katherine Salinas*

**Present:** Julie Pond, Katie Kennedy, Katherine Salinas, Wendy Walker

**Absent:** Signe Gilson, Dan Corum, Carl Pierce, Rob Stephenson

**Staff:** Tim Croll, Vicky Beaumont, Sherri Crawford, Leanne Galati, Jennifer Woods

**Guests:** Bill Lasby, PHSKC

5:03 pm Call to Order

### Administration:

#### 1. Regular Business:

**Julie Pond**

- a. June meeting notes approved.
- b. Activities since last meeting:
  - Annual Meeting June 27 – members discussed their experience at the event; feedback was positive overall.
  - **ACTION ITEM: Staff to send members a link to the customer survey and focus group reports.**
  - Membership interview July 24 – prospective members have been interviewed, the most recent occurring last week. Details on and the schedule of appointments is forthcoming.
- c. Chair report – None.
- d. Tim Croll updated the committee about the Waste Management strike and SPU's activities to mitigate its effects.

### Monthly Topics:

#### 2. Solid Waste Rates Proposal

**Sherri Crawford, Leanne Galati, Tim Croll**

- The process of approving rates was explained to members. The process includes an analysis of rates, forecasting future needs and proposing alternatives for Council, who discuss the rates package for several meetings, and then will finally vote on the entire proposal.
- Members were informed about some important changes, including the pass-through and four year rates period, which are significant because they reduce the uncertainty of inflation when setting rates from year to year and stagger Council action so that each Line of Business (LOB) will present one rates proposal per year, respectively.

- Staff provided information about the overall costs the Solid Waste LOB incurs, including those associated with regulatory requirements, operations and maintenance, and discretionary programs. Staff also provided information about proposed program reductions and discussed the impacts of those reductions with the Committee. The Committee further discussed their views on the potential impacts from the reductions, and which items they might choose to highlight to the City Council. The Committee's recommendations will be captured in a letter to Council.
- **ACTION ITEM: SWAC will formulate a letter to Council with their response to the rate proposal.**
- Tuesday, August 7, 2012 at 9:30am members from Committees to provide comments to Council for the Solid Waste and Drainage and Wastewater rate proposals as they continue to discuss the rate proposals. Council will make a final decision on the rate proposals in September.

### 3. One Less Truck (Every Other Week)

Julie Pond

- Julie provided updates from the subcommittee. Staff is collecting a multitude of data about the pilot. A detailed report will follow when the data is available.
- The will meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in August. Julie will provide a subcommittee update and the full report at the September SWAC meeting.

### 4. Annual Recycling Rate Report

Vicky Beaumont

- The report is complete and available on SPU's website. Vicky shared the final version with Committee members.

### 5. Solid Waste Management Plan

Vicky Beaumont

- Vicky provided an update to the planning process. SPU has received comments from the Department of Ecology. The resolution has been drafted for Council, which is expected to be on the September 18<sup>th</sup> agenda for final decision.

### 6. Tours Redux

Katie Salinas

- Facility tour planning status and next steps for setting up; the top two preferences by members were Waste Management's Medical Waste facility and Ecullet. Ecullet is not possible to tour at this time, but Waste Management's facility is still possible. Members are now looking to see if they can tour Nucor and other facilities mentioned at the regular June meeting.
- **ACTION ITEM: Katie S. to send out more information about and possible tour dates and times, possibly in September.**

### 7. Review SWAC 2012 Workplan

Vicky Beaumont

- Members went over the workplan to date and discussed the items that have not been completed. All of those items that have not been brought to SWAC this year will remain on the workplan.

**Wrap Up:**

**8. Review**

**Julie Pond**

**a) Recommendations**

**b) Action Items:**

- Staff to send members a link to the customer survey and focus group reports.
- SWAC will formulate a letter to Council with their response to the rate proposal.
- Katie S. to send out more information about and possible tour dates and times, possibly in September.

**9. Preliminary agenda for next meeting**

**10. Possible future agenda items**

7:00 PM - Meeting adjourned