



**SPU Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)**

**October 7, 2015 Meeting Notes**  
**Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 Fifth Avenue**

**Room 4901**

**5:30 pm – 7:30 pm**

*Chair: Heather Levy*

*Vice-Chair: David Della*

| Committee Members & CAC Staff      | Present? | SPU Staff & Guests       | Role                                     |
|------------------------------------|----------|--------------------------|--|
| Dan Corum                          | N        | Tim Croll                | Solid Waste Planning and Program Manager |
| David Della                        | Y        | Gabriella Uhlar-Heffner  | Planning & Development Specialist        |
| Anna Dyer                          | Y        |                          |  |
| Ben Grace                          | N        | Dan Dhillon, King County | Guest                                    |
| Holly Griffith                     | Y        | Faon O'Connor            | Guest                                    |
| Katie Kennedy                      | Y        |                          |  |
| Jamie Lee                          | N        | Sally Hulsman            | SPU                                      |
| Heather Levy                       | Y        |                          |  |
| Rodney Proctor                     | N        |                          |  |
| Joseph Ringold                     | N        |                          |  |
| Quinn Schweizer                    | Y        |                          |  |
| Stephanie Schwenger                | By phone |                          |  |
| Chris Toman                        | Y        |                          |  |
| Heidi Fischer, CAC Program Support | Y        |                          |  |
| Sego Jackson, Policy Liaison       | N        |                          |  |
| Sheryl Shapiro, Program Manager    | Y        |                          |  |

**ACTION ITEMS FROM OCTOBER SWAC MEETING:**

- ✓ David will send SWAC Members information about the Boo Bash on Halloween, October 31<sup>st</sup>.
- ✓ Quinn will send SWAC Members information about the Duwamish Alive event on October 17<sup>th</sup>.
- ✓ Chris will send SWAC Members information about the 2015 Sustainable UW Festival, happening October 26 – 31.

- ✓ Stephanie will send SWAC Members information about the SWANA Technical Session on Landfills on November 4<sup>th</sup> in Yakima.
  - Cost is \$50 - \$75. Sheryl may be able to provide scholarships to Members without employer sponsors; contact her if interested.
- ✓ Heather will update the SWAC Workplan as discussed at the September meeting. She will also highlight the annual topics and those that SWAC is monitoring closely, and add a brief description to the topic titles.
  - Heather will then send out a link to the 2015 Workplan to SWAC Members for their input in creating the 2016 Workplan.
    - Members will have approximately 1-2 weeks to respond.
- ✓ Sheryl would like SWAC Members' input on creating orientation materials for new SWAC Members: what should be included in a SWAC 101, or a Solid Waste 101?
  - Members should send their input to Sheryl by email.

### **Regular Business**

- Committee members and staff introduced themselves.
- September meeting notes are approved.

### **Update on Asphalt Shingle Ban, Gabriella Uhlar-Heffner, SPU, Planning & Development Specialist**

Gabriella referred to a power point presentation.

- Asphalt shingles are made through the partial refinement of petroleum, a valuable resource. Oil is also contained in hot mix asphalt (HMA) which is used in road construction.
- Tear-off asphalt shingles is one of the construction materials Seattle targeted for recycling in its Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan because of its potential to be used in paving applications. The following projects have greatly spurred the market development of shingles in paving hot mix:
  - A major King County demonstration project of two miles of roadway in Enumclaw using recycled asphalt shingles and recycled asphalt paving in hot mix starting 2009 with successful monitoring of roadway performance
  - WSDOT and King County Roads Division special provision specifications for the use of RAS in roadway overlay projects
  - King County Solid Waste use of RAS in paving jobs at their new transfer stations.
  - Adoption by the WA State Department of Transportation in 2015 of the RAS specification into their Standard Specification for roads and bridges
- Despite significant public sector work led by King County's Link Up Program, recycling facilities that accept shingles for processing have been closed due to regulatory agency concerns. These facilities have included:
  - Glacier Recycling in Auburn operated by Waste Management in 2014
  - Busy Beaver in Everett in 2014
  - Evergreen Shingle Recycling in Woodinville in 2015
- Facilities accepting shingles are United Recycling (small quantities) and Lautenbach Industries in Mt. Vernon.

