

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

Minutes for April 21, 2022

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

WEB CONFERENCE

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Margaret Clark, League of California Cities
Eddie De La Riva, League of California Cities
Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative
Rafael Prieto, City of Los Angeles
Jordan R. Sisson, Los Angeles County Disposal Association
Jim Smith, City of Los Angeles

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Robert Ferrante, rep by Sam Shammass, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts
Barbara Ferrer, rep by Dorcas (Dee) Hanson-Lugo, Los Angeles County Public Health
Eric Lopez, rep by Erin Rowland, Long Beach Public Works
Wayne Nastri, rep by Jack Cheng, South Coast Air Quality Management District
Mark Pestrella, rep by Patrick Holland, Los Angeles County Public Works

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Jeff Farano, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries
Bernadette Halverson, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation

OTHERS PRESENT:

Perla Gomez, Los Angeles County Public Works
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens
Dave Nguyen, Los Angeles County Public Works
Carol Oyola, Los Angeles County Public Works
Aric Rodriguez, Los Angeles County Public Works
Primitivo Nunez, California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery
Christopher Sheppard, Los Angeles County Public Works
Kawsar Vazifdar, Los Angeles County Public Works
Jeffrey Zhu, Los Angeles County Public Works
Charles Darensbourg, Los Angeles County Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 1:03 p.m. by Mr. Sam Shamas.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 17, 2022 MINUTES

Mr. Mike Mohajer made a motion to approve the minutes, and Mr. Patrick Holland seconded. Motion passed with one abstention.

III. REPORT FROM THE ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE (ATAS)

Mr. Chris Sheppard reported that the ATAS received a presentation from [Bloom Energy](#). Their technology converts solid waste into biogas, which is then used to create electricity, and is being utilized at hundreds of locations across the country. They are currently working with SoCalGas and the County Sanitation Districts on a potential project at one of the Sanitation Districts' wastewater treatment plants.

Tetra Tech continues to support Public Works with Senate Bill 1383 (SB 1383) planning efforts and evaluating the potential to develop organic waste processing facilities at closed landfill sites.

There was an update on upcoming conversion technology events and conferences that may also be found in the [Conversion Technology Newsletter](#).

Mr. Jordan Sisson asked what CalRecycle's May 3, 2022 webinar would entail. Mr. Sheppard explained the webinar would focus on procurement and there will be presentations from various jurisdictions on procuring SB 1383 compliant products to meet regulation requirements.

IV. REPORT FROM THE FACILITY AND PLAN REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE (FPRS)

Ms. Betsey Landis reported the following on the FPRS meeting:

- Presentation on conversion technology sites.
- Chiquita Canyon Landfill (CCL) had 4 odor complaints in March 2022 and zero NOVs.
- Discussion on the community air monitoring stations at CCL to monitor air quality in CCL's surrounding communities.

- Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL) had 58 odor complaints in March 2022 and zero NOVs.
- Discussion of weekend soil cover at SCL. Public Works is working with Regional Planning on enforcement action.
- Vegetation report shows that all revegetation is doing very well.
- Update on Fourth Quarter FOC report.
- Update on Semi-Annual Waste Characterization for Lancaster and Antelope Valley Landfills was received. Waste Characterizations for various landfills will be provided at next month's Subcommittee meeting.

Ms. Landis commented that Mr. Sheppard provided a list of different conversion technologies with data on what they provide, which is useful in finding uses for solid waste other than dumping at landfills and composting.

V. LOS ANGELES COUNTY TIMESHEET POLICY – CAROL OYOLA

Ms. Carol Oyola provided an update on County Departments requiring commissioners that receive stipends, to sign timesheets with wet or electronic signatures. Staff can e-mail finalized copies of timesheets to commissioners to sign and return via e-mail or staff can mail hard copies with return self-addressed, stamped envelope for commissioners unable to provide e-signatures.

Mr. Holland asked if stipends would be withheld if commissioners did not submit signed timesheets. Ms. Oyola responded it may take commissioners longer to receive their stipends if they do not submit signed timesheets as this is the new protocol due to a recent audit.

Mr. Hunter asked if staff had received a letter dated April 8, 2022, from the Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors to County Commissions regarding return preparations for in-person meetings and that the letter stated unvaccinated commissioners may no longer be permitted to serve on various County commissions. However, commissioners appointed by other authorities are highly encouraged to be vaccinated before in-person meetings resume in order to protect the public. Mr. Hunter shared his concerns and wanted to make certain the Task Force had received the same letter and thought Ms. Oyola may have the letter to disseminate. Ms. Oyola responded she did not receive the letter and that staff is currently working with County Counsel regarding future in-person meetings. Ms. Landis commented calling into meetings would be more convenient due to traffic and living 40 miles away from Public Works Headquarters.

