

MSWAC Advisory Committee Meeting

Jan. 12, 2023 - 11:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Virtual Meeting (Zoom)

<u>MSWAC Members</u>		<u>King County Staff</u>
Troy Linnell	Algona	Eyasu Ayalew, Public Health Seattle/King County
Joan Nelson	Auburn	Brody Abbott, SWD staff
Jon Gire	Bellevue	Kris Beatty, SWD staff
Tamie Deady	Black Diamond	Sylvaine Bucher, SWD staff
Emily Warnock	Bothell	Nori Catabay, SWD staff
Robin Tischmak	Burien	Jerome Cruz, Public Health Seattle/King County
Steve Friedman	Clyde Hill	Kinley Deller, SWD staff
Shellie Bates	Covington	Tristen Gardner, King County Hazardous Waste staff
Rob Van Orsow	Federal Way	Fanny Silverio Gonzalez, Public Health Seattle/King County
Tony Donati	Kent	Brian Halverson, SWD staff
Jenna McInnis	Kirkland	Patty Liu, SWD staff
Penny Sweet	Kirkland	Pat McLaughlin, SWD staff
Alanna DeRogatis	Mercer Island	Laila McClinton, SWD staff
Micah Bonkowski	Redmond	Amy Ockerlander, SWD staff
Aaron Moldver	Redmond	Terra Rose, King County Council
Meara Heubach	Renton	Hannah Scholes, SWD staff
Linda Knight, Vice Chair	Renton	Adrian Tan, SWD staff
Genevieve Rubinelli	Sammamish	Isabelle Trujillo, SWD staff
Mason Giem	SeaTac	Madelaine Yun, King County Hazardous Waste staff
Sarah Bruemmer	Shoreline	
Collen Minion	Tukwila	<u>Guests</u>
Jared Hill	Woodinville	Marshall Andrews, DPR Construction
		Keaghan Caldwell, BNBuilders
		Jeannette Jurgensen, Epicenter Services
		Erin Kirkpatrick, Swinerton
		Laura Moser, Waste Management
		Laura Soma, GLY Construction
		Diana Wadley, Dept. of Ecology
		Kaylie Wallin, Republic Services
		Wendy Weiker, Republic Services

Call to Order and Introductions

Chair Sweet called the meeting to order at 11:22 a.m. Introductions followed.

Meeting Minutes

Hill motioned to approve the December joint minutes. Linnell seconded. Minutes passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Wadley shared that she went to the Snohomish County SWAC in November and heard that they would be hiring a flow control officer with interviews in December. You may also be aware that Seattle is investing in a lumber reclamation warehouse that will support the deconstruction and reuse of lumber. They received almost \$4M from an Ecology Protection Agency (EPA) grant and have almost \$1M in local solid waste financial assistance funds that can be used towards the warehouse. Lastly, Washington's Sustainable Food Center is being officially launched and there will be a webinar and feedback session on Monday, Feb. 5 at 1:15 p.m. Please [register and join](#) to learn more about the Food Center Launch and how you can engage with the work ahead.

Gardner stated that the Hazardous Waste Program has several updates to their Management Coordination committee (MCC). First, Kim-Khánh Văn from the City of Renton who represents the Sound Cities Association is joining the MCC. Next, Dylan Orr from Public Health Seattle/King County who is the recently appointed Director of Environmental Health Services has joined the MCC. Lastly, Marin Burnett from the King County Solid Waste Division is a new MCC representative. Everyone will receive a list of who these people are after this meeting.

SWD Updates

McLaughlin provided the SWD update.

Welcome to 2024! As you may know, this year is one of big change as our Department Director, Christie True will be retiring at the end of this month. For 39 years, Christie has been a dedicated King County employee, moving up the organization to be DNRP director for the past 13 years. While we are sad to lose Christie's leadership, her legacy of environmental stewardship will live on for generations. In Solid Waste, she has been a staunch supporter of our zero-waste efforts that eventually saw the launch of our Re+ program. The county is well into the selection process for a new Director who will most certainly have big shoes to fill. But it's not just Christie's retirement that will bring change to DNRP this year.

