

Van Orsow motioned to approve the December joint minutes with the change. Knight seconded. Minutes passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Wadley shared three items beginning with the sharing that the [Single-use Serviceware](#) law reporting portal is now live. If a business is reported, Ecology will reach out and educate the business with the new law because Ecology knows that many businesses don't know about it yet. The next update is about the Washington Center for Sustainable Food Management, and this was created by the 2022 Organics Management Law. On April 1, the sustainable food management center will be launching a statewide food waste reduction campaign, and they will be inviting local governments to partner in this campaign and amplify it. Please join the Ecology Food Center Team at their Local Government Food Waste Reduction Partnership Meet N' Greet on February 26 from 1:15pm-2:30pm. [Register today](#). For questions, you can also contact Olivia Carros.

As a reminder, Ecology keeps a public [Planning and Waste Reduction Resource Library](#). There is a lot of good information. In a different section than the library on Box, there is [information and resources](#) for Local Solid Waste Financial Assistance (LSWFA). In this folder, under "Who Does Similar Work" is a [spreadsheet](#) that shows how LSWFA funds are being spent in King County. The county does not have to share these funds with cities but traditionally choose to do so.

Chair/Vice Chair Election

Ockerlander led this conversation.

Solid Waste did not receive any nominations for Chair or Vice Chair. Nominations will be accepted from the floor.

Van Orsow nominated Sweet for Chair. Searcy seconded. The vote passed unanimously.

Sweet nominated Knight for Vice Chair. Searcy seconded. The vote passed unanimously.

SWD Updates

McLaughlin provided the SWD update.

I'll start with some very exciting news for DNRP. On Monday, after a nationwide search to replace Christie True, who retired last week, the Executive announced the appointment of John Taylor as the new Director of DNRP. Most of you already know John through his work as the Director of Local Services. John has a strong background in environmental issues and will carry on the legacy of strong leadership and commitment to the department. We are excited to have him in DNRP and are looking forward to his leadership. He starts on Monday, Feb. 12.

Sweet asked if we can invite him for a brief presentation in our next meeting.

Next, I would like to introduce you to our new Deputy SWD Director, Chris Stubbs. Chris has been with us for almost 2 weeks now and comes to us from Hennepin County Minnesota. As he gets settled, you will see him more and he will become a great resource for you as well.

If Nina Rasmussen is here, please raise your hand. I would like to personally welcome Nina, the Climate Action Plan Program Manager from the City of Kenmore as the newest member of the MSWAC committee.

It's exciting to see some new faces and names, especially as we have embarked on a busy, exciting time of work for MSWAC and the KC Solid Waste Division.

Governor and Executive Tour

We recently hosted Governor Inslee on a tour of our Factoria Transfer Station on Jan. 29. We were pleased to host the Governor, with Executive Constantine to show him our state-of-the-art facility and have a conversation about how the ReWRAP Act will impact King County and the environment. The Governor and Executive, along with many cities, signed a letter of support.

Our ops team, led by Cynthia Adams, the Recycling and Environmental Services (RES) team including Adrian Tan and Hannah Scholes, and the Government Relations and Community Engagement (GRCE) team in coordination with the Executive Office and DNRP Public Affairs did a great job planning, executing and sharing key information with the Governor.

Ardagh Update

At our last meeting, it was requested that we provide an update on Ardagh glass recycling as a result of their financial restructure and bankruptcy filing. Our team followed up with Ardagh, who reported that it is business as usual and that they don't expect any sort of impact as their restructure is underway. Some of you have also requested a tour of their facility, and our team is working with Ardagh to identify possible dates. After we identify some date, we will coordinate them with the committee for possible tours.

Community repair events

We also have some upcoming community repair events on the calendar. At free community repair events, skilled volunteer "fixers" try to repair and mend your small household and personal items. We plan to schedule additional 2024 events. The events season runs March through September. Events will be posted on this [web page](#) as they are scheduled.

