

Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee

October 9, 2009 - 11:15 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
 King Street Center 8th Floor Conference Room
 Next MSWMAC meeting – November 20, 10:30-1:30

Approved Meeting Minutes

Members	
Jeff Viney	<i>Algona</i>
Bill Pelozza	<i>Auburn</i>
Joan Clark	<i>Auburn</i>
Susan Fife-Ferris	<i>Bellevue</i>
Joyce Nichols	<i>Bellevue</i>
Joan McGilton	<i>Burien</i>
Barre Seibert	<i>Clyde Hill</i>
Rob Van Orsow	<i>Federal Way</i>
Gina Hungerford	<i>Kent</i>
John MacGillivray	<i>Kirkland</i>
Jean Garber	<i>Newcastle</i>
Jon Spangler	<i>Redmond</i>
Chris Eggen	<i>Shoreline</i>
Mark Relph	<i>Shoreline</i>
Frank Iriarte	<i>Tukwila</i>

Others
Ann Berrysmith, Finance and Administration Manager
Kathy Hashagen, SWD Staff
Kevin Kiernan, Division Director
Victor Okereke, Interim Engineering Services Manager
Mizanur Rahman, SWD Staff
Thea Severn, Planning and Communications Manager
Diane Yates, Intergovernmental Liaison
Lisa Youngren, SWD Staff
Guests
John Taylor, CleanScapes

Minutes

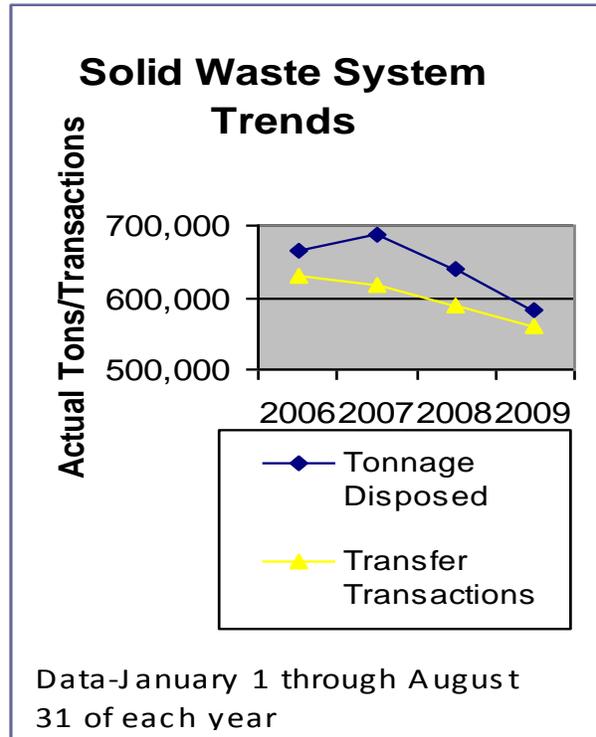
A motion to approve the September MSWMAC minutes passed by consensus.

Updates

Kiernan said the format of MSWMAC meeting notes would change in response to resource constraints. The notes will be simpler and shorter. The format will be adjusted as needed.

SWD has proposed reductions in urban transfer station hours in response to tonnage and transaction declines.

- Most of the reductions are minor changes to opening or closing hours and were proposed primarily to limit overtime expense.
- The significant changes include stopping the Factoria night shift and closing Bow Lake from mid-night Friday to early Saturday morning. Tonnage and transaction data supports these changes.



- There have been few comments about the reductions during the 30-day comment period. The changes are expected to go into effect January 2.

In response to questions Kiernan said that tonnage declines are nationwide in commercial and residential waste. Recycling tonnage is also down. There is no data showing that illegal dumping has increased as a result of the recession.

The preliminary draft comp plan was released October 8. Copies were given to MSWMAC members along with thanks for their work in developing the plan. SWD is happy to brief any group about the comp plan. Severn will coordinate the briefings. It is available at <http://your.kingcounty.gov/solidwaste/about/planning/comp-plan.asp>

SWAC:

- elected a Chair and Vice Chair
 - reviewed the audit report
 - heard a presentation the disaster debris management
 - heard a presentation about art at Bow Lake and the artist chosen for Factoria
- Their next meeting will be a joint meeting with MSWMAC to provide comment on the comp plan.

Performance Audit of King County Utilities

Initiative 900 authorized the State Auditors office to begin performance audits of state and local government entities. King County Solid Waste and Wastewater divisions were audited.

King County was disappointed in the process and outcome of the audit. Concerns specific to SWD include:

- Ernst and Young completed the audit in March. The division expected to receive a report in April. It was received August 14 and did not include detail about how the results were derived. The county was given 10-days to respond.
- The audit reported a 5-year potential cost savings of \$25M for landfilling the area currently occupied by the maintenance shop.
 - Selecting an area for landfilling as suggested by the audit is not legal. SWD is constrained by the State Environmental Policy Act from identifying a preferred alternative until the environmental review process is complete.
 - If at that time the maintenance area is selected for landfilling it would not be filled and savings would not accrue until 2028. The audit savings are reported in current dollars as part of the 5-year potential cost savings.
 - Those dollars were reported as a fleet maintenance management savings though the revenue would be derived from landfilling.
 - The savings are reported without considering the associated costs.
- The audit reported as a 5-year potential cost saving \$27M from leachate recirculation.
 - Part of the savings are based on assumed additional usable airspace created from increased decomposition. If the assumption is accurate, the savings would not accrue until 2018 and were reported in current dollars as part of the 5-year potential cost savings.

