

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

October 16, 2025

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jorgel Chavez, League of California Cities
Margaret Clark, League of California Cities
Jeff Farano, Sr., Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries
Jordan R. Sisson, California Waste and Recycling Association
Jim Smith, Teamster Local 396, City of Los Angeles

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Robert Ferrante, rep by Sam Shammass, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts
Barbara Ferrer, rep by Felicia Truong, Los Angeles County Public Health
Wayne Nastri, rep by Philip Crabbe, III, South Coast Air Quality Management District
Mark Pestrella, rep by Cid Tesoro, Los Angeles County Public Works
Barbara Romero, rep by Bernadette Halverson, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Long Beach Public Works
Rafael Prieto, City of Los Angeles

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jonathan Brazile, Office of County Counsel Los Angeles County
Ximena Verduzco-Villanueva, California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle)
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens
Siya Araumi, Los Angeles County Public Works
Charles Darensbourg, Los Angeles County Public Works
Perla Gomez, Los Angeles County Public Works
Anna Gov, Los Angeles County Public Works
Michael Harmon, Los Angeles County Public Works
Tran Kiem, Los Angeles County Public Works
Carol Saucillo, Los Angeles County Public Works
Christopher Sheppard, Los Angeles County Public Works
Emiko Thompson, Los Angeles County Public Works
Caleb Yun, Los Angeles County Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 1:08 p.m. by Mr. Cid Tesoro who served as Chair, representing Director Mark Pestrella.

II. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2025, MINUTES

Mr. Jordan Sisson made a motion to approve the September 18, 2025, minutes as amended by Ms. Margaret Clark, and Mr. Jim Clark seconded. Minutes were approved with one abstention.

III. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The following was reported by Mr. Siya Araumi:

The Governor had until October 13, 2025, to either sign or veto Assembly and Senate bills. With the results from the first-year session, the [Legislative Table](#) reflects the bills that are on hold until the start of 2026. The bills listed as dead will be removed after this month. The following bills were signed by the Governor:

- AB 70 (Aguiar-Curry), enrolled 09/15/25 – Solid waste: organic waste: diversion: biomethane. The bill was signed on October 13, 2025
- SB 279 (McNerney), enrolled 09/12/25 – Solid waste: compostable materials. The bill was signed on October 11, 2025.

Ms. Clark sought clarification regarding pyrolysis as described in AB 70. Mr. Araumi explained that pyrolysis processed by itself, does not produce pipeline biomethane. It must go through a secondary process to convert the gas into biomethane, which would then count towards procurement for SB 1383. Additionally, his understanding is that the secondary process is energy intensive, which means additional funding is needed.

The following bills were vetoed by the Governor:

- SB 404 (Caballero), amended 09/04/25 – Hazardous materials: metal shredding facilities.
- SB 682 (Allen), amended 09/09/25 – Environmental health: product safety: perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances.

Ms. Bernadette Halverson asked why the Task Force did not take a position on SB 279. Mr. Araumi responded that he would look at previous meeting minutes to see when the bill was offered for discussion with the Task Force. He confirmed that Public Works (PW) reviewed SB 279 and determined a neutral position because of the uncertainty of impact to communities regarding composting. PW reported its findings to the County of Los Angeles Chief Executive Office, and they did not request PW to take a position. Nor did the County take a position. Mr. Araumi reiterated, needing to review previous minutes to see if there were any questions raised by the Task Force.

Ms. Clark asked for clarification of SB 279. Mr. Araumi explained that the current law in 2025 states you may have a composting process, and the limit is 100 cubic yards of compost. If 100 cubic yards of compost is exceeded, then a permit from CalRecycle is required. With the enactment of SB 279, the limit is increased to 200 cubic yards and allows agricultural processes to have up to 500 cubic yards.

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

Mr. Araumi reported the following from the ATAS meeting:

The Subcommittee had a quorum and approved last month's meeting minutes.

Tetra Tech provided a [presentation](#) on a proposed community compost hub in Los Angeles County that Public Works (PW) is considering developing. PW would like to identify potential sites near County-owned public housing or public parks to facilitate participation, especially by multifamily residents who may not be able to compost their food scraps at home. Tetra Tech presented the goals and objectives, site selection criteria, potential compost hub locations and partners, regulatory criteria, and the next steps

Tetra Tech provided an update on their continued conversion technology (CT) project development work.

Staff provided an update on upcoming CT events and conferences that may be found in the [CT Newsletter](#).

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

Ms. Emiko Thompson reported the following from the FPRS meeting:

Chiquita Canyon Landfill (CCL)

- In September 2025, CCL received 16 Notices of Violation (NOVs) from the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD), related to odor, compared to the 11 NOVs reported in August 2025.
- CCL continues to be under the Stipulated Order for Abatement, last modified in June 2025. The next status hearing is scheduled for October 29, 2025.
- Based on the Local Enforcement Agency's inspection in May 2025, CCL was in violation for landfill gas exceedances at one of the perimeter-boundary probes. Subsequently, CCL installed new landfill gas extraction wells to increase the capacity for managing landfill gas.
- In June 2025, CCL received 3 NOVs from PW for performing grading work at the landfill without a grading permit. CCL appealed the NOVs in August 2025 and a hearing is expected to take place in the next month or two.

Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL)

- In September 2025, there were 228 odor complaints reported to the AQMD, an increase from the 183 odor complaints reported in August 2025.
- In September 2025, SCL received 7 NOVs from the AQMD related to odor.

Vegetation Status Update

- Native shrubs are doing well in providing coverage on several areas of SCL, along with weed-abatement, and other revegetation activities.

VI. CALRECYCLE UPDATE

Ms. Ximena Verduzco-Villanueva provided an [update](#) to the Task Force.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Sisson extended his gratitude to Mr. Sam Shammam and Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts (LACSD) staff for their efforts regarding the Waste by Rail Request for Proposal for Mesquite Landfill. Mr. Sisson urged everyone to review the October 2022 report that was prepared by the LACSD, particularly recommendations 1 and 8, to not sell off assets. He quoted from the report, "maintain ownership of facilities for land for future use, assuming that no net holding costs are significant." Mr. Sisson stated that current leases are seemingly not too costly.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:31 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Thursday, November 20, 2025, at 1 p.m.