- Tuesday, March 19, 3-6 pm, [Des Moines Library](#) | [Facebook event page](#)
- Sunday, April 21, 1:30-4:30 pm, [Burien Library](#) | [Facebook event page](#)
- Saturday, June 8, 1:30-4:30 pm, [Kirkland Library](#) | [Facebook event page](#)
- Saturday, Aug. 10, 1:30-4:30 pm, [Skyway Library](#) | [Facebook event page](#)

ESJ in King County recycling system

On a different note, Hannah Scholes and Adrian Tan are working on a study to better understand equity and social justice (ESJ) issues with our King County recycling system. This work will help us understand what services are available in different areas of the county, the cost and conveniences of the services, impacts on communities and worker experience in the industry. They will be working with a team of consultants over the next few months to learn more and answer these important community questions.

They would like to invite city staff to help guide the project by attending up to five monthly meetings for status updates and discussion. They will be reaching out through the King County Recycling coordinators list, but if you are not on that list and are interested in participating, please let us know.

We will report back to MSWAC once the results of the study and work are completed.

NERTS

Finally, as you will hear more about shortly, the DRAFT EIS for the Northeast Recycle and Transfer Station was released on Feb. 7. We are in a 62-day comment period, and this is an important milestone where we share the draft results of the environmental impacts of this project. We are very excited about this progress and look forward to hearing feedback from all of you, and members of your communities on this essential public facility.

Searcy wanted to know if there is any feedback on the electric tractor. McLaughlin responded that we are still on the bleeding edge of this technology and the tractor is still in service and in a development stage. Kenworth is continuing to work well with us and are being responsive. We are excited to be on the front edge, but we also have to be reminded

that we are in the beta phase of this technology. It is still too early for us to place more orders but still believe that this has the potential to electrify our fleet.

Searcy followed up saying that they'd love to take a quick peak at it. McLaughlin said we will make that happen.

SWAC Update

No updates.

2025 Rates/C&D Fee Update

Honaker and Deller provided this update.

Honaker began by saying that the rates determine the revenue that the division will receive. The budget process then determines how we will spend the money that we receive but this is really constrained by the initial financial position.

The current biennial budget is \$364M.

- \$133M for Salaries and Benefits
- \$98M for Fund Transfers and Debt Service
- \$77M for Supplies and Services
- \$50M for Intergovernmental Services
- \$6M for Capital Expenditures

The current budget we have serves as the baseline.

The rate process will look like:

- Q1/Q2: Rate Proposal Development
 - SWD works with MSWAC, SWAC, DNRP leadership, and Executive to finalize rate proposal
- Q2 to Q3: Legislative Process
 - Council reviews proposal and adopts ordinance
- Q4: Adoption
 - The rate determines the amount of revenue SWD has in 2025

The budget process will kick off in the summer and will look like:

- Q1 to Q2: Budget Assumptions for Rate Model
 - The amount of revenue needed is determined by the amount of money the division expects to spend
- Q2 to Q3 to Budget Development
 - The county budgets by the increment, meaning that only changes to the existing budget are included in the legislative package
- Q3 to Q4: Legislative Process
 - Council typically takes several months to review the budget. It is typically adopted in November.
- Q4: Adoption

Once the rate package is finalized, we are constrained. The County budgets by the increment and we make some adjustments for inflation but the baseline is the existing budget. During budget development, the division proposes changes to the baseline, and this is what decision makers consider in formulating the budget.

Knight wanted to know if the county will be doing any work in advance for the 26-27' biennial budget while we are preparing the 2025 budget and rate or if we are only doing work for the 2025 budget. Honaker answered that we are always looking ahead. Typically, it is two cycles ahead, but we have been asked to keep the budget streamlined because of

the one-year budget so we will be thinking ahead to see if it is a good fit for 2025 or if it is better for the typical biennial.

We've developed a preliminary list of operating changes:

- Transfer station customer experience and material recovery
 - Potential staffing changes to increase safety and recovery efforts
 - Investments to increase recycling and sustain existing services
- Low-income discount program administration
 - Currently developing a program for UTC-regulated areas
 - Program will be aligned with other county benefit programs and developed so there is potential to collaborate with cities
- Other initiatives
 - 5-day hauling/landfilling implementation (Cost Savings initiative)
 - Relaunch destination zero waste (education program for kids)
 - Methane emissions compliance staffing

Capital Budget Changes

- Project managers are updating project cash flows currently
 - Reviewing project timing to improve accuracy of the cash flows
 - Some projects may need adjustments to appropriation
- New capital projects will be limited
 - Capacity is a limiting factor
 - Considering adding a programmatic project for energy efficiency projects

Deller began the Construction and Demolition (C&D) fee update with sharing that fee-funded programs could play a key role in meeting zero waste, climate change, and ESJ priorities. They are divided into the three "C's" of C&D.

