



**METRO**

600 NE Grand Ave.  
Portland, OR 97232-2736

**MEETING SUMMARY**  
**Solid Waste Advisory Committee**  
Metro Regional Center, Room 370A/B  
May 25, 2006

**Members / Alternates Present:**

Councilor Rod Park, Chair	Dave Garten	Vince Gilbert
Mike Hogle	Steve Schwab	Dave White
Mike Leichner	Ray Phelps	Mike Miller
Bruce Walker	Loretta Pickerell	JoAnn Herrigel
Paul Edwards	Glenn Zimmerman	Tom Badrick
Eric Merrill	Lori Stole	Matt Korot
Rick Winterhalter	Jeff Murray	Wendy Fisher
Janet Malloch		

**Guests and Metro staff:**

Janet Matthews	Janelle Geddes	Meg Lynch
Brad Botkin	Lee Barrett	Scott Klag
Andy Kahut	Steve Apotheker	Bryce Jacobson
Easton Cross	Karen Kane	Jim Watkins
Paul Garrahan	Paul Ehinger	Jennifer Erickson
Dan Wilson	Brad Botkin	Roy Brower

**I. Call to Order and Announcements ..... Councilor Park**

- Councilor Rod Park began the proceedings and asked those present to introduce themselves. Janet Malloch was introduced as the new alternate for member John Lucini; her appointment was scheduled to be confirmed by Council later that day.
- Prior to approval of the April 27 minutes, the City of Milwaukie’s JoAnn Herrigel noted an error on page two, referencing “\$375,00” rather than “\$375,000.” The error will be corrected for the permanent record. With that change, the minutes were approved unanimously.

**II. Solid Waste & Recycling Director's Update ..... Mike Hogle**

- Mr. Hogle reported on the Nature in Neighborhoods grant process. Primary focus is on fish/wildlife restoration, he said, but of 43 projects submitted for grants, 18 have a solid waste element. Of those 18, 17 are being recommended for funding. (A total of 32 projects will be funded.) Solid waste industry members are involved in several of the projects, providing dumpsters, recovery services, processing, debris removal, etc.  
  
Councilor Park mentioned that partnerships between community groups and industry members is encouraged. Because of issues such as illegal dumping, more innovative partnerships can be forged for future rounds of grants, he said.
- An all-day training called “Diesel Emissions Boot Camp” was held a few weeks ago, Mr. Hogle said, for people involved on the technical side of the issue, such as equipment operators or purchasing agents. Matching correct fuel and filters to engines was an important part of that

training, he added. While he did not attend the training, Mr. Hoglund said that he did participate in the Diesel Emissions Forum a discussion of policy issues, the next day. In the last station operations contract, he reminded the group, Metro included stipulations that filters and catalysts be put on equipment at its facilities. While that has been a success, a pilot project to fit ceramic filters on CSU trucks was unsuccessful because of a mismatch between fuel and filter. Stories such as this are occurring nationwide as companies learn what does and doesn't work for emissions reduction. For a relatively low cost, companies can retrofit catalysts to diesel engines and capture 50-60% of particulate emissions and a substantial amount of other emissions. Actual filters are much more expensive, but can capture 90%.

Mr. Hoglund would like to convene a sub-committee to discuss the best ways to address particulate emissions from a sustainability standpoint. A pilot project could be developed at a transfer station or composting facility, or on haulers' trucks. How to fund such a project is unknown at this time. SW&R Engineering & Environmental Services Manager, Jim Watkins, has met with local governments; the next step will be to include haulers. Mr. Watkins will set that up.

ORRA's Dave White informed the group that his association helped sponsor the Emissions Boot Camp, and said that Governor Kulongowski has put a North Portland Diesel Emission Reduction Project into place. Mr. White was there prior to this meeting. Two local haulers are involved (Arrow Sanitary and Cloudburst Recycling). ORRA will be signing a commitment to participate, as well. Legacy System's Tom Badrick added that area hospitals are also working to reduce emissions.

