

### **Zero Waste Commission Regular Meeting**

Monday, July 22, 2019, 7:00 p.m. City of Berkeley Corporation Yard (Ratcliff Building, Willow Room) 1326 Allston Way, Berkeley

### **Meeting Agenda**

#### PRELIMINARY MATTERS (30 Minutes):

7:00 p.m. Call to Order

Chair will call the meeting to order; Secretary will call roll.

Christienne de Tournay (Chair), appointed by CM Sophie Hahn, District 5 Alfred Twu (Vice Chair), appointed by former CM Kriss Worthington, District 7

Annette Poliwka, appointed by Mayor Jesse Arreguin Ilana Golin, appointed by CM Rashi Kesarwani, District 1 VACANT, appointed by CM Cheryl Davila, District 2 Antoinette Stein, appointed by CM Ben Bartlett, District 3 Margo Schueler, appointed by CM Kate Harrison, District 4 Jennifer Lombardi, appointed by CM Susan Wengraf, District 6

VACANT, appointed by CM Lori Droste, District 8

7:05 p.m. Approve Meeting Agenda

7:10 p.m. Public Comment

Speakers are generally allotted up to three minutes, but speakers may be allotted less time at the

discretion of the Chair.

7:20 p.m. Commissioner Announcements

Commissioners may make general announcements; no action will be taken.

7:25 p.m. Approval of Minutes: June 24, 2019 Regular Meeting\*

#### **INFORMATION AND ACTION ITEMS (90 minutes):**

7:30 p.m. 1. Staff Updates

- Transfer Station Feasibility Study
- Zero Waste Strategic Plan
- Mattress Recycling Program
- Carpet Recycling Program
- SB 1383 Rulemaking
- StopWaste National Sword Task Force Meeting
- StopWaste Model Foodware Ordinance

7:45 p.m. 2. Presentation on the Ecology Center/Telegraph Ave Business District Reusable

Cup Program Pilot – Presentation by Martin Bourgue, Ecology Center

8:05 p.m. 3. Preview of the Ecology Center's new Resourceful web application:

https://www.resourcefulapp.com/berkeley

8:15 p.m. 4. ACTION ITEM: Action to send a letter to City Council supporting the two concepts for the City of Berkeley Solid Waste and Recycling Transfer Station Feasibility Study that were presented at the June 24, 2019 Zero Waste Commission meeting.\* (Draft letter attached)

Action to:

- 1) Concur with the two concepts to be submitted for City Council approval at the November 5, 2019 City Council work session.
- 2) Support the inclusion of both concepts in the next phase of the Project: a Request for Proposal (RFP) to comply with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements.
- 8:25 p.m. 5. Discuss Single Use Foodware and Litter Reduction Ordinance implementation, including onsite signage and public education strategies\*
- 8:45 p.m. 6. Berkeley's Fire Fuel Program Information: <a href="https://www.cityofberkeley.info/fire\_fuel\_program/">https://www.cityofberkeley.info/fire\_fuel\_program/</a>
- 8:55 p.m. 7. Discuss future agenda items
- 9:00 p.m. 8. Action to adjourn the meeting

#### **COMMUNICATIONS:**

Documents/letters are included as attachments in the agenda packet. Links to online information are included below; printed hard copies of linked items are available at the meeting or upon request.

- Communication from Harvey Sherback
  - Berkeley's "Ecology Center Utensil Tote Bags & Carryalls"\*
  - Malaysia Vows To Send Tons Of Non-Recyclable Garbage Back To U.S.\*
- Communication from Annette Poliwka
  - Los Angeles Times: Asian countries take a stand against the rich world's plastic waste: https://apple.news/APBE2cC1QTsSQPMQOYbMI2A\*\*
  - Food Shift Executive Director Job Posting-NCRA Jobs Digest: http://foodshift.net/jo.../job-opportunity-executive-director\*\*
- Informational article links forwarded by staff\*\*
  - ASTRX report identifies most troublesome materials in recycling chain: <a href="https://www.wastedive.com/news/astrx-report-identifies-most-troublesome-materials-in-recycling-chain/557104/">https://www.wastedive.com/news/astrx-report-identifies-most-troublesome-materials-in-recycling-chain/557104/</a>
  - Recycling markets commodity price info: <a href="https://resource-recycling.com/recycling/2019/06/11/recovered-fiber-values-continue-to-drop/?utm\_medium=email&utm\_source=internal&utm\_campaign=June+11+RR&utm\_content=headline">https://resource-recycling.com/recycling/2019/06/11/recovered-fiber-values-continue-to-drop/?utm\_medium=email&utm\_source=internal&utm\_campaign=June+11+RR&utm\_content=headline</a>
  - SB1383 CalRecycle Rulemaking Information: https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Laws/Rulemaking/SLCP/

