



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Solid Waste Management Division

MINUTES
ZERO WASTE COMMISSION
Monday, October 24, 2011
North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Street
Workshop Room B, 1st floor

Chair Kalil called the meeting to order with a quorum at 7:03 PM

1. Roll Call:

Commissioners present: Kalil, Kirkpatrick, Saborio, Jensen, Blachman, Bartlett (7:05), Schultze-Allen (7:07), Tam (7:12)

Commissioners absent: Halperin (excused)

Staff: Ken Etherington - Solid Waste Division Manager, Andy Schneider – Recycling Program Manager, Andrew Clough – Director, Public Works Department, Danielle Habr – Associate Management Analyst, Public Works Administration

Members of the Public: Martin Bourque of the Ecology Center (EC); Sara MacKusick of Community Conservation Center (CCC); David Tucker, Bob Angel & Carrie Castro of Waste Management.

2. Approve Agenda: M/S/C Jensen/Kirkpatrick to approve the agenda 5/0/0

3. Comments from the Public: None

4. Announcements and Commissioner Comments: Kalil thanked Commissioner Susan Blachman for eight years of dedicated service on the Commission. Saborio reported that he attended the StopWaste Urban Metabolism workshop on organics programs. Kalil stated that some landfills are developing composting facilities which will be necessary to meet our organics processing needs moving forward. Schultze-Allen reported that a second organics cart was not serviced at his residence. He stated that the call-in process was too time-restrictive, and as of 4 days later, the crew had not returned. Kalil shared a similar experience with her organics cart miss that was not corrected. Staff agreed to review route book and call-back procedures with plant debris crews.

5. Approve Meeting Minutes of September 26, 2011: Item 8: Kalil corrected the statement that the Public Works Director *is ready to begin* development of the Strategic Plan. Item 5: Tam corrected that AB 818 and AB 341 *mandates commercial and multi-family recycling*, and clarified that Mini-grants for recycling are available *from Altamont Landfill Settlement Agreement Education Advisory Board*.

M/S/C Saborio/Bartlett to approve the September 26, 2011 minutes as amended 8/0/0

6. Refuse Fund Status Presentation & Discussion: Danielle Habr presented a PowerPoint on the status of the Refuse Fund Budget. Ken Etherington reviewed the recent changes that have been implemented for more efficient Division operations and expenditure reductions. Ms. Habr

showed a 4 year budget forecast which reflected a FY 2011 fund balance of \$700,000. Future FY projections show fund deficits due to capital expenditures including Transfer Station and closed landfill improvements. Assuming revenue remains stable and all operational efficiencies are continued, a fund balance is again projected in FY 2014. Etherington explained how route/account audits will insure that we are receiving proper revenue for our provided services. Although a rate increase is not needed at this time, new state and county recycling mandates will have an impact on the Refuse Fund and may require an additional funding mechanism. Kalil requested additional service and budget information on the Clean City Program. Blachman reminded that it would be helpful to have all services, including street sweeping, itemized on refuse bills. Andrew Clough acknowledged the Commission's desire to have additional revenue to implement our zero waste goals, but reminded that there are a number of essential large projects related to streets and storm water on the horizon and that finding new revenue sources will be the challenge in coming years.

7. Division Update:

- Phone Book Opt-Out (Information): Schneider presented the Council items on phone book opt out and Commissioner Kirkpatrick summarized the issue and actions, basically asking AT&T to honor the Catalog Choice on-line opt-out program.
- Landfill and C&D Contract Update: Etherington reported that Waste Management has been selected for Landfill and C&D sorting services and will be heard by Council at the Nov. 8 meeting.
- Preparation for Mandatory Recycling & Bag Reduction Ordinances: Schneider updated on the two county draft ordinances and timeline. Blachman suggested that when Berkeley adopts the Single Use Bag Ordinance, that we consider calling it the Tania Levy Memorial Bag Reduction Ordinance. Martin Bourque added his concern that uncontrolled mandatory recycling participation may lead to higher contamination rates and that an effective outreach program will be needed.
- Clean City Regulatory Fee Update: Mr. Clough stated that a regulatory fee to cover street sweeping would require that we provide sweeping to all properties in the City and that it is not currently operationally feasible to do so. The item will be heard by Council on Nov. 8th.

8. Future Agenda Items and Meeting Dates: To be discussed in November

9. Adjourn: M/S/C Schultze-Allen/Jensen to adjourn at 9:05 8/0/0