- Residential Outreach Campaign: A couple of years ago, a workgroup recommended creating a regional advertising campaign to address common problems in residential recycling. Industry members informed that group that plastic bags and broken glass were two of the biggest challenges; these will be the focus of this year's campaign, Mr. Hoglund said. Coates Kokes Advertising has been awarded the project after an RFP process, he continued. A committee of industry, haulers, and local governments is reviewing the concepts and recommendations for the campaign, which will launch July 10 and include television ads. Clackamas County contributed funds towards the campaign, including funds to augment the television spots shown regionally, and additional ones in Clackamas County. The City of Portland has budgeted for supplemental materials.
- In Regulatory Affairs matters, Mr. Hoglund announced, Pacific Land Clearing has been issued a license for its MRF (PLC applied prior to the moratorium). Five-year license renewals recently went to PLC's other two Metro region locations, as well as to American Compost & Recycling, and ThermoFluids. Michael Johnson Construction has been issued a final order for fine payments totaling \$52,000. The fine is for falsely claiming that nearly 800 loads of solid waste delivered to Lakeside Reclamation originated outside the Metro region.
- Next, Mr. Hoglund explained a handout regarding the split rate recommended by the Rate Policy Sub-committee and Rate Review Committee (see attached, "Disposal Charge at Metro Transfer Stations"). Customers using automated scales will be charged a lesser rate than those using the traditional scalehouse; the overall Metro Tip Fee drops by \$1.55.

Councilor Park added that a letter was received voicing concern that a lower tip fee could negatively affect recycling. While he believes these concerns are a result of some old information that is no longer valid, he asked SWAC members to please forward any other such apprehensions or comments to him. "We didn't start with a number in mind," the Councilor said. "We started with the policies in mind and this is what the number turned out to be."

- As mentioned in the April SWAC meeting, URS Consulting will be contacting facility owners about "clean-up materials, average daily cover, and other beneficial uses at your operations, and how those are applied," Mr. Hoglund said. Beneficial use materials are evolving within the industry, he explained, and Metro is looking at how to regulate these materials.

### III. Interim Waste Reduction Plan Feedback.....Janet Matthews

Ms. Matthews noted that some of the members present had missed the April meeting, but said that “the minutes nicely reflect the summary / overview that I gave on the Interim Waste Reduction Plan” She directed attention to the agenda packet attachment requesting comments on certain aspects of the Plan. These aspects certainly do not bar comments or concerns about other areas of the Plan, Ms. Matthews pointed out. “This group is never shy about making comments... and I encourage that,” she said. Today’s agenda item is devoted to hearing comments thus far rather than to make a presentation on the material. A show of hands from members who have read the Plan and/or taken the online survey revealed only a small number. The comment period for the Plan closes June 5, Ms. Matthews said. “You are all leaders in the solid waste field in this region, and we are really relying on you to provide us with the kinds of comments that will make a good plan better.” She urged members who have not yet taken the survey or looked at the Plan to please do so.

A revised Plan will be forwarded to DEQ and Metro Council for approval in July or August. By early 2007 – if Disposal System Planning is completed, the Waste Reduction Plan will be integrated into the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan (RSWMP).

Comments from SWAC members:

Dave White said that he hasn’t read the Plan as thoroughly as he’d planned, but he finds the format itself very readable. The Plan has a strong regional focus, he noted, which requires funding on a local level. He questioned whether the “regional values” were developed by Metro Council for the region, or is it a value system “arrived at through cooperation and information with local elected officials?” Mr. White stressed that this Plan – and the full RSWMP – should be presented to local councils for their approval.

Citizen representative Dave Garten commented that the Plan focuses primarily on a three-year period of activity when “we’re going to work like hell to get from 59 to 64%. That last five percent is a ton of work.” Yet the Plan is supposed to cover a 10-year period, he said. The bigger concern for him, Mr. Garten continued, is that while the fact that waste generation and disposal numbers are going up is talked about, it’s not dealt with. In addition, there are no specific goals or numbers relating to hazardous waste. Mr. Garten is also concerned that no quantitative goals are laid out for product stewardship. Simply shifting responsibility translates to regulation, and is not necessarily as effective as providing incentives, he concluded.