- Communication from Martin Bourque
  - Flyer re: Plastics Crisis Event Monday July 1 at Hillside Club\*
  - Your path to zero waste | Resourceful: https://www.resourcefulapp.com/berkeley\*\*
- Communication from City of Berkeley HHCS Staff
  - Berkeley Regional Housing Survey & Housing Workshop\*

This meeting is being held in a wheelchair-accessible location. To request a disability-related accommodation(s) to participate in the meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Disability Services Specialist at 981-6418 (V) or 981-6347 (TDD) at least three business days before the meeting date. Please refrain from wearing scented products to this meeting.

Communications to Berkeley boards, commissions or committees are public record and will become part of the City's electronic records, which are accessible through the City's website. Please note: e-mail addresses, names, addresses, and other contact information are not required, but if included in any communication to a City board, commission or committee, will become part of the public record. If you do not want your e-mail address or any other contact information to be made public, you may deliver communications via U.S. Postal Service or in person to the secretary of the relevant board, commission or committee. If you do not want your contact information included in the public record, please do not include that information in your communication. Please contact the secretary to the relevant board, commission or committee for further information.

Zero Waste Commission Secretary: Heidi Obermeit, Recycling Program Manager, 1201 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Berkeley, CA 94710, 510-981-6357, hobermeit@cityofberkeley.info

<sup>\*</sup>Indicates material included in the agenda packet

<sup>\*\*</sup> Indicates material to be available at the meeting

#### (DRAFT) MINUTES

The meeting was convened at 7:01 p.m. with Chrise de Tournay, Chair, presiding.

#### **ROLL CALL**

Present: Chrise de Tournay, Alfred Twu, Annette Poliwka, Ilana Golin, Antoinette Stein,

Margo Schueler, Jennifer Lombardi

LOA: None

Absent: Brandon Luckey

**STAFF PRESENT:** Greg Apa, Heidi Obermeit **MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT:** 7

PUBLIC COMMENT: 4
ACTIONS TAKEN:

#### 1. Approval of the June 24, 2019 Regular Meeting Agenda

M/S/C (de Tournay/Poliwka) to approve the agenda for the June 24, 2019 regular meeting. Ayes: Unanimous; Abstain: None; Absent: Luckey

#### 2. Approval of the May 28, 2019 Meeting Minutes

M/S/C (Poliwka/Golin) to approve the May 28, 2019 regular meeting minutes. Ayes: Twu, Poliwka, Golin, Stein, Schueler, Lombardi; Abstain: de Tournay; Absent: Luckey

#### 3. Approval to form a Public Education Subcommittee

M/S/C (de Tournay/Stein) to establish a Public Education Subcommittee. Jennifer Lombardi, Annette Poliwka, and Margo Schueler volunteered to form the Public Education Subcommittee with a goal of educating the community about timely zero waste topics by submitting articles/content to local publications and social media. Possible focus areas include plastics, composting of vegetative debris, reducing the risk of truck/MRF fires by properly recycling batteries, reducing waste during Cal move out, and other topics TBD.

Ayes: Unanimous; Abstain: None; Absent: Luckey

#### 4. Adjournment at 9:04 p.m.

M/S/C (Twu/de Tournay) to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 p.m.