- Due to this lack of recycling facilities for shingles, SPU has postponed the original date for the implementation of a landfill disposal ban on tear-off asphalt shingles until mid-2016 at the earliest
- The good news is that there are a fair number of hot mix paving producers using recycled asphalt shingles (RAS) and recycled asphalt pavement (RAP), although they are all currently in Pierce, Kitsap, and Thurston Counties. Some are considering expansion into King or Snohomish Counties, and some may be interested in becoming onsite recyclers of asphalt shingles.
  - One recent issue is that hot mix pavers are unclear about when they need to get a solid waste handling permit when they are using RAS and RAP.
  - There appears to be a need for guidance on how hot mix producers and recyclers handle processed and unprocessed shingles.
- King County Link Up has consultants that contact businesses to discuss their plans for expansion and any barriers they encounter.
  - Regulations or at least understanding what is required in order to be in conformance with regulations seem to be a barrier.
- Gabriella showed a graph of Seattle construction and demolition (C&D) waste tons generated since 2007.
  - Overall, the recycling rate has been increasing.
    - In 2007, only 49.3% of the C&D waste was recycled.
    - In 2014, 494,055 tons were generated, and 64.2% was recycled.
- However, compared to other C&D materials, asphalt recycling has been very low.
  - We saw a graph of 2014 diversion levels by material.
    - About 275,000 tons of concrete, asphalt pavement and other aggregates was generated, and 96% was recycled or reused.
    - About 80,000 tons of clean wood waste was generated, and 61% of that was diverted to recycling and beneficial use.
    - About 27,000 tons of clean gypsum waste was generated, and 79% was recycled.
    - About 22,000 tons of metal waste was generated and 75% was recycled.
    - About 18,500 tons of asphalt roofing was generated, but only .5% was recycled.
- SPU did a survey of roofers in 2014 to get their input on the proposed asphalt shingle recycling requirement.
  - The question was, “How would you be impacted by a disposal ban on tear-off asphalt shingles?”
  - We contacted 40 roofing companies in King County and 30 of them responded.
    - 36% said that the requirement would not be a problem, but only because other companies do their hauling.
    - 25% said that, depending on the job site location, it would be somewhat of a problem.

- 25% said that it would be a major problem because of a lack of recyclers for shingles within or close to Seattle, and the cost and inconvenience of using remote locations.
      - 15% didn't know how they would be impacted.
    - RAS and RAP in hot mix paving have taken some steps forward locally.
      - A section of street in Enumclaw was paved in 2009 with hot mix containing RAS and RAP to demonstrate the material's utility.
        - Extensive tests have shown that the material is performing well.
        - As a result, the material is being used in other places:
          - King County used it at Bow lake Transfer Station and will use it at the new Factoria Station
          - King County Roads has their own specification (based on WSDOT) and is using 3% RAS and 15% RAP in their paving overlay program (in unincorporated King County and in suburban cities).
          - SPU will use 3% RAS and 15% RAP in paving at the new North Transfer Station
          - In 2015, WSDOT used a high RAP mix for 20 state highway paving projects and a mix high in RAS for 2 state highway paving projects.
      - WSDOT has incorporated specific standards for the use of RAS and RAP.
      - SDOT, however, prefers warm mix, which is less energy intensive and has fewer emissions. But hot mix is less expensive.
        - RAS and RAP haven't been used in warm mix yet in the United States. That's a potential pilot project for the future.
        - Even if SDOT did not shift to hot mix, if enough hot mix producers accept RAS and RAP, we could go forward with the recycling requirement.
- ❖ Committee Member Question: What are the concerns about increased levels of RAS and RAP in paving mix?
  - Answer: Users want to see the results of a pilot project to see how the RAS/RAP mix performs over time. We do have the Enumclaw Project from 2009, but SDOT believes that 6 years is not long enough and that the roadway does not receive the same heavy traffic as Seattle's arterials.
- ❖ Committee Member Comment: Engineers are extremely risk adverse. Their concern here is performance over the long-term since they often do not have budgets to repave.
- ❖ Committee Member Question: It sounds like a lot of places have large piles of shingles and are not processing them. Is that because of a lack of demand?
  - Answer: Recyclers began accepting asphalt shingles in 2010, and there hasn't been consistent demand. Hot mix pavers have large piles of asphalt pavement themselves, and they want to use these before accepting a new material. WSDOT's incorporation of specific standards for using RAS and RAP should move things forward. It will also be helpful if municipalities start asking for hot mix with RAS and RAP. Tacoma has its own hot mix plant, and they received funds from the

Department of Ecology to retrofit it to process asphalt shingles. We will be visiting this plant later this month.

