

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN PUBLIC/TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, September 7, 2023
In-Person Meeting
3:00 pm – 5:30 pm

UBC Robson Square – Room C440
800 Robson Street, Vancouver, BC

Meeting Notes

Attendees: Director Sarah Kirby-Yung, Chair; Director Craig Hodge, Vice-Chair; Alice Henry, Bill Chan, Brenda Martens, Brianna De Man, Christian Dietrich, Cody Irwin, Daniel Rotman, Doug Schell, Grant Hankins, Jamie Kaminski, Louise Schwarz, Love-Ese Chile, Lyndsay Poaps, Michael Zarbl, Raman Johal, Sue Maxwell.

Absent: Ben Liegey, Hunter Bergen, Jake Turek, Jaye-Jay Berggren, Jessica Savoy, John Doherty, Kevin Huang, Matthew Morin, Sara Larter, Tara Immell, Ulwiana Mehta-Malhotra, William Selten, Yasmin Abraham.

Metro Vancouver Staff: Allen Jensen, Brooke Atkinson, Chris Allan, Chris Underwood, Karen Storry, Paul Henderson, Samantha Joy, Stephanie Liu.

1.	INTRODUCTIONS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting started at 3:13 pm. 	Chair
	1.1 Welcome from the Chair 1.2 Territorial Acknowledgement	Chair
2.	AGENDA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed the September 7, 2023 meeting agenda 	Chair
3.	MEETING NOTES – April 28, 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed the June 1, 2023 meeting notes A member suggested changes to the June meeting notes to clarify that they had recommended referring to the “zero waste hierarchy” rather than the “waste hierarchy” in Attachment 1: Workshop Summary – Solid Waste Management Plan Update Vision and Guiding Principles. 	Chair
4.	ACTION/STANDING ITEMS	Chair

	<p>4.1 Action items from June 1 meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No updates from staff. <p>4.2 Incoming/outgoing communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No new communication. 	
5.	METRO VANCOUVER UPDATES AND INVITED PRESENTATIONS	
	<p>5.1 Performance Metrics Review – Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Metro Vancouver has retained Morrison Hershfield to assist with the solid waste management plan update, including reviewing performance metrics. Key performance indicators including disposal and recycling rates are reported annually and in a biennial solid waste management plan progress report provided to the province. The scope of work for this review includes reviewing a wide range of solid waste performance metrics used elsewhere, including ones which assess performance related to circular economy, greenhouse gas emission reductions and equity. Qualitative and quantitative performance measures will be considered, along with factors such as access to date, reliability and measurement feasibility. PTAC members were asked what is important to their organization for reporting, what data they have access to that can inform this project, and if there are any specific jurisdictional examples that should be considered. PTAC members may submit additional comments or suggestions to zerowaste@metrovancover.org or if they would like to be interviewed on this topic. <p>Members discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Metrics which track and measure the success of partnerships and collaborations, such as with cities and EPR stewards, and assess overall system capacity (e.g. number of refilleries available for given population) Including forward-looking metrics which help to measure things that are important for future success Metrics for tracking the number of reuse cycles, consumption, creation of green and inclusive jobs and other measures of economic circularity Applicability of industry best practices to Metro Vancouver region Applying the principles of Donut Economics to integrate metrics and illustrate them so they are more understandable How the make-up of waste stream is changing and the implications on current methods of calculations Protecting commercially sensitive data acquired from industry/haulers Terminology such as the difference between recycling and diversion Metrics which speak to market demand for specific recycled materials 	<p>Chris Underwood, Metro Vancouver</p> <p>Veronika Bartlett, Morrison Hershfield</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measures of consumption – items purchased that will eventually become waste • Measures of services available that benefit goals and targets • How to measure attitudes and behaviours for the purpose of identifying barriers and opportunities • The need to look deeper into the story behind the metrics (e.g. most users of recycling depots require a Class 5 driver’s license; what portion of population doesn’t have a Class 5 license and therefore has restricted access to depots) • Opportunity to access and use reuse/repair data from stewardship programs • Track metrics for how much goods are being stored (e.g. in self-storage) 	
	<p>5.2 Bidders’ Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A bidder is a person who collects redeemable beverage containers to sustain their livelihood. This diverts waste from disposal • Bidders’ Project provides a program to empower bidders and to recognize them as being part of the circular economy • Aiming to build the community from the bottom up by reducing stigma associated with binning, improve economic opportunities for Bidders, and support waste diversion in Vancouver • Example Bidders’ Project programs and initiatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Coffee Cup Revolution event ○ Community pickups ○ Bidders hook ○ Universal binning cart ○ Back-of-house waste sorting ○ Sorting services at community events <p>Members discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possibility of replicating and expanding the program in other cities within the region • Necessary to build community capacity by getting more industry partners involved and government support 	<p>Brianne De Man, Bidders’ Project</p>
	<p>5.3 Reuse and Repair Initiative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metro Vancouver has multiple reuse and repair initiatives underway such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reuse at Recycling and Waste Centres (Reuse Days) – diverting reusable items from the landfill at the North Shore Recycling and Waste Centre ○ Reusable cups and containers for offices and events – promoting reusable cup use in offices and community events (pilot at Metrotower III) ○ Food recovery network – Love Food, Hate Waste campaign and collaborating with FoodMesh ○ Construction and demolition – creating a waste reduction and recycling toolkit for construction and demolition waste 	<p>Karen Storry, Metro Vancouver</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Repair café funding – supporting municipalities to hold repair cafes for residents to work with repair experts to fix items <p>Members discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The benefits of having a repository of lessons learned from all of these initiatives to be able to improve the current programs and expand them to other regions <p>Action Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Metro Vancouver to draft a lessons learned repository of all of the initiatives to date and share with PTAC. 	
	<p>5.4 Assessment of Regional Solid Waste Systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A drive time model was developed to map and understand how the regional solid waste facilities meet Metro Vancouver’s goal to provide small vehicle loads access within 30 minutes from a regional solid waste facility. The difference in drive times and their implications related to drive distance and GHG emissions were shown for the following scenarios: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Smalls loads baseline waste (current system) ○ Vancouver South Transfer Station closure ○ Vancouver Landfill closure ○ Baseline without Central Surrey Recycling and Waste Centre ○ False Creek Flats Recycling and Waste Centre ○ Barnet/Lansdowne Recycling and Waste Centre ○ Langley Recycling and Waste Centre options ○ Commercial hauler loads baseline ● The current regional solid waste facilities meet the goal of drive times under 30-minutes for 98% of the population projected in 2050. <p>Members discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There was a question about a scenario where the Waste-to-Energy Facility was not operating. It was noted that most of the scenarios presented were for drive times for small vehicles, and small vehicles do not have access to the Waste-to-Energy Facility. A scenario of replacing the Waste-to-Energy Facility with a full service recycling and waste centre would result in reduced drive times for small vehicles in the vicinity of the facility, although their drive times would already be less than 30 minutes due to the proximity of the Vancouver South Transfer Station and United Boulevard Recycling and Waste Centre. 	<p>Allen Jensen, Metro Vancouver</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>OTHER BUSINESS</p>	