Ayes: Unanimous; Abstain: None; Absent: Luckey

The next regular meeting of the Zero Waste Commission will be held on Monday, July 22, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the City of Berkeley Corporation Yard (Ratcliff Bldg, Willow Rm), 1326 Allston Way.

Respectfully Submitted:	
Heidi Obermeit, Secretary	

#### **MEMORANDUM**

July 22, 2019

To: Berkeley City Council

From: Berkeley Zero Waste Commission

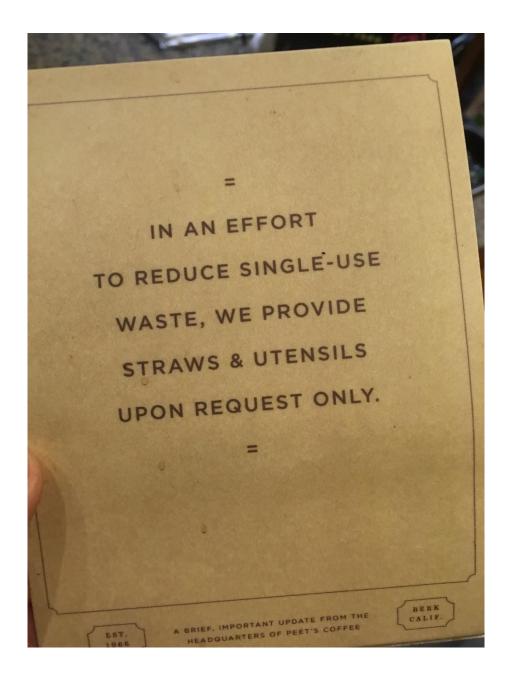
Re: Transfer Station Redesign Recommendations

At the June 2019 Zero Waste Commission meeting, the consultants from the Zero Waste Collaborative, Inc. presented two concepts for the Transfer Station feasibility study. The two concepts

- Have improved traffic flow and functionality versus the existing facility.
- Are designed to be built in phases so that the transfer station remains in operation continuously.
- Provide flexibility for changing operations as more materials are recycled or composted in the future.
- Took into consideration input from City staff, the Ecology Center, Berkeley Recycling/ Community Conservation Centers, Urban Ore, and the general public.

Based on this, the Zero Waste Commission recommends that the Berkeley City Council moves forward and approves the issuing of an RFP for a consultant to take these two concepts through the CEQA process.

Example of onsite signage for discussion item: Single Use Foodware and Litter Reduction Ordinance implementation, including onsite signage and public education strategies



----Original Message-----

From: Harvey Sherback [mailto:harveysherback@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, June 03, 2019 5:04 AM

To: Obermeit, Heidi <hobermeit@cityofberkeley.info>

Subject: Re: Response - Berkeley's "Ecology Center Utensil Tote Bags & Carryalls"

City of Berkeley Zero Waste Commission Heidi Obermeit Secretary - Zero Waste Division

June 3rd, 2019

Hello Heidi, Zero Waste Commission Members,

As you know, On May 29th, 2019, I emailed Mayor Arreguin, the Berkeley City Council, Commission Members and Staff an idea to curb the ever-growing devastation of single-use plastic and styrofoam disposable trash. (My letter to the Mayor can be seen below.)

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Re: Response:

On Thursday, May 29th, 2019, I received a response from Sandy Barnard, Legislative Assistant at the Office of Councilmember Harrison.

Dear Mr. Sherback,

I think this is a great idea, but I wanted to show how this problem is already being solved in a different form. In March of this year, the Council passed the Single Use Foodware and Litter Reduction Ordinance, which will phase out all single-use plastics and foodware between now and July 1st 2020. You can read about the 3 phases here: https://www.cityofberkeley.info/Public\_Works/Zero\_Waste/Berkeley\_Single\_Use\_Foodware\_and\_Litter\_Reduction\_Or dinance.aspx

"That being said, it is not enough to eliminate plastic food-ware without finding something with which to replace it, and this tote bag is a great idea." I want to encourage you to attend Zero Waste Commission meetings, as this is a resident initiative that falls under their purview. The Zero Waste Commission meets the 4th Monday of every month at the Corporation Yard.

https://www.cityofberkeley.info/Clerk/Commissions/Commissions\_Zero\_Waste\_Commission\_Homepage.aspx

Best,

Sandy Barnard

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City of Berkeley Berkeley City Council Members Jesse Arreguin Mayor

May 29th, 2019

Hello Mayor Arreguin, Berkeley City Council, Commission Members & Staff,

Thanks for your many efforts to create a better world for us, our children and future generations, they're very much appreciated.