- ❖ Committee Member Question: If a plant closes that has piles of asphalt shingles, what happens to the shingles?
- Answer: They go to the landfill and are reported in our garbage tons. So far asphalt shingles have been a difficult commodity. Paving across the country is the main end market.

#### **Solid Waste Line of Business Updates, Tim Croll, Solid Waste Planning and Program Manager**

- There's been some discussion in the media lately about the value of recycling. Two articles in particular provide different perspectives:
  - [http://www.nytimes.com/2015/10/04/opinion/sunday/the-reign-of-recycling.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2015/10/04/opinion/sunday/the-reign-of-recycling.html?_r=0)
  - <http://grist.org/climate-energy/is-recycling-as-awful-as-the-new-york-times-claims-not-remotely/>
  - Time Magazine recently asked Mayor Murray's office to write an essay on whether recycling is important enough to be required. The Mayor happily agreed and we are working with him on this.
  - We're excited about the media's numerous references to Seattle's compost requirement.
- ❖ Committee Member Comment: Some of the recent discussion is a result of the current downturn in recycled commodities' markets.
- Tim then referred to the charts showing the tons of garbage sent to landfills each year in Seattle.
  - Through August of this year, we have 1.5% less garbage than we had at this time last year.
    - In the past, we've had reductions in garbage tonnage for various reasons, including the closing of the North Transfer Station (it's being rebuilt now and should open again in 2016).
    - Now, the compost requirement is contributing more to a reduction in garbage than is shown in these graphs, but there may be a rise in other kinds of garbage.
  - We disposed of 200,045 tons of garbage so far in 2015, compared with 203,076 tons for the same period in 2014.
    - Tim is fairly sure that the compost requirement is saving more than 3000 tons annually.
    - Additional analysis will better report the compost requirement's impact.

#### **Joint Community Advisory Committees (CAC) 9/30 Meeting Debrief and SWAC Web Site Discussion, Sheryl Shapiro, CAC Program Manager**

- Last week, all the CACs met to discuss content for the SPU home page.

- The group was a bit small.
- David Della, Anna Dyer, Sege Jackson, and Tim Croll attended from SWAC and the Solid Waste Line of Business.
- Anna gave a brief summary of the meeting.
  - The Committees each re-envisioned the SPU website and provided input on SPU home page content. Corrine Erly, the Web Manager, showed a power point discussing how the web revision will help to meet SPU’s goals from the Strategic Business Plan.
  - We also learned about SPU’s recent website usability study.
    - SPU worked with almost 20 people to find out how their webpage is used, how people find different topics, and what needs the website could better address.
    - We saw some video clips of study participants navigating and commenting on the SPU webpage.
    - Some people had a singular focus, some wanted to learn more, and some wanted to be more engaged with SPU.
- Sheryl gave some more information about the presentation at the Joint CAC meeting. Some highlights from the staff presentation included:
  - In website design and content, transparency and clarity build trust and confidence.
  - We want to create content that meets customers’ needs and avoids SPU jargon.
  - Residential and business customers have different needs and we want to provide clear paths for each group on the website.
  - People engage with environmental concerns at different levels:
    - Does it affect my body/health?
    - Does it affect my lifestyle?
    - Does it affect my world?
      - It’s most effective to engage people in environmental concerns at the level of their bodies and health.

Statistics were shared on SPU’s home page use, with areas of high use coded in red.

  - The most used links on the SPU homepage were for information about solid waste collection carts, transfer station hours and locations, and the “Pay My Bill” link.
  - Joint CAC Meeting participants brainstormed on topics for the homepage.
- Now, Sheryl asked SWAC to do similar brainstorming on topics for the **CAC homepage**.
  - The group came up with these topics:
    - What is a CAC?
    - What is the purpose of the CACs?
    - Who can participate
    - Meeting times

