



SPU Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)

February 2, 2022 Meeting Notes
Webex
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

*Chair: Joel Dashnaw
Co-Chair: Brie Kuhn*

| Committee Members | Present? | SPU Staff /Guest | Role |
|------------------------|----------|---------------------|---|
| Danny Barksdale | Yes | Jemini Davis | SPU - Solid Waste Administrative Support |
| Joel Dashnaw | Yes | Susan Fife-Ferris | SPU – Solid Waste Planning & Program Management Division Director |
| Rina Fa’amoe-Cross | Yes | Sego Jackson | SPU – Solid Waste LOB Policy Liaison |
| Celine Fujikawa | Yes | Pat Kaufman | SPU – Commercial Recycling Manager |
| Brie Kuhn | Yes | Katie Lynd | SPU – SWAC Program Coordinator |
| Nico Onoda-McGuire | Yes | Stephanie Schwenger | SPU – Solid & Hazardous Waste Lead Planner |
| Alessandra Pistoia | Yes | Cassandra Smith | SPU – Recycling & Composting Multifamily Outreach Specialist |
| Hannah Scholes | Yes | Diana Wadley | Guest – Department of Ecology |
| Adrian Tan | Yes | Sarah McDaniel | Guest |
| Ming-Ming Tung Edelman | Yes | | |
| Dirk Wassink | No | | |

1. Welcome & Introductions

- SWAC Chair, Joel Dashnaw, called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM
- Members and guests introduced themselves. Prompted by the SWAC chair, they each shared their name, affiliation, and their favorite Winter Olympic Sport to watch.
- January meeting minutes were approved by SWAC members in attendance

2. Comments on SWLOB Updates for SWAC

Updates were presented by Susan Fife-Ferris

- **A SWAC member asked**, “What are the expected impacts to ticketing?”
- **A SPU member responded**, “The main focus is on contamination. We feel that we will see a lower percentage of contamination as a result of ticketing”.
- **A SWAC member asked**, “How will SPU determine the fines?”
- **A SPU member responded**, “There is a standard fine of \$50. However, each customer will be issued three warnings prior to being fined. A fine will be issued on the 4th violation”.
- **A SWAC member asked**, “Does this apply to multifamily customers? Or only commercial customers?”
- **A SPU member responded**, “The main focus is on contamination. We feel that we will see a lower percentage of contamination as a result of ticketing”.

3. Legislative Update

Sege Jackson gave an overview on the status of the current legislative session & bills.

- **A SWAC member** shared a link that can be used as an additional resource to learn more about extender producer responsibility: [EPR](#).

4. 2022 Solid Waste Plan Update: Follow-up

SWAC members discussed further questions about the Plan Update with Stephanie

- **A SWAC member asked**, “How will DoorDash and other online food ordering and delivery platforms be affected by the bag ban?”
- **A SPU member responded**, “There are still things to be worked out with those platforms.”
- Pat will look into this and provide more information to the SWAC ahead of their next meeting
- Additional thoughts and ideas from SWAC can be added using the online form that will be available during the public comment period

5. Solid Waste 101

Susan Fife-Ferris provided an overview of the core programs within SPU’s Solid Waste Line of Business

- **A SWAC member asked**, “Is the City’s management of waste part of the City’s greenhouse gas reduction strategy?”
- **A SPU member responded**, “Yes, if we can reduce what people are buying and producing, then we can make an impact on greenhouse gas. SPU is also very aware of how we can reduce our carbon footprint in our facilities.”
- **A SWAC member asked**, “What is the environmental justification for continuing to haul waste to Oregon?”
- **A SPU member responded**, “We have an agreement that is effective until 2028. There weren’t many alternatives when we first entered this long-haul contract. This method will likely be revisited once our current contract expires.”
- **A SWAC member asked**, “Is composting profitable for companies?”
- **A SPU member responded**, “Most composting companies are private, so we do not have access to their financial records. As a customer, it is cheaper to compost in Seattle.”
- SPU offers a Master Composter Program for those who would like to expand their knowledge in that field

6. Around the Table

- The Buy Nothing Project has recently developed an app and is looking for ways to spread awareness to interested users. More information can be found on their site at <https://buynothingproject.org/>
- The Department of Ecology has all Local Solid Waste and Hazardous Waste Plans, and State SW+HW Plan available in a folder on their site at <https://app.box.com/s/u0cwvenm0wp0axx4yurjgtajgk00c74>

- King County's Circular Economy Program is hosting an event on 2/9 for anyone that is interested. More information can be found at their site: <https://nextcyclewashington.com/>
- The Refugee Arts Initiative has found a new building in Lake City to relocate to after the flooding of their previous building. The new building has not been renovated in over 50 years. If you are interested in volunteering, or if you know of any contractors who would be able to provide any building services, please contact SWAC Member, Ming-Ming.

7. SWAC Chat

- Café-style Conversations were setup via WebEx breakout rooms. Attendees had the option to transition between different breakout rooms to have more in-depth conversations on solid waste matters.

Adjourned 7:30 p.m.