As you know, we are living in a time of throwaway plastic and styrofoam products that are creating a lot of unnecessary pollution and illness around our planet. Here in Berkeley, especially in our downtown area, the public garbage bins are overflowing with single-use plastic and styrofoam trash. This deplorable situation must be corrected if we are to live in harmony with Mother Nature and her offspring.

With global plastic production set to double in the next 20 years and quadruple to 318 million metric tons by 2050, I have a couple of suggestions that could help to reduce Berkeley's spending on plastic and styrofoam collection and disposal.

My first suggestion is working in partnership with Berkeley's Ecology Center to offer utensil carrying tote bags and carryalls. These "Ecology Center Utensil Tote Bags & Carryalls" could contain a coffee cup and/or a thermos bottle, a food storage box as well as a plate, knife, fork, spoon and a straw made from a variety of easy-to-clean materials like stainless steel, ceramics and glass. They can also be designed as a brief case, knapsacks, purses, shoulder bags as well as school and work lunch boxes. Furthermore, they will inspire people into taking a more proactive role in protecting Mother Earth and her more-than-vulnerable creatures form single-use plastic and styrofoam trash.

The Ecology Center's logo as well as a message like "No Disposable Plastic Please" can be printed or silk-screened onto the outside surface of these carryalls. They'll really help to reduce the vast amount of disposable plastic and styrofoam that's overloading our landfills, littering our streets and highways, ending up on our beautiful beaches as well as in our waterways, lakes and oceans like the terrible Pacific Plastic Garbage Patch that's nearly four times the size of California.

The City of Berkeley working with The Ecology Center could initiate a competition among environmentally conscious design groups to come up with the best lightweight, attractive, inexpensive, high-quality, earth-friendly utensil carryalls. They could be advertised and marketed through the Ecology Center's Eco Store. They can also be sold at Berkeley's Public and High Schools as well as at the University of California's Campus Stores. Additionally, they could be merchandised through independent retailers like Recreational Equipment Inc.(REI) and online websites like Amazon.com.

These utensil carryalls will also help to save Berkeley's taxpayers millions of dollars in the pickup and disposal of plastic and styrofoam waste. Thanks once again for helping to keep us and many of our world's most endangered creatures out of Harm's way.

Harvey Sherback Berkeley, California

Additional Information:

Privatizing The Profits And Socializing The Losses:

Unfortunately, the manufactures of disposable plastic bags, bottles and utensils as well as styrofoam food containers are the poster-children for privatizing profits and socializing the cost of collecting and disposing of their single-use products. Why must we the public pay for the collection and disposal of their throwaway plastic and styrofoam trash?

If they had to shoulder a equal portion of the collection and disposal costs, they would be forced to raise their prices which will make food merchants think twice about giving away single-use plastic and styrofoam items for free. Many