	<p>6.1 Zero Waste Committee Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul Henderson provided an update on the agenda items from the July 13, 2023 Zero Waste Committee meeting, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Draft Tipping Fee Bylaw Updates ○ Smart Waste Program • Metro Vancouver is committed to engaging with waste haulers on both the tipping fee bylaw updates and the smart waste program. <p>Members discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smart waste program, as a method to track where garbage goes, is less invasive than following trucks around the region 	<p>Paul Henderson, Metro Vancouver</p>
	<p>6.2 Invited Presenters and Topics Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Kirby-Yung provided an opportunity for PTAC members to describe in more detail and add to the list of potential invited presenters for future PTAC meetings. • The list was created based on discussion at the June PTAC meeting and was shared with members for further discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Community based social marketing (potential speaker Professor Doug Mackenzie Mohr). ○ Natural disaster impacts on management of waste (potential speaker Cameron Baughen). ○ Lighthouse investigation of waste composition leaving construction sites from the generation side. ○ Opportunities for recycling, particularly organics (markets, pick-up options, processing, separation from waste, end-use) ○ ReFED presentation on data and insights (potential speaker Dana Gunders). ○ Waste-to-Energy (potential speaker Mike Ewall). ○ Zero Waste BC agenda, the provincial circular economy strategy and costs for various disposal options. <p>Members discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adding these topics to the list: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Environmental/social/governmental (ESG) accounting practices ○ Broader goal for net zero in 2050 ○ Insights from and perspectives of waste hauling industry ○ Single-use item regulations from province and federal government ○ Construction and demolition and how policies change the market ○ Presenters from other parts of the world that have had success in getting better results, best practices, changing course ○ Reuse and how to scale reuse (presenter Cody Irwin) ○ Information on recycling commodity markets ○ Procurement of organics and how we are cycling the nutrients 	<p>Chair</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Repair and reuse working alongside procurement <p>Action Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members are welcome to provide additional ideas for invited presentations at future meetings, by emailing zerowaste@metrovancover.org 	
	<p>6.3 Collaborative Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PTAC members representing not-for-profit organizations are invited to participate in the collaborative engagement initiative, or to share information with potentially interested not-for-profit organizations. • This initiative offers funding (up to \$5,000 per organization) and support to non-profit organizations to engage their networks on a vision and guiding principles for an updated solid waste management plan. • The goal is to hear from community members who otherwise may not be aware of opportunities to provide input to Metro Vancouver (i.e under-represented or equity denied groups, urban Indigenous people, youth, senior associations, environmental groups). <p>Action Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metro Vancouver will send details on the organizations we are currently working with and the type of organizations that we are looking to engage with. PTAC members are welcome to email zerowaste@metrovancover.org with suggestions on who to reach out to, or if their organization would like to participate. 	<p>Brooke Atkinson, Metro Vancouver</p>
	<p>6.4 Metro Vancouver Solid Waste Services Department Name</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul Henderson explained how Metro Vancouver Solid Waste Services Department is looking to change its name to something that better describes the work that the department does. • PTAC members participated in a polling exercise using Mentimeter. 	<p>Paul Henderson, Metro Vancouver</p>
	<p>6.5 2023 Zero Waste Conference PTAC Member Attendance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Kirby-Yung provided a reminder to PTAC members that Metro Vancouver will cover the registration cost for PTAC members for the upcoming Zero Waste Conference (November 1-2) • PTAC members should email their information to zerowaste@metrovancover.org before September 25 if interested in attending 	
7.	<p>ADJOURNMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting was adjourned at 5:25 pm. 	<p>Chair</p>
8.	<p>NEXT MEETING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • November 16, 2023 (online). 	