

# Regional Recycling Working Group Meeting

Date: 1/28/25

Meetings take place the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month from 10am – 12pm

Location: Virtual Meeting via Teams

Host: [Eric.Wolff@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:Eric.Wolff@sdcounty.ca.gov)

## Minutes

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

- Manuel Medrano, City of Chula Vista
- Ofelia Andrade, City of Coronado
- Monica Martinez, City of El Cajon
- Gio Cortes, City of Escondido
- Alma Ramirez, City of Escondido
- April Hamud, HF&H Consultants
- Amy Unruh, I Love a Clean San Diego
- Wbaldo Arellano, City of Imperial Beach
- Serena Lee, City of La Mesa
- Ken Prue, City of Oceanside
- Danielle McIntosh, City of Poway
- Dana Laosiri, Republic Services
- Polina Osipova, City of San Diego
- Rick Gloria, City of San Diego LEA
- Ellyn Law, County of San Diego
- Eric Wolff, County of San Diego
- Michael Wonsidler, County of San Diego
- Heather Heckman, City of Santee
- Nicole Grucky, City of Solana Beach
- Mallika Sen, Solana Center
- Jessica Toth, Solana Center
- Jesus Aramburo, WM Oceanside
- Debbie Descans, WM
- Cynthia Mallett, WM
- Jenna Roripaugh, WM

### 2. Open Forum

- **Mallika Sen, Solana Center:** [Upcoming events](#) include Backyard Composting Basics Workshop in Fallbrook (2/22), On-Farm Composting Course in San Marcos (2/22 – 3/8), Backyard Composting Basics Workshop (3/1), SB 1383 Food Recovery Inspection Training (3/5), and Zero Waste Textile Expo (3/23). Solana Center continues conducting SB 1383 inspections for jurisdictions. Field notes include:
  - School districts have been successful in donating prepared foods but have had some issues with bulk foods
  - Hospitals are donating a limited number of items. Confusion on being compliant with public health codes while donating maximum amount of edible food. Following up with City public health departments and CalRecycle and will share updates with the group
  - Concerns with finding partners for Tier II sites for donating small amounts of prepared foods.
- **Gio Cortes, City of Escondido:** The City has an open recruitment for [Recycling Program Supervisor](#).
- **Amy Unruh, I Love a Clean San Diego:** [Upcoming events](#) include Clothing Swap – Mission Hills Library (1/31), Compost Giveaway (2/8), Green Business Solutions Webinar (2/12), and Oceanside Community Cleanup – Libby Lake (2/20). I Love a Clean San Diego works with schools in the unincorporated county to implement SB 1383 requirements. Interest in introducing reusable serviceware products. Please reach out to Amy Unruh if you are interested in collaborating and forming a coalition to start this work.
- **Eric Wolff, County of San Diego:** The County received notice of facility updates and will be updating the Non-Disposal Facility Element to incorporate the following revisions:

- Inland Pacific Resource Recovery will be changing their address from 12243 Hwy 67, Lakeside to 12152 Morene Ave, Lakeside.
- Inland Pacific Resource Recovery located at 12650 Slaughterhouse Canyon Rd, Lakeside has ceased operations and has closed their permit.
- Hanson Aggregates A-1 Soils at 12560 Hwy 67, Lakeside has closed its permit.
- **Serena Lee, City of La Mesa:** The City of La Mesa is planning their upcoming Earth Day Fair on April 19.

**3. Presentation, April Hamud, HF&H Consultants:** April presented an overview of the SB 1383 recovered organic waste product (ROWP) procurement requirements and strategies for jurisdictions to reach their targets.

