

Clark County
Solid Waste Advisory Commission
Regular Meeting
Thursday May 1, 2014
Clark County Auto License Office
1408 Franklin Street
Vancouver, WA

SWAC Members Present: Lisa Schmidt, Dick Baker, Allan Jeska, Rem Wilson, Jack McClary, Stephen Smythe, Bill Turlay

SWAC Members Excused: Don Ebbeson, Brandon Vick

Staff Present: Anita Largent, Mike Davis, Peter DuBois, Sabra Hall-Nelson

Others Present: Tanya Gray, COV; Joe Laxson, CC Public Health

I. Roll Call, Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Bill Turlay to accept the April 3, 2014 minutes with noted corrections, Dick Baker seconded the motion. Rem Wilson abstained, motion passed.

Don Benton thanked the commission for their service and dedication. He welcomed any questions or comments. There were no questions at this time.

II. Updates

County Public Health – Joe Laxson

First quarter progress reports are finished, comments or input on the reports are encouraged.

County Environmental Services – Anita Largent

Information in packets:

- E-mail from Allan Jeska
- BE THE CHANGE IN YOUR COMMUNITY!
- Green Laurels for local businesses
- County to host waste collection events
- Chapter XX Waste to Wealth: Economic Development
- Clark County Green Neighbors Newsletter-
- WSRA next week at the Vancouver Hilton, Jeanne Stewart will be inducted into the Washington State Recycling Hall of Fame

Highlights of the month:

Green Business Recognition event – April 17, 2014. Seventeen new businesses recognized this year with a total of 44 businesses in the program. A special shout out to Legacy Salmon Creek, one of our newest businesses and the largest business in the program so far. Allan Jeska is very active on their green team.

Recycling day events- a summary of the collection events to date are in your packet.

Earth day events; volunteers pulled almost 4000 lbs. of garlic mustard weeds at Salmon Creek Park.

Leichner Master Plan Update -Mike Davis-

We are moving forward on the master plan. On April 29th a dozen developers toured the property; we also had an open house that evening with 70 attendees. The community was interested in the 94th Ave project.

Other departments that will be involved in this process are community development, community planning, transportation, public works, DES permitting and solid waste. Staff will be bringing recommendations in time for SWAC to review and make a recommendation to the board.

It was recommended to have the June SWAC meeting at the Waste Connection hauling site off NE 94th Ave, in the training room. SWAC members and attendees could tour Leichner landfill and adjacent properties.

City of Vancouver – Tanya Gray

- Neighborhood cleanups in full swing
 - a. One of the specifications of the comprehensive collection contract between the City of Vancouver and Waste Connections is the provision of a neighborhood cleanup day. Each neighborhood has the opportunity to schedule one cleanup event on a Saturday. The event includes trucks and labor provided by Waste Connections and disposal costs for garbage and yard debris are covered by the City of Vancouver's solid waste fund.
 - b. This program provides residents with a disposal option for waste that does not fit in their standard issue garbage cart.
 - c. This year, we have 42 cleanup events scheduled. May and June are the busiest months with 12 cleanups in each.
 - d. The City initiated a Resource Conservation Challenge to address increased disposal costs and provide an incentive to divert recyclable/reusable materials from the waste stream. If a neighborhood opts to take the challenge, they must select three activities from a menu of options (yard debris, scrap metal, reuse, tree planting, recycling presentation, etc.) and then report to the City about their efforts. The association will be issued \$100 for successfully participating.
- Spring Coupons
 - a. The spring coupon program is underway. This is another program offered to garbage rate-payers in the city of Vancouver each year.
 - b. Two yard debris disposal coupons (good for up to \$25 each at designated disposal sites) and one tire disposal coupon (good for up to 4 tires) are sent to each customer and valid through June 30.
- MF Contamination project focusing on glass
 - a. Based on reports from our processor and results of the 2013 allocation study, a team of individuals from Clark County, Waste Connections and the City of Vancouver convened to address increasing amounts of contamination in the recyclable materials collected from MF complexes. Specifically, we want to make sure the mixed recycling or garbage does not get placed in the carts designated for glass.
 - b. You may recall that our region made a concerted decision to keep glass out of the mixed recycling in order to preserve the value of commodities (both paper and glass) and prevent damage to processing equipment.
 - c. The team has developed a plan that involves: assessing the contamination levels in the recycling containers for a selected route of MF complexes,

