

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

Tuesday, February 24, 2015
10:30 AM – 11:45 AM

MEETING SUMMARY

1. Recap Previous Meeting (*Clark Ajwani, DPW*)

- Provided a summary of the previous meeting (highlights from the summary previously sent to the Subcommittee).
- Noted the Top Priorities identified by this Subcommittee:
 - Enhanced Construction and Demolition Debris Recycling Ordinance
 - Organics Management and collection methods
 - Extended Producer Responsibility (starting with Pharmaceutical Ordinance)
 - Waste Assessments and Program Evaluations

2. Presentation and Discussion on Proposed Revisions to the County's Construction and Demolition (C&D) Debris Ordinance (*David Coscia, DPW, see [Presentation](#) for details*)

- Existing Ordinance requires certain residential, commercial, and grading projects to divert 50% of the C&D debris they generate from disposal
 - No deposit required so County staff has to be proactive to enforce compliance
 - Changes are needed to keep up with increasing state recycling goals and new State and County Green Building requirements
- Proposed revisions to the Ordinance
 - Standardize language to align with Building and Safety standards
 - Increase recycling rate to 70% for mixed debris (wood, drywall, roofing, etc.) and 100% for inert debris (asphalt, concrete, soil, etc.)
 - Establish refundable deposit of \$60/ton then \$30/ton after the first 100 tons
 - Flat deposit of \$300 for grading projects

- Remove the option of placing lien after notice of violation, since violations will be assessed solely via forfeiture of the deposit (in whole or part).
- Questions from the Subcommittee
 - Does the Ordinance recognize/promote balancing soil onsite instead of exporting?
A: Yes, biggest incentive for balancing onsite is eliminating the need for trucking material and paying to recycle or dispose that material. Balancing onsite also reduces the amount of material needed to be recycled as the soil reused onsite does not "count" towards the total.
 - Is the use of green waste included in requirements? Example, tree clearing and use for furniture.
A: Yes, counts towards meeting the 70% mixed debris recycling requirement. Staff will evaluate opportunities to promote novel approaches to divert mixed debris (e.g. making furniture from recovered tree branches).
 - Is recycling really cheaper than disposal?
A: Wood and drywall does cost more to recycle but asphalt and concrete cost less and weigh much more, so overall project disposal costs are typically lowered.
 - What type of documentation is needed to get deposit back?
A: Disposal weigh tickets will need to be provided. If on-site processing, which is difficult to track, we accept letters from facility confirming use of the materials.
 - Are Public Works projects included in ordinance?
A: No, because we don't need to require the deposit fee structure on County projects. We plan to require County Depts. recycling through a separate but similar policy with same minimum diversion requirements. Consensus from the group that this policy must go to Board at same time as Ordinance revisions.
 - What is the timeframe for the ordinance?
A: Internal meetings in March, meet with external contractors and facility processors in May, Ordinance adopted by Board in Fall 2015.
 - What are the provisions for emergencies?
A: Public Works has discretion to provide exemption due to fire or other disasters.

- Is beneficial use of material at a landfill considered recycling?

A: Would only count if their weigh ticket specifies the material was beneficially used.

- How does the proposed fee structure compare to other jurisdictions?

A: Some are cheaper due to having exclusive franchise contracts (fewer haulers and facilities to work with, so less staff time needed) while others are much more expensive and complicated. Based on jurisdictions DPW surveyed, proposed fees are on the lower end.

- Any environmental documents needed?

A: No, we will be covered under the existing environmental documents.

3. Open Discussion

- We need to be careful about landfills misreporting (overstating) the use of their beneficial materials for slope stabilization, roads, wet weather decks, etc.
- Major dam removal project is creating substantial quantities of C&D, but the potential to divert that material is hampered by limited space for storage.
 - In meetings with facility operators, we can ask about possibilities of temporary storage
 - Must account for legal storage times per state regulation and the 6 months that are in some past conditional use permits.
- How are materials recycled? Concrete is crushed to use as base material, asphalt can be reused in roads, wood can be chipped to be used as mulch or sent to biomass facility and generate energy, and drywall (gypsum) can be used as soil amendment or made into new drywall, and metals are readily recyclable into new metal products.
- It is likely that due to this and other Ordinances and laws, additional C&D recycling capacity (new facilities or expanding existing facilities) will be needed, which will require collaboration with Regional Planning

4. Next Steps

- Each meeting, the subcommittee will focus on one of the top priorities identified in the meeting recap.
 - The subcommittee agreed that Organics management should be the next priority topic for the April meeting.

5. Next Subcommittee Meeting Tentatively Scheduled for April 23, 2015 at 10:30 AM

Meeting Participants

Burt Kumagawa	CEO
Octavio Sahagun	Internal Services
Peter Kim	Internal Services
Gerry Villalobos	Public Health
Tina Fung	Regional Planning
Habib Kharrat	Sanitation Districts
Larissa Yu	Public Works - EPD
Youn Sim	Public Works - DES
Susan Nissman	SD 3
Alejandrina Baldwin	Regional Planning

Maya Saraf	Regional Planning
Bella Hernandez	Public Works - PDD
Jonathan Lam	Public Works - BSD
David Coscia	Public Works - EPD
Gabriel Arenas	Public Works - EPD
Kathy Salama	Public Works
Pat Hachiya	Regional Planning
Vanessa Olivas	Public Works - EPD
Armando Aguilar	Public Works - EPD