

SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE MEETING

June 9, 1987

5:00 p.m. - Conference Room 330

Committee Members Present: Councilors Jim Gardner, Gary Hansen, Sharron Kelley and Tom DeJardin

Staff Present: Tor Lyshaug, Chuck Geyer, Becky Crockett, Randi Wexler, Rich McConaghy, Debbie Allmeyer, Dave Luneke, Chuck Stoudt, Marilyn Matteson, Ray Phelps

Metro Consultants Present: Roy Ruel

Others Present: William J. Plew, Steve Berrey, Bob Hurley, Ralph Gilbert, Mike Casetta, Merle Irvine, Wayne Trewhitt, Jeanne Roy, Harold Manfredi, Carol Manfredi, Estle Harlan, Len Bergstein, R. A. Daniels

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m. by Committee Chairman Gardner.

Minutes of May 26, 1987 were approved.

Jeanne Roy of Recycling Advocates (a new group whose purpose is to lobby Metro and the City of Portland to achieve maximum waste reduction and recycling) and a member of Metro's Solid Waste Policy Advisory Committee, made a brief presentation and handed to the Committee Members materials on a proposal for diversion of waste from St. John's landfill.

The proposal is in three parts: 1.) To cover residential and commercial waste, Metro would set up a rate differential at the landfill as an incentive to haulers, using either different rates or diversion credit for haulers based on the times they recycle in relation to the tonnage they dump. 2.) To establish a diversion credit for the haulers for the materials they take to material recovery centers. 3.) To give a credit to haulers who take yard debris to yard debris recycling centers.

Councilor Kelley commented that she liked the plan and would like to get copies for the staff for assessment so it can be brought to the next Solid Waste Committee meeting. She also thanked Ms. Roy for spending time on this proposal. The other Councilors also requested copies.

1. Clackamas Transfer and Recycling Center Contract.

Tor Lyshaug, Acting Director of Solid Waste, requested a Resolution from the Solid Waste Committee recommending an extension of the contract for operating the Clackamas County Transfer and Recycling Center by Wastech.

Ray Phelps, Director of Finance and Administration for Metro, stated that his department has reviewed this request in respect to bidding and/or extending the present contract. One thing very clear to everyone involved is that a period of only 18 months is the time frame which needs coverage. The Finance and Administration Department is satisfied that the extension of the contract with Wastech would meet the provisions of the Metropolitan Service District Code, i.e., the favoritism issue and the price competitiveness issue.

If Metro were to go to bid for a period of only 18 months, it would more likely be discouraging competition or in some way not demonstrating a good faith effort to want competition because of start up costs, transition costs and capital investments for such a short time period.

Mr. Geyer of the Solid Waste Department has identified for Mr. Phelps a cost-savings of about \$225,000 to Metro by seeking an extension. A competitive bidding process needs a time frame of more than 18 months in order to be feasible.

Councilor Hansen asked if the extension of the contract would or would not result in a time savings regarding the implementing of the new recycling regulations.

Mr. Lyshaug stated that by not making any change in the contract, the post-sorting program could start immediately. Extending the present contract is the fastest way to get into the recycling program. There is also an understanding that when we get into the waste diversion program, CTRC will be one facility available for loading trucks hauling garbage out of the region. The loading costs will be the same for everybody, whether it is Wastech's own

trucks or those of a competitor. Therefore, we are not impeding competition or creating any undue favoritism on that point.

Councilor Kelley requested that the information given by Mr. Phelps be given to the Councilors in written form before being approved by the Solid Waste Committee and before presenting it to the Council. She said she felt more comfortable with the situation after Mr. Phelps' explanation. She thinks the justification in written form is very important as a matter of public policy.

Don Carlson suggested that it might be worthwhile to attach an Exhibit A to the Resolution, spelling out the findings regarding both criteria, so there is a clear statement of the cost savings and why Metro is not encouraging favoritism or inhibiting competition. Then the resolution will clearly stand alone.

A motion was made by Councilor Kelley to take a look at the revised resolution at the next Solid Waste Committee meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hansen.

Tor Lyshaug asked when the resolution could be formally dealt with.

Councilor Gardner stated that it would be reviewed at the June 23, 1987 Solid Waste Committee meeting and it could be on the Council Agenda for June 25th.

