

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

**Minutes for October 17, 2019**

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Margaret Clark, League of California Cities  
Gideon Kracov, Los Angeles County Disposal Association  
Betsey Landis, Environmental Organization Representative  
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative  
Liz Reilly, California League of Cities-Los Angeles Division

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Craig Beck, rep by Charles Tripp, Long Beach Department of Energy  
Barbara Ferrer, rep by Shikari Nakagaw-Ota, Los Angeles County Public Health  
Robert Ferrante, rep by Sam Shammass, Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County  
Wayne Nastri, rep by Jason Aspell, South Coast Air Quality Management District  
Mark Pestrella, rep by Carlos Ruiz, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Enrique Zaldivar, rep by Reina Pereira, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Jeff Farano, Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries  
Jack Hadjinian, League of California Cities-Los Angeles Division  
David Kim, City of Los Angeles  
Rafael Prieto, City of Los Angeles

OTHERS PRESENT:

Clark Ajwani, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Elijah Carder, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens  
Carol Oyola, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Margarita Quiroz, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Coby Skye, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Jennifer Wallin, CalRecycle

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order at 1:09 p.m. by Ms. Clark.

**II. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2019 MINUTES**

Ms. Landis motioned to approve the minutes as amended. Ms. Reilly seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

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

No update until the next Task Force meeting.

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

Ms. Landis reported that Staff provided an update of odor complaints from the Air Quality Management District (AQMD) hotline regarding the Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL). Odor complaints received for the month of August 2019 went from seven to ninety-five complaints. Compared to September 2018, the number of complaints received in September 2019 increased from 33 to 95 complaints. The total number of complaints received this year is 238 complaints. As of October 9, 2019 AQMD issued one "Notice of Violation" (NOV) to SCL for the month of September 2019. The NOV was issued for odor complaints received during the period of 6:44 a.m. – 7:37 a.m. on September 13, 2019. Ms. Landis anticipates more odor complaints in October.

Ms. Landis reported that the Saddleridge Fire had gone through SCL. It had mainly burned the closed city section and melted the well heads. The Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) and AQMD arrived quickly and gave SCL permission to operate normal business a day after the fire. The subcommittee was concerned because County had not yet visited SCL. The FPRS discussed with staff the many things needed to be put into a report on this fire; including the effects on SCL, which County departments are involved, their opinions and assessments on SCL. It was evident for departments to gain a connection to the fire department because of the difficulties on the roads to get to the landfill.

Ms. Landis reported an update on the Chiquita Canyon Landfill (CCL). Ms. Landis mentioned the FPRS had requested someone from the Waste Connections or a member from the Community Advisory Committee to sit in the audience of the Task Force committee.

Mr. Kracov asked what is known about the landfill gas collection system at SCL during the fire. Ms. Landis responded that well heads and headers had burned and melted. The areas that were affected will be repaired.

Ms. Landis stated more information will come regarding the perimeter monitoring well.

## V. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Carder gave an update on the [Legislative Table](#). Mr. Carder reported that the Legislative Update would include a quick review of the bills signed or vetoed by the Governor that the Task Force took positions on this year, staff's analysis of the overall effectiveness of legislation this year, and staff's recommendations on two second-year bills and a federal bill mainly due to the fact that there is a quorum today. The last day for the Governor to sign or veto bills was Sunday, October 13, 2019.

Mr. Carder reviewed the following 15 bills the Task Force took positions on that were either chaptered or vetoed:

**AB 54** (Ting) – The California Beverage Container Recycling and Litter Reduction Act – Task Force position: Support – Status: Chaptered.

**AB 142** (Garcia) – Lead-Acid Batteries – Task Force position: Support – Status: Chaptered.

**AB 187** (Cristina Garcia and Bigelow) – Used Mattress Recovery and Recycling Act – Task Force position: Support – Status: Chaptered.

**AB 293** (Eduardo Garcia) – Greenhouse Gasses: Offset Protocols – Task Force Position: Support if amended/oppose unless amended – Status: Chaptered.

**AB 296** (Cooley) – Climate Change: Climate Innovation Grant Program: Voluntary Tax Contributions – Task Force position: Support if amended – Status: Vetoed.

