

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

June 20, 2024

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Margaret Clark, League of California Cities
Jeff Farano, Sr., Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries
Jim Smith, City of Los Angeles
Jordan R. Sisson, Los Angeles County Disposal Association

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Robert Ferrante, rep by Sam Shammas, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts
Barbara Ferrer, rep by Dorcas (Dee Hanson-Lugo), Los Angeles County Public Health
Mark Pestrella, rep by Miki Esposito, Los Angeles County Public Works
Barbara Romero, rep by Ron Milo, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation
Eric Lopez, rep by Erin Rowland, Long Beach Public Works

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Jorgel Chavez, League of California Cities
Eddie De La Riva, League of California Cities
Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative
Wayne Nastri, South Coast Air Quality Management District
Rafael Prieto, City of Los Angeles

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jonathan Brazile, Office of County Counsel Los Angeles County
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens
Josephine Chen, Los Angeles County Public Works
Charles Darensbourg, Los Angeles County Public Works
Perla Gomez, Los Angeles County Public Works
Michael Harmon, Los Angeles County Public Works
Darren Kwan, Los Angeles County Public Works
Omar Carrillo Maldonado, Los Angeles County Public Works
Karlo Manalo, Los Angeles County Public Works
Carol Saucillo, Los Angeles County Public Works
Christopher Sheppard, Los Angeles County Public Works
Airon Tee, Los Angeles County Public Works
Emiko Thompson, Los Angeles County Public Works
Kawsar Vazifdar, Los Angeles County Public Works
Kim Yapp, Los Angeles County Public Works
Caleb Yun, Los Angeles County Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 1:03 p.m. by Ms. Miki Esposito who served as Chair, representing Director Mark Pestrella.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MAY 16, 2024, MINUTES

Ms. Margaret Clark made a motion to approve the May 16, 2024, minutes and Mr. Jim Smith seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

III. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The following was reported by Mr. Christopher Sheppard:

- Bills that passed out of their house of origin have until July 3, 2024, to pass out of their second house. Bills that do not make it out will be dead.
- Legislature will be on recess from July 4 through August 5, 2024.
- Fiscal Committee deadline will be on August 16, 2024. If bills do not pass, they will be dead.
- Bills have until August 31, 2024, to go before the Governor.
- There were 30 bills on the [Legislative Table](#) and 14 that are now dead.

Senate Bill (SB) 1234 (Allen) – Metal Recycling: Motion was made by Mr. Jordan Sisson and seconded by Mr. Jeffrey Farano to recommend a position of support and to request that the CEO-LAIR prepare a Memo of Findings (MOF). If the MOF finds that there is no conflict and the Task Force's recommended position is aligned with existing County Policy, then the Task Force can send a support letter to the Board of Supervisors (Board). If there is a conflict or if the bill is not aligned with existing County policy, the SB 1234 support recommendation will be sent back to the Task Force for further consideration. Motion passed unanimously with nine voting yes (Mr. Sisson, Mr. Farano, Ms. Margaret Clark, Ms. Miki Esposito, Ms. Dee Hanson-Lugo, Mr. Ron Milo, Ms. Erin Rowland, Mr. Sam Shammass, and Mr. Smith).

Mr. Sheppard provided a brief update on bills the Task Force took action on last month:

- Assembly Bill (AB) 2346 – amended 4/10/24 - Organic waste reductions regulations: procurement of recovered organic waste products. Staff is watching the bill. There has not been an amendment since April 10, 2024. Discussion with authors have been ongoing regarding possible expansion of

the bill and considering other options of flexibility for SB 1383 procurement requirements. There is a scheduled hearing for AB 2346 on July 3, 2024.

- SB 1359 (Wilk) - amended 6/10/24 – Illegal dumping. The Task Force [recommended support](#) to the Board. However, the June 18, 2024, first hearing was canceled at the request of author. Due to pressure from opposition, this bill is likely going to be held by the author's office.
- AB 2514 (Aguiar-Curry) – amended 5/16/24 - Solid waste: organic waste: diversion: hydrogen: biomethane. The Task Force had previously requested amendments regarding source separated organics. With the recent amendments being aligned with Task Force recommendations, a [recommended support](#) was sent to the Board on behalf of the Task Force. However, the June 19, 2024, hearing was canceled at the request of the author. The last date the bill could go to hearing is on July 3, 2024.
- SB 1143 – amended 6/10/24 - Household hazardous waste: producer responsibility. The Task Force [recommended support](#) to the Board. Recent amendments included guidelines regulated by CalRecycle with the support of the Department of Toxic Control. The bill is scheduled for a hearing on June 25, 2024.

Mr. Wayde Hunter of the North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens recommended allocating 15 minutes of discussion on the agenda for bills.

IV. FIVE-YEAR COUNTYWIDE INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW REPORT

Mr. Charles Darensbourg provided an update on the [Five-Year Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan Review Report](#) summarizing Task Force feedback on language improvements for Sections 4.4. and 4.5, as well as advising that the next step is to submit to CalRecycle by the deadline of June 30, 2024.

In reference to page 14 bullet that was stricken reading "Ensure proper management of sanitary sewer collection systems," Mr. Hunter asked whose responsibility it belonged to and why it was in the document to begin with. Mr. Darensbourg responded that the sentence did not need to be included in the report as it relates only to sewers ability to handle fats, oils, and grease.

V. VOTE ON EXPANSION OF FACILITY AND PLAN REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS (FPRS)

There was discussion at last month's meeting about potentially expanding the FPRS membership after two nominations were made for filling the vacancy. Currently, there are five seats on the FPRS with one vacancy. County Counsel confirmed that the Task Force has the authority to expand the Subcommittee.

