

**King County Solid Waste Advisory Committee
Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee**

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

Approved Meeting Minutes

King County Solid Waste Advisory Committee

David Baker	Bob Dixon	Joan McGilton	Ray Schlien	Joe Tessier
William A. Beck	Jerry Hardebeck	Suellen Mele	Relaena Sindelar	Dave Whitley
Joe Casalini	Sean Kronberg	Philipp Schmidt-Pathmann	Judy Stenberg	Bill Ziegler

Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee

Jeff Viney	<i>Algona</i>	Joan McGilton	<i>Burien</i>	Jon Spangler	<i>Redmond</i>
Bill Pelosa	<i>Auburn</i>	Barre Seibert	<i>Clyde Hill</i>	Linda Knight	<i>Renton</i>
Joan Clark	<i>Auburn</i>	David Baker	<i>Kenmore</i>	Chris Eggen	<i>Shoreline</i>
Susan Fife-Ferris	<i>Bellevue</i>	Jessica Greenway	<i>Kirkland</i>	Matt Larson	<i>Snoqualmie</i>
Joyce Nichols	<i>Bellevue</i>	John MacGillivray	<i>Kirkland</i>	Frank Iriarte	<i>Tukwila</i>
Doug Jacobson	<i>Bothell</i>	Don Fiene	<i>Lake Forest Park</i>		
Sabrina Combs	<i>Bothell</i>	Jean Garber	<i>Newcastle</i>		

Others

Ed Davis, Seattle King County Health Department	Victor Okereke, Interim Engineering Services Manager
Jane Gateley, SWD Staff	Peggy Papsdorf, Suburban Cities Association
Jeff Gaisford, Recycling and Environmental Services Manager	Patrick Pirtle, Snoqualmie
Kathy Hashagen, SWD Staff	Grace Reamer, Legislative Aide, Councilmember Lambert
Sharon Hlavka, Green Solutions	Thea Severn, Planning and Communications Manager
Mike Huddleston, King County Council Staff	John Taylor, CleanScapes
Kevin Kiernan, Division Director	Taisa Welhasch, Department of Ecology
Mike McMillian, WRSI	Diane Yates, Intergovernmental Liaison
Beth Mountsier, King County Council Staff	

Note

SWAC and MSWMAC did not review minutes or hear updates at this joint meeting.

Preliminary Draft Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan: Questions and Discussion

The purpose of the discussion at this meeting is for members of both groups to discuss the plan and to hear each other's ideas.

Formal comments to the plan can be submitted through several avenues:

- Using the comment form distributed at the meeting
- Using the online comment form at <http://your.kingcounty.gov/solidwaste/contacts/comment-form.asp?PID=104>
- Sending an email to CSWMP.Comments@kingcounty.gov
- Sending a letter addressed to:

2009 Draft Solid Waste Plan Comments
King County Solid Waste Division
201 S. Jackson St., Suite 701
Seattle, WA 98104-3855

SWD is happy to brief any group about the comp plan. Call Severn at 206-296-4360 to arrange a briefing.

Attendees were impressed with the quality of the document including the writing, organization, graphics, and photography and those involved with the production of the plan were commended. Additionally, attendees were thanked for their thoughtful participation in the many discussions that guided plan content.

The content of the comp plan provides direction for SWD. However, it should not be so detailed that it prevents the division from responding to changing conditions. Updating policies or other parts of the comp plan requires a complex approval process like the one currently underway.

There are fewer policies in this comp plan than the previous document. In some cases, topics that may have appeared as policies in the previous plan show up as recommendations in this plan. After it is approved, policies from the comp plan will appear in King County code.

Though policies are reported by chapter they are inter-related and must be taken as a whole. For example the planning chapter does not include a policy about the financial stability of the division – that appears in the finance chapter. Minimizing the waste stream does not appear in the planning chapter. Instead, it is included in the WPR chapter.

An attendee suggested the division consider using page numbers on all pages including the policies and recommendations. It would make it easier to reference the document.

Chapter 1 – Introduction

- There were no comments specifically related to the introduction.

Chapter 2 – Solid Waste System Planning

- Waste streams are interconnected. Ensure that monitoring continues to include the movement of tonnage between the streams as well as gross tonnage figures as is shown in figure 2.2.
- Consider adding a policy about encouraging long term sustainability as well as climate change concerns. Perhaps change the language in PL-6 to include sustainability impacts. Others agreed but said an agreed upon definition of sustainability is difficult to obtain.
- Consider changing Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) reporting from an annual basis to monthly for more consistent data collection.

