

## SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN PUBLIC/TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Friday, April 28, 2023

Zoom Meeting

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

### Meeting Notes

**Attendees:** Director Sarah Kirby-Yung, Chair; Director Craig Hodge, Vice-Chair; Ben Liegey, Bill Chan, Brenda Martens, Brianne De Man, Cody Irwin, Daniel Rotman, Doug Schell, Grant Hankins, Jamie Kaminski, Louise Schwarz, Love-Ese Chile, Lyndsay Poaps, Raman Johal, Sue Maxwell, Tara Immell, Ulwiana Mehta-Malhotra, William Selten, Yasmin Abraham.

**Absent:** Alice Henry, Christian Dietrich, Hunter Bergen, Jake Turek, Jaye-Jay Berggren, Jessica Savoy, John Doherty, Kevin Huang, Mary Polak, Matthew Morin, Michael Zarbl, Sara Larter.

**Metro Vancouver Staff:** Brooke Atkinson, Chris Allan, Chris Chong, Jessica Yamamoto, Karen Storry, Mani Massah, Paul Henderson, Terry Fulton, Zeenia Mizan, Stephanie Liu.

1.	<b>INTRODUCTIONS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting started at 3:07 pm.</li> </ul>	Chair
	<b>1.1 Welcome from the Chair</b> <b>1.2 Committee members</b>	Chair
2.	<b>AGENDA</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reviewed the <a href="#">April 28, 2023 meeting agenda</a>.</li> </ul>	Chair
3.	<b>MEETING NOTES – June 30, 2022</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reviewed the <a href="#">September 21, 2022 meeting notes</a>.</li> </ul>	Chair
4.	<b>ACTION/STANDING ITEMS</b>	Chair
	<b>4.1 Action items from September 21 meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No updates from staff.</li> </ul> <b>4.2 Incoming/outgoing communication</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No new communication.</li> </ul>	

<b>5.</b>	<b>METRO VANCOUVER UPDATES</b>	
	<b>5.1 2023 Annual Work Plan - DRAFT</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The draft 2023 work plan for the Public/Technical Advisory Committee was presented and members were provided an opportunity to comment.</li> </ul>	Stephanie Liu, Metro Vancouver
	<b>5.2 Solid Waste Management Plan Vision and Guiding Principles - Workshop</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The committee received an overview presentation on the regional recycling and waste system, and a presentation on the approach to discussing vision and guiding principles for the solid waste management plan update.</li> <li>• Four key questions were discussed by committee members, including small group and large group discussions:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What waste reduction, recycling and garbage disposal topics are most important, now and into the future?</li> <li>2. List words or phrases that describe what matters, when deciding what to do with products, packaging and materials that are no longer needed.</li> <li>3. The updated solid waste management plan is intended to reflect the values of everyone in the region. What values, interests, and priorities can be considered?</li> <li>4. Thinking of how we purchase, use, reuse, repurpose, recycle and throw things away in the Metro Vancouver region, what could be better in the future than it is today?</li> </ol> </li> <li>• A summary of the feedback received during the workshop is attached.</li> </ul>	Paul Henderson, Stephanie Liu, Brooke Atkinson, Metro Vancouver
<b>6.</b>	<b>OTHER BUSINESS</b>	
	<b>6.1 Zero Waste Committee Updates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The April 13, 2023 Zero Waste Committee meeting included a joint discussion with the Climate Action Committee on vision and guiding principles for the solid waste management plan update.</li> <li>• The 2021 Solid Waste and Recycling Annual Report has been published, reporting a 65% recycling rate in the region</li> <li>• Other items include a capital expenditure report and procurement update</li> </ul>	Paul Henderson, Metro Vancouver

	<b>Discussion:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Members expressed interest in receiving more information on how we measure progress towards goals for recycling</li><li>• Members also expressed interest in seeing reuse as a metric</li></ul>	
<b>7.</b>	<b>Adjournment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Meeting was adjourned at 4:57 pm.</li></ul>	Chair
<b>8.</b>	<b>NEXT MEETING: June 1, 2023</b>	

Attachment 1: Workshop Summary – Solid Waste Management Plan Update Vision and Guiding Principles

**SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT UPDATE VISION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES**  
**Solid Waste Management Plan Public/Technical Advisory Committees Workshop**  
**April 28, 2023**

On April 28, 2023, Metro Vancouver held a workshop with members of the Solid Waste Management Plan Public/Technical Advisory Committee (PTAC) to discuss vision and guiding principles for the updated regional solid waste management plan. There were 20 of 32 PTAC members present as well as one observer.



The vision and guiding principles phase of engagement sets the foundation and direction for the plan development process, by gathering feedback on values, priorities, interests, and key solid waste management considerations now and into the future.

At the April 28, 2023 PTAC workshop, four key questions were presented to members:

1. What waste reduction, recycling and garbage disposal topics are most important, now and into the future?
2. List words or phrases that describe what matters, when deciding what to do with products, packaging and materials that are no longer needed.
3. The updated solid waste management plan is intended to reflect the values of everyone in the region. What values, interests, and priorities can be considered?
4. Thinking of how we purchase, use, reuse, repurpose, recycle and throw things away in the Metro Vancouver region, what could be better in the future than it is today?

