

Facility and Plan Review Subcommittee  
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/  
Integrated Waste Management Task Force

**August 18, 2022**

**WEB CONFERENCE**

Los Angeles County Public Works  
900 South Fremont Avenue  
Alhambra, CA 91803

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mike Mohajer, General Public Representative  
Dorcas (Dee) Hanson-Lugo, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health  
Betsey Landis, Chair, Environmental Organization Representative  
Sam Shammas, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts  
Emiko Thompson, Los Angeles County Public Works

OTHERS PRESENT:

Steve Cassulo, Waste Connections  
Edgar De La Torre, County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning  
Tim Fargo, City of Los Angeles  
Wayde Hunter, North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens  
Joe Bartolata, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Alexander Castro, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Anna Gov, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Michael Harmon, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Ramon Herman, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Darren Kwan, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Karlo Manalo, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Omid Mazdiasni, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Carol Oyola, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Gladys Rietze, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Trishena Robinson, Los Angeles County Public Works  
Aric Rodriguez, Los Angeles County Public Works

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Betsey Landis called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JULY 21, 2022 MEETING**

Mr. Sam Shammass made a motion to approve the Minutes, as corrected, and Ms. Dee Hanson-Lugo seconded. Motion passed with one abstention.

**III. SENATE BILL (SB) 1383 CAPACITY REPORT SENT TO CALRECYCLE ON AUGUST 1, 2022**

Ms. Trishena Robinson, staff to the Task Force, provided an update on the final [SB 1383 Capacity Planning Report](#) submitted by the County to CalRecycle. All 89 jurisdictions provided their data to the County, which included the following:

- Estimated organic waste disposal of 4.6 million tons.
- Estimated verifiably available organic waste recycling capacity of 4.1 million tons.
- Needed additional organic waste recycling capacity of 1.1 million tons.
- 14 locations were identified in the report for new or expanded facilities that may be used to process the organic waste generated by the County and cities.
- 47 jurisdictions were identified as being required to submit an implementation schedule to CalRecycle due to insufficient organic waste recycling capacity.

Public Works (PW) is hosting a virtual meeting with the jurisdictions on Tuesday, August 23, 2022. The webinar will focus on a recent survey conducted by the PW consultant that evaluated existing, expanded, and/or planned organic waste processing capacity that is potentially available to the County and the cities. PW also requested CalRecycle's attendance at the webinar to answer questions related to implementation schedules.

**IV. UPDATE ON CHIQUITA CANYON LANDFILL**

Mr. Omid Mazdidasni, staff to the Task Force, provided the following update:

Odor Complaints and Notice of Violations (NOV)

The next quarterly odor complaint and NOV update from the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) will be provided at next month's Subcommittee meeting.

### Update on Lawsuits

The parties are currently engaged in settlement discussions to resolve lawsuits against the County: The first lawsuit CCL filed was on October 20, 2017, challenging operational conditions and fee conditions of the Conditional Use Permit (CUP). In June 2022, the court granted CCL's writ petition in part and denied it in part. The trial for remaining constitutional claims is set for December 2022. The second lawsuit CCL filed was on April 13, 2018, challenging a decision by the hearing officer that upheld a NOV issued by Regional Planning on December 11, 2017, for failure to pay Bridge and Thoroughfare Fee, accepting prohibited auto shredder waste, and failure to pay out-of-area fees. The trial has been continued to December 2022.

### Task Force Request for CCL to Submit a Report regarding NOVs Received

- CCL submitted their Sixteenth Monthly Update to the Task Force dated August 1, 2022. The update addressed the April 19, 2021, letter's requirements and updates on implementation of Conditions 68 (status of air quality monitoring for surrounding communities), 77 (relocation of the site entrance from Henry Mayo Drive to Wolcott Drive), and 79 (schedule of the Street Improvement project), as well as the Stipulated Order for Abatement from AQMD.
- No NOVs were issued to CCL for the month of July 2022.

Both Mr. Mohajer and Ms. Landis requested hard copies of the CCL report be mailed to them.

## **V. DISCUSSION ON FOC REPORTS**

Mr. Ramon Herman, staff to the Task Force, provided an update on FOC Reports for both CCL and SCL, respectively, dated July 15, 2022. Mr. Ramon reported the following information:

### Second Quarter 2022 Monitoring Report for CCL

- CCL disposed of approximately 470,000 tons in the second quarter of 2022. Compared to the first quarter of 2022, the disposal tonnage decreased by 8 percent.
- The beneficial reuse material (including diversion and soil) total for the second quarter of 2022 was approximately 177,000 tons. Compared to the first quarter of 2022, the beneficial reuse tonnage increased by 55 percent.

