

Meeting Notes



SPU Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)

December 4, 2013

Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 Fifth Avenue

Room 5965

5 p.m.-7 p.m.

Co-Chairs: Joseph Ringold & Wendy Walker

Vice Chair: Katie Kennedy

Secretary: Katherine Salinas

Present: Joseph Ringold, Wendy Walker, Katie Salinas

Absent: Katie Kennedy, Dan Corum

Guests: Heather Levy, Aaron Lawland, Erika Melroy, Chris Torman, Stephanie Schwenger

Staff: Vicky Beaumont, Teresa Rayburn, Sheryl Shapiro, Jeff Neuner

5:00 pm Call to Order

1. **Regular Business** - Wendy Walker and Joseph Ringold, Co-Chairs

- Meeting notes approved - September 4, 2013

2. **Department of Ecology's Beyond Waste Update** - Taisa Welhash, State of Washington Department of Ecology

- See PowerPoint
- DOE is seeking comments on what you would like to see in the Solid Waste Plan
- Currently we have a 53.3 percent recycling rate in Seattle, 50 percent recycling rate in Washington State, and a 43 percent national recycling rate
- Stay updated by joining the list serve, or visiting the website at:
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/swfa/>
- SWAC questions and comments:
 - What is the role of education and outreach, specifically commercial, small business and people who typically don't have access to provide feedback?
 - Most outreach is usually just to business owners; front line staff also have ideas so reach out to them also
 - There is a state-wide effort to reach multi-family households
 - Recycling standards are different from city to city – is there an effort to come up with statewide standards? Washington State Solid Waste Information Clearing House is meeting every other month with counties and cities (Dick Lilly is the representative for SPU). The website is:
<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/swicpublic/>
 - How can we work with manufacturers to support toxic chemical reduction, financing and proper disposal? Expand product stewardship programs (such

as the e-cycling program) to other products and waste streams where the manufacturers pay for recycling

- Work directly with the manufacturers instead of relying on state legislation
- Do you work with other states? Yes, Washington, Oregon, Idaho and California work together on the Northwest Product Stewardship Council <http://productstewardship.net/>
- Use the state's bigger network of resources to help with the following topics rather than piecemeal cities as separate entities:
 - Organics (lack of capacity)
 - Infrastructure
 - Alternative technologies
 - Compost initiative
- Connection to water health – update further and look at water issues that affect the solid waste stream
- Does the state plan to address emergency management? Debris from disasters, regional coordination, etc.

3. One Less Truck (OLT) – Bailey Baughs, Council Staff

- Council has started the conversation with the option to build every other week into the contracts.
- Every other week is not mandated, but would like to have options built into the contracts for discussion in the future
- Full council vote on December 16
- Rates will be held down in the long run with One Less Truck
- SWAC would like a simple chart that shows the long term cost savings for use during outreach
- Customer reactions and satisfactions are projected to be much like recycling was at first. Not happy with the recycling mandate, but now we are at 89 percent satisfaction.

4. Transfer Stations Rebuild - Jeff Neuner, SPU Staff

- Will take the North station offline and run the old South Transfer Station and new South Transfer Station in parallel
- Currently the North Transfer Station Rebuild is just past 60 percent design and three weeks away from 90 percent design
- Construction will start first or second quarter of 2014 depending on permits
- Once the North Transfer Station is done, the old South Transfer Station will be an organics only facility

5. SWAC 2014 Workplan - Vicky Beaumont, Policy Liaison

- SWAC likes the idea of holding the fourth Wednesday of the month for cross-committee meetings or sub-committee work
- Next year open up all field trips to all committees so there are educational opportunities cross-committee
- Washington Recycles Every Day events are held four times a year – SWAC would benefit from participating

- Miller Paint has re-use paint for cheap (re-use, re-store)
- Members will talk offline and make a recommendation in January

Wrap Up:

6. Review: Joseph Ringold and Wendy Walker, Co-Chairs

a) Recommendations

b) Action Items:

7. Next meeting is January 8, 2014

7:05 PM - Meeting adjourned