

Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/
Integrated Waste Management Task Force

Minutes of January 16, 2014

County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, California

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Margaret Clark, California League of Cities-Los Angeles Division
Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative
Mary Ann Lutz, California League of Cities-Los Angeles Division
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative
Sam Perdomo, Business/Commerce Representative
Ron Saldana, Los Angeles County Disposal Association (Formerly GLASWMA)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Grace Chan, rep by Chris Salomon, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
Mitchell Englander, rep by Nicole Bernson, City of Los Angeles
Gail Farber, rep by Pat Proano, County of Los Angeles Dept. of Public Works
Dr. Barry Wallerstein, rep by Ed Pupka, South Coast Air Quality Management District
Enrique Zaldivar, rep by Karen Coca, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Carl Clark, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc.
Michael Conway, City of Long Beach Public Works Department
Dr. Jonathan Fielding, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health
David Kim, City of Los Angeles
Gerry Miller, City of Los Angeles
Eugene Sun, California League of Cities-Los Angeles Division

OTHERS PRESENT:

Clark Ajwani, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Gabriel Arenas, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Russell Bukoff, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
David Coscia, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Dave Hauser, Republic Services
Armine Kesablyan, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Patrick Holland, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Jason Jones, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Michelle Leonard, SCS Engineers
Karlo Manalo, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Tobie Mitchell, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Coby Skye, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Bereket Tadele, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Emiko Thompson, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

OTHERS PRESENT CONTINUED:

Kawsar Vazifdar, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Jennifer Wallin, CalRecycle
Curtis Williams, City of Santa Clarita

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 1:07 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR AUGUST 15, AND NOVEMBER 20, 2013

The August 15, 2013, minutes were approved as written, and the November 20, 2013, minutes were approved with minor corrections.

III. REPORT FROM THE FACILITY PLAN & REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE (FPRS)

Ms. Betsey Landis reported the Subcommittee received a NDFE letter from the City of Montebello. She made a motion to send a letter to the City of Montebello thanking them for informing the Task Force of the changes to their NDFE and encouraging them to continue providing the County with the facility disposal reports. Ms. Mary Ann Lutz seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Ms. Landis also gave an update on the Sunshine Canyon Landfill. She reported the odor complaints have gotten better as the number of complaints have slightly decreased. In regards to the vegetation, Republic intends to use hydro seeding to cover the temporary slopes. Mr. Pat Proano stated that he recently visited the Landfill and was impressed by the amount of work that has been done. He also mentioned that the odors in the area are not as strong as they used to be and suggested the Landfill operator provide an update on the progress of the gas-to-energy project. Mr. Ed Pupka recommended placing this item on a future Task Force agenda so that it could be properly addressed by all the agencies involved. Staff will coordinate with Republic and the Interagency to have representatives present at a future meeting.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF FINDING OF CONFORMANCE FOR THE SAVAGE CANYON LANDFILL

Mr. Karlo Manalo reported the Task Force sent a letter to the City of Whittier Department of Public Works on August 6, 2013, stating that a Finding of Conformance (FOC) would be required in conjunction with the City's application to the Local Enforcement Agency for a revised Solid Waste Facilities Permit for the Savage Canyon Landfill. On October 15, 2013, the City of Whittier submitted

an application to the Task Force for a FOC for the Savage Canyon Landfill. On November 19, 2013, staff received a request from the City of Whittier requesting the item be continued to allow for additional time to further understand the conditions of the FOC, their potential impact on the landfill's operations, and their relationship to the Countywide Siting Element. On December 12, 2013, the City of Whittier sent a letter withdrawing their request for a FOC by the Task Force based on information contained in a series of correspondences between the Task Force and the CIWMB (now CalRecycle) dated between November 2002 and June 2008 regarding the role of the Task Force with respect to the FOC process. Staff disseminated a memorandum dated September 5, 2013, containing the City's responses to comments made by the public on the permit revision application for the Savage Canyon Landfill.

After a lengthy discussion on the role of the Task Force and the purpose of the Siting Element, Ms. Betsey Landis made a motion to send a letter in coordination with County Counsel, to the Mayor of the City of Whittier, with copies to the City Council, City Manager, and the City's Public Works Department, explaining the need for a Finding of Conformance by the Task Force in accordance with the Countywide Siting Element. Mr. Mike Mohajer seconded the motion, and it passed with opposition from Mr. Chris Salomon and one abstention from Mr. Ed Pupka.

V. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Coby Skye distributed and presented the [attached Legislative Summary Table](#) and recommendations on the legislative bills listed below.

AB 323 – Staff recommended the Task Force watch this bill.

AB 1061 – Staff recommended the Task Force watch this bill.

SB 498 – A letter of support was sent to the Senate Environmental Quality Committee January 8, 2014.

SB 727 – Mr. Mike Mohajer recommended the Task Force watch this bill.

Mr. Skye also gave the [attached presentation](#) on CalRecycle's 2014-15 Budget Change Proposals and the proposed changes to the Beverage Container Recycling Program (BCRP). After a brief discussion regarding the concerns of the various proposals, Ms. Mary Ann Lutz made a motion to send a letter to the Governor expressing the Task Force's concerns regarding the BCRP budget changes with carbon copies to CalRecycle, all Los Angeles County cities and Council of Governments, and the League of California Cities. The motion was

seconded by Ms. Betsey Landis and passed with one abstention from Mr. Ed Pupka.

VI. AB 1126 – CALRECYCLE IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS

Mr. Mike Mohajer stated there was no update at this time. He will continue to follow up with CalRecycle and report back to the Task Force.

VII. ZERO WASTE LA – EXCLUSIVE MULTIFAMILY AND COMMERCIAL FANCSHIS SYSTEM IN THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES

Ms. Karen Coca of the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation gave the [attached presentation](#) on the City of Los Angeles Franchise System.

VIII. GREEN WASTE MANAGEMENT SINCE THE PUENTE HILLS LANDFILL CLOSURE

Mr. Karlo Manalo reported several landfills in the County were contacted such as Lancaster, Chiquita Canyon, Sunshine Canyon City/County Landfills, and the Antelope Valley Landfill regarding their monthly greenwaste tonnages before and after the closure of the Puente Hills Landfill. The Sanitation Districts was also contacted for information on any changes in greenwaste intake at the Puente Hills Materials Recovery Facility (MRF), Downey Area Transfer Station, and Calabasas and Scholl Canyon Landfills. Based on the information gathered so far, these facilities did not experience significant changes to their greenwaste tonnages for the months of November and December 2013. The [attached handout](#) presented to the Task Force indicates that the average monthly green waste tonnages for the Calabasas and Scholl Canyon Landfills for the last two months of 2013 slightly dropped. However, the numbers are relatively comparable to the monthly tonnages for 2012.

In addition, the Puente Hills Landfill received an average of 17,800 tons per month of greenwaste during 2013. Since the closure of the Puente Hills Landfill, the Puente Hills MRF began receiving greenwaste. The amount of greenwaste received at the Puente Hills Landfill prior to its closure was much greater than the quantities of greenwaste now received at the Puente Hills MRF and DART combined. Other landfills within the County are also not showing any significant increases in their intake of greenwaste. Staff anticipates receiving quarterly reporting forms from all solid waste facilities throughout the County in March of this year, which should provide a clearer picture on how greenwaste is being managed. Staff will provide the Task Force with another update in April.

IX. STATUS UPDATED ON AB 341 CALRECYCLE REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE

Ms. Tobie Mitchell reported CalRecycle was required to submit their Report to the Legislature by January 1, 2014, identifying strategies for implementing the 75% waste reduction, composting, and recycling state goal by 2020. The Task Force has been a steadfast stakeholder in supplying CalRecycle with comments beginning in May 2012 when the initial white papers were released. Staff has contacted CalRecycle to request a copy of the Report to the Legislature or information on when that report will be made public through the website; however, staff was told that the report is undergoing final revisions and will be available at the end of the month. CalRecycle will be having their monthly meeting on January 21, 2014, and it is expected the Report will be discussed.

Governor Brown released his 2014-2015 budget proposals, which allocates \$30 million for CalRecycle to provide financial incentives for capital investments that expand waste management infrastructure with a priority in disadvantaged communities. Investment in new or expanded clean composting and anaerobic digestion facilities is necessary to divert more materials from landfills, a significant source of methane emissions. This allocation of \$30 million comes from the \$850 million revenues generated through Cap and Trade Auctions (majority going to CARB/CalTrans in clean-transportation infrastructure and high speed rail).

