

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

June 18, 2026

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ed Chen, League of California Cities
Margaret Clark, League of California Cities
Jeff Farano, Sr., Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries
Jim Smith, Teamster Local 396, City of Los Angeles

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY OTHERS:

Bob Dowell, rep by Erin Rowland, Long Beach Energy and Environmental
Services Department
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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Jorgel Chavez, League of California Cities
David Fahrion, California Waste and Recycling Association
Rafael Prieto, City of Los Angeles
Barbara Romero, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation

OTHERS PRESENT:

Michael Eskender, Los Angeles County Treasurer and Tax Collector
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens
Adylene Gonzalez, California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery
(CalRecycle)
Ana Diaz, 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
Aaron Nolan, Los Angeles County Public Works
Miguel Portillo, 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
Kawsar Vazifdar, Los Angeles County Public Works
Caleb Yun, Los Angeles County Public Works

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 1:09 p.m. by Mr. Cid Tesoro who served as Chair, representing Director Mark Pestrella.

II. APPROVAL OF APRIL 16, 2026, AND MAY 21, 2026, MINUTES

Mr. Ed Chen made a motion to approve the [April 16, 2026](#), and [May 21, 2026](#), minutes, and Mr. Jim Smith seconded. Minutes were approved unanimously.

III. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Ms. Perla Gomez provided the following State Legislative Update:

- July 2, 2026, is the hard deadline for all Assembly and Senate policy committees to pass bills to fiscal committees or the floor. Any policy bill that fails to pass out of committee by the deadline is dead for the legislative session.
- Legislators will begin their summer recess on July 2, 2026, and reconvene on August 3, 2026.
- [Assembly Bill \(AB\) 109 Budget Act of 2026](#) is in the final stages and has been enrolled to send to the Governor. AB 109 reflects a unified multi-party agreement between the Senate and Assembly.
 - It is anticipated that the Governor will submit technical amendments rather than a line-item veto. Consequently, a companion trailer bill will likely accompany AB 109 when chaptered. Additional updates will be provided as the final funding parameters are finalized.

There are seven bills on the [Legislative Table](#) that are being tracked and are moving through the final legislative session.

Noting that the Task Force had voted to support Senate Bill (SB) 936, Mr. Smith asked if the County had taken a formal position on the bill. Ms. Gomez confirmed that Public Works (PW) notified the Chief Executive Office – Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations (CEO-LAIR) of the Task Force's recommendation to support SB 936, ensuring it is on record.

IV. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON [ASSEMBLY BILL 762 \(IRWIN\) DISPOSABLE, BATTERY-EMBEDDED VAPOR INHALATION DEVICE: PROHIBITION](#)

Ms. Gomez facilitated the discussion on AB 762 for which the County has not taken a position. AB 762 cleared the Assembly and was assigned to two policy

committees: Senate Environmental Quality Committee and Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee.

Mr. Jeff Farano noted there are several laws regarding the handling and recycling of small products with embedded batteries and was unclear on why the Legislature is singling out vaping devices when there are thousands of battery-embedded items that are going to landfills. Mr. Farano indicated there were plenty of new laws that went into effect on January 1, 2026, on recycling battery-embedded devices. Therefore, he would withhold his support of AB 762. Ms. Margaret Clark felt this was an easy 'low-hanging fruit' win, given most vape users are kids and that passing the bill is a first step to keeping batteries out of landfills.

Ms. Clark made a motion to recommend a position of support for AB 762 to the Chief Executive Office – Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations (CEO-LAIR), and Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed with seven voting yes (Ms. Clark, Mr. Smith, Mr. Ed Chen, Ms. Erin Rowland, Mr. Sam Shammass, Mr. Tesoro, and Ms. Felicia Truong), one voting no (Mr. Farano) and one abstaining (Mr. Philip Crabb, III).

Mr. Wayne Hunter of the North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens asked if there are vaping type products available with cannabis and if so, why would AB 762 exclude cannabis. Considering significant pushback from the cannabis industry, Ms. Gomez indicated the author chose to move forward without cannabis products. However, cannabis can be included in future amendments.

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

Ms. Kawsar Vazifdar reported the following from the ATAS meeting:

PW staff provided a [presentation](#) on Conversion Technology (CT) Evaluations that were conducted from 2004 to present date, which was a follow up to the January 2026 ATAS [presentation](#) that discussed the formation of the ATAS through the Puente Hills Conditional Use Permit (CUP) and expansion through other landfill CUPs. There was a discussion amongst ATAS members wanting to learn more about funding for CTs, changes to the waste stream pursuant to SB 54 and SB 1383 which may change CT needs, and end markets for CTs products including fuel and electricity for waste hauling fleets. ATAS members said that they wanted to hear from CT facility operators about lessons learned for developing a successful facility. ATAS members also expressed a desire for public engagement to encourage CT development.

