



NOTES

Solid Waste Advisory Committee Meeting September 15, 2021

Call to Order & WebEx Meeting Instructions

Troy Lautenbach (Chair) called the meeting to order at 9:32.

Chair & Vice-Chair Nominations

Troy is willing to continue as Chair, but offered to step aside if anyone else was interested. Becci was also willing to continue as Vice-Chair. There were several nominations for both to continue. We plan to continue doing hybrid meetings online and in person in the future. Members are encouraged to suggest topics at any time, and as far in advance as possible. Troy stated that the participation rate has gone up due to efficiency of online meetings, but interaction has declined. He asked to hear ideas during roundtable.

Legislative Update – 5022 & Organics Workgroup

Alli Kingfisher, Solid Waste Management: 509-960-1290, alli.kingfisher@ecy.wa.gov

Heather Trim, Zero Waste Washington: 206-351-2898 heather@zerowastewashington.org

Stakeholder Advisory Committee

SB 5022 was codified to 70A.245. The Stakeholder Advisory Committee is not an Ecology process. Ross Strategic, a third-party independent contractor was hired to oversee the process. Laurie is a member of the committee and Alli is an alternate. There are 35 members based on the requirement of the law. The committee met on October 31 and September 9, and meets every two weeks. Subgroups will meet more frequently. The scope is vast to meet the December 2021 deadline for recommendations.

Website: <https://www.plastic-packaging-advisory-process.com/>.

Implementation of plastic postconsumer recycled content

We are recruiting two Environmental Specialist 3 positions to help with the process. We are reaching out to producers and identifying requirements of the law. The process is complicated and needs to be completed by end of January 2023. If you are interested in tracking developments, sign up for listserv.ecology.wa.gov and select plastic-packaging.

Contacts

- General and Recycled Content: Alli.Kingfisher@ecy.wa.gov
- Stakeholder Advisory Committee: PlasticPackaging@RossStrategic.com
- On-Request Serviceware: Shannon.Jones@ecy.wa.gov
- Expanded Polystyrene Ban: Heather.Church@ecy.wa.gov

The PCR stakeholder group has met twice, but struggled in achieving focus. Some members have suggested alternate approaches to PCR requirements. SB 5022 directed the group to make recommendations for PCR requirements for plastic packaging not subject to 5022 that are regularly received at MRFs from curbside programs.

Question: The PCR stakeholder group has met twice but struggled in achieving focus some members have suggested alternate approaches to PCR requirements. SB 5022 directed the group to make recommendations for PCR requirements for plastic packaging not subject to 5022 that are regularly received at MRFs from

curbside programs. What does the Department hope to see as a final product out of the stakeholder group? Answer: The final product will be a report making solid recommendations to the legislature that meet the requirements of the law.

Organics/Methane Bill for Washington

- Municipal solid waste landfills are the 3rd-largest source of human-related methane emissions in the US (EPA 2018)
- NASA satellite data shows the three of four of California's largest methane emitters are landfills.
- United Nations report showed that reducing methane emission is more vital than previously thought.
- Ecology's new waste characterization study reduction strategy is to reduce organic food waste at the source, make sure excess edible food is rescued, and remaining inedible food is used for other purposes (such as animal feed, biogas, compost, and other technologies).
- Reducing the wasting of food in order to fight hunger and reduce environmental impacts (HB 1114 Doglio, 2019): Set goal for WA to reduce by 50% the amount of food waste generated annually by 2030, relative to 2015 levels; Requires Ecology to develop and adopt a state wasted food reduction and food waste diversion plan designed to achieve the goal.
- Use Food Well Washington Plan: Public comment closed a week ago with 30 recommendations. In the meantime, Zero Waste Washington worked on a report about the status of organic materials management in Washington.
- Establishing a statewide organic waste goal (SB 5286, Sen. Das). The goal of the Organics Management to Reduce Methane and Combat Climate Change Workgroup is to put together a policy package for 2022 and 2023. The Committee has met four times – Julie Colehour from C+C is the facilitator. Meetings are open and anyone can speak. The next meeting is on September 16 to discuss policies on sectors and end markets.
- Questions? Contact Heather Trim with questions at heather@zerowastewashington.org.

State Plan Update

Janine Bogar, Solid Waste Management: 360-407-6654, janine.bogar@ecy.wa.gov

We are required to regularly update the plan. The second draft is complete and out for public comments through September 30.

State plan vision: We can transition to a society where waste is viewed as inefficient, and where most wastes and toxic substances have been eliminated. This will contribute to economic, social, and environmental vitality.

Plan history

- 2004: Beyond Waste Plan Published: Combined Solid and Hazardous Waste Plan
- 2009: First Update - Minor changes only
- 2015: Second update - Big changes
 - Input from partners before drafting changes
 - Changed structure, format, initiatives
 - Materials Management focus
 - 2021: Third update - Minor changes only

Update Process: We hope to have the final plan hope to have done by end of year.