There is exciting news from SWD as we welcome our new Deputy Director, Chris Stubbs in just a couple of weeks. Chris is coming to us from Hennepin County, Minnesota, where he has been in the solid waste industry for 15 years. He began his career as a scale operator, holding several roles over the years. His most recent role was serving as the business manager, overseeing several functional areas in the department including financial management and working on reimagining Hennepin County's solid waste system. McLaughlin looks forward to introducing him to you, hopefully at next month's meeting.

As an update to last months' news and media story on arsenic at Cedar Hills Regional Landfill, our first phase of testing is complete. After extensive testing at Cedar Hills and transfer stations, there were NO detects found. Big thanks to employees who volunteered to wear monitors. While this is great news, we are also finalizing a plan to do further monitoring of arsenic and other chemicals and compounds in the coming months. Employee safety is our number one priority, and I am pleased with the results that arsenic has not been present in the air.

Furthermore, we are inching closer to the construction of Area 9 at the landfill. With that comes a significant project relocating several of our onsite facilities. This has taken a significant amount of planning and coordination from our Project Management team, with work expected to begin at the end of February and completion expected within the first two weeks of March. As a reminder, this move will help us extend the useful life of the landfill by developing Area 9, providing an onsite location for solid waste until a long-term disposal option is selected and executed.

I'm also pleased to share that the King County Council has approved the Seattle Residuals Interlocal Agreement (ILA). The agreement is now with the Seattle City Council for final approval. We expect the agreement to be finalized in the next couple of months. This will help with our flow control.

On Wednesday, Jan. 10, our team presented an update on our long-term disposal options and Waste-to-Energy. This presentation was on request from Councilmember and Chair Pete von Reichbauer. We fielded many great questions and received requests from councilmembers that will help us communicate more effectively with you, our ILA partners, on this very important issue.

Lastly, on Thursday, Jan. 11 our team met with the core cities group ahead of the Northeast Recycling and Transfer Station project (NERTS) DRAFT Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) which will be released in the near future. As a part of public outreach, there will be two in-person meetings and a virtual public meeting to review the EIS and provide public comment.

Knight requested that when the county is moving through the disposal options phase and giving presentations to elected officials, the committee gets the updates in advance. This would be helpful to have these updates in members inboxes so that cities can prepare their representatives for those discussions. Sweet echoed these comments. McLaughlin and Liu noted that the request and thanked them for their comment.

Update on Climate Pollution Production Grant (CPRG)

The CPRG is an EPA grant looking to distribute \$4.3B. The Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (PSCAA) is the lead coordinating agency for our region. PSCAA has encouraged applications that do not compete with each other, so we have been working to include material management in other leading agency proposals. The King County Executive Climate Office is working on a County-wide building related grant proposal and we are hoping to have salvaged wood and our overall Re+ strategy included.

Washington state is also working on a statewide proposal that would include a significant food waste component. The state was originally considering distributing the same sum to each county and their largest city in each state e.g. King County and Seattle would get the same sum as Garfield County and Pomeroy.

We have been working with the state to encourage more funding to be distributed based on need/population. We are also in the midst of discussions to have dedicated additional carve out of funds for Seattle and King County to support:

- Low carbon food procurement to help reduce wasted food
- Food waste prevention & diversion: supporting HB 1799 implementation, research and scale commercial engagement
- Funding for compost markets on agriculture and cities implementing the compost ordinance

We should know in the next few weeks if these proposals make it to the EPA and will use the recycling coordinators meetings to help plan and coordinate.

WRR Grants for 2025

In 2025, King County will have a single year budget as a result of the new election cycle for the King County Council elections. As a result of this, for WRR grants, we will need 1-year budgets and work plans from cities covering 2025. We will return to the usual biennium budget cycle in 2026-27. We want to continue to align the WRR grants with budget cycles, so we do not intend to roll any WRR funds from 2025 into 2026.

As you will learn more about later in this meeting, the legislative session is in full swing. On Tuesday, Jan. 9 McLaughlin had the pleasure of testifying on behalf of King County in favor of the ReWRAP Act (HB 2049). Last week the Comp Plan sub-committee met to discuss a potential policy for loaning landfill space, which you will hear more about shortly.