Second Quarter 2022 Monitoring Report for SCL

- SCL disposed of approximately 660,000 tons in the second quarter of 2022. Compared to the first quarter of 2022, the disposal tonnage decreased by 9 percent.
- The beneficial reuse material (including diversion and soil) total for the second quarter of 2022 was approximately 9,000 tons. Compared to the first quarter of 2022, the beneficial reuse tonnage decreased by 22 percent.

Mr. Wayde Hunter of the North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens asked if the 9,000 tons of beneficial reuse is imported and if so, how much specifically is imported. Mr. Hunter also advised the Subcommittee that Mr. Chris Coyle was no longer the Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL) manager, and that Ms. Valerie Moore has been filling in for Mr. Coyle at the SCL-Community Advisory Committee meetings. Mr. Michael Harmon confirmed that there were changes in SCL's management and that representatives were invited to attend this Subcommittee meeting. Staff will follow up with Republic Services to confirm a point of contact to invite to Subcommittee meetings.

**VI. UPDATE ON SUNSHINE CANYON CITY/COUNTY LANDFILL**

Odor Complaints

Mr. Harmon provided an update on the [odor complaints from the AQMD](#) for the month of July 2022 at SCL.

- During the month of July 2022, 12 complaints were made to the AQMD hotline. Of those, 1 was classified as Trash, 3 were classified as Landfill Gas, 5 were listed as No Field Response, and 3 were classified as None, which meant the inspector visited the site and did not detect any odor.
- Compared to previous month, June 2022, the number of complaints received in July 2022 decreased from 40 to 12 complaints.
- Compared to the previous year, July 2021, the number of complaints for July 2022 decreased from 27 to 12 complaints.
- As of July 2022, AQMD issued zero NOVs related to odor for the month of July 2022 and a total of 9 NOVs for the year 2022.
- AQMD's report indicates that the total number of complaints received during 2022 is 407.

Mr. Hunter commented that the North Valley Coalition of Concerned Citizens sent a second request letter to the AQMD for an Abatement of Odor hearing pertaining

to continuous odors at SCL. A copy of the letter was also disseminated to the Task Force.

### Second Quarter Vegetation Report

Mr. Alexander Castro, staff to the Task Force, provided the following update from Republic Services for the second quarter of 2022 dated July 29, 2022.

#### City Side South Sage Pilot Area – Deck C/Lower Deck

- Abundance of Venturan Coastal Sage Scrub (VCSS) species continues to show growth due to early rainfall. This also began the germination period where vegetation is beginning to emerge.
- Abundance of VCSS species germinating and crown-sprouting since the Saddle Ridge Wildfire (Wildfire). The species following the rebound include Purple Sage, Coast Sunflower, White Sage, Creeping Wild Rye, Deerweed, Black Sage, and Mexican Elderberry.
- The deck was noted to be very active with wildlife and several bird species were seen using the protective canopy of the existing vegetation.

#### City Side South - Deck B Area /Middle Deck

- A large portion of the Deck that burned during the Wildfire has rebounded and an abundance of new seedlings has filled the once barren dirt. The regrowth of seedlings has demonstrated that the deck has become self-sustaining and establishes no need for supplemental irrigation.
- Many of the observed native species in the seed mix that were germinating or blooming in the previous quarter and are currently exhibiting fruiting. Native plants observed were the White Sage, Mexican Elderberry, Menzies' Goldenbush, and Prickly Pear.

#### City Side Sage Mitigation Area – Deck A/Upper Deck

- Deck A continues to be sparsely covered with native vegetation, and total vegetation coverage (native and non-native) is generally sparse due to compacted and poor soil conditions. In the southern-center, vegetation cover is higher than in other areas and includes native species such as California buckwheat.

#### County Side Sage Mitigation Area

- No vegetation activities were conducted in the area. The northern and upper portions of the mitigation area continue to be bare and problematic for establishment of vegetation, primarily because of highly eroded soils, steep slopes, and Boron-toxic soils. There are small patches of vegetation that have

established in the northern-central portion of the mitigation area, and include shrubs such as California buckwheat and sagebrush, and deerweed.

Ms. Landis commented that the native plants that are growing always come up after a fire and she was pleased with the report. However, her concern is Deck A and suggested possibly building mounds with decent soil in an effort to get native seeds to grow.

Mr. Hunter commented that the proposed actions for Deck A noted in the report had no specific timeline. Mr. Hunter suggested that staff encourage SCL to start work on Deck A and establish a timeline. Ms. Landis concurred, and Mr. Harmon responded that staff would provide comments from the Subcommittee to the Landfill Operator for response to the next vegetation report.

#### **IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ms. Landis provided her public comment that she had no internet due to a major electrical blackout in her area. She confirmed with the Department of Water and Power that the large blackout affected more than just her zip code. Ultimately a major surge of electrical power came through and burned her internet connection. Ms. Landis stated that this was a good example of what the future holds if more is not done to provide sources of electricity.

No public comment.

#### **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 15, 2022, at 11 a.m.