- The different CACs
  - How to join
  - List of links to the 3 CACs
  - Latest committee news
  - CACs in the news
  - Other ways to get involved
  - Visual design rather than textual, related to the subject area
  - Visual on how the CACs relate to SPU
  - CAC feedback or communication pathway: ways for people to ask CACs questions
  - Links to Committee biographies
  - CACs mission statement
  - Past outcomes and work products
  - Cross CAC meetings and agendas
  - Upcoming events, like joint meetings
- Then Sheryl passed out a template for each individual SWAC Member to prioritize CAC home page topics into three categories: Must Have, Very Important, and Nice to Have.
  - The group took a few minutes to fill out the templates and then reported out the “Must Have” category:
    - What is a CAC/ purpose
    - List of the three committees with links to their pages
    - Subject area visuals
    - Who can participate
    - How to join
    - Upcoming events
    - Incentives for joining the CACs
- The group then brainstormed topics for the **SWAC homepage**:
  - What is the SWAC
  - Past agendas, upcoming meetings, past notes
  - Member biographies
  - Work plans
  - What SWAC has accomplished
  - Letters
  - Links to basic information about solid waste
  - Definitions in solid waste
  - Goals in solid waste (SPUs), diversion goals
  - List of resources for help in solid waste
  - How to join
  - Visuals on subject matter
  - Field trips
  - Pictures

- Composting logos
- Diversion rates
- Who can join
- Brief history of Seattle solid waste – link
- Latest news, solid waste
- Committee Members then filled the template to prioritize SWAC home page topics into three categories: Must Have, Very Important, and Nice to Have.
  - SWAC Members then reported out the “Must Have” category:
    - What is SWAC
    - Agenda s
    - Meeting notes
    - Upcoming meetings
    - Combined agenda, workplan, notes
    - How to join
    - Mission of SWAC
    - Accomplishments
    - Resources for and from meetings
- All CAC Members were asked at the Joint CAC Meeting if they would like to volunteer to assist SPU with testing of its new mobile website. Slots are still available; Sheryl passed around the sign-up sheet.
- ❖ Committee Member Question: What is the timeline on the new SPU website?
- Answer: We’re revising the whole website and the timeline for completion has not been determined. This process is one of the Action Items the Strategic business Plan. The CAC and SWAC webpages may be done before the larger SPU home page is completed.

**Outreach Reports & Opportunities, Sheryl Shapiro**

Sheryl reviewed the following outreach opportunities:

**Scheduled Solid Waste Outreach Events**

**Fall 2015**

- |   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| ● Broadway Farmers Market*  | Sun., 10/11 <b>Joe, Holly</b> |
| ● CISC 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vietnamese Community Dinner (in language Vietnamese) +   | Mon., 10/12, 5-8              |
| ● Columbia City Farmers Market*   | Wed., 10/14 <b>Ben</b>        |
| ● Food Services of America food show at the Convention Center   | Wed., 10/21, 10-5             |
| This is a typical commercial trade show outreach booth. Poster and sticker giveaways; plenty of interaction with the food service industry. |                               |
| <a href="http://www.fsafood.com/main/serviceareas/seattle.aspx">http://www.fsafood.com/main/serviceareas/seattle.aspx</a>                   |                               |
| ● Husky Stadium public outreach and food vendor inspections/education   | Sat., 10/31 game <b>Jamie</b> |
| ● Rainier Beach Halloween Boo Bash (WM is a sponsor for this event)*  | Sat., 10/31 <b>David</b>      |
| ● Hmong New Year Celebration*   | Sat., 11/7 <b>Anna</b>        |

**Additional possibilities, not yet confirmed**



- Green Sports Alliance Tues., 11/10  
<http://greensportsalliance.org/green-sports-alliance-champions-of-food-seattle-symposium/> #
- EPA waste sort activity. This is very low key. Pat Kaufman will join a couple EPA staff at their office building downtown to perform a simple waste sort – spread the tarp, dump the cans, glove up and do a quick and dirty sort. No date set for this yet. # TBD, **Heather, Chris**
- (TBD) Chinese Information Service Center (CISC) Celebration + Mon., 11/16 5-8

\* Contact Tilth coordinator, Justin Maltry (206) 633-0451 Ext. 125 [justinmaltry@seattletilth.org](mailto:justinmaltry@seattletilth.org)

# Contact Pat Kaufman, SPU [pat.kaufman@seattle.gov](mailto:pat.kaufman@seattle.gov)

+ Contact Marcella Wilson, SPU [marcella.wilson@seattle.gov](mailto:marcella.wilson@seattle.gov)

