



SPU Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)

April 3, 2019 Meeting Notes
 Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 Fifth Avenue
 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

*Chair: Dirk Wassink
 Vice-Chair: Alessandra Pistoia*

Committee Members	Present?	SPU Staff	Role
Quinn Apuzzo	N	Natasha Walker	CAC Program Coordinator
Holly Griffith	Y	Sheryl Shapiro	CAC Program Manager
Emily Newcomer	N	Dave Hare	Planning Strategic Advisor, Solid Waste Planning and Program Management
James Subocz	Y	Katie Lynd	Strategic Communications Advisor for Solid Waste LOB
Alan Garvey	N	Socorro Medina	SPU Multifamily Recycling & Composting Planning & Development Specialist
Amelia Fujikawa	P	Sally Hulsman	Solid Waste Compliance and Inspections, Director
Adam Maurer	Y		
Rachtha Dahn	N	Guests	
Alessandra Pistoia	Y	Lindsey Engh	Guest
Dirk Wassink	Y		
Nico Onoda-McGuire	Y		
Kelsie Blanthorn	Y		

1. Regular Business

SWAC Chair, Dirk Wassink called the meeting to order at 5:37 PM

- Members and guests introduced themselves.
- Meeting notes from February were approved. March notes will be available at our May meeting.
- Sheryl indicated emergency exits and exit procedures.

2. Solid Waste LOB Updates: Annual Recycling Rate Report

Dave Hare, Planning Strategic Advisor, SPU Solid Waste Planning and Program Management, reviewed the DRAFT timeline for SPU’s Annual Recycling Rate Report, and discussed SWAC’s letter schedule.

- Draft report will be available May 17; May 29 the final report will be delivered electronically to SWAC and is due to council by July 1.
- SWAC needs to draft their letter before their May meeting.
 - Nico, Emily, and Dirk volunteered via the survey/email
 - Alessandra volunteered as well
- SWAC will discuss the letter at the June meeting.

3. Multifamily Recycle/Compost program metrics and evaluation

Socorro Medina, Senior Planning & Development Specialist, SPU Multifamily Recycling & Composting provided an update on SPU’s Multifamily recycle/compost program. The purpose of her presentation

was to provide annual updates, but also to collect feedback on program materials for the next round of printing.

Medina began with a short overview of the program, recognizing the myriad partners and multicultural consultants who support multifamily recycling and composting outreach. Medina then reviewed a few of the program metrics and evaluation process, as well as results. Medina provided a caveat that while the metrics they are collecting have remained largely the same since previous years presented to SWAC, there has been an evolution in how they are presented, in an effort to translate that data into action. For example, the data on size of apartment complexes was broken down further into dwelling units to capture overall aggregation of rental units within each category, in order to compare against metrics from SPU to better gauge SPU's impact within each sector).

- **A SWAC Member** asked about the difference between the “1” vs “2” rating for measuring food waste collection performance. Staff responded that the difference is largely related to manager/maintenance involvement.
- **A staff member** asked about distinguishing between shoots and carts on the floor. Staff responded that we have that data, but the current presentation just indicates the presence of access on each floor.

Additional feedback can be submitted via the SWAC meeting feedback survey.

4. Solid Waste Management Plan update

Dave Hare, Planning Strategic Advisor, SPU Solid Waste Planning and Program Management gave an update on the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan (CSWMP) update, focusing on the development of the communications strategy and plan. Hare presented the following draft timeline for SWAC involvement:

- ❖ June 5, 2019 [SWAC Meeting] – Findings from partnership with SPU's Environmental Justice & Service Equity Division on stakeholder engagement tactics to be presented to SWAC.
- ❖ August 7, 2019 [SWAC Meeting] – First Draft of Amendment will be available to SWAC members.
- ❖ August 15, 2019 – September 30, 2019 -- Open Public Comment Period
- ❖ September 2019 - SWAC Submits comments on 1st Draft of CSWMPA
- ❖ Q4 2019 – Summary of Public Comments and Development of Final CSWMP Amendment
- ❖ Q1 2020 – Final CSWMPA and **SWAC Letter of Involvement (letter for Washington State Department of Ecology) due.**
- ❖ Q2 2020 – CSWMP Amendment is Approved and Submitted to Ecology

Katie Lynd then reviewed the draft CSWMPA Communications Strategy and Public Involvement Plan and walked members through an interactive exercise to prioritize communication tactics. Lynd will distribute the results of this exercise electronically.