- Beginning January 2022, jurisdictions were required to procure a certain quantity of ROWP which includes compost, mulch, renewable energy from anaerobic digestion, and electricity from biomass conversion.
- AB 1985 phased-in procurement compliance requirements so that jurisdictions had to procure 30% of their target by 2023; 65% by 2024 and 100% by 2025 and 2026.
- AB 2902 extended the rural exemption for organic waste collection and procurement target requirements from 2027 to 2037 with 5-year renewal periods thereafter. It also allowed jurisdictions to exclude the number of residents that fall under a low population or elevation waiver from being counted in a jurisdiction's ROWP calculation.
- AB 2346 expanded ROWP procurement methods to include:
  - Compost from small community composting sites, vermicomposting, and mushroom composting
  - Allows up to 10% of procurement target through-
    - mulch produced from jurisdictions' tree trimming operations and applied to public landscape or given away to residents
    - recovered edible food from commercial food generators
  - Allows up to 10% of the procurement targets through certain investments and equipment purchases through 2035.
  - Allows procurement without a DSP agreement under certain circumstances
  - Provides an option to calculate per capita procurement target using local waste characterization study performed within the past 5 years
  - Provides an option to convert to a 5-year procurement target starting in 2027
- Jurisdictions can comply with ROWP requirements by directly procuring ROWP for use or giveaway or requiring a direct service provider to procure ROWP on behalf of the jurisdiction.
- For more information, please contact April Hamud at [AHamud@hfh-consultants.com](mailto:AHamud@hfh-consultants.com).
- **Eric Wolff on behalf of CalRecycle:**
  - The last SB 1383 chat with CalRecycle was held on Jan 15<sup>th</sup> and focused on edible food recovery in large venues/events. All SB 1383 chats are recorded and are available on the Department's YouTube channel.
  - [Open grant/loan cycles](#) include: Legacy Disposal Site Abatement Partial Grant Program (due 2/12), Farm and Ranch Solid Waste Cleanup and Abatement Grant Program (due 4/2), Greenhouse Gas Reduction Loan Program (continuous), and Recycling Market Development Zone Loan Program (continuous)

- Upcoming events include SB 343 Revised Preliminary Findings Report Public Meeting (2/3) and SB 54 Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility Act Information Session (2/3).
- The next monthly public meeting is scheduled for Feb 18.

#### 4. CPSC Update

- **Joanne Brasch, CA Product Stewardship Council:**
  - CPSC had a successful reusable marine flare event in Chula Vista last week and completely ran out of flares in 1.5 hours! 2025 events have been scheduled.
  - CPSC is leading several solar panel recovery projects. Efforts include training installers and other stakeholders on how to maintain panels and market reuse opportunities. They have developed a Solar Reuse Resource Map if anyone is interested in reusing panels or being added to the map.
  - The first SB 707 CalRecycle workshop will be held in July. Interested attendees can sign up for the CalRecycle listserv to receive updates.
  - The legislature is in session. We are going to see more bills in the next couple of weeks. The second week of February is the deadline to amend out of a spot bill.
  - CPSC is following 4 bills:
    - AB 80, Carpet bill looking at fees and transparency.
    - Solar Panel EPR, bill number coming soon.
    - Ban on single-use vapes. Interest from 4 nonprofit organizations to jointly tackle this. More details coming soon.
    - Needle EPR bill. Not sponsored but following progress.
  - Current bill SB 45, Recycling: beverage containers: tethered plastic caps is a reintroduction of previous leash the lead bill.

#### 5. NSAC Update

- **Heidi Sanborn, National Stewardship Action Council:** NSAC will be focusing on marine flares and HHW/paint care expansion act this year.

#### 6. Wasting Fee Update – No report.

#### 7. SB1383 Rollout Roundtable – No report.

#### 8. Other Regional Working Group Reports

- **Edible Food – Ellyn Law, County of San Diego:** The Food Justice Community Action Plan was received by the Board of Supervisors in December. 13 actions were selected for detailed implementation and fiscal impacts with a report back due in April of 2025. OSEJ is collaborating with County departments to identify implementation steps and potential costs and resources. The group also discussed annual food recovery reporting, site visits and donation dumping. The next meeting is February 18.
- **HHW – No report.**
- **Organics – Michael Wonsidler, County of San Diego:** The group will be meeting on Feb. 6 and will include the same Recovered Organic Waste Products Procurement Strategies by April Hamud.
- **Reuse and Repair Network – No report.**

#### 9. Roundtable

- **Michael Wonsidler, County of San Diego:** Mike highlighted an article showcasing increased fire risk from batteries.

**10. Adjournment** – The next meeting is scheduled for February 25.