- Sheryl asked SWAC Members whose names are listed for a particular event to let her know whether they attend.
- David Della shared some information about the Rainier Beach Halloween Boo Bash.
  - The event takes place in a Safeway parking lot, and is sponsored by Safeway and Waste Management.
  - It's planned for 5:30 – 8pm.
  - There will be food booths, activities, music, and face painting.
  - Last year over 1000 kids attended.
  - ✓ **David will send SWAC more information.**
- There will be a PACE Seminar on Inclusive Outreach & Public Engagement at the Capitol Hill Library on Thursday, November 5, 2015 - 6:00 PM – 7:45 PM.
- The Duwamish Live event will be October 17<sup>th</sup>, and will include habitat restoration and graffiti removal. Good food will be served and kids can participate.
  - ✓ **Recology Cleanscapes will have a booth, and Quinn will send out a link with more information to SWAC Members.**
- UW's annual Sustainability Festival is in late October. There are a lot of events associated with it - you can find a schedule here: <http://green.uw.edu/sustainable-festival-2015/events>.
  - ✓ **Chris will send out more details to SWAC Members.**
- There's no new information about the Waste Management tsunami debris sorting project. David will let Segó know when he has an update.
  - ✓ **Stephanie will send SWAC Members information about the SWANA Technical Session on Landfills on November 4th in Yakima.**
  - ✓ **Cost is \$50 - \$75. Sheryl may be able to provide scholarships to Members without employer sponsors; contact her if interested.**

#### Approach for 2016 Workplan, Heather Levy

- Heather asked the group how they would like to proceed with planning the 2016 Workplan, given that SWAC just reviewed the 2015 Workplan in some detail at September's meeting.
  - She suggested that she could update the SWAC Workplan as discussed at the September meeting and then email the Plan to Members for their review and comment.
  - Typically, the Workplan has similarities from year to year (like review and comment on the Recycling Report and monthly review of the garbage tonnage reports.)

- SWAC Members had some discussion about how new members may not be able to effectively comment on the Workplan without more information.
  - One Member suggested that annual topics should be identified.
  - Another Member suggested that background information on SPU and the solid waste industry would be helpful.
  - The Program Manager suggested that some description of each of the topics would be helpful to new members, and could also be used on the SWAC webpage.
  - ✓ Heather agreed that she would update the SWAC Workplan as discussed at the September meeting, highlight the annual topics and those that SWAC is monitoring closely, and add a brief description to the topic titles.
    - Heather will then send out a link to the 2015 Workplan to SWAC Members for their input in creating the 2016 Workplan.
    - Heather will not be available to attend the next SWAC meeting, so she will send this out as soon as possible.
    - Members will have approximately 1-2 weeks to respond.
  - ✓ Sheryl will work on gathering background information on SPU and solid waste in general to create a SWAC 101 and SWAC orientation materials.
    - Sheryl would like SWAC Members' input on creating these materials for new SWAC Members.
  - ✓ Members should send their input to Sheryl by email.

#### **Around the Table**

- Chris reported that he has a new job at the University of Washington. He manages a number of programs, including Green Office and Green Labs, and supervises student employees and interns.
- With regard to the briefing on paint recycling that SWAC received at an earlier meeting, Chris also reported that he used Metro paint for a room in his house and it looks great. He found it at Ballard Reuse, and it's also sold in Miller Paint Stores. They have 18 colors, and selection can be a bit limited.
- Sheryl reported a number of events:
  - Zero Landfill – October 10 at the Miller Community Center in Capitol Hill. Bring your own bags and find architectural and artistic materials.
  - Monday is Indigenous People's Day and Wynona LaDuke will be speaking at City Hall.
  - El Centro de la Raza is putting on their 11th Annual Ofrenda Exhibit Opening and Celebration on Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 5:30 PM – 8:30 PM for dinner, children's activities, and viewing of the ofrendas. This year they stand in solidarity with and honor the Black Lives Matter movement, to remember those that were lost this year due to the racism against People of Color in the United States.
  - The next Joint CAC Meeting will be October 27<sup>th</sup> (Tuesday), and will present an the Growth and Equity analysis of the City's Draft Comprehensive Plan.

- Sheryl also reported that she heard from the chair of Clark County's SWAC. He is interested in how other SWACs operate and may visit next month's SWAC meeting.

7:26pm, meeting adjourned.