food and beverage retailers would start to offer special discounts to people who supply their own cups, food containers and utensils.
Headline: Britain Is Frantic Now That China Won't Take Plastic Waste
neadiffie. Britain is Frantic NOW That China Wort Clake Flastic Waste
https://www.treehugger.com/environmental-policy/britain-panicked-now-china-wont-take-any-more-its-plastic-waste.html
Headline: Recycling Chaos In U.S. As China Bans 'Foreign Waste'
https://www.npr.org/2017/12/09/568797388/recycling-chaos-in-u-s-as-china-bans-foreign-waste
May 9, 2019 - Headline: Scotland Unveils Plans For Bottle Return Scheme As It Looks To Tackle Plastic Pollution
Widy 3, 2013 Treadiline. Section of Orients Figure Potential Potential Research Figure
"Consumers would pay a 20 pence (approximately 28 cents) deposit when buying a drink, which would be refunded if they return their bottle or can for recycling."
https://www.cnbc.com/2019/05/09/scotland-unveils-bottle-return-scheme-plan-to-tackle-plastic-pollution.html
Single-use, disposable plastic and styrofoam products are as much a health issue as they are a pollution problem. For example, the chemical known as Bisphenol A (BPA) has been used for decades as a component of disposable plastic and styrofoam takeout containers and water bottle caps. Researchers have discovered that BPA disrupts the endocrine system and can cause miscarriages, affect the age at which puberty begins and lower sperm counts.
California's Proposition 65:
Here in California we have Proposition 65 that requires the State to publish a list of chemicals known to cause cancer, birth defects and reproductive harm. It turns out that petroleum based chemicals used in the manufacture of disposable plastic bottles and utensils as well as styrofoam food packaging containers are on the Proposition 65 list. For example, BPA in plastic food containers requires a point-of-sale "Prop 65 Warning".
https://www.p65warnings.ca.gov/fact-sheets/bisphenol-bpa
https://www.energyenvironmentallaw.com/2016/05/23/bpa-in-plastics-requires-a-prop-65-warning-for-food-containers-california-imposes-a-generic-point-of-sale-warning/
February 5th, 2018 - Headline: Exposure To Chemical Found In Plastics 'Hard To Avoid' In Everyday Life
"Approximately 86 per cent of teenagers have traces of Bisphenol A, a chemical compound used to make plastics, in

their body."

https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/02/180205102728.htm

February 7th, 2018 - Headline: A Possible Culprit In The Infertility Crisis: Plastic "It's not secret that plastic pollution is having a dire impact on our planet. 93 percent of Americans carry BPA in their bodies." https://futurism.com/plastic-killing-your-sperm/ February 14th, 2018 - Headline: Environmental Chemicals May Contribute To Obesity Chemicals found in disposable food packaging known as perfluoroalkyl (PFASs), also known as "obesogens", have been linked with cancer, hormone disruption, immune dysfunction, high cholesterol and obesity. https://www.ctvnews.ca/health/environmental-chemicals-may-contribute-to-obesity-study-1.3802962 Examples of stainless steel food containers. https://www.planetbox.com/products/planetbox-rover-lunchbox?variant=20636936321 https://www.planetbox.com/products/planetbox-launch-lunchbox?variant=20636119297 https://food52.com/shop/products/2450-stainless-steel-tiffins For More Information Please Contact: **Ecology Center** Sandra Kozma-Kennedy Store Program Manager 1-510-548-3402 sandra@ecologycenter.org Plastic Pollution Coalition/PPC

Plastic Pollution Coalition/PPC Sandra Curtis Director of Innovative Projects 1-510-816-8012 sandra@plasticpollutioncoalition.org

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May happiness and good health surround us all.

----Original Message-----

From: Harvey Sherback [mailto:harveysherback@yahoo.com]

Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2019 10:04 AM

Subject: Re: Malaysia Vows To Send Tons Of Non-Recyclable Garbage Back To U.S.

City of Berkeley Berkeley City Council Members Jesse Arreguin Mayor

May 30th, 2019

Hello Mayor Arreguin, Berkeley City Council and Commission Members & Staff,

May 28, 2019 - Headline: Malaysia Vows To Send Tons Of Non-Recyclable Garbage Back To U.S., Other Developed Nations

"Malaysia will send back some 3,300 tons of non-recyclable plastic waste to countries such as the U.S., U.K., Canada and Australia in a move to avoid becoming a dumping ground for rich nations, Environment Minister Yeo Bee Yin said Tuesday. Yeo said Malaysia and many developing countries have become new targets after China banned the import of plastic waste last year."

https://www.cbsnews.com/news/malaysia-plastic-waste-back-to-us-other-developed-nations-trash-crisis-china-recycling/

With global plastic production set to double in the next 20 years and quadruple to 318 million metric tons by 2050. now is the right time to get rolling on the design and production of "Ecology Center Utensil Tote Bags & Carryalls" to help stop us from drowning in single-use, disposable plastic and styrofoam trash.

