

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN PUBLIC/TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

June 19, 2025
Online Meeting
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Meeting Notes

Attendees: Director Sarah Kirby-Yung, Chair; Director Craig Hodge, Vice-Chair; Adelyn Chan, Amika Watari, Ben Liegey, Bill Chan, Brianna De Man, Cassidy vander Ros, Christoph Schultz, Cody Irwin, Daniel Rotman, Daryl Foster, Doug Schell, Gil Yaron, Jake Turek, Jamie Kaminski, Jennifer Henry, John Doherty, Komal Fatima, Louise Schwarz, Marcelle Moreira dos Santos, Michael Zarbl, Raman Johal, Sarah Scanlan, Sean Miles, Sue Maxwell, Tara Immell, William Selten.

Absent: Allen Lynch, Brenda Martens, Grant Hankins, Jaye-Jay Berggren, Kevin Huang, Matthew Morin, Sara Larter, Stephanie Voysey, Ulwiana Mehta-Malhotra.

Metro Vancouver Staff: Brooke Atkinson, Chris Underwood, Chris Allan, Karen Storry, Paul Henderson, Sahar Ahmadvand, Stephanie Liu, Terry Fulton, Samantha Joy, Zack Ha, Allen Jensen.

	INTRODUCTIONS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting started at 1:00 pm 	Chair
1.	Welcome from the Chair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Director Kirby-Yung welcomed Committee members Territorial acknowledgement 	
2.	AGENDA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed the June 19, 2025 agenda. 	Chair
3.	MEETING MINUTES – May 8, 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed the May 8, 2025 meeting notes and revised April 10, 2025 meeting notes and members did not note any errors or omissions. 	Chair
4.	ACTION/STANDING ITEMS	Chair
	4.1 Action tracker The action tracker was reviewed, and updates were provided. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pending action items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on Reuse and Repair with report (provided as attachment) Provide information on breakdown of organic vs. recycled materials at multi-family residents (provided as attachment) 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provide PTAC full list of ideas from idea generation engagement ○ Provide source of GHG data for climate action plan ● Completed action item: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Presentation on SWMP Governance, PTAC’s role in SWMP, and Zero Waste Initiatives 	
5.	DISCUSSION ITEMS	
	<p>5.1 Solid Waste Management Plan Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Updated Waste Hierarchy and Goals <i>For feedback</i> Terry Fulton, Senior Project Engineer, Solid Waste Services <p>Discussion summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Member suggested that under Recycle, “recycle into new material”, the “new material” should be “new products” because it is recycled material, not new product. ● Members noted opposition to having Recover refer solely to energy; it should be focused on recovering materials that haven’t been source separated, and potentially harmful substances like mercury and asbestos. ● Suggestion there should be an “Unacceptable” category including incineration and waste-to-energy ● Comment that Zero Waste International Alliance Hierarchy should be used (that classifies incineration and waste-to-energy as unacceptable). ● Member noted that hierarchy systems are complicated because there are a lot of different entities involved and responsibilities within each level. ● Question as to why Recover (related to the creation of products to be used as a fuel substitute) is included in the hierarchy. Suggestion that Recover should go into disposal; could be under “Unacceptable”, not diversion level. ● Comment that Rethink is rather focused on a transition to a circular economy, but where does supporting innovation fit into the proposed hierarchy. ● A member noted recovery should be a combination of items you can’t recycle – should be thought of if they can be recovered or must go to landfill. ● Member noted no concern with Recover being a part of the hierarchy, it’s aligned with Provincial hierarchy – no issue with alternative fuels, better than it being landfilled. ● Member supports hierarchy as proposed. ● Member suggested replacing recovery for fuel with recovery of materials for recycle and reuse. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Draft Regulatory Strategy <i>For feedback</i> Terry Fulton, Senior Project Engineer, Solid Waste Services 	

Discussion summary:

- Member asked for clarification as to is considered a generator with respect to the Generator Levy. Staff confirmed that the generator is the original generator of the waste, but consistent with Metro Vancouver’s authority under the GVS&DD act, haulers are responsible to remit the Generator Levy to GVS&DD.
- Comment on waste hierarchy having a reduce and reuse, and how that relates to the priorities of the regulatory strategy.
- Member commented that it is difficult to comment and provide meaningful feedback on the draft regulatory strategy when the committee has not seen the draft strategies and actions yet.
- Staff and committee agreed that a more detailed draft regulatory strategy will be brought back to the committee at a later meeting.

5.2 Draft Recycling and Waste Centre Strategy Development

For input

Paul Henderson, General Manager, Solid Waste Services

Discussion summary:

- A member noted increasing challenge of siting depots in the region (i.e. Encorp, etc.)
- Comment that the strategy should prioritize the reuse/repair groups that currently operate at the existing facilities, allow them to have input on the reuse and repair process.
- Suggestion that recycling opportunities should be close to consumers and a focus on reuse options.
- Cultural communities and repair/reuse – a potential suggestions is to provide space at facilities to provide knowledge sharing and community building that addresses different cultures in the region.
- A member noted the new hierarchy and strategy doesn’t include a circular economic lens, example is thinking about adjacent land use to the major facilities and the potential to co-locate circular activities.
- Suggestion to have drivetime map that considers population density in the region.
- Member asked about the reuse pilot going at United Boulevard facility?
 - Staff shared information that the scope of materials being collected is less than at the North Shore facility, and will come back with some further information.
- Suggestion to expand reuse pilot including the types of materials accepted and expanding EPR programs.
- Suggestion to look at these strategies to design a system so that inspections of 80% of loads can take place.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suggestion of partnering with public groups, while prioritizing the upper parts of hierarchy and look into having alternate ways to delivery services to address accessibility (i.e. farmers market, adjacent businesses) for reuse opportunities. <p>5.1 Solid Waste Management Plan Update - continued</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Idea Generation Engagement Summary <i>For information</i> Stephanie Liu, Program Manager, Community Engagement, Solid Waste Services No questions or feedback provided. 	
6.	INFORMATION ITEMS	
	<p>6.1 Zero Waste Committee and Other Updates **Items provided for members as information in the agenda package.</p>	Paul Henderson
7.	OTHER BUSINESS	
	<p>7.1 Additional Information on Multi-Family Solid Waste Generation 7.2 Metro Vancouver Reuse and Repair Initiatives 7.3 Zero Waste Conference – November 27, 2025 7.4 Potential Invited Presentation from Oceana – feedback from members</p> <p>Discussion summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members indicated support for Oceana presentation at a future committee meeting. Member suggested opportunities for members’ feedback should be prioritized to provide feedback on plan update items before having external presentations. 	Brooke Atkinson
8.	ADDITIONAL ITEMS	
	<p>8.1 Public/Technical Advisory Committee Updated 2025 Work Plan 8.2 Regional Waste Flows May 2025 8.3 Concrete and Asphalt Recycling Opportunities Review</p>	
	<p>ADJOURNMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adjourned at 3:13 pm 	Chair