

Roadmap to a Sustainable Waste Management Future Stakeholder Kickoff Meeting

Los Angeles County Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue, Alhambra CA 91803
December 5, 2019

MEETING SUMMARY

- **Welcome – Shari Afshari, Deputy Director**
 - Shari welcomed attendees and explained the need to update the Roadmap considering the significant changes in the last 5 years: laws, regulations, markets, and how people think about waste. Shari emphasized the importance of getting stakeholder input to develop the new Roadmap and to ensure it is successfully implemented.
- **Introductions – Coby Skye**
 - Coby also welcomed attendees and facilitated introductions from the diverse group of stakeholders including representatives from many cities, County departments, various private waste haulers, consultants, facility operators, technology providers, and non-governmental agencies including environmental and other nonprofit organizations.
- **Roadmap Background and Accomplishments – Patrick Holland**
 - Patrick summarized the background and accomplishments to date of the Roadmap.
 - Regional/Countywide: Organics Management Plan, held a Public Works Directors Summit and a Senate Bill 1383 workshop on education and outreach, Bring Your Own campaign, Disaster Debris Management Plan, and sponsoring legislation.
 - County Unincorporated Communities: Food Donation and Recovery Outreach Program, Commercial Food Waste Collection Program, single-use plastics (study and future County ordinance to limit use), Plastic Straw Ordinance, Smart Business Recycling Program, and Upcoming Waste Characterization Study.
 - County Operations: Departmental Recycling Program, Facility Ancillary Services Master Agreement, Commercial Institutional Recycling Program, and Scrape Your Plate.
- **Legislative and Market Changes – Chris Sheppard**
 - Chris discussed the changes in legislation and markets that have occurred over the last few years; recycling markets (e.g. China Sword, etc.); need to develop new infrastructure and markets; and create County Ordinances for Extended Producer Responsibility and single-use plastic restrictions.

- New organics regulations (SB 1383) – Changed definition of organic waste; Lack of existing infrastructure capacity; need an additional \$2-3.5 million tons per year of capacity, which amounts to a capital investment of \$0.5-\$1 billion countywide.
- **Roadmap 2020 Schedule – Wendy Bui**
 - Wendy outlined the 2020 schedule for the Roadmap update.
 - Late January/early February to April 2020: Stakeholder meetings
 - May: Draft Roadmap 2020
 - June/July: Community engagement meetings, 1-2 meetings per Supervisorial District
 - August/September: Finalize Roadmap 2020
 - October: Present to Board of Supervisors
- **Dot Democracy Discussion – Vanessa Olivas**

Included below are main topics during the Dot Democracy Discussion of key issues.

 - Top topic: Organics Infrastructure and Markets
 - Comments focused on the lack of infrastructure for organics, the need to incentivize the development of infrastructure, and the lack of funding and markets available. Local food hubs for composting, such as the one in Little Tokyo were provided as examples that could work for communities.
 - Markets for Recyclables
 - Attendees commented on the need for local infrastructure for recyclables. Recycling also needs to be clearly defined; are downcycling (recycling an item into something of lower value) or upcycling (recycling into something of higher value) included?
 - More cohesive, consistent messages are needed; for example, there are different Construction and Demolition ordinances throughout the 88 cities in the County.
- **Closing Remarks – Coby Skye**
 - Coby Skye thanked participants for attending and invited them to our upcoming Roadmap meetings.