



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Solid Waste Management Division

MINUTES
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
Monday, February 28, 2005
Solid Waste Management Center, 1201 Second Street

Vice-Chair Peter Schultze-Allen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. Roll Call:

Commissioners present: Susan Blachman (7:30), Genevieve Dreyfus, Steen Jensen, Jay Miyazaki, Peter Schultze-Allen, Carrie Sprague

Commissioners absent: Howard Chong

Staff: Tania Levy

Members of the Public: Jeff Belchamber, Sankor Sridaran (7:25), Dave Williamson

2. Comments from the Public: None

3. Announcements: None

4. Approval of the Meeting Minutes from January 24, 2005: M/S Miyazaki/Dreyfus to approve the minutes of January 24, 2005 as written. Approved 5/0/0.

5. Approval of Agenda: M/S Dreyfus/Miyazaki to approve the agenda, moving item 7a (presentation on the draft solid waste plan) ahead of New Business. Approved 5/0/0.

6. New Business

- a. Quarterly report from Community Conservation Centers: Jeff Belchamber noted that prices are strong, CCC is on budget, and plastic bottle recycling increased 14% over the past six months.
- b. Quarterly report from the Ecology Center: No presentation was made.
- c. Quarterly tonnage report: Staff noted the 15% increase in commercial food scraps over the previous year, but in the interest of time, did not make a report.
- d. Request from Council to study reuse of plastic packaging:
On February 22, 2005 Council Member Olds sponsored a consent item requesting that the Commission study opportunities for recycling and reuse of plastic packing materials, specifically polystyrene foam. Commissioner Jensen volunteered to work with staff to collect information and draft a response.

7. Old Business

- a. Solid Waste Management Plan Presentation – Site Plan
Environmental Science Associates (ESA) presented plans for site improvement. Level 1 modifies and reconfigures the existing site to simplify traffic flow and accommodate the required creek setbacks at a cost of \$550,000, but does not meet most of the identified facility needs. Level 2 replaces the container sorting building with a more efficient structure, and replaces CCC and SWMD offices with two-story structures, with a preliminary estimate of \$6.4 million. Level 3 is a full site redevelopment and reconfiguration designed to add diversion capacity for organic and construction wastes (CD waste) and solve transfer station traffic flow

problems, in an environmentally sound way. Added features would be green building, natural lighting with solar panels, a visitor center, and sculpture garden in the fifty feet of space by the creek that cannot be used for operations. Lower operating costs and increased regional market share, especially with a C/D recycling facility, would help offset the price. A projected 25% increase in transfer station revenue, could cover 75% of the debt service for this \$19 million project. Commissioner Miyazaki offered to collect comments from commissioners for the next meeting.

The Commission and ESA are scheduled to complete the plan in June 2005 followed by formal public comment sessions in July/August and Council consideration in October or November.

- b. 2006-07 Biennial Budget: In the current budget proposal the Clean Cities program, including street sweeping illegal dumping and graffiti removal, will be managed by the Solid Waste Division and its employees and equipment relocated to the transfer station. Some concerns are finding physical space for these functions, potential diversion of refuse workers to do the more visible clean-cities tasks, and added supervisory and customer service responsibilities. Commissioners also questioned using public funds to remove graffiti from private businesses.
 - c. Concepts for Rate Restructuring: With a 50-75% diversion, a rate structure based on the size of the refuse cart cannot continue to support all the recycling services. The rate structure is within the ESA scope but not a budgeted task. Staff will investigate alternative rate structures.
8. Election of Officers
M/S/C Miyazaki/Steen to nominate Peter Schultze-Allen as chair. M/S Miyazaki/Blachman to close nominations and elect Schultze-Allen carried 5/0/1, Schultze-Allen abstaining. M/S Dreyfus/Blachman to elect Steen Jensen as Vice-Chair carried 5/0/1, Jensen abstaining.
 9. Staff reports: Capital projects: the organics area is awaiting installation of lighting for safety. **Staffing:** There were 19 qualified candidates for recycling program manager; and staff expect to fill the position by May 1. Recruitment for two weighmaster positions is delayed because the former job description limits it to refuse workers, which effectively excludes women and other qualified applicants. **Electronics:** The transfer station is accepting CRTs (TVs and monitors) without charge but the volume has not notably increased. Neither the state nor the City has advertised the new program to the public.
 10. Future Agenda Items: The next meeting is scheduled for March 28. Agenda items will include the solid waste management plan, the 2006-07 budget (including rates), and the Ecology Center presentation.
 11. Adjourn: M/S Jensen/Sprague to adjourn carried 6/0/0.