

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INFORMATION SUBCOMMITTEE
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste
Management Task Force

Minutes of February 16, 2023

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

WEB CONFERENCE

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dorcas (Dee) Hanson-Lugo, represented by Karen Gork, County of Los Angeles Public Health

Mike Mohajer, Integrated Waste Management Task Force

Nick Morell, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts

Kimberly Nilsson, Solid Waste Solutions

Vanessa Olivas, Los Angeles County Public Works

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Teri Muse, Waste Management

Angela Williams, City of Inglewood

OTHERS PRESENT

Josephine Chen, Los Angeles County Public Works

Henry Kong, Los Angeles County Public Works

Darren Kwan, Los Angeles County Public Works

Carol Saucillo, Los Angeles County Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Mike Mohajer called the meeting to order at 9 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 17, 2022, MINUTES

Mr. Nick Morell made a motion to approve the minutes, and Ms. Kimberly Nilsson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

III. NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

The following articles proposed for the Spring 2023 edition of Inside Solid Waste were provided to the Subcommittee for review:

- Feeding Student Mind and Body with a Vegetable Garden on Campus – Mr. Morell and Ms. Nilsson suggested several verbiage changes for better flow. Mr. Mohajer requested on the first paragraph to add the verbiage "on a county-wide basis" after Public Works; Ms. Vanessa Olivas added to remove Public Works in the same paragraph as the program is offered by the Los Angeles County and not just Public Works, Mr. Mohajer concurred.
- Explore Creative Possibilities in Your Garden – Mr. Mohajer made several verbiage changes for clarity. Mr. Morell requested in the second sentence of the fourth paragraph to replace "session" with "workshops" as webinars will not have compost bins available. Ms. Olivas suggested to remove Public Works from the first paragraph as the program is offered by the Los Angeles County.
- Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Adopts Zero Waste Plan – Ms. Nilsson commented that the photo is irrelevant to the article. Mr. Morell concurred and suggested to use the cover of the Zero Waste Plan instead and made several changes to verbiage for flow. Mr. Mohajer suggested in the first sentence of the third paragraph to include the word "landfill" after solid waste. He also suggested for the last sentence of the last paragraph to replace "equity" with "citizen participation" and "justice" with "impact".
- Impacts of Recent Legislation on Conversion Technologies – Mr. Morell suggested in the first sentence of the third paragraph to add "was sign into law and repeals" after AB 1857. He also suggested for in the first sentence of the last paragraph to replace "disposal pathway" with "a more reasonable approach" and in the last sentence adding "less barriers to progress" before "consistent policy".

- City of Hawthorne's Dump Day/Community Clean Up 2022 – Mr. Morell and Mr. Mohajer suggested several edits in the fifth paragraph for better flow and accuracy. Mr. Mohajer requested in the first sentence of the first paragraph to add "California" before "Department" and several other edits to the first paragraph for better flow. He also suggested under the Statistics section to add the words "solid waste" before tons for Roll Off Boxes collected and Front End Loaders.
- Malibu Rises to the Challenge of a New Kind of Recycling – Ms. Nilsson suggested to use only two of the four provided photos and confirmed in the sixth paragraph that the city continues to provide training to the public. Mr. Morell suggested at end of the fourth paragraph to replace "food recovery facility" with "organic waste facility". Mr. Mohajer suggested edits to the second and last paragraphs for better flow. He also commented that the word "kill" in the second sentence of the third paragraph should be replaced in which the sentence was reworded to place emphasis that rodent poison can indirectly cause the death of protected predators in the area.
- City of Burbank "Food is NOT Trash" SB 1383 campaign – Mr. Morell suggested several verbiage edits in the first paragraph for better flow.

Mr. Mohajer asked for suggested topics for future articles. Mr. Morell expressed he would like an article about product shrinkage and how companies are benefitting very little while creating more waste. Mr. Mohajer noted the article must be written in a way that can be used as a suggested recommendation to the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) so that they can develop regulations related to Senate Bill 54 that can address the issue.

Mr. Mohajer suggested an article to be written regarding the one million ton increase of waste disposal reported to CalRecycle in 2021 and the need for expanding infrastructure in order to meet the 50 percent diversion goal.

IV. CHAIR REPORT ON TASK FORCE ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Mohajer provided an update on the items from the previous Task Force Meeting.

- H-Cycle's application to CalRecycle for their technology to be considered a reduction in landfill disposal was disapproved.
- The County has entered an agreement with Anaergia for a development of an anaerobic digestion facility at the Calabasas Landfill.

- Chiquita Canyon Landfill signed a settlement with the County modifying the existing Conditional Use Permit (CUP) after initially agreeing with the County's CUP conditions.
- Sunshine Canyon Landfill is requesting to dispose waste above the county line as approved in the County's CUP, discussions are pending.
- The Task Force approved to support in concept Senate Bill 244 until further language is added.
- The Los Angeles County Revised Countywide Siting Element was approved by the majority of cities within the County and will go back to the Board of Supervisors for approval before submitting to CalRecycle for adoption.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, May 18, 2023, at 9 a.m.