X. ARB/CALRECYCLE SCOPING PLAN UPDATE

Ms. Tobie Mitchell reported that on October 1, 2012, the California Air Resources Board released their first discussion draft of the AB 32 Scoping Plan Update. As required by law, CARB is required to do an update every five years reporting on the State's progress in meeting our climate change goal of achieving 1990 GHG levels by 2020. The Task Force submitted comments to the California Air Resources Board (CARB) in August 2013 following their round of public meetings as well as in October 2013 after the release of the discussion draft, in which CalRecycle has quantified the 75% goal in terms of GHG reductions. Reaching this goal by 2020 will trigger a host of new state legislative and regulatory requirements, significant efforts to develop needed infrastructures with significant capital investment, and a complete streamlining of our state and local permitting process in a short timeframe. CARB has incorporated stakeholder comments and will be releasing the draft revised plan in late January. Staff will provide a progress update at the next Task Force Meeting. The final plan update will be adopted in late spring.

XI. STATUS UPDATE ON CARPET STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Mr. Gabriel Arenas updated the Task Force on the State's Carpet Recycling Program established under AB 2398 (2010). He stated the Task Force sent a letter to CalRecycle in November 2013 expressing dissatisfaction with the revised plan submitted by Carpet America Recovery Effort (CARE) who is tasked with implementing the carpet recycling program for the state. The letter also requested that CalRecycle reject the plan, which they did December. Mr. Arenas informed the Task Force that CARE resubmitted a revised plan, Version 3.0, in late December 2013. CalRecycle staff sent out a memo stating that statute does not set specific numeric goals, rather it requires demonstration of "continuous and meaningful improvement in carpet diversion and recycling," and given the nature of the carpet recycling infrastructure, it is unknown if the plan would be successful in this regard. However, CalRecycle staff found that the plan conformed to the statutory requirements of AB 2398 and would be recommending that Director Carroll Mortensen approve the plan.

Mr. Arenas also stated that the new plan allocates additional funding for education and outreach and new market based incentives, as well as new financial assurance mechanisms, but still had a relatively low recycling goal of 16% by 2016 with an aspirational goal of 20% by 2020. Mr. Arenas recommended that the Task Force send another letter to CalRecycle repeating their remaining reservations with new plan. This letter is due the Tuesday, January 21, 2014. Ms. Betsey Landis made a motion to send the letter to CalRecycle seconded by Ms. Mary Ann Lutz. The motion passed with one abstention from Ed Pupka.

XII. STATUS UPDATE OF PAINT STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Ms. Armine Kesablyan provided a summary on CalRecycle staff recommendations regarding completeness of the California Paint Stewardship Program Year 1 Revised Annual Report. Ms. Kesablyan reiterated that PaintCare submitted the original Report on October 1, 2013; however, CalRecycle requested revisions to the report with further clarifications. PaintCare submitted the revised report on January 5, 2014.

CalRecycle requested the inclusion of three primary items in order for the Annual Report to be considered complete. After reviewing the revised Report, CalRecycle staff found that not all of the requested items were included. Ms. Kesablyan reported that as a result, CalRecycle staff recommends finding the California Paint Stewardship Program Year 1 Revised Annual Report incomplete because information about sales by paint type was not provided and

that staff continue working with PaintCare to determine whether such information acceptable to both parties can be provided in future reports.

Ms. Kesablyan indicated that these recommendations will be considered by CalRecycle at its January 21 monthly meeting. Upon determination of completeness of the Report, CalRecycle will bring another action item to a public meeting regarding the compliance determination of the Annual Report.

XIII. CALRECYCLE

Ms. Jennifer Wallin reported the following:

- CalRecycle will be holding a public meeting January 21. The mattress bill will be discussed at this meeting.
- The Beverage Container Recycling grant will be announced January 21.
- 2013/14 Used Oil Grant applications are now being accepted. The due Date is January 28.
- City/County payment grant for beverage container recycling NOFA will be due in February.
- A NOFA will be released at the end of January or beginning of February regarding the tire incentive program. A new approach to develop a market for the use tire products.

XIV. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 20, 2014.

The meeting adjourned at 3:12 p.m.

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