Van Orsow wanted to know if the issues with the Ardagh plant were resolved as he could not find any information regarding it. McLaughlin responded that he knows that we resolved our lease concerns with the plant in 2023 but does not have any further information on this issue. We will provide any information that is available at a later time. Knight added there was a bankruptcy issue with a company that was tied in with Ardagh.

Van Orsow followed up suggesting a broad overview of the coming committee election process for new members.

New and alternate MSWAC members

Last, but not least I would like to welcome the new members and alternates of the MSWAC.

- Councilmember Jenny Alderks from the City of Bothell
- Councilmember Tammie Deady from the City of Black Diamond
- Greg Stamatiou, Public Works Director for the City of Sammamish
- Ella Williams, Intergovernmental Policy Advisor for the City of Bellevue

McLaughlin was thrilled to see so many faces here today, especially as we embark of the next few years of important policy work including the LTD decision, Comp Plan update, Title 10 updates, Re+ Policy Implementation and site selection for the new Northeast Recycling and Transfer Station.

Heubach had two follow up questions from the December joint meeting beginning with asking if there had been any progress with BEW and getting the plant up. Next, asked if King County had made any comments on Ecology's rule making process for methane emissions and what they were.

In regard to the first question, McLaughlin responded that he participated in four days of mediation since the last meeting. They were good and productive, and we took a break on request from BEW. Some progress has been made, but we have a way to, and we are not sure if we will get to the resolution. McLaughlin feels more optimistic now than when things started, and this process has allowed the county to really understand what our needs are and how we can protect our best interests. Our goal is to get that plant up and running as quickly as possible and we are trying to be as creative and cooperative with BEW to create this plan. We are working to schedule more mediation meetings, and one can occur as soon as next week.

In relation to the second question, McLaughlin stated that the county submitted some comments on Ecology's rule making around the landfill and landfill emissions. We will plan to provide an update at a future meeting.

SWAC Update

Sweet wanted to ask the committee to help write a letter of thanks to Christie True who worked hard in previous years to help the committee in the right direction.

Discuss 2024 Workplan

Ockerlander led this conversation.

There are many big-ticket items this year. In short, every month will have short updates from Director McLaughlin and other key staff. There will be many rate conversations beginning with February, where we will come to the committee to talk about what to include in the rate. The role of the committee is to seek continual feedback and have the committee Agree with the rate and draft a letter of support.

For bills throughout the year, the committee or individual members might want to take action.

There will be several NERTS updates which will include an overall schedule and general updates. As well as how the committee can provide feedback and when to provide feedback moving forward. There will also be a South County Recycling and Transfer Stations (SCRTS) update partway through the year.

Next, the committee will be asked to provide feedback on changes to King County Code that sets out minimum expectations for service levels in the UTC-regulated areas of King County. This will also involve some of the policies coming from that Re+ strategic plan and this will work on decreasing food waste from single families. In 2023, we completed work on three different ideas. We hope the committee will provide input and make recommendations throughout the year.

We will continue to look at the comp plan throughout the year.

If there are any items that committee members would like to include, please let Ockerlander know.

Heubach wanted to know if the Re+ update in April could be moved forward to May because there is not a strong conduit for grant receipts to provide updates and suggested moving this update.

Van Orsow suggested an update regarding the regional debris management planning and the county specific plan. He asked if the update could tie both plans together so committee members have a general awareness of what is going on. Heubach seconded this.

Knight asked if the committee is interested in adding King County budget proposals. There are precedents related to city grants like the WRR grants. There has not been a significant update in dollars proposed. A lot of great work happens with these grants. She wanted to know what the county plans on submitting for 2025 and beyond.

Knight commented on the 2025 short budget and asked for an update. There is a lot more fluidity with the two-year cycle and compressing it down to one-year has some impacts for the cities. This committee looks at a lot of programming, but they don't really have a conversation about what the budget proposal is going to be. The committee always has conversations about the rates but not the proposals. It seems very limited on what cities can weigh-in for what is being proposed. There used to be opportunities for cities to weigh-in on budgeting. Knight believes it is a good opportunity to receive input from cities on proposals. McLaughlin thanked her for this comment and suggested a multi-prong approach. As we are working towards presenting any budget changes, the county would be happy to add this into our work plan.