Mr. Sisson expressed his tremendous amount of respect for Mr. Mike Mohajer and what he has done on this Subcommittee and noted the FPRS does the brunt of the lifting and believes it is very important to have a diversity of opinions and would entertain making a motion to expand the FPRS. Mr. Sisson also stated his interest to participate in the Subcommittee if it is expanded. Mr. Jonathan Brazile of County Counsel stated to comply with the Brown Act, a vote for appointing Mr. Sisson to the FPRS must be on next month's agenda.

Motion was made by Ms. Clark and seconded by Mr. Smith to expand the FPRS by two seats, making a total of seven on the Subcommittee. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. VOTE TO APPOINT BASIL CANTU TO FACILITY AND PLAN REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE

Motion was made by Ms. Rowland and seconded by Ms. Clark to appoint Mr. Basil Canton to the FPRS. Motion passed unanimously.

VII. VOTE TO APPOINT WAYDE HUNTER TO FACILITY AND PLAN REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE

Motion was made by Ms. Clark and seconded by Mr. Milo to appoint Mr. Wayde Hunter to the FPRS. Motion passed with six voting yes (Ms. Clark, Mr. Milo, Mr. Farano, Ms. Hanson-Lugo, Mr. Shammas, Mr. Smith), two abstaining (Ms. Rowland and Mr. Sisson), and one voting no (Ms. Esposito).

Motion was made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Ms. Rowland to agendize for next month's meeting the vote to Appoint Mr. Sisson to the FPRS. Motion passed with eight voting yes (Mr. Smith, Ms. Rowland, Ms. Clark, Ms. Esposito, Mr. Farano, Ms. Hanson-Lugo, Mr. Milo, and Mr. Shammas). Mr. Sisson recused himself from the vote.

VIII. U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY'S PROPOSED PLAN TO DISAPPROVE THE OZONE ATTAINMENT IN STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Ms. Esposito informed the Task Force that the South Coast Air Quality Maintenance District (AQMD) was unavailable to attend today's meeting, but staff would follow up with them to present at a future meeting.

Motion was made by Mr. Shammass and seconded by Ms. Clark to have AQMD present on the US Environmental Protection Agency's Proposed Plan to Disapprove the Ozone Attainment in State Implementation Plan at a later date when they become available. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Ms. Kawsar Vazifdar the following from the ATAS meeting:

ReCarbon Inc. provided a [presentation](#) on the Antelope Valley Circular Hydrogen Initiative.

Tetra Tech provided an update that they submitted the following to Public Works (PW) for review:

- A first Draft Anaerobic Digestion (AD) White paper that provides an objective overview of AD technologies and the state of the industry.
- A Draft Countywide Siting Evaluation for the development of AD and/or thermal Conversion Technology (CT) facilities within the unincorporated County.
- A Draft Long-Term Solid Waste Disposal Needs Study for the Antelope Valley, in compliance with Lancaster Landfill Conditional Use Permit, Condition 92, which includes a high-level review of economic, environmental, and technical considerations for CT facility options.
- An updated workplan to perform a detailed feasibility evaluation of three closed landfill sites that will evaluate limits of waste and surrounding utilities.

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

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

Ms. Emiko Thompson reported the following from the FPRS meeting:
Chiquita Canyon Landfill (CCL)

- The chemical reaction at CCL continues to generate landfill gas and leachate.
- The AQMD issued 19 Notices of Violation (NOV) in the month of May 2024 related to air quality.
- CCL continues to install gas and liquid extraction wells and geomembrane cover over the reaction area.
- On June 4, 2024, the US Environmental Protection Agency issued a NOV related to air emissions and the landfill gas collection and control systems.
- Various regulatory agencies continue to monitor and regulate mitigation activities.

Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL)

- There were 18 odor complaints made to the AQMD hotline in May 2024, and no NOVs were issued.
- Compared to April 2024, the number of complaints received in April 2024 decreased from 266 to 18 odor complaints, possibly contributed to seasonal trends.
- Update on the status of vegetation at SCL, which included native species, activities for weed control, and plans to promote vegetation in areas needed.

Ms. Clark asked why the reduction in odor complaints from 266 to 18 for SCL. Ms. Thompson responded that typically in May each year, there is a reduction in odor complaints that is largely due to seasonal changes but tends to pick up around September.

XI. DISCUSSION/ADOPT GOALS & PRIORITIES REPORT

Mr. Sheppard provided an update on the [Goals & Priorities Report](#) (Report). He stated that no additional comments were received on the Report and no changes had been made since the Report was previously presented to the Task Force at the May 16, 2024, Task Force meeting.

Mr. Sisson recommended defining the abbreviations and acronyms in the Report. Additionally, Mr. Sisson recommended the creation of an ad hoc committee to develop bylaws for the Task Force.

Ms. Rowland suggested developing onboarding and training procedures for new Task Force and subcommittee members, in addition to the creation of bylaws. Mr. Hunter echoed that abbreviations and acronyms should be defined in the Report and he also pointed out minor errors that needed to be corrected in the appendix.

A motion was made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Farano to adopt the Report with changes including a glossary of terms and other minor corrections. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Sisson and seconded by Mr. Smith to agendaize an item for next month's meeting to form an ad hoc committee to develop Task Force bylaws, as well as onboarding and training for new Task Force and subcommittee members. Motion passed unanimously.

XII. CALRECYCLE UPDATE

Mr. Sheppard provided an [update](#) since CalRecycle was unable to attend. PW staff disseminated to the Task Force in the morning.

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:08 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Thursday, July 18, 2024, at 1 p.m.