Chapter 3 Waste Prevention and Recycling

- Some attendees said they would prefer that the minimum collection standards in the plan be strengthened to ensure the creation of a consistent system between jurisdictions. Recycling participation may increase with consistent standards and education would be

simpler. Others said the minimum standards included in the plan were the result of several conversations. The standards encourage consistency while allowing cities to respond to the needs of their residents. The language also allows flexibility for testing new programs which has been shown to be valuable in the past.

- An attendee asked that language be added that enforces increased participation in recycling; particularly in businesses and multi-family housing. Other responded that there wasn't a consensus among cities about mandates to increase recycling and that any city could choose to implement mandates.
- Recommendation 5 says SWD will draft model legislation about producer responsibility. Attendees mentioned that the language of that recommendation could more clearly identify product stewardship.
- Consider including more specific information about organics recycling; particularly related to curbside collection of food waste. Perhaps general education about organics recycling is not enough. Consider incentives.
- There is a discussion in the WPR chapter about green building efforts in King County and assisting cities to implement similar programs. Requiring county capital projects to recycle a percentage of construction and demolition (C&D) waste is also discussed.
- An attendee said that increasing the recycling requirement for the C&D contracts should be included in the comp plan. Another said that after discussion the group determined to not include a specific C&D recycling goal. SWD staff mentioned that the information from the most current waste characterization study was not available when the plan was written.
- Consider amending WPR-2 to include purchasing policies.
- It is important to ensure that there is a market for materials that are collected as recycling. Markets can be destroyed by oversupply.

Chapter 4 – Collection and Processing

- Some attendees suggested adding language to ensure recyclables go to the highest/best use. Others said that term is hard to define. Some suggested instead that language be added to say the materials collected will be used sustainably.
- The chapter includes a recommendation to ban sharps disposal. This is a safety issue and is the only ban recommended in the plan.
- Consider re-defining clean wood. Previously, treated wood was excluded primarily because it contained lead or arsenic. Those materials are no longer used in paint or wood treatment.
- The group discussed glass collection. Separated glass can be used for making new bottles while mixed colors have less desirable uses. However, co-mingled recycling decreases collection expenses and increases participation, particularly among commercial customers.

Chapter 5 – Solid Waste Transfer System

- The division was encouraged to include more of an entrepreneurial outlook in the plan; particularly related to providing transfer services for organics and recyclables. Though transfer of recyclables is not included in the plan, transfer of organics is addressed in recommendation 5 of the Solid Waste Transfer System chapter and is discussed on page 5-22.

- Policy TS-4 ensures SWD will continue to incorporate green building principles in all new transfer facilities.
- In response to a question, SWD Staff said that TS-2 means that the division will consider space available in the facility, locally available recycling resources, the needs of the service area and other things specifically related to each facility when making decisions about station services.
- Recommendation 7 is included because it is important to maintain transfer stations for solid waste transfer in the event of an emergency rather than using them for other purposes. Retaining the ability to process solid waste or debris during an event is important to public health.
- The comp plan addresses surface roads around transfer stations on pages 5-15 and 5-25/26.

Chapter 6 – Landfill Management and Solid Waste Disposal

- The policy requiring waste export from the previous comp plan is not included in this plan. Instead, recommendation 1 ensures that SWD will monitor options for disposal including waste export, waste-to-energy, and other conversion technologies. Also, language in the second recommendation has been changed to reflect partial waste diversion instead of partial waste export.
- An attendee would prefer to make the consideration of waste to energy and sustainability a policy. The least desirable outcome is to landfill materials that may have value if other disposal options were used. SWD staff mentioned the discussion of disposal options begins on 6-9.
- Others expressed satisfaction with the language of the policies and recommendations regarding diversion – particularly the consideration of system effects which includes cost versus benefits. WPR-1 addresses Zero Waste of Resources which includes a hierarchy of methods to eliminate disposal of materials with economic value.
- Consider adding a policy that decisions should be guided by data and allowing for pilot projects.
- With the recent passage of state legislation making it easier to site anaerobic digestion facility, consider providing more emphasis on this technology in the plan.

Chapter 7 – Solid Waste System Finance

- The regional direct fee applies to only a small percentage of solid waste received into the system. It is defined on page 7-3.

MSWMAC members and SWD staff recognized Jean Garber for her service as Chair of MSWMAC since its inception in 2005. She helped to establish the group and was a strong influence in moving the group toward its current collaborative processes.

Open Forum

There was no public comment.