

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE
OF THE METROPOLITAN SERVICE DISTRICT

September 3, 1991

Council Chamber

Committee Members Present: Judy Wyers (Chair), Tom DeJardin, Jim Gardner, Susan McLain

Councilors Absent: Ruth McFarland (Vice Chair)

Councilors Also Present: Roger Buchanan

Chair Wyers called the regular meeting to order at 4:39 p.m.

1. Solid Waste Updates
o General Staff Reports

Bob Martin, Director of Solid Waste, presented staff reports on the status of the Riedel Composter Facility and the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day.

Riedel Composter Facility

He said the compost facility was in start-up mode and some recent procedures have been helping with waste processed at an earlier date. He said Councilor Buchanan and Council staff visited the facility recently to participate in a meeting Riedel and DEQ concerning the regulatory response to the odor problem. He said DEQ was working with Riedel and had drafted a compliance order which will become a stipulated order, and said a forty day time frame was under review. Mr. Martin said complaints seemed to have decreased.

In response to Councilor McLain, Mr. Martin said a Cully and Madison North neighborhood meeting had taken place, and said copies of his remarks at the Solid Waste Committee meeting had been distributed at the meeting as well as mailed to interested parties. He offered to repeat that process with the current meeting.

Department staff and the Committee discussed various activities underway to reduce the odor.

Councilor Buchanan noted he had received four phone calls from neighborhood leadership and felt neighborhood concern was increasing regarding the odor problem.

Mr. Martin said Metro, Riedel and DEQ desired and needed feedback from the community regarding the odor in order to observe the patterns and verify the trouble spots.

(Continued)

Councilor Buchanan offered to call Riedel when he observed an odor, and said he would discuss others calling Riedel with neighborhood leadership.

In response to Councilor DeJardin, Councilor Buchanan said the neighborhood was sensitized and if an odor was detected, Riedel was being blamed. He agreed community feedback would help in the verification process. He noted the odor had some mysterious qualities of appearing and disappearing, changing in nature, and changing locations.

Mr. Martin said Riedel had stated awareness of an odor problem created by Riedel existed, and were interested in resolving the problem. He said Riedel would work toward that end until they were convinced the facility's odor problem was settled, and was not interested in tracing down every odor to other possible generators.

Councilor Buchanan suggested forming a committee to check the area periodically for odor, and asked Riedel representatives present at the meeting if such a committee would be beneficial.

Tom Lebo, representative from Riedel, said citizens could call Riedel at 240-2277 with odor information.

In response to Councilor McLain, Mr. Martin said records were being kept to trace the pattern of odors with the pattern of prevailing winds and record temperatures as well as ambient moisture content of the air. He added concern had arisen that the onset of fall and winter would reduce the perceived odor problems resulting in a mistaken notion the problem was solved, and said that factor was under discussion.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day

Mr. Martin said the event would be held on Columbus Day at two locations, one in Aloha at the Fire Station at 109th, one at Fire Station #10 near Gresham. He said a small quantity generator receiving day would be held on October 10 and 11 at the Metro Central transfer station. He said Metro was coordinating with DEQ to hold the two events with an interagency agreement by which Metro would reimburse DEQ for Metro's portion of the cost of the events.

2. Resolution No. 91-1493, For the Purpose of Authorizing an Exemption to the Requirement of Competitive Bidding and Authorizing Issuance of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Development of Landfill Gas Resources at the St. Johns Landfill

Chuck Geyer, Senior Solid Waste Planner, presented the staff report, and discussed the history of Metro's attempts to develop the landfill gas resources at St. Johns Landfill beginning back in the early 1980's. He said in 1989 a closure plan was submitted to DEQ to permit a minimal environmental facility to flare the gas. He said interested parties have used landfill gas as a product, and said Metro has developed an RFP to

solicit from potential vendors. He said the RFP included two options; 1) a Metro-installed gas collection and flaring system from which a vendor would retrieve and apply the gas to the vendor's project either on or off-site, or 2) a proposer-installed gas collection system as well as additional equipment needed to develop their product either on or off site. Mr. Geyer said the criteria ranked environmental concerns and efficient use of the product at the top with minimal risk both financially and legally plus economic benefit to Metro next.

Mr. Geyer referred to a memorandum dated August 28, 1991 from John Houser, Council Analyst, and answered the questions posed. He said the department had been in contact with and expected responses from three types of vendors: those who would 1) use the gas to generate electricity, 2) collect the gas to ship to others for industrial fuel use, or 3) convert the natural gas to diesel fuel, and indicated these as the products. He said the contractual relationship between the landfill owner and the processor or developer would be similar to a mining rights arrangement and payment would be structured by cubic measurement. Mr. Geyer said Metro could have some combined project revenues with the City of Portland, and said the agreement negotiations would determine the nature of the revenue. He said the source of funds would be the closure plan should Metro construct the system, and said the department hoped to have negotiations completed by the end of the year. Mr. Geyer said ownership of the system would revert to Metro at the end of the project, and said that would not be a deterrent to proposers since the system should be completely depreciated by then.