**AB 614** (Eggman) – Income Taxes: Credits: Food Banks – Task Force position: Support – Status: Chaptered.

**AB 619** (Chiu) – Retail Food: Reusable Containers: Multiuse Utensils – Task Force position: Support and amend – Status: Chaptered.

**AB 729** (Chu) – Carpet Recycling: Carpet Stewardship – Task Force position: Support – Status: Chaptered.

**AB 792** (Ting) – Recycling: Plastic Containers: Minimum Recycled Content and Labeling – Task Force position: Support – Status: Vetoed.

**AB 815** (Aguiar-Curry) – Integrated Waste Management Plans: Source Reduction and Recycling Element and Household Hazardous Waste Element: Dual Stream

Recycling Programs – Task Force position: Oppose unless amended – Status: Chaptered.

Ms. Landis mentioned a KCET program called SoCal Connected regarding the segment called “California Recycling Woes”. It explained that there are plastics that are not recyclable. Ms. Landis continued that she does not understand how CalRecycle has any business telling cities they must have a dual stream recycling program while there are plastics that cannot be recycled, and what is being put in the blue bin and the black bin are both going to landfill. Ms. Clark requested information from Mr. Carder about this documentary that was aired.

**AB 827** (McCarthy) – Solid Waste: Commercial and Organic Waste: Recycling Bins – Task Force position: Support if amended – Status: Chaptered.

Ms. Clark asked why full-service restaurants would be exempt. Mr. Carder stated that in a full-service restaurant, servers bring the food to you on the table and take the food away, thus, a customer does not need access to the bins since the servers would do it for the customer.

**AB 1583** (Eggman) – The California Recycling Market Development Act – Task Force position: Watch – Status: Chaptered.

**SB 457** (Hueso) – Biomethane: Gas Corporations – Task Force position: Support – Status: Chaptered.

**SB 552** (Archuleta) – Hazardous Waste: Household Hazardous Waste: Door-to-Door Collection Programs: Residential Pickup Services – Task Force position: Support – Status: Chaptered.

Ms. Clark wanted clarification on the door-to-door hazardous waste collection laws extended. Mr. Carder responded the extensions are regarding aspects such as transport, handling and manifesting. It was decided to extend those laws because they are the most successful programs for collecting household hazardous waste.

**SB 726** (Caballero) – Hazardous Waste: Public Agencies: Materials Exchange Program – Task Force position: Support – Status: Chaptered.

Additionally, staff’s analysis of the overall 2019 legislative session is that there were approximately fifteen bills chaptered that were a step in the right direction towards waste reduction and recycling, however the bills on the following topics that would have had the most significant impact have been tabled for next year:

- plastics reduction and other single-use packaging products and priority products,
- Beverage Container Recycling,
- Market Development, and

- Funding for infrastructure.

The legislature will reconvene the second year of the legislative cycle on Monday, January 6, 2020. An odd year bill must pass out of its House of origin by January 31, 2020, to continue as a second-year bill.

The Task Force made the following legislative motions:

**SB 405** (Archuleta) – Solid Waste: Reclaimed Asphalt Pavement: Pilot Project: The County of Los Angeles. Mr. Mohajer motioned to support, seconded by Ms. Reilly. Mr. Aspell abstained.

**SB 409** (Wilk) – Illegal Dumping. Mr. Mohajer motioned to support, seconded by Ms. Pereira.

Ms. Clark asked why this bill had not pass legislature. Mr. Carder responded that the cause is undetermined at this time.

**HR 4050** (Omar) – Zero Waste Act. Ms. Landis motioned to support, seconded by Mr. Mohajer; opposed unless amended – support if amended.

Mr. Kracov mentioned that Mr. Carder said that the County is pursuing legislation on the funding issue and requests information of the motion that was approved by the Board of Supervisors (BOS) this week to be sent to the Task Force members.

Mr. Kracov requested a general explanation of the vision for this possible legislation. Mr. Kracov's second request is what the Task Force's role is in assisting on something so important. Mr. Skye responded that the concept for the legislative proposal has three components and it is making its way through the process. There is no author for the bill yet, but the BOS felt that this was an important issue and the BOS approved the motion to support the proposal before there was a bill produced or an author announced. The three components are: 1) providing funding for recycling and infrastructure so that we can meet higher contamination standards and get more material separated and sent to available markets that remain, 2) provide a lot more funding in local market development and 3) remove barriers to the development of conversion technologies.