Van Orsow added on to Knight's previous comment. Grants are always subject to funding, and he is unsure why SWD is going to a one-year grant. On paper, it is more work for people. McLaughlin replied that this is largely due to the coming political turn.

Construction and Demolition Fee

Deller provided this update.

A recap of previous discussions:

- Construction and Demolition (C&D) recycling rates declining
- Contaminating is increasing
- C&D fee is unchanged since 1993
- Include wood and C&D in Re+
- Request comments from advisory groups for discussion

We are beginning to include wood in the C&D program and have been asked to come and provide an update. There is significant potential for change – using wood as an example. This is material that is coming from job sites in King County.

- 61,000+ tons of dimensional lumber in KCSWD system
- 43,000 tons+ in private system under KCSWD flow control

Residual rates from C&D MRFs are extremely high – in 2020, Mixed Solid Waste (MSW) Material Recovery Facility (MRF) were at 12% residual rate. In 2023, C&D MRFs were at 54% residual rates. There is a declining impact from our current approach. The diversion rate started in the high 50's in 2017. Following China Sword, markets went back up again, and things have been in decline.

There are significant potential co-benefits from diversion.

- Climate: 140, 241 MTCO₂e avoided if 50% clean wood processed as salvaged wood
- Jobs: 280+ regional wood reuse green jobs could be created by the 100,000 tons diverted
- Material: Almost 11,000 tons additional recycled drywall displacing mined gypsum.
- Landfill space: There's around 8 trucks full of clean wood heading to the landfill each day that could be diverted

To increase diversion, several key challenges remain:

- In the last 15 years, there's been an increase in commingling of C&D materials that has increased contamination and decreased material value (ex. Gypsum drywall)
- Enforcement needs have become more diverse
- Frontline communities continue to experience increased exposure to toxic building materials from demolition
- There's a lack of workforce capacity and experience in salvage, deconstruction and reuse

To increase diversion, several key barriers need to be overcome:

- Significant upfront expense and effort is needed to unlock circular economies for C&D materials
- Lack of infrastructure for salvaged materials
- Recycling markets have declined
- Lack of competition for C&D processing
- Economic disincentive for higher C&D diversion
- C&D diversion transparency and verification is time intensive
- Lack of workforce capacity and experience in salvage, deconstruction and reuse

To transform diversion rates, there has to be a system change. This will include:

- BIPOC and frontline community involvement
- Creativity and Innovation
 - C&D source separation innovation
 - Market Development
 - Sustainable economic development
- Compliance
 - Code compliance
 - Reducing King County liability
 - Staffing

Fee funded programs could play a role in this transformation:

- Community
 - Green jobs support
 - Community funding for deconstruction
 - Demolition community impacts research

- Expand C&D collection
- Creativity
 - Innovation grants
 - Jobsite collection systems – getting things separated at the site
 - Circular economy business park
 - Increase gypsum diversion for new drywall
- Compliance
 - Direct reporting for scale house – information going directly from scale house to the collection office
 - Regional C&D container tagging system
 - Strengthen deconstruction policy framework

The problem is that the fee level is still consistent with 1990's needs but not with today's needs. The MSW rate has increased over time while the C&D rate has remained the same. King County's is \$4.25/ton, Seattle's C&D transfer tax is \$13.27/ton, and Portland's fee is \$30/ton.

There are some potential impacts that could come with a fee increase. If the fee is raised:

- C&D waste transfer facilities would raise their tip fee by the full amount of the increase
- C&D processing facilities (with a 50% diversion rate) would likely raise their tip fee by 50% of the increased fee amount.

There would be minimal impacts to the cost of:

- Customers with small C&D loads at King County transfer stations
- Deconstruction/demolition projects with high diversion rates
- Contractors who separate out the majority of their recyclables
- Contractors doing prefab or panelized construction

There would be a greater cost impact and opportunity for behavior to:

- Contractors who don't recycle C&D
- Traditional demolition projects where the majority of materials are landfilled
- Contractors who commingle C&D – the majority – moderate cost increase

In summary, companies handling their C&D appropriately will see little impacts and companies handling their C&D poorly will see a significant impact.