- conducting a three month concentrated education and outreach campaign to the complexes, and then assessing the contamination in the recycling containers after the education/outreach effort.
- d. In the end, we hope to have a better quality of both mixed recycling and glass collected from MF customers and an understanding of the best education/outreach methods to use on all MF customers.
- e. MF complexes generate about 200 tons of recyclable material each month. There are 610 complexes (457 in the city, 153 in the county) representing 32,955 households (24,351 in the city, 8,604 in the county).
- Glass Update
 - a. eCulletlet-Owens Illinois has opened up a new system of sorting all three glass colors – amber, clear and green. New facility in Portland returns the glass to be used in glass products. Wayne Jackson is the contact person at eCulletlet.

Department of Ecology – Julie Robertson

No report.

III. Overview of updated Draft Solid Waste Management Plan-Anita Largent

Close to finishing up the draft, several months back everyone received a copy of the draft plan. Ecology did a cursory review of the draft plan and made some comments of areas that need to be addressed.

What’s left; complete our economy chapter, which is now called Waste to Wealth. Ecology recommended doing a 20 year projection for the population, tonnage and facility needs and then a six year capital plan. We are working with staff to complete that and will bring it back to the commission for review.

Projections-feasibility study that Waste Connections is currently doing regarding the need for a north facility verses expand the Central Transfer. Once that feasibility study is completed it will be reviewed by SWAC and that will be rolled in to the SWMP capital plan.

We still need a WUTC (Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission) cost assessment. We have to do a SEPA review and review all our inter-local agreements with the cities. All that information will be added to our draft plan. Internally we will do a final review to have everything current & as update as possible. After another review the draft plan goes to all the city councils for review, then a work session with the county commissioners (between July & August). The plan is then submitted to Ecology for a preliminary review. They have 120 days to finish the review. Once we get that back, it goes in the public arena to solicit public input, finish the SEPA review. Then it is deemed a final document and is adopted by all the cities and the board of county commissions. The final goes back to Ecology, which has 45 days to review the plan.

A link will be sent to SWAC members.

IV. Review SWMP Economics Chapter & Establish Chapter Recommendations – Pete DuBois & Anita Largent

Reviewed the Draft Recommendations for Chapter XX:

All recommendations in this chapter are designed to enhance the recovery of waste from being landfilled. The chapter documents that the "business" of recovering waste generates more jobs than landfilling waste. Recommendations include:

- Convene a task group with other governments departments and other regional agencies to focus on developing green manufacturing jobs; and eco-business parks related to the solid waste industry. This will include various planning incentives such as enterprise zones. SWAC will take an active role in this planning, review and implementation.
- Conduct feasibility study (s), including a cost/benefit analysis, for a county compost facility to allow recovery of food waste (in addition to yard debris) from the waste stream, If feasible, continue with planning and implementation.
- Implement a pilot program at a transfer station that will recover "household" reusable items.
- Complete installation of a C&D sort line at a transfer station to enhance recovery of reusable materials: explore partnerships with non-profit organizations.
- Adopt a county service level ordinance for mandatory garbage and recycling collection in the county's urban growth area.

It was suggested that Pete DuBois schedule a tour of the three transfer stations for SWAC members.

Question: Are the commissioners aware of the Solid Waste Management Plan? Is staff talking with the commissioners about the plan? **Answer:** Staff is communicating this information with Don Benton. Don has given updates with the commissioners about the plan.

Recommendation:

- That the director of environmental services informs the county commissioners about the Solid Waste Management Plan and provide updates on a regular basis.
- It was suggested scheduling work shop session with the commissioners to discuss various chapters in the SWMP.
- Feasibility study update.

V. Other Business

Allan Jeska reported that he was pleased with all the Earth Day activities. Legacy Salmon Creek cleaned up the highway but got rained out. They will be back in September to do further clean-up. Allan left an article for Anita on the C & D trucks.

VI. Comments from the Public on Non-Agenda items

No comments.

Next meeting is June 5, 2014; the meeting was adjourned at 7:44.