A summary of themes that emerged at the workshop is presented in the What We Heard section below. Note that the feedback presented here is meant to highlight key themes from the discussion. Detailed discussion notes are being retained as part of the full engagement record, and individual comments will be included in feedback logs as part of an engagement report at the end of this phase on vision and guiding principles.

Next steps include providing an update report to the Zero Waste Committee on what we have heard so far through engagement with First Nations, member jurisdiction staff, and advisory committees, followed by the launch of public engagement on vision and guiding principles. Following public engagement, Metro Vancouver will produce an engagement summary report for this phase of engagement and provide a draft vision statement and guiding principles to the Zero Waste Committee and Board for consideration.

Members are encouraged to submit any additional feedback to [zerowaste@metrovancover.org](mailto:zerowaste@metrovancover.org) before May 31, 2023.

**WHAT WE HEARD**

The table below summarizes themes that emerged through the discussion, which will be taken into consideration as Metro Vancouver continues to engage on the vision and guiding principles for the updated plan.

Priority	What We Heard
Accessibility and inclusivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enable easy, cheaper and local access to services. Support people to meet them where they are so they can have access.</li> </ul>
Accountability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve metrics to report on reuse, repair and diversion, and waste generation (including food) to enable us to reach bold goals.</li> <li>• Regularly set targets and share data publicly.</li> <li>• Recognize the shared responsibility of individuals and industry.</li> </ul>
Affordability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand and provide solutions to how affordability influences a person’s ability to purchase durable goods that last, access reuse markets, and travel to recycling facilities. Suggest making poor quality materials more expensive to disincentive their use, for example by incorporating costs related to environmental/health risks and clean-up.</li> <li>• Incentivize prevention over diversion over disposal.</li> </ul>
Circular economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Start at the top of the zero waste hierarchy; increase reuse, repair, and remanufacture.</li> <li>• Create longer lasting products that are valued.</li> <li>• Design closed loop systems and encourage highest and best use of a product.</li> <li>• Facilitate development of infrastructure to support circular economy industries.</li> <li>• Build the circular economy to create jobs.</li> </ul>
Climate action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advance current greenhouse gas reduction targets that align with sustainable development goals, to achieve climate goals.</li> <li>• Consider carbon footprint from production, extraction, and distribution.</li> <li>• Include food as integral to climate action plans.</li> <li>• Reduce dependency on disposal, including incineration, by increasing focus on waste prevention, reduction and diversion.</li> <li>• Improve system resiliency to climate change impacts.</li> </ul>
Collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborate with all levels of government, private businesses, and industry.</li> <li>• Engage with and foster a sense of community.</li> </ul>
Convenience, consistency, simplicity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase convenience and harmonize services across the region, and across sectors. Reduce complexity to combat decision fatigue.</li> </ul>

Cultural sensitivity and respect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognize cultural pressures or norms about consumption that impact actions related to waste.</li> </ul>
Education and behavior change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide clear communications to help increase understanding of the waste being created, and build public trust about recycling systems including end markets.</li> <li>• Increase transparency and awareness about the waste system, especially among younger populations.</li> <li>• Shift cultural norms to make waste prevention and recycling relevant, including using enjoyment/fun as tools to motivate collective action.</li> </ul>
Environmental stewardship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review global climate footprint, biodiversity, sustainable development, and impact on people.</li> <li>• Acknowledge the importance and value of keeping the land healthy and regenerative.</li> <li>• Minimize discharges to the environment.</li> <li>• Minimize health, environmental, and financial risks using the precautionary principle.</li> </ul>
Equity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make waste solutions accessible for modest/low income groups.</li> <li>• Increase equity by simplifying language, providing recycling services in all languages, and recognizing that not everyone has background of being zero waste expert.</li> <li>• Empower those who are marginalized.</li> <li>• Consider those who are food insecure; acknowledge those who are not aware of recycling or have limited access to education.</li> <li>• Consider the doughnut economic model to live within our planetary means while ensuring no one falls short on life’s essentials</li> </ul>
Innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advance the waste prevention, reuse, and repair economies, as well as technological innovations and habit innovations.</li> <li>• Provide options for reuse, repair and recycling that are easier than disposal.</li> <li>• Introduce alternative, more sustainable products and consider subsidizing these options to reduce the financial barrier.</li> </ul>
Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and strengthen a regulatory framework that encourages innovation and waste prevention, includes food waste reporting, removes barriers to recycling, and has the flexibility to respond to change.</li> </ul>



Public/Technical Advisory Committee Workshop activity: “What waste reduction, recycling and garbage disposal topics are most important, now and into the future?”

**WORKSHOP ATTENDEES:**

Director Sarah Kirby-Yung, Chair  
 Director Craig Hodge, Vice-Chair  
 Ben Liegey  
 Bill Chan  
 Brenda Martens  
 Brianne De Man  
 Cody Irwin  
 Daniel Rotman  
 Doug Schell  
 Grant Hankins

Jamie Kaminski  
 Louise Schwarz  
 Love-Ese Chile  
 Lyndsay Poaps  
 Raman Johal  
 Sue Maxwell  
 Tara Immell  
 Ulwiana Mehta-Malhotra  
 William Selten  
 Yasmin Abraham