

## Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee

October 12, 2012 - 11:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.  
King Street Center 8<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room  
Next MSWMAC meeting – November 9, 2012

### Meeting Minutes

<b>Members</b>	
Paul Mallary	<i>Algona</i>
Diana Quinn	<i>Algona</i>
Joan Nelson	<i>Auburn</i>
Rich Wagner	<i>Auburn</i>
Elaine Borjeson	<i>Bellevue</i>
Susan Fife-Ferris	<i>Bellevue</i>
Sabrina Combs	<i>Bothell</i>
Jaclynn Brandenburg	<i>Bothell</i>
Barre Seibert	<i>Clyde Hill</i>
Chris Searcy	<i>Enumclaw</i>
Rob Van Orsow	<i>Federal Way</i>
David Fujimoto	<i>Issaquah</i>
Micah Bonkowski	<i>Issaquah</i>
Gina Hungerford	<i>Kent</i>
Kelly Ferron	<i>Kirkland</i>
John MacGillivray	<i>Kirkland</i>
Diana Pistoll	<i>Maple Valley</i>
Carol Simpson	<i>Newcastle</i>
Linda Knight	<i>Renton</i>
Tom Gut	<i>SeaTac</i>
Chris Eggen	<i>Shoreline</i>
Frank Iriarte	<i>Tukwila</i>

<b>Others</b>
Ann Berrysmith, SWD Finance & Administration Section Mgr.
Diane Carlson, King County Executive's Office
Kathy Hashagen, SWD Staff
Beth Humphreys, SWD Staff
Kevin Kiernan, SWD Assistant Director
Laila McClinton, SWD Staff
Pat McLaughlin, SWD Director
Eric Richardt, SWD Staff
Thea Severn, SWD Planning & Communications Section Mgr.
Diane Yates, Intergovernmental Liaison
Polly Young, SWD Staff
Lisa Youngren, SWD Staff
<b>Guests</b>
Marc Davis, Waste Management
Kevin Kelly, CleanScapes
Laura Moser, Waste Management
Beth Mountsier, King County Council Staff
Mike Reed, King County Council Staff

### Minutes & Agenda Review

The September MSWMAC minutes were approved as written.

### Updates

#### SWD

Pat McLaughlin, the new Solid Waste Division Director introduced himself and discussed his diverse business experience. For the seven years prior to beginning work at the division on Sept 24, he was the director of Business Enterprises with the Washington State Liquor Control Board managing a private, business-like operation in a government setting. McLaughlin said he appreciates the relationships that allow the division to be successful and looks forward to serving the cities and townships in the service area.

Kiernan said the King County Council adopted a new solid waste rate of \$120.17 per ton that will go into effect January 2, 2013. This rate reflects reduction of \$4.83 per ton from the original proposal.

Much of the decrease is from two sources. The first source is a delay of one year in the purchase of property for the new Northeast County Recycling and Transfer Station. The second

is a reduction in cash contribution to the capital program from \$2 million to zero. Together these two sources result in a decrease of \$3.69 per ton.

The balance of the decrease is the result of deferring the Zero Waste Grant program, several surveys and studies, and paving and striping work at transfer stations in addition to eliminating proposed increases to recycling programs. The customer service survey is retained in the rate as is restoring free recycling services at stations.

As a result of the new rate, the minimum fee will increase from \$20 to \$22 including taxes and fees. Additionally, the unsecured load fee will increase from a maximum of \$10 to \$25. The division looks forward to the opportunity of working together with the cities to decrease unsecured loads resulting in increased roadway safety.

Kiernan said the Washington State Department of Ecology has published proposed amendments to Chapter 173-350 WAC – Solid Waste Handling Standards. The amendments focus on composting, anaerobic digestion, and other methods of converting organic waste to products. The proposed amendments, related documents, and more can be found on their webpage at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/swfa/rules/rule350.html>. The public meetings/hearings will be held October 24 and 25. Written comments will be accepted until 5:00 PM November 5, 2012.

An ordinance authorizing the division to use a negotiated procurement process for Factoria is on the October 15 Council agenda. There is a companion ordinance requiring the division to consider alternative project delivery methods for future transfer station projects.

A Conditional Use Permit meeting was held by the City of Bellevue to discuss the Factoria Recycling and Transfer Station project. No major issues were identified. The hearing before the Hearing Examiner will be held sometime in November.

In response to a question Kiernan talked about the plan to re-start ILA negotiations. The plan is to have a condensed series of negotiations beginning Thursday, October 18. The goal is to bring something substantive to MSWMAC on November 9 which is built upon areas of agreement reached by the ILA drafting committee.

The County negotiating team includes Christie True, Diane Carlson, Carrie Cihak, and Kevin Kiernan. Deanna Dawson, SCA, is a member of the cities' negotiating team. Other members include Jay Covington of Renton, David Cline of Tukwila, Mike Thomas of Enumclaw, Julie Underwood of Shoreline and Sheida Sahandy of Bellevue.

#### SWAC

SWAC re-elected Joe Casalini as Chair of the committee. They discussed the Seattle-King County Board of Health legislation for a county-wide drug take back program. SWAC will be writing a letter supporting Board of Health efforts in that regard. A member suggested that individual cities may wish to send a similar letter of support.

#### **South County Recycling and Transfer Station Siting Process**

SWD staff Polly Young and Project Manager Eric Richardt presented an update about the South County Recycling and Transfer Station Siting Project. The station is being sited in response to direction from the *Solid Waste Transfer and Waste Management Plan*.