Mr. Skye continued to respond regarding the Task Force's role and that he would like to see the Task Force assist in supporting the effort. Mr. Kracov asked if Mr. Skye has figured out the funding source to pay for the grants regarding the first two components or if staff is still in the development stages for it. Mr. Skye responded that there is no easy solution, but it will be under discussion when the new bill is introduced and have an author.

**VI. ECONWARD TECH'S NOWON OPERATION PRESENTATION – CARLOS RAMOS, PRESIDENT OF OPERATIONS AT NOWON, LLC**

Presentation was cancelled.

**VII. COUNTYWIDE INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN FIVE-YEAR REVIEW REPORT**

Mr. Ajwani reported on the Draft Los Angeles County Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan (CIWMP) Five-Year Review Report. The CIWMP is a comprehensive plan that includes the three elements reported by each individual jurisdiction (Source Reduction and Recycling Element, Non-Disposal Facility Element, and Household Hazardous Waste Element), as well as two Countywide documents (Countywide Siting Element and Countywide Summary Plan). The CIWMP is required to be reviewed every five years by the County. CalRecycle pre-identifies all the sections in the Five-Year Review Report and provides the template for Counties and Regional Agencies to use.

The role of the Task Force is to review the report and provide comments to County. It is not required for the Task Force to approve, but it has been done in the past. After all comments are returned to County Staff, the report will be returned to the Task Force to review in November 2019. Staff reviewed the CIWMP and data reports from annual reports submitted by individual jurisdictions, and recommends there are no significant changes to warrant revisions to the planning documents, mainly as any changes in the industry can be addressed by jurisdictions' annual reports to their Source Reduction and Recycling Element. Additionally, the County continues to have adequate disposal capacity; and cities have submitted their annual reports describing their programs and reporting how they have implemented their waste diversion programs. County is also finalizing the revised Countywide Siting Element which the Task Force has reviewed.

Ms. Landis commented that she had another issue to add to the draft report, which is "conversion of waste to marketable products." Ms. Landis suggested that on page nine, to add in "conversion facilities" into the Additional Analysis section, suggesting the second paragraph. Another suggestion by Ms. Landis, was on page fifteen, to reverse the check box marked and to complete the Analysis statement with "CalRecycle Requirements". Mr. Ajwani responded that in Section 4.6, it is understood that County continues to have adequate disposal capacity to meet the waste diversion requirements. Ms. Landis commented with the decline in recycling markets, we do not know the whereabouts of the waste that is being diverted. Mr. Skye mentioned they are in the process of amending the Countywide Siting Element to reflect the issue of an increase in disposal activities due to the significant change in recycling markets. Ms. Landis suggested adding an addendum for the new issue to be addressed. Mr. Skye said that it may be included and addressed in Section 5.

Ms. Clark asked when the report is due. Mr. Ajwani responded that CalRecycle provided an extension and expects it by the end of November. Mr. Mohajer would like the FPRS to review the report and also requested a copy of the Countywide Organic Waste Management Plan (Organics Plan). Mr. Ruiz commented that, under State regulation the Task Force's role is to review the CIWMP, including the cities' waste management planning documents. Mr. Ruiz also stated the Organics Plan was created in response to AB 876 and AB 1826 and it was brought to the Task Force last year. Ms. Landis requested to have the Organics Plan report for her next FPRS meeting. Ms. Pereira requested that the Organics Plan report be sent to all the Task Force members.

#### **VIII. CALRECYCLE UPDATE**

Ms. Wallin reported that CalRecycle is in another formal comment period related to SB 1383. Tomorrow is the end of the comment period and updates will be posted soon. The Tire-Derived Aggregate Grant Program is due October 31, 2019. The Farm and Ranch Solid Waste Cleanup and Abatement Program is due November 7, 2019. The Organics Grant Program is due November 21, 2019. Textile workshops are October 29, and November 8, 2019. A battery workshop is also on November 8, 2019.

Mr. Mohajer requested the status of the Environmental Impact Report program with SB 1383. Ms. Wallin will check on the information.

#### **IX. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comments.

#### **X. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 2:36 p.m. The next meeting date is scheduled for Thursday, November 21, 2019, in Conference Room B of Public Works Headquarters.