- A SWAC Member expressed a desire to review public comments before submitting SWAC comments; they explained they may want to consider public comments in their consideration of the amendment. SWAC is interested in providing a response to the draft amendment, during the public comment period and in addition to the letter that must be submitted to Washington State Department of Ecology with the final submittal. Staff to check with consultant team on the

timeline for this. Sheryl Shapiro added that public comments could possibly inspire topics for the SWAC 2020 work plan.

- A guest asked what a robust public comment period would look like to SPU? Staff responded that we have historically based success off of quantitative data (i.e. how many comments), but that they would like to focus on the intangibles, including relationships built with community and building a sustainable feedback loop. They hope to develop a variety of tactics to have messaging strike at different levels.

Additional feedback can be submitted via the SWAC meeting feedback survey, but given that the survey is anonymous it is preferred if SWC members engage directly with Katie and Dave with their comments. A follow-up email will be sent soliciting this feedback.

5. SWAC Work Plan Topics for 2019 approval

Dirk Wassink & Alessandra Pistoia passed out the final 2019 SWAC work plan for review. SWAC members unanimously approved the work plan for posting.

SWAC members provided the following comments on the 2019 work plan:

- Recommend another field trip to the north transfer station (When polled, only 1 member present had visited).
- A SWAC member asked if homeless encampments was captured as a topic in the 2019 workplan. Staff responded that it was previously listed as regular updates, but if there was a specific aspect of that topic that SWAC was interested in, staff could bring it back to the Solid Waste LOB to discuss a potential presentation.
- A SWAC member requested delegated time for SWAC members to network/get to know one another, as well as opportunity to discuss priority issues and annual improvements to SWAC processes. They felt it would be helpful to better understand the role of the individual, as well as the role of this SWAC as a whole. Staff and SWAC officers discussed potentially exploring this in the future. In the interim, Natasha will share CAC Member bios to better acquaint them with other SWAC members.

6. SWAC Survey Assignment on Product Stewardship

In preparation for our May meeting in which we'll be learning more about Product Stewardship, SWAC members were asked to commit to exploring product stewardship example programs/websites. Here are the assignments:

Legislated in WA/King County:

- www.ecyclewashington.org - Nico
- <https://www.lightrecycle.org/> - Kelsie
- www.medicinereturn.org - Holly

Voluntary in WA:

- <https://www.call2recycle.org/> - Amelia, Dirk

Legislation at play in WA, already established in some eight states + DC

- <https://www.paintcare.org/> - Alessandra

Legislated paper and packaging stewardship in BC

- <https://recyclebc.ca/> - Adam, James

We'll have a short report-out from SWAC members at our May meeting to hear more about what members saw/learned/experienced when perusing the website. If you were not at last night's meeting and/or your name is not on this list, please respond and let us know which one you are interested in.

7. Around the Table & Community Insights

- **A SWAC Member** shared that the University of Washington is going to be celebrating Earth Day by holding a "Trash-in" on April 19. They will be pulling garbage/recycling/compost around red square and piling it up under a tent for a trash sort. They are open to folks volunteering / joining. Just email SWAC member Holly Griffith for more information.
- **A SWAC Member** suggested that we be cognizant of future Earth Weeks for scheduling All-CACs or CAC meetings, as this is often a busy week for some.

Adjourned 7:32PM