

# King County Solid Waste Advisory Committee

June 15, 2012 - 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.  
King Street Center 8<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room  
*Bow Lake Transfer Building Tour – July 20, 2012*  
*Next SWAC meeting – September 21, 2012 - 9:30-11:30*

## Meeting Minutes

<u>Members Present</u>
David Baker
Jerry Bartlett
William Beck
Joe Casalini
Bob Dixon
Jean Garber
Steve Gerritson
Matthew House
Craig Lorch
Suellen Mele
Philipp Schmidt-Pathmann
Stephen Strader
John Taylor
Bill Ziegler

<u>Others</u>
Doreen Booth, Suburban Cities Association
Alex Brenner, Republic Services
Candy Castellanos, Waste Management
Gerty Coville, SWD Staff
Ed Davis, Public Health Seattle-King County
Neil Fujii, SWD Staff
Kathy Hashagen, SWD Staff
Lynnyetta Keller, Republic Services
Kevin Kiernan, SWD Director
Dennis Manes, Republic Services
Yolanda Pon, Public Health Seattle-King County
Grace Reamer, King County Council Staff
Bill Reed, SWD Staff
Mindy Rostami, Waste Management
Thea Severn, SWD Planning and Communications Manager
Kimberly Shanley, Waste Management
Dwin Ugwoaba, SWD Staff
Martin Westerman, Fauntleroy Community Association, West Seattle

### Approve May Meeting Minutes; Review Agenda

The group revised and approved the May minutes. The revision identified that it was Casalini and Crosby that disagreed with the percentage of materials disposed from single stream recycling mentioned by Pathmann. There were no changes to the agenda.

### Updates

#### SWD

Members were reminded that a tour of the new Bow Lake transfer building will replace the regularly scheduled July MSWMAC meeting. MSWMAC members have been invited to join SWAC on the tour which is scheduled from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. on Friday, July 20<sup>th</sup>.

Transportation to Bow Lake is available from King Street. Parking is limited at the new station.

The Grand Opening of the entire facility is planned for the summer of 2013. The event is expected to include a tour of the site. The division is also happy to schedule tours of any SWD facility upon request.

The division will continue to operate in the event of a labor action between Waste Management and Local 117. In the event of an action, cities with Waste Management contracts may see collection impacts. King County encourages the parties to expeditiously reach a fair and equitable settlement.

The Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE) is revising WAC 173-351, a regulation governing landfills. Changes to post-closure requirements, are being considered with potential cost impacts. The division is participating in the comment process, which runs through July 6.

The Division is briefing County policy makers on the content of the draft rate proposal. The SWD budget will be consistent with the proposed rate. A special MSWMAC meeting about the rate is scheduled for June 22.

In 2013 the division plans to offer a new \$500k competitive grant program to fund innovative projects and services. This is in addition to the existing grant and is included in the Draft 2012 comp plan. More detail is available in the [handout](#). In response to SWAC comments, SWD spoke to the Ethics Office. The Ethics Office opinion is that those that work on developing the criteria for receiving the grant are not eligible to receive a grant. *Note: Subsequent to the June SWAC meeting, based on feedback received during the rate making process, the Zero Waste of Resources Grant program was deferred through the end of the 2013-2014 rate period.*

The King County Solid Waste Division is inviting stakeholders to be part of a Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) to provide input on issues related to the siting of a new transfer station in South King County. The division is inviting cities, tribes, solid waste and recycling industry representatives, environmental groups, providers who can represent the interests of historically underrepresented groups such as people with low income and/or limited English proficiency, and transfer station users to consider serving on the CAC. SWAC members are invited to suggest committee members.

#### MSWMAC

Kiernan said that there has been a pause in the ILA negotiation process. Instead, the group has agreed that it may be more productive to instead focus on obtaining a broader informational grounding on Solid Waste risk and liability issues. A workshop on those topics is planned for July 13<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Revenue Sharing**

Since the early 2000's, King County has revenue sharing agreements with the residential garbage and recycling haulers in unincorporated service areas that are regulated by the Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission (WUTC). The agreements allow haulers to retain up to 50 percent of revenues from sale of recyclable materials they collect from residences in unincorporated areas if the companies implement specified recycling programs. The WUTC must approve the agreements, which are required to demonstrate how funded activities can be reasonably expected to increase recycling.

Without revenue sharing agreements, 100 percent of revenues from sale of residential recyclables are returned to customers showing up as a "commodity credit" line item on customer bills. The WUTC agreements are negotiated annually. Last year a provision was

added to the contracts requiring a [presentation](#) to SWAC. Mindy Rostami, Candy Castellanos and Robin Freedman of from Waste Management shared information response to that provision.

Lynnyetta Keller, Alex Brenner and Dennis Manes [presented](#) information about the programs supported by revenue sharing offered by Republic Services.

Bill Reed, SWD staff noted that because Vashon Island is not included in the County's service level ordinance they have no funding source for revenue sharing. In response to a comment about the advisability of recycling plastic clam shells from seasonal produce the presenters said each city determines what materials are accepted as recyclable in their contract with waste haulers.

Members noted that consistency would be advisable as it would both increase recycling and decrease the amount of unintentional contamination. Alternatively, the ability of individual cities to add items to their list of recyclable materials encourages processors to be flexible in order to be able to effectively handle the new materials.

### **Factoria Transfer Station**

SWD Managing Engineer Neil Fujii and Project Manager Dwin Ugwoaba presented information about the Factoria Recycling and Transfer Station. A copy of their presentation is available [here](#).

In response to a question Fujii noted that work continues to design the optimal traffic flow at Factoria and that the design can be adjusted as need changes. Snohomish County went through a number of configurations to determine optimal traffic flow at their station.

### **Open Forum**

Garber noted that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) paper referred to at the last meeting uses a world-wide average when discussing gas collection at landfills. The percentage of landfill gas recovered in Washington is much higher than that average; approaching 90 to 95 percent. The RW Beck comparison of waste disposal technology assumed only 80 percent gas recovery and assumed that most electricity comes from hydroelectric projects. She said that comparisons of disposal technologies for use in this area need to include these localized results rather than relying on world-wide averages.

Schmidt-Pathmann said that the RW Beck study is incomplete and need to be overhauled. Several aspects need additional attention.

A member suggested that the committee may benefit from a presentation from the industry currently converting plastics to oil. Kiernan said the division would investigate to determine who might be available and interested.

A motion to ask the Solid Waste Division to revisit the decision to eliminate recycling at the Renton Transfer Station was moved and seconded. After discussion the motion was tabled.

House said that SWAC members interested in information about the labor action are welcome to call his office for information.