Currently, there is essential work that is not funded:

- Impactful utilization of untapped resources i.e., recyclable/reusable resources that are being wasted
 - Nearly 11,000 tons of wasted drywall could be recycled into new drywall
 - Over 100,000 tons of landfilled and fuel lumber could be reused or remanufactured into new building materials
 - Asphalt shingles could be recycled into hot mix asphalt
- Meaningful partnerships with frontline communities to support community health, resilience, and employment opportunities
 - Green jobs
 - New and expanded businesses being created
 - Advancing economic development opportunities
 - Foster wealth equity and just transition efforts
- Minimization of King County liability
 - Gypsum creating hydrogen sulfide gas in landfills

- PFAS from demolitions in waterways. More studies need to be done on this.
- Lead and asbestos dust in neighborhoods
- Climate and health impacts of wood used as fuel

Some other additional impacts to consider are:

- Cost effectiveness increases for the following:
 - Penalization and prefab construction (which has lower climate impact, better working conditions, more easily designed for disassembly, and better control over future health impacts)
 - New C&D recycling businesses will be more cost effective to begin
 - Existing C&D waste transfer companies reviving their C&D recycling operations
 - Deconstruction of buildings rather than demolition
- If C&D processing facilities continue accepting C&D waste loads, diversion rates at these facilities could continue to drop
- Flow control leakage may increase (by companies not wanting to separate recyclables)

2025 Early Rate Outlook

Honaker gave this update.

The prior projection had a net of 9.6% annual increase; we predicted this will continue over the next few years. Since the election cycle is changing, we need to reset the budget cycle to pair up with the election cycle. In 2025, we will immediately move into planning for the next biennium.

Tonnage is down relative to the earlier projection. The expectation is that tonnage would gradually increase through 2024 and then gradually decrease by 2027 as Re+ actions take effect. The overall level of tonnage will remain what we predicted in the last rate cycle. There will be a new tonnage forecast in February and there will be an update to Re+ policy impacts using the new waste characterization data and current implementation plans.

Some other changes to the Financial Outlook:

- 21-22 biennium was better than projected due to underspending
- Landfill gas revenue has been suspended during BEW shutdown
- The division has issued less debt than expected
- The slower than expected capital spending has pushed project spending into later years, with higher borrowing costs and increased escalation
- Projections for bond interest rates have increased. The inflation forecast has tempered a little.
- The new regulatory requirements may require new investments from the division. Re+ and climate goals will require continued support

Early rate outlook and next steps

- Early projections suggest revenue increases of 12-15% would be needed
- Focus on the next few months will be on refreshing data and assumptions while mitigating need for revenue increases
- Strategies include:
 - Reallocation of existing resources to fund new budget requests
 - Improve forecasting for Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) to more accurately model debt in rate model
 - Analyzing cost/benefit for new investments to support Re+ climate and other strategic priorities

We will be talking with the committees about the rate throughout the spring so there will be more opportunities for comments.

Gire thanked Honaker for the presentations and echoed Knight's previous points on receiving more specifics as we go into the rate season to better understand how everything is coming together. As well as maybe having dollar figures tied to these increases and decreases to understand drivers.

Bonkowski added in the chat that as the Fixed Annual Charge (FAC) collections come in, it would be good to see if they are working as designed to reduce of that per ton pressure on future rates.

Loaning Landfill Space (Comp Plan)

Ockerlander presented on this topic.

For background, there was a rail container and worker shortage that began in spring 2022. This rail strike went through the end of 2022 and there were regional discussions regarding resiliency. The current King County Code allows for the Receipt of Solid Waste upon prior written authorization of the Division Director and payment of fees.

SWD seeks to ensure continuation of being a good regional partner by formalizing policy to loan landfill capacity under exceptional circumstances.

