



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

Minutes

Approved on October 7, 2020
Wednesday, September 2, 2020, 4:00 P.M.
Virtual Zoom Meeting

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Subcommittee Chairperson Garcia at 4:02 P.M.

Those present and absent were:

Present:

Margot Garcia, Chair
Lilia Lopez
Yolanda Herrera
Kris Yarter

Representative, City Manager's Office
Representative, City Manager's Office
Representative, Ward 5
Representative, Ward 6

Absent: None

Staff Members Present:

Pat L. Tapia

Deputy Director, Environmental & General Services
Department (EGSD)
Public Information Officer, EGSD
Public Information Specialist, EGSD
Code Enforcement Supervisor, EGSD
Recording Secretary, EGSD

Cristina Polsgrove
Kendra Hall
Martin Romero
Lucy Lucero

2. Approval of Minutes for August 5, 2020

Minutes for August 5, 2020 were approved after some corrections were made. Motion was passed unanimously.

3. Chairperson's Report

Chairperson Garcia talked about the community efforts about making 4th Avenue the "Greenest Street in Tucson" with hopes of eliminating plastic use.

4. Waste Diversion Update

Cristina Polsgrove, EGSD Public Information Officer, reported on the following item:

- **Materials Recycling Facility Report**

The materials recycling facility report was presented and reviewed. Questions were asked and answered. No audits have taken place due to the COVID-19 since January 2020. The next audit is scheduled for the middle of September. Residue charge is calculated from last audits data. Educational tours to the recycling facility have been postponed due to the COVID-19. The recycling facility has created safety measures to keep employees and visitors safe. They have set up hand

sanitation stations, temperature checks for everyone, mandatory masks and placed tables outside for employees to take lunch breaks to avoid close contact and to be in the open air.

Item 9 was done at this time.

9. Call to the Audience

Sharia Des Jardins, Sustainable Tucson shared her concerns about some commercial shopping centers do not have recycling on site, so employees chose to bring home their recyclable goods.

Staff remarked that commercial vendors have the choice who they select for collections and recycling. Recycling is not mandated by the city or by the state for businesses. In EGSD's residential fees we have calculated recycling into the monthly rate.

5. Collections Update

Pat Tapia, EGSD Deputy Director, reported on the following items:

- **Equipment**

The department purchased three different makes of vehicles to test drive and receive input from drivers before placing a purchase order for more vehicles. The company DaDee Manufacture went out of business. This was the company used to purchase our heavy equipment in the past and maintained the factory warranty for many years. A compactor was purchased for the Los Reales landfill along with equipment for the composting program at the Los Reales landfill.

- **Brush & Bulky**

Due to the COVID-19 the use of Department of Corrections (DOC) inmates are on hold. DOC inmates have been utilized on Brush & Bulky+ crews. The 2021 Brush & Bulky maps and notices will be mailed out in November.

Subcommittee Member Yarter asked if there was anything the department could do about residents setting out their B & B piles out too early. Deputy Director Tapia responded that residents need to be educated on the dates and placement of B & B piles. In the future the department wants to brainstorm ideas on how to impose a penalty fee for early setouts for repeat offenders.

- **Homeless Camp Clean-up's**

In order to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 homeless camp clean-ups are on hold, unless referred by the Tucson Police Department.

No action was taken on these items.

6. Public Outreach Update

Cristina Polsgrove, EGSD Public Information Office reported on the following items:

- **Recycling Messaging**

EGSD is working on a new messaging campaign called "ReThink Recycling". The department will continue to use our current campaigns, but we hope that the public will think about other options before recycling like reusing an item or reduce what they buy. The draft material was shared with the committee members.

- **The Recycling Partnership**

The current pilot program for the curb-side tagging audits have been delayed because of Coivid-19. The Recycling Partnership currently has travel restrictions until the end of the year, but the department is discussing other ways we can begin our audit. It was requested that drivers be

observant and to create an incentive program to create accountability for the driver's. Further discussion was held.

No action was taken on these items.

7. Code Enforcement Update

Martin Romero, Code Enforcement Supervisor presented the following item:

- **FY 2020 Year-End Numbers**

The Fiscal Year 2020 Numbers are as follows:

(Report does not reflect numbers from Community Service Officers (CSO's) weed and junk motor.)

- 6200 Total Cases
- 690 Building Safety Emergency (fires/fallen trees, etc.)
- 11,700 Site Inspection
- 2,519 Notice of Violations
- 318 Citations Issues
- 9,500 Calls Answered

Discussion was held. No action was taken on this item.

7. Future Agenda Items for Next Meeting (October 7, 2020)

Subcommittee Member Yarter asked if there has been any discussion on rate increases. Deputy Director Tapia explained the currently Mayor & Council are not discussing any rate increases at this time.

Questions were asked regarding issues on the RecycleCoach App.

Future agenda items are as following:

- Brush & Bulky Set Out Timeframe
- Outreach for Everyone
- Pilot Program Route Maps

9. Call to the Audience

This item was taken out of order.

10. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:17 P.M.