

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

Minutes of March 15, 2018

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Margaret Clark, California League of Cities-Los Angeles Division
Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative
Ron Saldana, California Waste and Recycling Association
Sam Pedroza, California League of Cities-Los Angeles Division

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Mark Pestrella, rep by Phil Doudar, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Craig Beck, rep by Charlie Tripp, Long Beach Public Works Department
Enrique Zaldivar, rep by Karen Coca, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation
Cynthia Harding, rep by Dorcas Hanson-Lugo, County of Los Angeles Department of
Public Health
Grace Hyde, rep by Sam Shammas, County of Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
Wayne Nastri, rep by Jeff Lloyd, South Coast Air Quality Management District

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Robb Cohn, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries
Sam Perdomo, Business/Commerce Representative
David Kim, City of Los Angeles
Rafael Prieto, City of Los Angeles
Jack Hadijinian, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division
Mitchell Englander, City of Los Angeles

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jennifer Ang, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Carlos Ruiz, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Steve Milewski, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Carlos Slythe, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Saeid Shirzadegan, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Gerald Ley, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Tranette Sanders, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Patrick Holland, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Dave Nguyen, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Benjamin Cortez, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Suk Chong, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Morena Guardado, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Margarita Quiroz, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Vivian Hoang, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Sharon Kong, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 1:13 p.m. by Ms. Betsey Landis.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JANUARY 18, 2018

A motion was made by Ms. Betsy Landis and seconded by Mr. Phil Doudar to approve the January 18, 2018, minutes as corrected. The motion passed with one abstention. Ms. Betsy Landis made a motion to accept the February 15, 2018, minutes seconded by Mr. Mike Mohajer. The motion passed with two abstentions.

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

Mr. Patrick Holland provided a report from the ATAS meeting. He informed the Task Force members that consultants from Alternative Resource, Inc., (ARI) gave a presentation on a summary table of small scale anaerobic digestion units and in-vessel aerobic composters. The purpose of the presentation was to receive feedback from the subcommittee members on the summary table prior to distributing it to county facilities, commercial establishments, and other entities that need to comply with AB 1826. Mr. Holland reported positive feedback from the subcommittee members.

Ms. Karen Coca asked if the presentation included information on dehydrators and on-site composting units. She expressed her concerns about the lack of clarification available to the organic waste generators who are installing these units on how to handle the material after it is processed. Mr. Holland stated that there is no definitive determination on whether the dehydrators and liquefiers are acceptable tools that truly satisfy the requirements for AB 1826. However, the dialogue will continue, tools and information will be added and made available to educate the public.

Ms. Betsey Landis asked if any studies have been found regarding digestates, different composts, and products of dehydration and its use. Mr. Holland stated that conversion technology could be a helpful tool to process digestates and any other residual material after it has been processed.

The subcommittee also discussed organic waste management noting the differences between the City of Los Angeles' pilot program and the County Sanitation Districts program. The City's program installs incinerators, and how the organic waste is directed to the waste water treatment plants.

Mr. Holland also mentioned the upcoming events:

- March – Bio-cycle Conference (San Diego)
- May– SWANA Conference (Palm Springs)

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

Ms. Betsey Landis provided a report from the FPRS meeting. She gave an update on Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL) starting with the report on the total number of complaints made to the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) hotline regarding odors. During the month of February, a total of 18 complaints were made, and 12 of the 18 complaints did not have field response. In comparison to January 2018, the number of complaints received in February decreased by 44 percent from 32 to 18 complaints. In comparison with February 2017, the number of complaints decreased by 93 percent from 254 to 18 complaints. The total number of complaints received by SCAQMD since 2009 is 11,051. The total number of complaints received by SCAQMD in 2018 is 50. The total number of Notice of Violations (NOV) issued since 2009 is 214. As of March 15, 2018, SCAQMD issued no NOVs for the month of February. The subcommittee requested staff to follow up with SCAQMD and ask for more information on the procedures for responding to odor complaints.

Ms. Landis reported that the Alternative Daily Cover (ADC) Pilot Project at SCL has concluded. However, Public Works intends to extend the ADC project and is finalizing conditions of approval before granting a formal extension. Public Works Staff and Republic Services will discuss the details of the extension. The subcommittee also discussed the responsibilities of the SCL Local Enforcement Agency (LEA).

Ms. Landis also reported that Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning has not issued the NOV that was recommended by Los Angeles County Department of Public Health based on the Order to Abate dated November 9, 2016 to SCL. Staff will continue to follow up.