Impacts:

- No substantive changes to current practice
- Under this amendment, King County will continue to reserve capacity for existing customers
- Loan space would be only utilized if there is no net loss to Cedar Hills e.g. emergencies where waste can't be disposed of in other ways.
- Any agreement would contain safeguards to ensure our ability to serve customers and limit extra congestion in our system
- Net-zero increase in tonnage received at Cedar Hills

Policy goals:

- Be a good partner, providing an option for temporary assistance and relief in extreme circumstances
- Maintain excellent customer service
- Ensure non-disruption to our customers through facility and operations management
- Seek full cost recovery to any financial impacts to our system

Our current King County code allows this, but the intent is to not loan landfill space but provide the opportunity in emergency circumstances to temporarily assist other agencies. A recent example of this is what happened with Snohomish County and the Roosevelt landfill.

The reason for this policy inclusion is because formalizing the intent of the Application of KCC 10.08.020 will help safeguard landfill capacity and that of any future long-term disposal options that the county may pursue.

Van Orsow wanted to know if Snohomish County paid the whole tipping fee during the swap and if funding was exchanged or if a tally was kept. McLaughlin answered that we kept track and created a special site account that Snohomish County checked in with so we could track all of the tonnage that we received. We then used this amount to see what we needed to deliver to them.

Sweet asked for clarification on if this was to space for emergency disasters and space for the comprehensive plan. McLaughlin answered that we want to be good partners but still preserve our air space. We want to be ready to support other jurisdictions but also have a plan to recover what space we loaned out when they are back on their feet.

State Legislative Update

Scholes and Tan provided this update.

The 2024 legislative session started on Jan. 8 and goes until March 7. This is a shorter session of 60 days. There are several bills that we will be following during this session:

- HB 2049 - ReWRAP Act. This is the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for packing and paper products
- HB 2144 - Deposit Return System for beverage containers
- HB 1900 - Improving Recycling (first three deal with residential recycling stream)
- HB 1933 - Right to Repair
- HB 2301 - Organics Management Pt. II
- HB 1185 - Mercury Light Bulbs
- HB 1935 - State Green Schools Program
- HB 2069/SB 5919 - Biogenic Carbon Dioxide
- HB 2207 - Unlawful Solid Waste Dumping
- SB 5844 - Recreational Vehicle Disposal Program

HB 2049 WA Recycling and Packaging (ReWRAP) Act includes three main points. This is a Re+ fast start action and we are very supportive of this. This had a hearing on Tuesday, Jan. 9, and McLaughlin testified at this hearing.

- Outcomes based policy requires that producers:
 - Reach statewide recycling and reuse targets
 - Fund curbside residential recycling everywhere garbage service is offered
 - Use Post-Consumer Recycled Content (PCRC) in thermoforms, tubs, single-use cups, roll carts, plant pots & trays
 - Unsure accurate labelling about recyclability (Truth in Labeling).
 - Partner with processors to ensure that materials are managed responsibly
- Ecology would oversee the program including:
 - Conducting a statewide needs assessment
 - Defining a statewide list of accepted materials
 - Facilitating the Advisory Council
 - Approving PRO plans
- Local governments:
 - Retain authority over residential recycling and are reimbursed by producers
 - Existing Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC)
 - Contracts between cities and haulers can remain in place

Sweet wanted to know how many signed in. Tan replied about 1,000 signed in and 43 planned to testify but he is not sure if everyone did. Most of the sign ins were in favor of the bill.

HB 2144 is regarding the Deposit Return System for beverage containers. This was part of the WRAP act last year but was broken up into its own bill due to feedback. With this bill, consumers could pay a 10-cent deposit on beverage containers and redeem the 10-cents at drop-off locations. The beverage distributors will run the beverage container recycling and reuse system, funded by unredeemed refunds and distributors. This is similar to what Oregon has and there are several states that have similar deposit return systems. This had a hearing on Tuesday, Jan. 9. There is also a possibility of having a

reuse system, but this has to be easy and accessible for people or they won't use. There were about 200 people pro HB 2144 not testifying and about 30 against HB 2144 not testifying.