We really can create a better world for us, our children and future generations and Ecology Center Utensil Tote Bags & Carryalls would be a very good start!

Much love,

Harvey Sherback Berkeley, California

# THE PLASTIC CRISIS

PALASTICFREEJULY

ON THE CHALLENGY

Monday, July 1, 7:00pm

The Hillside Club – 2286 Cedar Street at Arch, Berkeley

Plastic pollution has reached catastrophic levels!
Plug into efforts to reduce plastic use at the community level.





SNEAK PREVIEW of the upcoming film on Plastics and discussion with a maker of *The Story of Stuff* 

# REDUCE: That's the objective! REUSE, and only then RECYCLE

- Find out from the source what IS and is NOT really recyclable!
- Explore some fun DIY solutions to replace common plastic goods
- Check out NEW & favorite plastic-free products. Vendors in attendance!
- Hear updates on new local and state laws

\$10 Admission—includes raffle entry; tea & cookies.

Tickets: <a href="mailto:bit.ly/HSC\_Plastic">bit.ly/HSC\_Plastic</a>



Co-sponsored by The Hillside Club and The Ecology Center



From: Katz, Mary-Claire

Sent: Thursday, July 11, 2019 12:42 PM

Subject: FW: Berkeley Regional Housing Survey & Housing Workshop

Hello Commission Secretaries,

Please see message below about the Regional Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing, and the survey we are distributing to get community feedback on barriers to fair housing. We would appreciate you distributing this survey to your commissioners, and any other group you think would be interested in providing this feedback.

Thank you!

#### Mary-Claire

From: Babka, Rhianna

Sent: Wednesday, July 03, 2019 4:31 PM

To: Babka, Rhianna < RBabka@cityofberkeley.info>

Cc: 'housingsurvey@mbakerintl.com' <housingsurvey@mbakerintl.com>

**Subject:** Berkeley Regional Housing Survey & Housing Workshop

Hello,

**The City of Berkeley** and the County of Alameda want your feedback on housing issues, as part of an action-focused report called Regional Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (Regional AI).

Your feedback will help guide housing policies and housing goals in your area!

To help, please take this 10-15 min <u>Alameda County Regional Housing Survey</u> (Click on Link) and share your views on housing characteristics and housing needs.

Please forward this survey along to any friends, clients, colleagues, and/or organizations that would be interested in participating in the future of our County's housing policies!

Would you like paper copies provided to your organization or clients? If so, reply to this message with a request to receive paper-copy versions of the survey. I have also attached copies of the survey if you would like to view or print these out yourself.

This survey is also available online in Spanish (Español) and Traditional Chinese (中文); paper versions may also be available in Tagalog, Vietnamese (Tiếng Việt), or additional languages by contacting (510) 238-6468. If you have trouble viewing this survey and would like assistance due to a disability, please contact (510) 238-5219. If link above link, does not work, go to: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/housingsurvey\_alameda2019.

Additionally, you and all County residents are invited to attend one of these community engagement meetings for a more in-depth discussion. Please RSVP to me at the information provided below:

Tuesday, August 13, 2019, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Berkeley Central Library 3rd Floor Community Meeting Room 2900 Kittridge Street, Berkeley, CA 94704

Wednesday, August 21, 2019, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. Oakland Library 81st Avenue Branch Community Room, 2nd Floor 1020 81st Street, Oakland, CA 94621

## Saturday, August 24, 2019, 11:00 am - 1:00 p.m. Hayward City Hall

Conference Room 2A, 2nd Floor 777 B Street, Hayward, CA 94541

You can learn more information about the housing survey, or the 2020-2024 Alameda County Regional Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice by contacting me with your questions.



Thank you,

#### Rhianna Babka

City of Berkeley Housing and Community Services 2180 Milvia Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Berkeley, CA 94704 (510) 981-5410 (tel) (510) 981-5450 (fax) rbabka@ci.berkeley.ca.us