

**Solid Waste Interjurisdictional Technical Staff Work Group
Governance Discussion Summary
November 8, 2006
King Street Center**

Meeting Attendees:

City Staff:

Sharon Hlavka – City of Auburn
Alison Bennett – City of Bellevue
Debbie Anspaugh – City of Bothell
Rob Van Orsow – City of Federal Way
Elaine Borjeson – City of Kirkland
Nina Rivkin – City of Redmond
Rika Cecil – City of Shoreline
Krystn McArthur – City of Redmond

County Staff:

Mike Huddleston – Council Staff
Beth Mountsier – Council Staff
Jane Gateley - SWD
Kevin Kiernan – SWD
Roxanne Malatesta - SWD
Diane Yates - SWD

I. Update on Weather Related Impacts to Solid Waste System

Kevin Kiernan gave an update on impacts to the solid waste system resulting from the recent flood. The Executive has transmitted a motion to the council that would allow the division to waive disposal fees for residents with flood debris. Council will consider the motion at its meeting next Monday, November 13th.

ITSG Report

Solid Waste Interlocal Forum

Diane Yates said that due to the recent storm, Division Director Theresa Jennings was unable to meet with the Executive's office to get input on the dispute resolution process and the proposal to change state law in order to provide fees to host cities. A meeting is scheduled with the Executive's office tomorrow.

Yates said that the division sees four options for representation of unincorporated area residents. The options are to:

1. include representation on MSWMAC
2. include representation on SWAC
3. for the division to brief the Unincorporated Area Councils at its quarterly meeting of the 6 councils
4. this is a hybrid that would include UAC representation on SWAC and the division briefing the UACs.

Alison Bennett, City of Bellevue, said the city members of ITSG are proposing that MSWMAC become the SWIF. Bennett questioned whether unincorporated area residents should have representation on SWIF since they are not party to the interlocal agreements.

ITSG asked that SWAC discuss adding UAC representation to its membership at its meeting on November 17th. Yates said she will speak to the chair about adding the discussion to the agenda. She went on to say that the addition of UAC representation to SWAC could be done informally - that there is already a member of SWAC who has been active in the Maple Valley UAC - or by

adding UAC membership through county code. Discussion followed that it would be difficult for one person to represent all the UACs.

In response to a question, council staff indicated that the King County Council would be willing to consider having MSWMAC becoming the SWIF.

Dispute Resolution

Kiernan discussed the dispute resolution process listed in the table. He said the division is generally okay with the framework, but has the following comments:

- Process 3: language should be changed to ‘operating impacts,’ from ‘operational impacts.’
- Process 4: the division is cautious about this type of review, because it can be costly and time consuming and not sure if it is to be used to resolve disputes related to technical or policy issues or both.
- Process 5: need to recognize the site selection process that was developed as part of the Transfer and Waste Export System Plan.

The group discussed the types of technical issues that might result in cities asking for third party review. Examples included the footprint of a new transfer station – are 20 acres necessary or would 15 acres be sufficient - or mitigation for road impacts resulting from truck traffic. The group agreed that language could be drafted to ensure that third party review only be used on rare occasions when cities and the county could not reach agreement.

Financial Policy

The Solid Waste Division is in agreement with working with the cities on financial policies. Development of financial policies could be integrated into Comp Plan update process. Wastewater’s financial policies could be included in an appendix of the ITSG report as an example of another county utility’s policies.

Host city mitigation policies need to be flushed out. A change in state law is necessary to allow the B&O tax the division currently pays to the state to be paid to the host cities.

ITSG Governance Report

Kiernan said that the division has agreed to have Jane Gateley, the division’s technical writer, draft the report for ITSG. However, Jane will be on vacation Thanksgiving week.

Discussion followed about the format of the report and what to include as an appendix. It was suggested than the report include an executive summary.

Mike Huddleston asked for the cities thoughts on how to bring closure to the current ILA opener that remains in effect. It was agreed that ITSG would not give a time when the opener would be closed until work is completed in 2007 on all the outstanding governance issues.

Wrap Up

Huddleston handed out a rate spreadsheet he developed depicting rate impacts based on bond terms. .

ITSG discussed the relationship of waste to energy to the development of the Comprehensive Plan update.

Next Meeting

ITSG will meet next Wednesday, November 15th, to go over the preliminary draft of the ITSG report.

Meeting Adjourned.

Roxanne Malatesta