From the City of Gresham, Matt Korot informed the group that local governments have worked hard on this plan with Metro, so they do feel represented (referring to Mr. White’s concern). He added that while elected officials from local governments have not been directly involved, the Plan thus far does a reasonably good job of reflecting the values of their communities. Continuing, Mr. Korot said that the issue of product stewardship is called out in this Plan as a major initiative, which is a first. “I personally think it’s the only initiative that has a possibility to work on waste generation.” There is a lot of work to be done, he said. The education components are still important for getting the message out to the masses, Mr. Korot added, “but alone, we’ve seen that it’s not effective in affecting generation.”

Clark County’s Anita Largent said she agrees that community values are represented. Also, waste generation needs to be a focus beyond just product stewardship. She hopes the Plan can help influence consumer habits.

Ms. Malloch commented that commingling has resulted in a lot of waste going directly to the landfills rather than being properly sorted and recovered. This issue needs to be addressed further, she said. In addition, Ms. Malloch would like to see a stronger focus on projects than on the education component.

The Plan is very nicely done, said Mr. Badrick. “I’m a very impatient person, so I’m thinking, aren’t we done yet? Let’s get to work on the Plan instead of talking about the Plan – but I know how hard it is to do that.” He said the Plan is a good reflection of his own day-to-day job. There are no answers or measures to some of the issues, “you just play it by ear and roll with it every day.” Putting together a

Plan that will answer everyone's concerns would be impossible, Mr. Badrick said, and this draft is good. He'd like to see the Plan go forward.

Clackamas County's Rick Winterhalter reiterated that local governments have spent hundreds of hours working with Metro on the Plan. He's particularly pleased to see the sustainability piece featured prominently.

Bruce Walker of the City of Portland said that the way Ms. Matthews explained the Plan at the April meeting was extremely helpful to him. He'd like to see that kind of presentation become a model for future activities because it laid out what the goal and benefits are. The key challenge is waste generation, Mr. Walker admitted. "Even if we do a better job, we're never going to catch up in terms of recycling if the consumption continues to grow," he said. A logical tie-in would be to look at product stewardship and public outreach/education. Metro has been a strong supporter of electronic waste legislation. "I'd really push for that on a statewide and national forum. That's where it needs to be addressed," Mr. Walker continued. While he understands the push toward 2009, he'd like to see the Plan focus even further out. Concluding, Mr. Walker said that he applauds the efforts of the Plan as a template for the region to do more and better work in the future.

Gresham Sanitary's Mike Miller said that he appreciates the education focus and work with local schools. Metro's previous and ongoing work at schools is commendable; he would like to see that effort extended more strongly into secondary schools. There is a very real disconnect at that age, so it would be a valuable time to reintroduce those earlier lessons.

Adam Winston of Waste Management has only looked through the Plan briefly, but said he'd like to see local government roles spelled out more. "There are some elements of this plan that – quite frankly – are dealt with by local governments, and at least at this time, not by Metro," Mr. Winston stated. Page 14 mentions cart systems as a way to help increase recovery, but that is strictly a local issue, he said. Page 17, Mr. Winston continued, deals with rate regulation which, again, is a local issue. If the Plan is something that local governments agree with, "it needs to be referenced with that," he said. Ms. Matthews pointed out the Roles and Responsibilities portion of the Plan does identify these concerns, but staff will look at this issue again to be sure it's clear. Councilor Park added that the language used in the Plan is consistent with other areas of the Agency, such as land use, transportation planning, etc. "There are things that Metro lays out that don't get into specifically who does it," he explained.

On a side note, Councilor Park brought up the subject of waste reduction per capita. "We're increasing the recycling rate, but we're still [also] increasing the amount we're disposing because we have a growing population base." Steve Apotheker informed the group that per capita disposal in the Metro region has increased 7% over the last nine years. Ms. Pickerell pointed out that the DEQ has statewide recovery goals as well as statewide generation goals. "We're not coming close to meeting our statewide generation goals. Those are both per capita and over all." The DEQ is breaking down numbers for households, construction and other sections and materials, Mr. Apotheker added.