HB 1900 pertains to improving recycling in Washington but is not an EPR, which means no funding will be coming from producers. There is nothing about reuse in this bill and local governments and residents will still bear the cost of recycling. This bill is sponsored by Representative Fey and most of the waste industry. There are several parts to this bill:

1. Statewide needs assessment
2. Post Consumer Recycled Content (PCRC) requirements
3. Truth in labeling
4. Producers must register and report to the Dept. of Ecology
5. Packaging Recycling Rate and Recyclability Standard
 - a. 60% statewide recycling rate goal for packaging
 - b. Reduce sale or use of packaging that does not meet new labeling/recyclability standards by 50% by 2030 and 75% by 2035
6. Statewide curbside recyclables list

Knight asked if this was like the red herring. Tan replied that the waste industry thinks this is the best approach and it does include some of the same elements. The statewide study would occur first, and this would be done by the WRAP Act. HB 1900 is an opposing bill.

HB 1933 is the Right to Repair Bill. This requires manufacturers of electronic products, appliances, agricultural equipment, and wheelchairs to provide owners and independent repair businesses with access to parts, tools and specifications. This bill is an attempt to bring all the best parts of similar bills from other states together. It is sponsored by Rep. Gregerson. There were 53 people who signed on with only one against the bill. Things are looking positive, and we are hoping to make progress this year. King County signed in for PRO.

HB 2301 is part II of the Organics Management Law (HB 1799). It is sponsored by Rep. Dolio. On Jan. 11, it was referred to the Environment and Energy Committee in the house. This bill is aimed at reducing methane emissions coming from food and organic decompose in the landfill. This will:

1. Provide funding via grants for food waste prevention, food rescue, and organics collections and processing.
2. Require residential and multifamily food and yard waste collection. There are exceptions for some rural areas throughout the state. Most residents in King County would be impacted.
3. Bin color alignment. This would have a phased in approach.
4. Ban certain herbicides from compost feedstock.
5. Ban non-compostable producer stickers. This is one of the biggest contaminants in compost cycle right now.
6. Standardize date labelling on food e.g. best by, use by, sell by etc.
7. Set up a group to study food donation by businesses

Heubach wanted clarification that the compost procurement quota for cities is not included in this version. Scholes replied that is correct.

McInnis asked if there will be specific funding for the bin color alignment. Scholes answered that she did not see any funding allocated but will check. McInnis followed up asking if there is not funding, the cost for the cities not in alignment will be really significant. Scholes replied that there will be opportunities for funding that cities can apply for.

Light Recycle, launched in 2015, is the statewide EPR program for fluorescent tubes, compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) and high intensity discharge lights (HID)s from households and small quantity generators, and is due to sunset in 2025. This was carried over from the last legislative session and the scope is reduced. This bill would:

- Remove the environmental handling fee paid by consumers. We call it EPR, but it is more extended consumer responsibility.
- Ban most mercury-containing lights by Jan. 1, 2026.
- Extends the existing product stewardship program for mercury-containing light. The lights already installed will have a collection system when they come to their end of life.

Some other bills that we are tracking are:

- HB 1164 – EPR Refrigerant gases
- HB 1935 - State Green Schools Program. This offers funding for schools to implement conservation programs, with up to \$50k per school. It is not clear total amount of funding.
- HB 2069/SB 5919 - Biogenic Carbon Dioxide. This regards the ability to sell certain products that come out of bio-gas capture of the landfill.
- HB 2207 - Unlawful Solid Waste Dumping. This bill focuses on the type of penalties which can be used to fund clean-up.
- SB 5844 - Recreational Vehicle Disposal Program

And other bills that are still to be expected are:

- Refrigerant gases
- Electric vehicle batteries
- Wind turbine blades

Sweet stated that most of the elected officials involved in this are more than happy to add testimony. Sweet asked for the committee to be kept updated and said to please reach out if any help is needed. Tan replied that this is appreciated, and they will continue to work with Ockerlander to have these updates.

Member Comment

Van Orsow wanted to recognize John MacGillivray for his contributions to MSWAC and solid waste planning. McInnis will continue his work, but MacGillivray will be missed. Sweet echoed these comments.

Sweet said that elections are next month so please reach out to either Knight, Sweet or Ockerlander if interested in serving as Chair or Vice Chair.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 1:06 p.m.