## 2. Solid Waste Management Plan.

Ms. Becky Crockett, Solid Waste Analyst, passed out an explanation of what functional planning is and how functional planning relates to what Metro is doing right now. She also told about the meeting held on June 5, 1987 where Metro invited all the local jurisdictions for discussion and to gain support from them for the Solid Waste Management Functional Planning Project. Executive Officer Rena Cusma and Councilor Waker addressed this group. Ms. Crockett also made a staff presentation, and Councilor Gardner attended as well. At the conclusion of the meeting, it appeared there was support from the local jurisdictions. Ms. Cusma closed the June 5th meeting by stating that Metro would be developing a resolution for each local jurisdiction to take action on and to specifically state their support for the project in general, plus their support for supplying Metro with the qualified staff needed

in order to develop the actual plan. It appeared at least 15 jurisdictions were represented at the meeting.

Ms. Crockett passed out a summary of the five major issues brought up in the main staff reports.

1. Asking the Council to adopt a draft work program for the project.
2. Asking the Council to endorse the setting up of two committees; the technical committee and the policy recommending committee to the Council.
3. Asking the Council to adopt a short-term diversion program to extend the life of the St. Johns landfill in order to have time to complete the work plan, put other facilities on line, develop resource recovery, etc. prior to the closing of St. Johns landfill.
4. Asking the Council to endorse the staff to go ahead and develop what is called in-term franchising policies.
5. Asking the Council to endorse the way the plan is going to deal with the integration of the landfill decision, resource recovery decision and WTRC decision into this Solid Waste System Plan.

Councilor Kelley asked that Ms. Crockett relate the above issues to each other while she made her explanations of each one. Ms. Crockett replied that all the issues related to each other, which was one of the main difficulties the staff had encountered while trying to pull the Solid Waste System Plan together. If any one of the items were proceeded upon, all items had to be worked on. The staff finally made up a scroll, a copy of which was handed to each Councilor at the beginning of the meeting, that related the various aspects of the plan and how they could all be related to one another in a comprehensive program.

Councilor Gardner had a question about the committees, particularly the technical committee. From the membership and make-up as discussed, it seems to be very similar to SWPAC. Since SWPAC currently has many people who fill the needed qualifications, it seems a duplication of efforts. Where does this leave SWPAC?

Ms. Crockett replied that there was a need for technical expertise beyond the present members of SWPAC, mostly engineers and land use

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planners. One possibility discussed was to ask SWPAC members if they would like to be involved in the technical group and, if so, they would be the first ones invited to participate and become members of the technical group.

Don Carlson asked if we would not be creating a massive effort for planning in areas that have already been covered, i.e. WTRC, Resource Recovery, etc.

Tor Lyshaug stated that he did not feel that was what the Solid Waste staff was doing. What they are doing is laying out an outline to follow to develop a system. In the meantime, we also have a parallel effort and that is the diversion program. The diversion program may include some things that may be permanent, but some of them are temporary, of maybe three or four year duration. At the end of this three or four year period, Metro will have a system for dealing with the solid waste that is coming in the future. This is a long-range plan as well as incorporating the short-term measures that Metro hopes to initiate in the future.

Councilor Hansen brought up the fact that the Council is very reluctant to make any modifications on JPACT recommendations. He would not be willing to give away as much authority to the proposed body as has been given to JPACT. It is contrary to Councilor Hansen's vision of elected regional representation.

Tor Lyshaug stated that the materials given to the Councilors sets out Solid Waste problems and possible solutions as of now, but if opportunities come on line for other options, the scroll would be updated and then the different decisions would be either upscaled or downscaled, or a solution would present itself. The scroll shows how, as things happen, they influence the whole process. The scroll is an attempt to keep tabs on the whole process as it should develop and then revisions can be made as things happen and also show the consequences if things do not happen.

Marilyn Matteson has been working on a public education program to go along with the planning effort. She gave a brief overview of her work. The focus of the education program will be to give citizens the opportunity to view the alternatives and to have the opportunity make comments on the alternatives so they would know up front what the options are for the design of the system.

Don Carlson and Councilor Hansen both expressed concern that such a public education program would be very difficult to implement

because most people would feel it would be too remote to their own situations and very little participation would result at this point.