Citizen member Lori Stole said that she was unprepared to comment on Plan specifics, but feels overall that the discussion needs to be reframed. "Instead of looking at how much can be recycled, or how much is being recycled, we need to approach it from the other end and look at what our target amount of waste is. For sustainability long-term, it really needs to be zero. We need to figure out how to repackage the system so there isn't waste," she stressed. "If you know that zero waste is the goal, you really think about what you're throwing out." Ms. Stole will be looking at the Plan specifics from that aspect, she said. She'd like to look at ways, for instance, to address disposable products.

Ms. Herrigel simply thanked Ms. Matthews and Metro staff for all the work put into the Plan thus far, "and for all the opportunities they've given us all – local governments as well as SWAC and the community at large – to give comments." She made a commitment to read the Plan and get specific comments to Ms. Matthews by the deadline.

No other members had comments regarding the Plan at this time. Councilor Park gave the audience an opportunity for comments, as well; there were none.

**IV. Disposal System Planning Project..... Mike Hoglund**

Councilor Park introduced this item and commended staff for the hard work and energy they've done thus far. "Some hard decisions are going to have to be made as we get to the next steps," he said.

Mr. Hoglund handed out a sheet of "tentative milestone dates" to the attendees, and a list of stakeholders who have provided input to the project (both attached). He gave some background on the project, noting that while it had gotten off to a slow start, momentum has picked up considerably with the hiring of consultant Dan Pitzler of CH2M Hill. Mr. Hoglund said he hopes to maintain that pace. Mr. Pitzler and EcoData's Barbara Stephens have provided crucial help with framing the questions and, "in particular, putting some of the economics of the system together," Mr. Hoglund reported. Three alternatives are being looked into for the solid waste system: All publicly owned, all privately owned, and the current hybrid model, with some variation. Using evaluation criteria supplied by Metro Council, the consultant compared the three models and has given Metro a 100-page draft report, Mr. Hoglund continued. After any needed changes are made to the draft, the report will be presented to Council and SWAC.

The tentative timeline shows the fastest track on which the DSP issue could be resolved, Mr. Hoglund said. The main question being considered is whether or not Metro should stay in the transfer station business. Council will discuss the report at their June 20 work session from approximately 3:30-5 pm. Mr. Pitzler will be at the table, and Mr. Hoglund said selected stakeholders may be invited to participate, as well.

Two transfer station owners (Pride and Allied) "have been putting their own alternative [recommendation] together on the private and hybrid model that's a little bit different than what the consultant's model is," Mr. Hoglund added. He's asked them to submit those soon to present as an addendum to the consultant's report.

Staff will ask Council for about an hour at the July 11 work session for the Councilors to give direction to staff about what they would like to see in a final recommendation. A Resolution should be released to the public in mid-August, looking towards a public hearing sometime around September 14. From that, Council will deliberate and make a decision.

Mr. Hoglund explained that the second document he had handed out shows those who've provided input (often one-on-one interviews) to the DSP project thus far. Council suggested adding MRFs (both clean and dirty) and perhaps some rate payers (such as SWAC's rate payer members), as well.

Metro attorney Marv Fjordbeck recently presented information to the Council regarding legal aspects of the DSP project, Mr. Hoglund continued. For instance, what are the limitations on the use of proceeds if any of Metro's solid waste facilities are sold, i.e., would proceeds legally have to be used for solid waste-related activities? Yes, Mr. Hoglund informed the group, under Oregon Statute 459335 and the Metro Charter.

Another legal question regards Metro's disposal contract with Waste Management, which stipulates sending providing them "a minimum of 90% of the total tons of acceptable waste that Metro delivers to any general-purpose landfill during the calendar year." Mr. Hoglund noted that if Metro no longer owned the transfer stations, that contract would still be valid. If Metro sold their facilities, they would have to set up a regulatory framework of oversight of waste in the system that would then have to be delivered to Waste Management. Counsel feels that would be difficult to do. It might be possible to negotiate an end to that contract, however.