- 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. In 1993, the materials were just being transferred for waste – we weren't focusing on things like recycling and equity and social justice (ESJ). The mixed solid waste (MSW) fee 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.

Deller asked the committee what benefits of a fee increase they are most excited about. Gire said that Bellevue, along with other cities, have a zero-waste goal and this increase is in alignment of what they are trying to accomplish. This will also help give cities a better understanding and more transparency on C&D data. Gire would love to fold C&D data in with the other data moving forward.

Deller wanted to know the committee's thoughts on stepped increases over time versus an increase all at once. Searcy said that it seems like it has been a very long time since the fee increase which can suggest that a stepped increase would be better. Sweet agreed with this and added that any increase can be destabilizing for some households and C&D is not a household expense but generally gets passed on to households.

Right now, we are really just focusing on what the fees should be for 2025. We have three different options that we have been considering:

- Option 1: Status Quo
 - Fee per ton: \$4.25
 - Current level of service, including:
 - Ongoing maintenance of the C&D designated facility system \$200,000 in market development grants
 - Deconstruction training
 - Basic frontline community coordination and program planning
- Option 2: In-between
 - Fee per ton: \$8
 - Option 1 plus:
 - Analysis to increase C&D separation and enforce code compliance
 - Pilot collection of gypsum drywall
 - Provide salvage verifier training to two cohorts of 15 people
 - Development of community program for community-based deconstruction and home restorations
- Option 3: In line with inflation
 - Fee per ton: \$13
 - Option 2 plus:
 - Create an incentive program to increase C&D separation
 - Implement direct reporting from C&D scale houses to existing C&D cloud-based reporting platform
 - Assist establishment of new C&D related Women/Minority Business enterprise (WMBE) businesses
 - Provide performance incentives to drive C&D materials towards highest and best use

McInnis asked for a reminder on how the C&D fee is collected. Deller said that the C&D fee is what is paid by the designated C&D facility when they take materials to a landfill for disposal. Materials that go through a C&D waste transfer facility will get charged this fee at the front end. The fee is only charged for what a facility is sending to the landfill. If a C&D processing facility has a 50% diversion rate, they are only paying the fee on 50% of their tonnage and it would make sense that they charge 50% of the C&D fee at the front end.

Van Orsow wanted to know which option the marketable lumber/recovery component is under. Deller said that this is one of the things that we have been working on and will continue to work on – how much energy and effort we can put in is dictated by the amount of funding that we get. The main option this is in option 3 under, “provide performance incentives to drive C&D materials towards highest and best use to drive C&D materials to highest and best use.”

Tsai asked for further clarification on the split between zero-waste climate change and ESJ priorities. Specifically, how the different numbers track into the cost of these kind of specific sub options and what goals are furthered by them. Deller answered that all three priority categories are all high priorities for the county. At our current program level, we are working on all three of them. With additional funding, we will be able to put in more effort to each of the priority categories. The big picture is that they are all important to us and we will continue to work on all of them depending on Resources available.

Moldver shared that Redmond is currently working on a C&D ordinance and heard from DTG that their per ton rate for the Redmond facility is \$160, and he assumes that DTG will add the King County fee on top of their current fee and show it on the invoices for residents. Moldver said we should try and limit the increase for now because it is hard to talk to developers and say that they are going to save money by taking their material to a C&D facility because in some cases,

they won't be saving enough to put the effort in. Deller said that we are trying to figure out ways to get the C&D facilities to increase their diversion rates while also trying to figure out how to get more source separation happening and get more value out of the materials.