As you've heard previously, the division has:

- Identified potential sites – looked at numerous parcels and groups of parcels that could accommodate a transfer and recycling facility
- Developed “pass/fail” and “technical” criteria to evaluate potential sites.
- Formed a Siting Advisory Committee (SAC) that met multiple times, advised the County's project team on the community perspective and developed “community” criteria.

Since the last MSWMAC meeting the division hosted an open house attended by more than 70 people. The open house included

- display boards explaining the project and identifying the sites being considered,
- a video showing what a modern transfer station could look like and featuring transfer stations in King County that have been or will be rebuilt,
- and two presentations.

In general attendees expressed concerns about the potential for traffic impacts, effects on existing surrounding uses, loss of tax revenue for the city and possible impact to the image of a city that hosts a transfer facility.

The final SAC meeting occurred after the open house. At that meeting SAC members discussed open house feedback. They also received information about the seven sites identified by open house attendees. Unfortunately, those sites were not feasible because they are designated as farmland or have significant wetlands.

SAC members received an overview of the process that led to the selection of the final two sites to be considered in the EIS. When the sites were scored without weighting the relative importance of each criteria there was a break of 13% between the scores of the top two and bottom two sites. Out of interest, the scoring was repeated with weighted criteria resulting a 14% split. In both cases sites D and E were the preferred sites.

SAC concerns included whether the work to identify potential sites was sufficient and whether criteria were appropriately applied. Other SAC members said the process is challenging and someone will be upset regardless of where the facility is sited.

The next step is to issue a Scoping Notice for an EIS for site D, site E and a no-action alternative. The notice will indicate the dates of a comment period and provide the date for the scoping meeting open house. Comments received will be considered for determining the scope of the EIS.

In response to a comment Richardt said that with the exception of a small portion, King County owns one of the properties being considered and will seek rights of entry for the other property. The County would prefer to avoid condemnation. He also noted that the EIS is defined by the State Environmental Protection Act and does not include economic impact.

### **Emergency Planning**

SWD staff Beth Humphreys began by noting that the long range weather forecast for the winter has changed to a “neutral” year predicting equal chances for above and below normal temperatures and precipitation.

She noted that King County has written an Emergency Debris Management plan that has been approved by FEMA. A template of the plan is available and choosing to make use of it could result in a smoother approval process. Additionally, King County has resources including GIS to help cities plan for debris management sites.

Kiernan noted the importance of the correct format of record keeping for FEMA reimbursement. It is important to have the correct systems and paperwork in place before an event. That preparation makes it more likely that FEMA will be able to reimburse some disaster related expenses.

Additional information, the template for an Emergency Debris Management plan and other resources are available at the following links.

King County Emergency Management Division Disaster Debris Operating Plan template:  
<http://www.kingcounty.gov/safety/prepare/EmergencyManagementProfessionals/Plans/DisasterDebrisOperatingPlan.aspx>

King County Emergency Management Division Emergency Management Plans:  
<http://www.kingcounty.gov/safety/prepare/EmergencyManagementProfessionals.aspx>

FEMA Public Assistance program:  
<http://www.fema.gov/public-assistance-local-state-tribal-and-non-profit>

Washington State Emergency Management Division Public Assistance:  
<http://www.emd.wa.gov/disaster/WashingtonMilitaryDepartmentEmergencyManagementDivision-DisasterAssistance-PublicAssi.shtml>

### **2013 Budget Preview**

Finance and Administration Section Manager, Ann Berry Smith and SWD staff Lisa Youngren provided information about the proposed 2013-2014 budget. They noted that this is the division’s first two-year budget. They reminded attendees that the proposed budget has not been approved by Council and is subject to change.

Discussing revenue, Youngren noted that disposal fees are higher due to the rate increase though tonnage is projected to be essentially flat. Landfill gas to energy revenues are growing now that the plant has been repaired and is operational. Recycling revenues are projected to more than double from 2012 to 2013 due to changes in the division’s procedures and shifts in the recyclables market. Grants are projected to continue to decline reflecting the difficult economy and slow recovery. In response to a question she noted that Coordinated Prevention Grants to cities are included in this budget item.

Berrysmith noted that debt service is up significantly because the Bond Anticipation Notes used to finance Bow Lake will be converted to General Obligation Bonds. The Capital Equipment Replacement Fund contribution has been increased to reflect a new four year planning model. The Landfill Reserve Fund increase is needed to fund projects such as Area 8 and to make up for less interest income from lower rates of return. The Construction Fund contribution was reduced because the benefit of paying cash for construction is less in due to lower financing and interest costs.

Increases in the Administration section are primarily from rates charged by other County organizations such as insurance and finance services. The Engineering Section absorbed the transfer of positions from Operations and increased funds for maintenance that had been deferred. Recycling processing contracts has been moved from Operations to the Recycling Section and accounts for that increase. The Finance and Administration section increases are due to charges related to the County's consolidation of technology services and the restoration of the customer Survey that was deferred in previous years' budgets.

Many of the Operations units are at status quo. The Disposal Unit reflects the lower rent payment scheduled for 2014. Landfill Gas and Wastewater reflects an increase in the sewer rates. The Customer Transactions budget increase is due to salary and benefit costs.

In response to a comment Berrysmith noted that the centralization of IT services resulted in increased expenses for the division. There is a service level agreement in place ensuring services specific to the division, like support to the cashiering system, are provided as needed.

Kiernan noted that renewing Bond Anticipation Notes as a method of financing is effective only as long as interest rates remain low. It is prudent to purchase General Obligation Bonds and lock in those low rates for the long term even if it results in larger immediate expenses.

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.