Councilor Kelley stated several objections. 1). She felt the timing in terms of the sites for composting, etc., we're looking at the end of this year, while the Solid Waste Plan is predicated on a time frame of two years. 2). It appears the staff is asking the Council to look at this plan at a time when it is having to make some major decisions, and it would not be fair to ask the Council to deal with such technical matters without more time to study the issues. 3). In the scenario, neither the Metro Council nor the policy makers of the region will be in a position to ask knowledgeable questions because the technical people will be separate from them.

Ms. Crockett stated that the technical people would work through all of the details and then shoot the information through the policy committee, so that they would have all the information, but not be involved in the actual hands-on development of the options. The policy committee would still have the opportunity to choose between options, but have the information presented in a succinct form where they would not have to deal with every detail that may not really pertain to the issues.

Becky Crockett stated that what the staff was aiming for was for the Council to act on a Draft Work Program and a Draft concept of setting these things in motion so that the staff can talk to these jurisdictions about what is to be expected ahead. What is envisioned as a time frame before you do a final adoption of the work program is to bring those people together to go through the work program in its draft form and revise that as they see fit for the development of this project. When they get done with their revisions the plan would be brought back for the Council's final approval.

Tor Lyshaug said the message the Council would be sending to these people would be that they basically are taking the whole concept under consideration. In other words, the Council is not supporting it up front.

Councilor Gardner said he regretted that was the message that came out because he personally is not at all uncertain or non-supportive of the concept at all, it's just a few of the details and how everything will fit together. The idea of having an overall functional plan and involving the jurisdictions in putting together that plan he has no doubts about at all.

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Tor Lyshaug stated that the Council has already adopted functional planning. What is now in question is setting up a process which involves these jurisdictions. What the staff really is asking for is the Council to support that form of process. He doesn't think the Council per se would be giving away any of its authority.

Councilor Gardner stated it was true the Council was not giving up any authority in any formal sense. But he felt the analogy to JPACT was what was causing some of the concern because the Council feels they have delegated a large portion of their transportation planning authority to JPACT. There have been no instances where the Council has overturned a JPACT recommendation. There have been only rare ones where the Council has sent a recommendation back and asked them to re-examine or to provide more information. So, in a way, by tying this so closely to the JPACT model, the staff may have been creating some of those concerns because JPACT has been given, in effect, the job of making the decisions to a very large extent. If the Council is going to do that same sort of delegation for Solid Waste planning, Councilor Kelley was rightly concerned that the Council have more time to consider before they make any decision.

Ms. Crockett made a final suggestion she said would help the staff tremendously. She requested that on the June 25, 1987 meeting the Council make a statement of support for the staff to go out and work with the jurisdictions in getting the resolution process going forward and that the Council support developing the Solid Waste Management Plan, taking into consideration the Draft Work Program and the Council support the staff going out there and having them go through that resolution process.

Councilor Gardner replied that it certainly was a possibility. The Council has already endorsed the concept of doing the functional plan and involving the local jurisdictions. He felt the only problem or point where the Council might balk, was in adopting the entire work plan, even as a draft, with so little time to understand it and to understand its implications.

Jon Allred's report was postponed to the Council meeting scheduled for June 25, 1987. The material he was to have reported on would not change between the two meetings and was explained in the scroll.

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### III. Resource Recovery Final Evaluation Report

Debbie Allmeyer, Solid Waste Analyst, explained a handout which covered the evaluations pertaining to the various proposals in front of the Council and answered questions regarding equity, tax benefits, disposal costs, economic impact, financeability, etc.

Discussion ensued as to how the meeting on June 23, 1987 would be handled, i.e., would proposers be encouraged to participate or make rebuttals to the evaluations presented by the Solid Waste staff? Would comments from the public be encouraged?

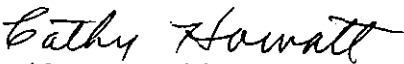
Councilor Gardner requested that some response be prepared on the proposal made by Jeanne Roy concerning rate incentives.

Tor Lyshaug replied that he has instructed the staff to consider all proposals and that they are trying to find in the system itself where the real problem is; where the haulers have a good excuse; where they do not have an excuse; and also intend having more conversation with the recyclers themselves, before jumping into a rate change. The staff may not end up doing everything Ms. Roy is proposing, but they certainly will be considering everything she is proposing.

Councilor Gardner praised the Solid Waste staff for the excellent work they have accomplished in preparing the documents explaining and evaluating the various options coming before the Council.

Councilor Gardner adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Cathy Howatt