Gire said that King County came up with the Fixed Annual Charge (FAC) last year that is now used at the transfer stations and part of the FAC was to take into account the diversion and still have sustainable funding source to run operations. Gire asked the group if they can learn anything from the FAC implementation. He shared that one idea is to look at the facilities and have a higher fixed charge for facilities that are not diverting as well and a lower fixed charge for those doing well. Deller replied that this is an interesting idea and at this point, we are just trying to figure out the rate for 2025 and then next year we will look at alternative structures for fees. In the future, we will be looking for thoughts and approaches to further incentive diversion at the facilities.

Deller asked Smith if we are looking for an indication from the council for which of the options they prefer. Smith answered that the plan is to have a combined conversation on rates and C&D fees on future presentations.

NERTS Draft EIS Update

O'Hara gave this update.

O'Hara introduced herself as the Project Manager for the Northeast Recycling and Transfer Station project (NERTS). She provided an updated on the project and the SEPA process. We crossed a major milestone for the project and issued the draft Environmental Impact Statement for public comment.

As a reminder of the purpose of this project, our current Houghton Transfer Station was built in the 1960s and has outlived its useful life. We worked with our regional partners to develop 2019 solid Waste Division Comprehensive Plan and outlined the need for a new transfer station in the northeast county. Enacted in 1971, the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) is a law that requires state and local agencies to identify the potential environmental impacts of proposed actions and plans through a formal review process. When potentially significant impacts are anticipated, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required.

Environmental impacts to be analyzed could include such things as Noise, Odor, Surface Water, Wildlife, Human Health, Transportation, and others relevant to the specific project and location. The SEPA review process is designed to help agency decision-makers and the public understand how a proposed action will affect the environment.

In July 2022, King County announced three alternatives and a no action alternative. Scoping for the EIS began in late 2022 and concluded in early 2023. During that period, we invited community members, Tribes, and public agencies to comment on the range of alternatives, areas to study and possible mitigation measures.

In Q1 2023, we made the decision to remove the Houghton Park and ride as an alternative and initiated a second scoping period and public comment period to receive feedback.

Over the last year, the project team has been performing a technical analysis on the two action alternatives and a no action alternative. The two action alternatives are:

- The current Houghton Transfer station property in Kirkland
- A site comprised of six properties in Woodinville off of Woodinville-Redmond Road (SR 202)

The no action alternative is the current Houghton transfer station and assumes that no action is taken and nothing changes.

As previously mentioned, the draft EIS was issued for formal public comment on Wednesday, Feb. 7. That comment period will be open until April 9 and public hearings will be held in March. Our final Siting Advisory group meeting will be held on February 21.

A hard copy DEIS can also be viewed at locations in King County:

- King Street Center: 201 S. Jackson St., Ste. 5701, Seattle
- King County Library System, Bothell: 18215 98th Ave. NE, Bothell
- King County Library System, Kirkland: 308 Kirkland Ave., Kirkland
- Kirkland City Hall: 123 5th Ave. Kirkland
- King County Library System, Redmond: 15990 NE 85th St. Redmond
- King County Library System, Sammamish: 825 228th Ave. SE, Sammamish
- King County Library System, Woodinville: 17105 Avondale Rd. NE, Woodinville
- Woodinville City Hall, 17301 133rd Ave. NE, Woodinville

As part of the public comment period, we will be holding three public hearings in March.

- The first public hearing will be in-person at Lake Washington High School on Wednesday, March 6.
- The second public hearing will be virtual via Zoom on Thursday, March 7. The zoom link is available on our project online open house.
- The third public hearing will be in-person at Woodinville High School on Wednesday, March 13.

There are several ways to comment on the Draft EIS.

1. Interested parties can visit our [online open house](#) that will be available for the duration of the public comment period. The online open house provides information about the project, the SEPA/EIS process, and the ability to make a comment through our online portal.
2. Comments can also be submitted via email at northeast@kingcounty.gov.
3. At our public hearings, a court reporter will be in attendance for dictated comments. Our in-person public hearings will have comment cards for handwritten comments.
4. We accept comments submitted through the mail.

The final EIS will be issued 3rd quarter of 2024, and a final site decision will follow in the 4th quarter of 2024. After a site is selected, the project team will move towards preliminary design efforts in late 2024.

Sweet stated that the materials that were sent to the committee did not have the final page with the schedule and asked if this could be sent to the group. O'Hara replied yes.

Sweet commented that it is about time we've moved forward on this project.