- Leachate recirculation was proposed based on national data. Nationally, decomposition can be limited by the availability of moisture. That may not be true in western Washington. Associated waste water fees would also not decrease.
- Total revenue over time from landfill gas sales would not increase if leachate were re-circulated.
- The savings are reported without considering the associated costs. The audit also does not include mention of possible increases in risk.
- The audit reported that the amount of SWD overtime and how it is budgeted is a concern.
 - Ninety four percent of SWD overtime covers absences in operations positions which must be filled each day for the system to operate.
 - SWD did budget for overtime based on an estimated inflationary factor per instruction from the King County budget office. That has been corrected. Overtime was based on actual experience in SWD's the 2010 proposed budget.

The audit suggested improvements to maintenance such as increased preventative maintenance and an increase in the percentage of direct labor in the shop. Many of those improvements have already been implemented since the audit period which ended 2007.

A copy of the audit is available at

<http://www.sao.wa.gov/auditreports/auditreportfiles/ar1002103.pdf>

King County's response to the audit is available at

http://www.metrokc.gov/extranet/dnrp/swd/King_County_Exec_Response_to_Utility_Perf_Audit_090309.pdf

2010 Budget

As tonnage continued to decline in 2009, SWD reduced expenditures. Expenditures are expected to match the revenue from the 860,000 tons currently forecasted and not the 987,000 tons used to project revenue in the 2009 adopted budget.

Tonnage decreases appear to have leveled off in the past few months. As a result, the 2010 proposed budget is based on revenue from 860,000 tons. With few exceptions, proposed spending is based on expected 2009 expenditures.

Slight adjustments have been made related to diesel prices, the reorganization of IT services, and shop operations supplies. For details, see a copy of the proposed budget summary which is attached to the end of these notes.

Cedar Hills Site Development Plan update

The scoping portion of the Cedar Hills Site Development Plan review process ran from March 30 – May 2, 2009 and included a public scoping meeting. As a result of those comments, six additional studies were completed on topics such as air quality, noise and vibration, fugitive dust and traffic.

The draft EIS reviews five alternatives for extending the life of Cedar Hills.

- None of the alternatives consider landfilling in the buffer area. All would develop landfill capacity in the southern portion of the Cedar Hills property.

- Some would include placing support activities like maintenance and admin facilities in the southern or eastern buffer area. None of the alternatives consider placing support activities in the north or west buffer areas.
- Some of those alternatives may require a change in existing land use permits.

Each alternative is being evaluated based on the environmental impacts, engineering feasibility and cost.

The draft EIS for the Cedar Hills Site Development Plan was released on September 30. The public comment period will end November 6. There will be a public hearing on the EIS at the Maple Valley Community Center at 6:30 on October 22. A copy of the plan and details about the SEPA process are available at http://your.kingcounty.gov/solidwaste/facilities/cedar-hills-development.asp#EIS_docs

The final EIS will identify the preferred alternative and is expected to be sent to Council for approval early in 2010.

There was no public comment.

2010 Executive Proposed Budget Summary

	2009 Adopted	2010 Executive Proposed	
Revenues			
Disposal Fees	94,077,240	81,983,700	
Moderate Risk Waste	3,348,272	3,512,295	
Construction, Demolition, and Landclearing	-	-	
Interest	365,505	146,250	
EPA , DOE, and Washington State Grants	493,000	376,000	
Landfill Gas to Energy	510,883	770,800	
Other	498,216	224,931	
Solid Waste Fund Total	99,293,116	87,013,976	
Fund Balance Used (Added)	4,815,651	6,371,618	
	104,108,767	93,385,594	(10,723,173)
Expenditures			
ADMISTRATION SECTION(1454)			
Debt Service-Existing	5,943,551	5,954,125	
Capital Equipment Replacement Fund	3,990,034	3,240,034	
Landfill Reserve Fund	5,556,810	4,171,000	
Construction Fund	2,000,000	2,000,000	
Overhead Allocation	2,484,975	1,805,561	
Admin. Section Less Above Transfers	6,336,898	6,544,810	
ENGINEERING SECTION(1455)	6,518,000	5,344,433	
RECYCLNG & ENVIRONMENTAL SVCS (1456)	6,517,300	5,233,445	
PLANNING & COMMUNICATIONS (1457)	1,805,106	1,621,512	
FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION(1458)	5,279,516	4,271,824	
SW MODERATE RISK WASTE(1459)	3,348,273	3,512,295	
SWD INFORMATION TECH(1463)	-	927,479	
SHOP OPERATIONS(1687)	11,193,531	10,156,071	
TRANSFER STATION(1688)	9,999,389	9,390,156	
TRANSPORTATION(1689)	11,403,689	9,139,581	
CEDAR HILLS DISPOSAL(1690)	14,579,358	13,917,542	
LEGAL SUPPORT(7190)	879,140	447,540	
OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT(7569)	1,419,463	1,145,837	
LANDFILL GAS/WATER CONTRL(7572)	2,366,476	1,993,618	
CUSTOMER TRANSACTIONS(7574)	2,487,258	2,568,731	
Solid Waste Fund Total	104,108,767	93,385,594	