Lastly, Ms. Landis provided an update on a 100 gallon and a 10-gallon leachate spill reported on the January 2018 SCL Monthly LEA Report submitted to the LEA. The Subcommittee requested clarification from the LEA regarding how the liquid was disposed.

V. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Ben Cortez gave an update on current legislation and reviewed items on the attached [legislative table](#).

AB 514 (Salas) – Medical Waste: Pharmaceuticals. Mr. Mike Mohajer made a motion to send a letter opposing the bill unless amended, seconded by Ms. Betsey Landis. The motion passed with one abstention.

AB 1036 (McCarty) – Organic waste: Composting. Staff recommended to watch the bill at this time.

AB 1250 (Jones-Sawyer) – Counties: Contracts for personal services. Mr. Phil Doudar made a motion to send a letter opposing the bill, seconded by Mr. Sam Pedroza. The motion passed unanimously.

AB 1663 (Garcia) – Lead-acid batteries. Mr. Mohajer made a motion to send a letter of support, seconded by Mr. Doudar. The motion passed unanimously.

AB 2115 (Santiago) – Vehicles: passing and overtaking: waste services vehicles. Mr. Mohajer made a motion to send a letter of support if amended, seconded by Mr. Doudar. The motion passed unanimously.

AB 2277 (Mathis) – Solid waste facilities: Home-generated pharmaceutical waste: Incineration. Mr. Pedroza made a motion to send a letter opposing the bill unless amended, seconded by Mr. Ron Saldana. The motion passed unanimously.

AB 2660 (Quirk) – Hazardous waste: Surplus household consumer products. Mr. Pedroza made a motion to send a letter of support and amended, seconded by Mr. Mohajer. The motion passed unanimously.

AB 2766 (Berman) – California Beverage Container Recycling and Litter Reduction Act: Market development payments. Staff recommended to watch the bill at this time.

AB 2779 (Mark Stone, Calderon) – Recycling: Single-use plastic beverage container caps. Ms. Karen Coca made a motion to send a letter of support, seconded by Mr. Doudar. The motion passed unanimously.

AB 2832 (Dahle) – Recycling and reuse: Lithium-ion batteries. Mr. Mohajer made a motion to send a letter of support if amended, seconded by Ms. Coca. The motion passed unanimously

SB 1335 (Allen) – Solid waste: Disposable food service packaging: State agencies and large state facilities. Mr. Mohajer made a motion to send a letter of support, seconded by Ms. Landis. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. CITY OF LOS ANGELES EXCLUSIVE FRANCHISE SYSTEM FOR SOLID WASTE COLLECTION AND RECYCLING SERVICES

Ms. Karen Coca provided the attached [PowerPoint presentation](#) on the Progress Report for the City of Los Angeles' RecyclLA Program, the new franchise system for the collection and management of solid resources for commercial businesses and multifamily complexes. Some of the highlights included in the presentation were RecyclLA's structure of programs, program goals and accomplishments, transition effort, service request, missed collections, rates, and labor. Ms. Coca also provided information about the program's transition efforts and challenges, its Customer Service Tracking System, and its monthly rate comparison to other cities.

Ms. Betsy Landis asked about the definition of zero waste from RecyclLA's perspective. Ms. Coca defined zero waste as the amount of all material that goes to a landfill today, 65% of that waste shall not be disposed at the landfill by 2025.

Mr. Sam Pedroza asked about lessons learned through the process. Ms. Coca explained the biggest lesson is the operational difference between commercial complexes and single-family homes due to the level of effort to serve a commercial customer being very different from a single-family customer. The complexity of customer needs is the factor that drives the changes in the system.

VII. "FOOD WASTE PREVENTION WEEK" ACTIVITIES

Mr. Suk Chong provided the attached "[Food Waste Prevention Week presentation](#)" to the Task Force. The presentation included an overview of the activities across the County of Los Angeles and the state of California. He also provided information about the County's Food Donation and Recovery Outreach Program (Food DROP). Additional information can be found at <http://FoodDROPLA.com>.

VIII. SB 1383 UPDATE (ORGANIC WASTE RECYCLING)

Postpone.

IX. AB 901 RULEMAKING PROCESS UPDATE

Postpone.

X. CALRECYCLE UPDATE

Postpone.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

XII. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 19, 2018, in
The Alhambra Room.

The meeting adjourned at 3:49 p.m.

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