

Sustainable Solid Waste Management Future Roadmap Implementation Working Group: County Unincorporated Communities Subcommittee

Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
900 S. Fremont Ave, Alhambra CA 91803
Alhambra Room

Thursday, October 22, 2015
10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

MEETING SUMMARY

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Attendees were welcomed and participants introduced themselves

2. Recap Previous Meeting

- We covered the pilot Organics Management Plan being developed in response to AB 1826 and the efforts towards developing a food donation program in Los Angeles County
- Presentation by Andre Villaseñor from the US Environmental Protection Agency at the September Working Group meeting
- The Resources page of the Roadmap site is now live

3. Pharmaceuticals Extended Producer Responsibility

Strategy 1-Initiative B; Also Regional Countywide Strategy 1-Initiative B; and County Operations Strategy 1-Initiative B

Gabriel Arenas, Public Works, presentation (slides start at [#33](#))

- The pharmaceutical working group created a Technical Advisory Group (TAG) from a list of stakeholders that would be affected by the new ordinance
- The TAG has met twice so far and plans to meet with the public on November 13, 2015
- The Ordinance will be submitted to the Board by February 9, 2016

4. Waste Characterization Study

Strategy 2-Initiative A

Chris Sheppard, Public Works, presentation (slides start at [#37](#))

- The State Waste Characterization Study is similar to the waste assessments done at County departments but on a statewide scale
- Designed to determine types and amounts of paper, food, glass, metal, etc. in each waste stream

- Not only looking at disposal but also generation for the commercial waste
- Looks at contamination of green and blue bins
- In Southern California, 3 sites were identified for disposal sampling
- Generator study looked at 889 businesses categorized by business type
- A question was raised whether socio-economic factors were taken into account in the study. This was not considered but can be analyzed after the fact using zip codes and census tracts.
- Our proposed study would be similar to the State study, but for LA County
 - 3 sectors to be analyzed include: residential, commercial and self-haul
- We will have random sampling from each of the Garbage Disposal Districts
- AB 1826 defines a business as the property owner
 - A strip mall with multiple tenants will count as a combined “business”
- We should consider developing an FAQ, similar to CalRecycle but for use by LA County businesses

5. Eliminating Items from our Waste Stream

Strategy 1-Initiative A and C

- What are items we see in the waste stream that we could ban? Plastic bag ban for example
 - Styrofoam - revisiting a Styrofoam ban should be considered. Styrofoam is currently not allowed in County facilities.
 - Plastic bottles – alternatives include reusable bottles, hydration stations
 - Some schools have issues with water quality
- Plastic film is very difficult for MRFs and currently has very little market value
- Mixed rigid plastics currently have very low value, which fluctuates with oil prices
- Waxed cardboard and cartons can't be baled, or only in small quantities

6. Promoting Reusable Items

Strategy 1-Initiative A; Also County Operations Strategy 1-Initiative A

- The subcommittee went over time and will address this in the next meeting

7. Open Discussion and Next Steps

- Sanitation Districts' organics pilot had their first food waste load this week
 - 3-4% contamination rate, including green waste, cartons and sealed plastic bags of vegetables
 - Meats CAN be included
- The group decided to forgo the November subcommittee meeting and have the Working Group meeting in December

8. Next meeting tentatively scheduled for January 14, 2016.

MEETING PARTICIPANTS

Name	Department
Frank Estrada	Animal Care and Control
Marjorie Santos	CEO
Lois Giron	Internal Services
Susana Ortega	Internal Services
Ted Lo	Internal Services
Gerry Villalobos	Public Health
Maurice Pantoja	Public Health
Habib Kharrat	Sanitation Districts
Armando C. Aguilar	Public Works - EPD
Chris Sheppard	Public Works - EPD
Clark Ajwani	Public Works - EPD
Coby Skye	Public Works - EPD
Gabriel Arenas	Public Works - EPD
Kathy Salama	Public Works - EPD
Nilda Gemeniano	Public Works - EPD
Patrick Holland	Public Works - EPD
Sevak Khatchadorian	Public Works - EPD
Suk Chong	Public Works - EPD