



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES (ES) ADVISORY (ESAC) WASTE DIVERSION, COLLECTIONS, AND EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

*Approved by the Subcommittee on November 4, 2015
Wednesday, October 7, 2015, 12:00 P.M.
Ward 6 Council Office West Conference Room
3202 E. 1st St.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by ES Deputy Director Pat L. Tapia, at 12:07 p.m. Those present and absent were:

Present:

Kristin Ginter	Representative, City Manager's Office
Daniel Uthe	Representative, Ward 6
Margot Garcia	Representative, City Manager's Office

Absent:

Lisa Shipek	Representative, Mayor
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Staff Members Present:

Pat L. Tapia	Deputy Director, ES
Fran LaSala	Environmental Manager, ES
Sherri Ludlam	Environmental Scientist, ES

2. Approval of Minutes for July 15, 2015

It was moved by Committee Member Ginter, duly seconded, to approve the minutes for July 15, 2015. Motion passed by a voice vote of 3 to 0.

3. Selection of Subcommittee Chair

It was moved by Committee Member Ginter, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 3 to 0 (Committee Member Shipek absent), to appoint Committee Member Garcia as ESAC Waste Diversion, Collections, and Education Chairperson.

4. Chairperson's Report

No report was given.

5. Director's Update

- ReCommunity Update

Deputy Director Tapia announced ES was in negotiations with ReCommunity regarding supplemental funding for the Materials Recovery Facility due to a decrease in the cost and availability of materials. He indicated additional information might be available at the next full ESAC meeting.

- Ward 3 Contamination Study

Deputy Director Tapia indicated ES had been conducting a contamination study on its curbside collections program. The study included an inspection of recycling containers to observe any contamination, educational materials sent to residents in the study area, and a follow up to observe any improvements. The study had been started in Ward 5 and would continue into Ward 3. The results of the Ward 5 study would be made available to the subcommittee at their next meeting.

6. Zero Waste Update

Fran LaSala, Environmental Manager, indicated the subcommittee needed to consider how to begin its conversation on the Zero Waste concept, including: defining Zero Waste and what recommendations the subcommittee would want to submit to the full ESAC and to the larger community.

Discussion followed regarding how to best define Zero Waste. Mr. LaSala reminded subcommittee members that Zero Waste was a materials management concept, of which waste diversion was just a component, and that the Zero Waste concept would not be isolated to just ES but would affect the community at-large, in particular industrial and commercial stakeholders.

Committee Member Ginter suggested the subcommittee start discussing the various elements of waste diversion, which could then lead to refining the concept of Zero Waste. Staff was asked to provide any waste diversion educational materials it had to the subcommittee.

Subcommittee members also indicated they would like to know why and how bigger industries were incorporating Zero Waste concepts in their business and financial planning and how Zero Waste could be promoted to residential consumers. Mr. LaSala also asked subcommittee members to consider final uses of materials, such as for recycling and energy production.

Subcommittee members discussed and developed basic definitions of waste diversion and Zero Waste. Waste diversion was described as the best and highest use and management of materials that were no longer being used and Zero Waste was described as the prevention of waste production.

7. Collections

- **Truck Screens**

Deputy Director Tapia announced protective screens had been installed in a few trucks to prevent debris from igniting above vehicle exhausts and transmissions. The costs of the truck screens were a small percentage of the costs to repair a truck's wiring after a debris fire. ES would pilot the use of the screens for about a year and would consider whether to retrofit additional vehicles at a later time.

8. Public Outreach

- **Know Where to Throw Event**

Sherri Ludlam, Environmental Scientist, presented an overview of the Know Where to Throw Event to be held at the El Rio Neighborhood Center on November 14, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Various exhibitors and activities would be available.

- **Commercial Recycling Survey**

No report was given.

9. Waste Diversion

- **Paint Program Update**

Fran LaSala, Environmental Manager, reported that the Beacon Group, in conjunction with Gersons Building Materials, was administering the recycled paint sales program.

10. Future Agenda Items for Next Meeting

The following topics were submitted for the next subcommittee meeting:

- ReCommunity Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) Monthly Update
- Commercial Recycling Survey
- Waste Diversion / Zero Waste Efforts
- Ward 5 Contamination Study Update

Subcommittee members agreed to tentatively schedule the next subcommittee meeting for November 4, 2015 at 12:00 p.m.

11. Call to the Audience

None.

12. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.