Landfill Regulation

Keune presented on this topic.

The King County Solid Waste Division provides transfer and disposal services for over 800k tons of municipal solid waste each year. In doing so, the division is subject to many environmental regulations and permits administered by local, state, and federal agencies to protect human health and the environment.

The regulations and permits address:

- Operation of transfer stations, one active landfill, and closed landfill maintenance
- Air quality
- Groundwater quality
- Surface water quality
- Industrial wastewater pretreatment
- Greenhouse gas emissions
- Spill prevention and cleanup

- Dangerous waste management
- And many other actions/systems that contribute to protection of human health and the environment

One of the programs that we have to have in place to comply with these regulations is an air quality program. At the Cedar Hills landfill, there is a very complex and dynamic system in place to regulate the air.

The air control program at Cedar Hills is subject to three primary control documents:

- Title V Air Operating Permit
 - Issued in 2023 by Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (PSCAA)
 - Consolidates applicable local, state, and federal requirements into one air permit
- Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Permit
 - Issued in 2019 (with annual addenda) by Public Health – Seattle & King County with technical assistance from Ecology
 - Authorizes MSW disposal in accordance with WA State Criteria for Municipal Solid Waste Landfills and King County Board of Health Solid Waste Regulations
- Administrative Order
 - Issued in 2023 by PSCAA
 - Requires evaluation of arsenic emissions from Cedar Hills. Depending on the results of this evaluation, we may have to modify the Title V permit or potentially come under an additional alternative control document that would require SWD to manage the arsenic emissions to make sure they're at safe levels.

Air programs at Cedar Hills look like:

- Landfill gas collection & conveyance of gas. There are two possible treatment mechanisms:
 - Collected on site and routed to the North Flare Station
 - Landfill gas to energy plant for conversion to pipeline quality natural gas
- Keeping tabs on landfill gas fugitive emissions. We apply a vacuum to the waste to try and suck up as much of the landfill gas that we can. Whatever is left in the waste mass has an opportunity to escape and we want to minimize that, so we have processes and monitoring in place to try and do that.
- Dust and odor control
- We are responsible for staying in compliance with stationary and portable emissions sources such as the fuel station and generators.
- We are required to operate and maintain the systems listed above
- We need to have a compliant response program and have to take corrective actions as needed
- We have robust monitoring, record keeping and reporting requirements and report on greenhouse gases that are mandated on local, state, and federal levels

Air Program Stats (2023 data)

- 31k+ gas well inspections (visual + monitoring) at ~900 gas wellheads
- 3,600+ neighborhood odor checks
- 1,800+ landfill odor checks
- ~150 miles traversed during quarterly walks of Surface Emissions Monitoring (SEM)
 - 112,881 methane readings during SEM

New Washington Administrative Code (WAC): Landfill Methane Emissions

- In 2022, WA State legislature passed House Bill 1663 directing Ecology to establish landfill methane regulations informed by similar regulations promulgated in CA, OR, and by the EPA
- Ecology published draft rule (Chapter 173-408 WAC) and accepted public comment in Q4 2023
- Ecology intends to finalize and adopt Chapter 173-408 WAC in spring 2024
- The purpose of 173-408 is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from landfills in WA by:
 - Expanding the number of landfills required to install gas collection and control systems

Debris is scattered items or materials either broken or misplaced by a disaster. The types of disaster debris include:

- Vegetative
- Construction & Demolition
- Personal property/household
- Hazardous waste
- Household hazardous waste
- White goods/appliances
- Soil/ mud and sand
- Vehicles & vessels
- Electronic waste
- Putrescent waste

Why plan for debris management?