Motion: Councilor DeJardin moved to recommend Resolution No. 91-1493 to the full Council for adoption.

In response to Councilor Gardner, Mr. Geyer said primary consideration in evaluating the vendor selection would be the degree of complexity involved vendor construction of a collection system during the closure process. He said although the system would be of no use to a vendor at the end of the project and that tax credits would be available to a vendor for installation of a gas collection system, it should be noted the system would be of use to Metro, since Metro would continue to collect gas and flare it in order to keep the geo-membrane intact.

Jim Watkins, Engineering and Analysis Manager, said Metro had an estimate of \$3.1 million dollars from Parametrics for installation of a system to collect the gas and flare it.

Mr. Houser responded in the affirmative to Councilor Gardner's question that the contract would return to the Council as a multi-year contract.

In response to Councilor DeJardin, Mr. Geyer said the initial system would be an above the ground system network of pipes and motor blower flare. Councilor DeJardin felt the landfill closure would serve as a model for others, and noted he was interested in a natural appearance. Mr. Watkins

said landscaping such as grass could be done as soon as the landfill was closed.

Chair Wyers opened a public hearing.

Arnold Cogan, Managing Partner, Cogan/Sharp/Cogan, representative for Clean Fuels Co. of Orange County, California, said his client collected methane gas from landfills to convert to clean diesel fuel. He commented on language in the RFP concerning Metro's right to alter the gas flow with adequate notice, and requested the definition of adequate notice be stipulated as 30 days and that the proposer be responsible for the condensate only as long as it is not classified as hazardous waste. He was also interested in the overall timing.

Chair Wyers asked Mr. Geyer to respond. Mr. Geyer said the adequate notice time amount would be affected by final negotiations as different technologies would require different lengths of time. He said condensate was not currently deemed as hazardous. Mr. Geyer said if the RFP was approved for release a cover letter would outline as detailed a time schedule as possible.

Mr. Cogan estimated 2 to 2.5 million gallons of diesel fuel could be processed from the landfill, and noted the tax credits would not be available after December 31, 1992.

George Ward, consulting engineer, 4941 S.W. 26th Dr., Portland, OR, expressed his client, Soils Cos., continued to be interested in use of the landfill gas as a fuel for treating petroleum contaminated soils at a site near the landfill, and said his client could then sell the treated soil for landfill cover use in the closure process.

Chair Wyers closed the public hearing.

In response to Councilor Gardner, Mr. Geyer said five parties had expressed interest in the landfill closure and said the RFP would be widely dispersed.

Vote: Councilors DeJardin, Gardner, McLain and Wyers voted aye.

The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

3. Reports by Washington County and the City of Portland Relating to Funding for the Purchase of Recycling Bins

Steve Kraten, Recycling Section Supervisor, presented the staff report, and said Metro had begun partial funding of curbside recycling baskets in FY 1989-90, and the program has proved to be successful. He said the original budgeted amount of \$615,000 for containers FY 1990-91 based on early estimates of the number of single family homes was not adequate, and noted

corrections have been made regarding the numbers of homes. Mr. Kraten introduced Sue Keel, representing the City of Portland, and Delyn Kies, Solid Waste Management Coordinator for Washington County, who addressed the factors driving the changes in the estimates. Ms. Keel said the plan was to place two containers with each single family household. Ms. Kies said weekly recycling collection was done in Washington County on the same day as the residential garbage collection, noting implementation of the program was completed February, 1991. She said the single family recycling container program should be implemented February, 1992, and said differences had been encountered in Washington County in the numbers of households as numbers have been updated. She urged Council support of the program, which she said represented 41% of the solid waste budget for the county.

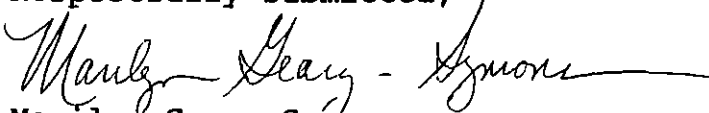
Councilor McLain said letters had gone to residents in the unincorporated areas indicating recycling pick up would occur no longer due to the Metropolitan Service District boundaries. Ms. Kies indicated the state regulations stipulated collection service take place within the urban growth boundaries of cities with a population of 4,000 or more. She said the county would be working with the haulers to retain the service. She said those residences had not been counted in the numbers of single family households for Metro budget purposes. Ms. Kies and Councilor McLain agreed to discuss further other questions at issue.

Mr. Kraten outlined several options for budgeting for the program, and recommended funding. Mr. Martin said due to the budget shortfall the department was interested in direction from the Committee and the Council as to a funding mechanism, and recommended a transfer of appropriations from contingency at a later date.

The Committee agreed unanimously in concept to support the recommendation.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Marilyn Geary-Symons
Committee Clerk