Metro is paying back bonds from the construction of the transfer stations, and has to have 110% revenue over expenditures to meet the bond requirements, Mr. Hoglund reminded SWAC members. If the stations are sold, or the bonds otherwise paid off, there would be more contract flexibility, such as variable tonnage contracts. However, Councilor Park added that if the bonds are paid off early, it may affect the rate structure prematurely.

**V. Other Business and Adjourn..... Councilor Park**

Mr. Badrick announced that he attended a national conference in Seattle a few weeks ago (“Clean Med”). At that event, he was privileged to accept an award on behalf of Legacy Health Systems. Other winners included Providence, Kaiser, and OHSU – all four of Oregon’s major healthcare systems won awards for environmental management and recycling. “So we talk a lot about not quite reaching 64% [recovery], but compared to what I’m hearing from hospitals across the country, we’re way ahead,” Mr. Badrick stressed. Councilor Park suggested he bring the award and that information before Council. They’d be very interested in the comparisons to other regions, the Councilor said.

Mr. Walker informed the meeting that the City of Portland will be increasing their rates 4.8%; Mr. Winterhalter said that Clackamas County is raising their per-can rates, as well.

Councilor Park adjourned the meeting at 11:35 a.m.

Next meeting:  
Thursday, July 27, 2006  
Room 370 A/B

**JUNE MEETING CANCELED**

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Attachments  
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Queue

## Disposal Charge at Metro Transfer Stations

### Effective September 1, 2006 - August 31, 2007

The disposal charge for municipal solid waste at Metro transfer stations is comprised of two parts: A fixed charge (“transaction fee”) for each use of the transfer station, and a variable charge (“tip fee”) based on the amount of solid waste delivered for disposal. The components of these fees recover the cost of various programs and services.

	<u>Current</u>	<u>FY 06-07</u>	<u>Change</u>
<b>Transaction Fee</b>	<b>\$7.50</b>	<b>\$8.50 / \$3.00</b>	<b>+1.00 / (4.50)</b>
<i>Recovers the cost of scalehouse operations and capital expenses at the transfer stations. Users of the automated scales pay a reduced amount of the cost for scalehouse staffing.</i>			
<b>Metro Tip Fee (by component)</b>			
<i>Disposal Charges</i>			
Renewal & Replacement	1.10	1.10	- 0 -
<i>Recovers the cost of contribution to the capital sinking fund.</i>			
Transfer, Transport & Disposal	45.70	45.10	(0.60)
<i>Recovers the cost of transfer, transport &amp; disposal (BFI/Allied, CSU &amp; OWS contracts)</i>			
<b>Subtotal, Disposal Charges</b>	<b>\$46.80</b>	<b>\$46.20</b>	<b>(0.60)</b>
<i>Fees &amp; Taxes</i>			
Regional System Fee	14.54	13.57	(0.97)
<i>Recovers cost of Metro’s regional solid waste services &amp; programs (excludes cost of MSW disposal operations)</i>			
Metro Excise Tax	8.33	8.35	+ 0.02
<i>Contributes toward Metro general government costs, regional parks &amp; tourism development.</i>			
DEQ Fees	1.24	1.24	- 0 -
<i>Promotion fee, orphan site fund, etc. collected on behalf of Oregon State Department of Environmental Quality.</i>			
Community Enhancement Fee	0.50	0.50	- 0 -
<i>Collected on behalf of communities that host the transfer stations.</i>			
<b>Subtotal, Fees &amp; Taxes</b>	<b>\$24.61</b>	<b>\$23.66</b>	<b>(0.95)</b>
<b>TOTAL, METRO TIP FEE</b>	<b>\$71.41</b>	<b>\$69.86</b>	<b>(1.55)</b>
MINIMUM LOAD CHARGE (240 lbs. or less)	\$17	\$17	- 0 -

**Notes: Disposal Charges at Metro Transfer Stations**

Metro's transaction fee and tip fee are charged to Metro transfer station users only. Other facilities may charge different rates.