- To protect human health, reduce injuries, minimize or prevent environmental impacts, and comply with regulations
- Debris management costs account for about 27% of total disaster costs regulations
- Every 1 million cubic yards of debris dumped at the landfill lessens the lifespan of the landfill by one year
- Often overwhelms local capacities
- Communities with debris management plans:
 - Remove more cubic yards per day
 - Recycle almost twice as much of their debris than counties without plans
 - Receive 3.5 times more FEMA Public Assistance than communities without plans

King County Hazards:

- Natural
 - Avalanche
 - Earthquake
 - Tsunami
 - Volcano/lahar
 - Landslide
 - Wildfire
 - Flood
 - Severe weather
- Human-Caused
 - Hazardous materials
 - Health incident
 - Terrorism
 - Civil disturbance
 - Cyber incident
 - Dam failure

Beginning in 2023, SWD is the lead in the King County Code 10.08.020 - System Disposal. The two components of this are:

- Regional base plan
 - Supports county agencies, cities, tribes, and special purpose districts within King County during large-scale incidents
 - Provides guidance to prepare for a respond to a large-scale disaster debris-causing incident, with the goal of preventing health problems, protecting lives and property, and reducing environmental harm

- Describes how the County and its regional partners will collect debris, sort it, and transfer to its final disposition location
- Jurisdiction annexes
 - Support specific jurisdictions during smaller scale incidents that might not warrant the need to activate the larger regional base plan
 - Operational plans that include the same planning elements as the base plan

We've been in collaboration with regional planning partners. In early 2023, there were nine initial engagement presentations to inform planning partners of the regional planning initiative and encourage their participation. The engagement presentations were accompanied by follow-up emails to notify those not able to attend the meetings. The nine presentations were:

- Quarterly Emergency Managers
- MSWAC
- SWAC
- Emergency Management Advisory Committee
- Emergency Management Coordination Committee
- KCOEM Regional Coordination Call
- Various internal SWD forums

Throughout the process, more than 50 meetings with planning partners occurred to gather and document information.

We've maintained constant communication with Regional Planning partners.

- Periodic newsletters sent via GovDelivery
 - Share status updates
 - Provide data/information for jurisdiction annexes
 - Seek feedback from partners
- Microsoft Teams as a collaborative platform
 - Allows partners to access past newsletters, meeting materials, sample plan documents, the annex template, post questions, etc.
- Email/phone

The plan components are:

1. Debris management overview
2. Incidents and assumptions
3. Debris collection and removal
4. Temporary debris management sites and disposal locations
5. Debris removal from private property
6. Force account labor and contracted resources and procurement
7. Monitoring of debris operations
8. Health and safety
9. Regulatory requirements
10. Public information

A preliminary draft plan will be shared with planning partners soon. Partners will be notified via email when it is available and will have about three weeks to review and provide feedback. We aim to finalize the plan by mid-2024. Afterwards, there will be technical assistance to the jurisdictions to complete their annexes and training and exercising.

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 are still 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 2301 - Organics Management Pt. II
- HB 1185 - Mercury Light Bulbs
- HB 2401 – Responsible Management of Refrigerant Gases
- HB 1935 - State Green Schools Program
- SB 5376 – Allowing the Sale of Cannabis Waste
- HB 2207 - Unlawful Solid Waste Dumping

On Jan. 31. all bills had to pass out of policy committee and on Feb. 5, had to pass out of fiscal committee. These bills did not make it out the committees:

- HB 1900 - Improving Recycling
- HB 1933/Sb6276 - Right to Repair
- SB 5844 - Recreational Vehicle Disposal Program

On Tuesday, Feb. 13, all of the bills must pass out of its house of origin.

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.

- 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

Two amendments were made – 1) scope of products and 2) how government agencies that provide curbside collection recycling services have to show how savings are passed through to households.

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 2301 is part II of the Organics Management Law (HB 1799). It is sponsored by Rep. Dolio. 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
4. Study compostable producer stickers. This is one of the biggest contaminants in compost cycle right now.
5. Study food donation by businesses

Heubach wanted to know what happened to the right to repair bill. Scholes replied that there just was not enough time to deal with all the complexities to keep the bill moving forward.

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:

- Limit the environmental handling fee paid by consumers.
- Ban most mercury-containing lights by Jan. 1, 2029.
- 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 2401 – Responsible Management of Refrigerant Gases
- HB 1935 - State Green Schools Program. This offers funding for schools to implement conservation programs, with up to \$50k per school.
- SB 5376 – Allowing the sale of cannabis waste
- HB 2207 - Unlawful Solid Waste Dumping. This bill focuses on the type of penalties which can be used to fund clean-up.

SB 5844 regarding recreation vehicle disposal program did not move forward.

Member Comment

No member comment.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 1:12 p.m.