

## Technical Subcommittee Meeting Notes

**DRAFT**

**October 27, 2004 / King Street Center**

### Meeting Attendees:

#### City Staff:

Elaine Borjeson – City of Kirkland  
Rika Cecil – City of Shoreline  
Frank Iriarte – City of Tukwila  
Linda Knight – City of Renton  
Rick Watson – City of Bellevue

#### County Staff:

Neil Fujii – Solid Waste Division  
Jane Gateley – Solid Waste Division  
Kevin Kiernan - Solid Waste Division  
Mike Long – Solid Waste Division  
Alexander Rist – Solid Waste Division  
Diane Yates – Solid Waste Division  
Dave White – Dept. of Natural Resources & Parks

Kevin Kiernan went over the table of evaluation criteria. The next task is to identify the methodology that will be used to apply the criteria, focusing on the six urban stations.

Today will be spent discussing the methodology that will be used to evaluate a number of the criteria including noise levels, odors, time on site for commercial and self haulers and facility hours. A table of decibel ratings for a variety of common sounds was handed out as well as the Public Health Code for Environmental Sound Levels.

### Transfer System Level of Service Evaluation Criteria and Standards

- **Criteria 12, Page 8: Meets applicable local noise ordinance levels:**

The division's facilities are classified as industrial sites under Public Health code. According to Public Health the average reading for sound generated at a transfer station that impinges on a bordering residential property should be 60 dB(A) or less at the residential property boundary. The division is taking noise readings at each of the stations. Readings are being taken at the property line as well as 100 feet from the transfer buildings, which is the major source of sound at each facility. There are technical problems with trying to measure noise levels when there are other major generators of noise nearby, such as highways and interstates or other public facilities.

Cities asked if the division receives noise complaints. Tukwila is not getting complaints from its residents. Kirkland gets some complaints about the backup beepers. However, backup beepers are exempt from noise ordinances since they are a safety feature.

The division will review complaint logs and provide information about any noise complaints at the next meeting. The division will also look into potential for adjustable level backup beepers.

It was suggested that readings should be taken at all high activity areas such as the recycling area.

It was commented that the noise criteria isn't as simple as a yes/no response and that code requirements should just be followed.

The group agreed that the noise consultant will come back with a recommendation on how to evaluate this criterion. The consultant will make a recommendation on locations for the model calibration data. It was suggested that the criteria apply just to the property line.

- **Criteria 13, Page 8: Meets Puget Sound Clean Air Agency standards for Odor:** There is no mechanism for objective data. The human nose is recognized as the best there is for identifying smells. When the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (PSCAA) gets an odor complaint, they ask the caller how bad they think the odor is. They send an officer out to smell the odor. If the odor dissipates by the time the officer gets there, then the complaint is not written up. PSCAA's files are public. However, their files only indicate the block where the odor was smelled, not specific property addresses.

Comment was made that this is very subjective and not likely that odor would be overriding factor in decision-making. It was suggested that compliant history should be limited to 'verifiable complaint history' to make assessment of future complaint likelihood.

- **Criteria 2, Page 6: Maximum time on site not exceeded more than 10% of operating hours:** This is time in and time out. Maximum time is 16 minutes for commercial haulers and 60 minutes for both residential and business self haulers. The division has initially looked at times in and out from October 2003 to September 2004. It's important to realize that a lot of changes were taking place during that time period. Hours of operation changed and regional direct tonnage were shifted from the private transfer stations to King County transfer stations. Due to this shift, tonnage at Bow Lake increased 77 percent from April 1, 2004 to September 30, 2004 compared with the same period a year ago. The division will also look at data from October 2002 to September 2003.

The following example of analysis is to demonstrate methodology begin used to evaluate the criteria. It shows all transactions and where 10 percent maximum is exceeded.

Algonia Transfer Station:

1. Average time on site for residential self haulers was 20.02 minutes. Sixty minute maximum was exceeded 1 percent of the time.
2. Average time on site for business self haulers was 12.04 minutes. Sixty minute maximum was exceeded 0.2 percent of the time.
3. Average time on site for commercial haulers was 14.01 minutes. Sixteen minute maximum was exceeded 19 percent of the time.

The group agreed that maximum time on site is not to be exceeded more than 10 percent of total operating hours.

In the Algona example only commercial haulers time on site is exceeded by more than 10 percent of total operating hours.

It was also agreed that the data that will be used to evaluate this criteria should be based on tonnage after the change in the regional direct rate.

- **Criteria 3, Page 6: Facility hours meet user demand:**

New hours were based on use data, input from cities and commercial haulers, and customer survey results. In recent meetings, both Waste Management and Rabanco have said that the current hours are meeting their needs. Division does not intent to conduct further analysis on this criterion.

Division will next be working with HDR Engineering to focus in on traffic questions. HDR will use division data to develop models for queues, handling capacity, and back up onto public streets.

The division will provide copies of the survey results to subcommittee members.

### **Meeting Schedule**

Cities indicated they'd prefer to meet again when more analysis has been completed and is available prior to the meeting. It was agreed that the next meeting will be on Wednesday December 8<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and that an agenda and analysis will be provided in advance.