The Regional System Fee and Metro Excise Tax are charged on all solid waste that is generated in the region, regardless of the disposal site.

DEQ imposes its fees (totaling \$1.24) on waste delivered to all DEQ-permitted disposal sites. The host fee (community enhancement), currently 50¢ per ton at Metro's transfer stations, is a local option.

Loads that weigh 240 pounds or less are charged a flat rate of \$17 (\$8.50 tonnage charge + \$8.50 transaction fee.)

The Regional System Fee recovers the cost of waste reduction, hazardous waste, illegal dumpsite monitoring & cleanup, enforcement, latex paint recycling, Recycling Information Center hotline, etc. It excludes costs of MSW disposal operations.



## **List of Stakeholders Who Provided Input to the Disposal Systems Planning Project**

1. Metro Council
  - David Bragdon
  - Rod Park
  - Carl Hosticka
  - Brian Newman
  - Susan McLain
  - Rex Burkholder
  - Robert Liberty
  
2. COO/Staff
  - From Metro staff workshop on 11/10/05
  
3. Local Gov.
  - Rob Guttridge, Waste Reduction Specialist, Clark County
  - Jack Hanna, Code Enforcement, City of Troutdale
  - JoAnn Herrigel, Community Services Director, City of Milwaukie
  - Scott Keller, Auxiliary Services Program Manager, City of Beaverton
  - Leslie Kochan, Waste Reduction Specialist, Oregon DEQ
  - Matt Korot, Recycling & SW Program Manager, City of Gresham
  - Anita Largent, Solid Waste Manager, Clark County Government
  - Sally Puent, Manager SW/NW Region Environmental Partnership, Oregon DEQ NW Region
  - Ken Spiegle, Community Environment Manager, Clackamas County
  - Patricia Vernon, Oregon DEQ
  - Bruce Walker, Solid Waste & Recycling Program Manager, City of Portland OSD
  - Robert Weeks, Interim Solid Waste Manager, Washington County
  - Rick Winterhalter, Waste Reduction Coordinator, Clackamas County
  - Alice Norris, Mayor, Oregon City
  - Larry Patterson, City Manager, Oregon City
  - Judge Laura Pryor, Gilliam County
  
4. Private Facility Owners/Ops
  - Mike Leichner, Pride Disposal
  - Adam Winston, Waste Management
  - Mike Dewey, Waste Management
  - Will Spear, Waste Management
  - Dean Spady, Allied
  - Ray Phelps, Allied
  - Todd Irvine, Allied

- Eric Merrill, Waste Connections
- Dean Large, Waste Connections

5. Independent Commercial Haulers

- John Romero, West Slope Garbage Service
- Randy Burbach, Flannery's Drop Box Service
- Dave McMahon, Cloudburst Recycling
- Jack Deines, Deines Brothers Disposal
- Dave Cargni, Portland Disposal & Recycling
- Steve Borgens, Portland Disposal & Recycling
- Mike Borg, Oak Grove Disposal Company
- David White, Oregon Refuse and Recycling Association

6. Business Self-haul Customers / Self-haul Customers

- 314 customers participated in gatehouse survey

7. General Public - Participated in "Let's Talk Trash" public outreach program

**Disposal System Planning**  
Tentative Milestone Dates

Draft Consultant Report from CH2M	May 24, 2006
<b>Presentation of Consultants Final Report to the Metro Council and Stakeholders with Facilitated Discussion (Joint with SWAC?)</b>	<b>June 20, 2006</b>
Presentation of Report to SWAC – Tentative	June 22, 2006
<b>Metro Council Discussion of Report</b>	<b>July 11, 2006</b>
Public Release of Resolution for Incorporating COO Recommendation and Beginning of 30-day Public Comment Period	August 15, 2006
<b>Public Hearing on Resolution before Metro Council</b>	<b>September 14, 2006</b>

*Note: This schedule does not include anticipated contacts with MPAC and local governments.*