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

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

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

Chiquita Canyon Landfill (CCL)

- In May 2026, CCL received 6 Notices of Violation (NOVs) from the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD), related to odor, compared to the 22 NOVs reported in April 2026
- To date in June 2026, AQMD issued 3 NOVs.
- CCL continues to be under a Stipulated Order for Abatement (SOA), last modified on June 3, 2026.
- The next status hearing for the SOA is in September 2026.

Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL)

- In May 2026, there were 41 odor complaints reported to AQMD for SCL, a decrease from 94 odor complaints reported in April 2026.
- In May 2026, there were no NOVs issued by AQMD.
- Vegetation Update: hydroseed was applied to some of the upper areas of SCL earlier this year that is now showing vegetation growth. Native shrub and plants cover approximately 75 percent of the lower deck and there has been an increase in non-native plants due to warmer climate conditions and heavy rains.
- Disposal: SCL disposed of 657,000 tons during the First Quarter of 2026. Compared to the previous quarter, the disposal tonnage increased by 6 percent.
- Beneficial-use materials (soil and materials diverted): there were 17,000 tons during the First Quarter of 2026. Compared to the previous quarter, the disposal tonnage decreased by 42 percent.

Waste characterization studies were conducted at the Calabasas Landfill (CL) and SCL. The data reflects a one-week sampling period in the Spring of 2026:

- CL: glass decreased from 5 percent to 1 percent, while metals increased from 3 percent to 6 percent, from Fall 2025 to Spring 2026.
- SCL: organics decreased from 68 percent to 66 percent, while mixed residual waste increased from 13 percent to 16 percent, both from Fall 2025 to Spring 2026.

Ms. Rowland asked if consultants provided a summary or analysis explaining the changes in the numbers in the waste characterization studies, or if they shared any observations with PW. Ms. Thompson provided context on why staff reports this data. When landfill received their Finding of Conformance, they agreed to specific operational conditions, including the requirement to provide updates on waste characterization studies.

Mr. Hunter discussed SCL, noting that it is likely the worst landfill for odors and NOVs (excluding CCL due to its chemical reaction event). He also pointed out that both landfills are 2.5 times worse than the other 14 landfills put together that are in AQMD's jurisdiction. Mr. Hunter added while seasonal odor complaints usually decrease, they have not dropped as expected at SCL. However, because of the active abatement order and facility improvements, the situation is better than usual, showing positive effects of the abatement order.

Mr. Hunter also brought up that Flare No. 1 has been totally deactivated, and that Flare No. 3 is being put on standby, and both are on the City side of SCL, which is closest to the community. Thus, all gas from the City side is now routed to the County side, where it is flared at the maximum distance and highest elevation possible from the community. He believed that relocating the flares would improve the local air quality, and the community hopes SCL will regain full compliance by the end of the year.

VII. CALRECYCLE UPDATE

Ms. Adylene Gonzalez provided an [update](#) to the Task Force.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Hunter noted the ongoing attendance issues at Task Force meetings, stating it was raised several meetings ago. To address vacancies, it was previously suggested that resumes be submitted. Mr. Hunter confirmed he submitted his. Emphasizing his 20-year tenure of attending Task Force meetings, noting missing fewer than five, and demonstrating his strong commitment, Mr. Hunter asked to be considered for serving on the Task Force, pointing out that his consistent attendance would help ensure a quorum. Ms. Clark asked who decided the members who are on the Task Force. Mr. Tesoro explained that recommendations are submitted to the Board of Supervisors' staff for review and selection. Mr. Smith asked if there are different stakeholders that are appointed. Mr. Tesoro confirmed there are different stakeholders and that the Task Force currently has three vacancies which include environmental, business/commerce, and public interest representatives.

Ms. Clark asked who appointed the public representative to the Task Force and Mr. Tesoro confirmed it was the same process. Mr. Smith asked if the Task Force has the authority, as a body, to vote and recommend someone. Mr. Tesoro was uncertain and indicated needing to look into the matter.

Ms. Clark stated she would recommend Mr. Hunter because he is always in attendance and when the Task Force asks for public comment, he speaks. Additionally, the Task Force frequently experiences delays getting a quorum. Mr. Tesoro stated his need to review the selection process so to report it back to the Task Force.

Lastly, Ms. Clark shared concerns regarding Chromium-6 (Cr6) exposure following the 2025 wildfires, providing two articles on studies that detected Cr6 in the Palisades and Eaton fire cleanup zones. As discussed at previous Task Force meetings, Ms. Clark prompted discussion regarding the quick disposal of fire debris and posed questions about whether hazardous metals and asbestos were removed, and the mitigation measures taken for groundwater contamination. She shared her concern about the cancer risks of Cr6. Ms. Clark requested that this discussion be put on next month's agenda. Mr. Tesoro asked whether her request was to bring back the discussion on landfill management regarding fire debris disposal. Ms. Clark responded yes. Mr. Tesoro confirmed that the Task Force discussed the matter previously but will bring back the topic. Ms. Clark stated that the Cr6 findings in the studies were huge on the news.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Tesoro extended a happy Juneteenth and Happy Father's Day to everyone.

The meeting adjourned at 1:48 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Thursday, July 16, 2026, at 1 p.m.