Mr. Hunter offered to forward the letter addressed to County Commissioners to Ms. Oyola and Mr. Mohajer concurred so that she may disseminate to the Task Force. Discussion about in-person meetings ensued.

VI. CALRECYCLE SENATE BILL 1383 "INITIAL JURISDICTION REPORT AND ENFORCEABLE MECHANISMS/ORDINANCES" SUMMARY REPORT

Mr. Clark Ajwani briefly summarized what the County submitted in its SB 1383 Initial Jurisdiction Compliance Report. Every jurisdiction was required to report to CalRecycle by April 1, 2022, on the status of their compliance with SB 1383 regulations. The main item in the report was that the County adopted the Los Angeles County Mandatory Organic Waste Disposal Reduction Ordinance on November 16, 2021, to comply with SB 1383. Additionally, the report describes the timeline of where the County will be rolling out the implementation of organic waste collection throughout 2022 as the County has various collection systems and contracts. The County is also in the process of transitioning non-exclusive commercial franchise system in the unincorporated communities to an exclusive system that is expected to begin service in August 2022, unless customers are granted a waiver.

Ms. Landis expressed her disagreement with the requirements for composting being the main way to manage organic waste and is especially against the mixing of green and food waste.

Mr. Sisson asked Mr. Ajwani if there was a link to the information presented so commissioners could review, such as public disclosure documents, for future reference. Mr. Ajwani responded he would confirm that the initial report is public information so to provide a link in the meeting minutes and confirmed that County ordinances were public documents that can be shared.

[LA County Initial Jurisdiction Compliance Report and Adopted Mandatory Organic Waste Disposal Reduction Ordinance](#)

VII. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Sheppard provided the legislative update and noted the following key dates: Legislature reconvened from spring recess on April 18, 2022, and has until April 29, 2022, to pass fiscal two-year bills out of their first house; May 9, 2022, is the first major policy committee deadline for newly introduced policy bills; a series of suspense file hearings for Assembly and Senate Appropriations committees will begin May 20, 2022; and May 27, 2022, is the last day for bills to be passed out of

their house of origin. There were 51 bills on the [Legislative Table](#). Mr. Sheppard highlighted seven bills on the cover page:

- AB 1857 (Cristina Garcia) – Solid Waste. No action on the bill. Updated letters expressing the Task Force's current Oppose Unless Amended position will be sent to the appropriate legislative committee.
- AB 2048 (Santiago) – Solid Waste: Franchise Agreements: Database. Mr. Mike Mohajer made a motion to oppose unless amended, and Ms. Margaret Clark seconded. Motion passed with two abstentions and one voting no.
- AB 2208 (Kaira) – Florescent Lamps: Sale and Distribution: Prohibition. Mr. Mohajer made a motion to support, and Ms. Landis seconded. Motion passed with one abstention.
- AB 2440 (Irwin) – Responsible Battery Recycling Act of 2022. Mr. Mohajer made a motion to support, and Mr. Patrick Holland seconded. Motion passed with one abstention.
- AB 2784 (Ting and Irwin) – Solid Waste: Thermoform Plastic Containers: Postconsumer Thermoform Recycled Plastic: Mr. Mohajer made a motion to support, and Ms. Landis seconded. Motion passed with one abstention.
- SB 983 (Eggman) – Consumer Warranty Protection: Express Warranties: Ms. Landis made a motion to support, and Ms. Clark seconded. Motion passed with two abstentions.
- SB 1215 (Newman) – Responsible Battery Recycling Act of 2022: Mr. Mohajer made a motion to support, and Mr. Holland seconded. Motion passed with one abstention.

Mr. Mohajer thanked staff for their hard work in reviewing and preparing legislative updates. Mr. Shammas and Ms. Landis concurred. Mr. Holland expressed his gratitude on the acknowledgement of staff's hard work and gave his gratitude to Mr. Mohajer for all his efforts, particularly on legislative issues.

VIII. CALRECYCLE UPDATE

Mr. Primitivo Nunez reported the following from CalRecycle:

- SB 1383 Procurement Requirements Webinar on May 3, 2022, from 10 a.m. to noon.
- CalRecycle announced the application release for the Co-Digestion Grant Program, Cycle 1, for Fiscal years 2021-22 and 2022-23. Applications due on May 19, 2022.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

X. ADJOURMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Thursday, May 19, 2022, at 1 p.m.