Public Comments

- First draft comments 12/20 –1/21
 - Comment Summary available

- Comments informed Second draft
- Second Draft Comments - Due 9/30/21
 - Notified State Plan listserv and other lists; SWAC email, WSRA newsletter, lots more
 - E-comment form; or can email comments
 - Comments will inform Final Plan Update
 - SEPA – DNS comment period also
 - Tribes invited for government-to-government consultation

More Information

- [Read the second draft State Plan update.](#)
- [Comment on the second draft.](#)

Questions?

- Janine Bogar, Solid Waste Management, janine.bogar@ecy.wa.gov, 360-407-6654
- Amy Correa, Hazardous Waste & Toxics Reduction, amy.correa@ecy.wa.gov, 360-407-1760
- Sign up for the state plan listserv: [WA-STATE-WASTE-PLAN](#)

Use Food Well Washington Plan Update

Jade Monroe, Solid Waste Management: 360-407-7157, jade.monroe@ecy.wa.gov

How did Washington get a “food waste reduction plan?”

- [RCW 70A.205.715](#) passed in the 2019 legislative session and required independent analysis of Washington food flows, and a food waste reduction plan.
- Ecology is required to determine an edible food waste target (Goal 2), baseline data, and annual metrics for tracking progress towards 2030 goals.
- Collaboration between Ecology and COMM, DOH, OSPI, and WSDA. We also engaged over 150+ subject matter expert.

Goals

- Goal 1: Reduce food waste generated by 50% by 2030.
- Goal 2: Reduce at least half of edible food waste by 2030.

Strategies: Prevention, Rescue, and Recovery.

How do we meet these goals?

- Outcome of the engagement process = 30 actionable recommendations across the food system.
- Ecology staff conducted an economic analysis to:
 - Further research the viability and potential of the 30 recommendations.
 - Determine if it is possible to meet the 2030 targets with the 30 identified recommendations.

Washington can achieve the 2030 food waste reduction goals if:

- The Use Food Well Washington Plan is implemented comprehensively.
- Public-private partnerships are prioritized and maintained throughout plan implementation.
- Barriers to food waste reduction are addressed across the food system.
- Investments are made in food system infrastructure.

What’s Next

- September:
 - Plan public comment: Aug. 30 – Sept. 10
 - Process feedback
 - Ecology works with partners to draft legislative report

- October:
 - Plan and legislative report are finalized and delivered to the legislature.
- After the plan is delivered -> shift to outreach and implementation

Questions?

- Listserv subscribe! Link: <http://listserv.ecology.wa.gov/scripts/wa-ECOLOGY.exe?SUBED1=USE-FOOD-WELL-WASHINGTON&A=1>
- Contact us:
 - Jade Monroe: jade.monroe@ecy.wa.gov
 - Mary Harrington: mary.harrington@ecy.wa.gov

Grants Update

Local Solid Waste & Financial Assistance (LSWFA) Grants

Tami Ramsey, Solid Waste Management: (360) 628-4261, tami.ramsey@ecy.wa.gov

2019–21 Closeout

- 107 agreements: 102 closed
- Funding
 - \$10M appropriated
 - \$284,223 remaining balance

2021-23 New Cycle

- 101 agreements: 20 executed, 32 offered
- Funding
 - \$24M appropriated
 - \$304,492 unrequested
 - \$103,049.50 P&I redistributed
 - \$201,442.50 SWE redistributed

Waste Reduction and Recycling Education (WRRED) Grants

Kelsey Dunne, Solid Waste Management: 360-407-6129, kelsey.dunne@ecy.wa.gov

2019-21 Grants

- 20 agreements, all closed
- 13% unspent

2021-23 Grants

- \$260,000 available funding
- Delayed start: January 1, 2022
- November anticipated application period

Public Participation Grants (PPG)

Faith Wimberley, Solid Waste Management: 425-275-7285, faith.wimberley@ecy.wa.gov

2021-2023 Application Cycle

- Application Status
 - 36 applications submitted, 32 applications awarded
- Novel Findings
 - Awarding four new organizations
 - Two-thirds of projects prioritize highly-impacted, low-income, and non-English language groups
- Funding Status

- \$3,700,000 appropriated, \$3,498,231 awarded, \$201,769 remaining

Note: A list grant recipients is being worked on internally and can be sent upon request.

Senate Bill 5040

Steven Williams, Solid Waste Management: 425-213-3565, steven.williams@ecy.wa.gov

Senate Bill 5040 (SB 5040) passed in the 2021 Legislative Session. It authorized local governments to apply to Ecology for reimbursement of litter cleanup activities on state highway ramps located within their jurisdiction. For the 2021-23 Biennium, Ecology incorporated SB 5040 into CLCP, which is an established grant program of RCW 70A.200-190.

Ecology hoped to provide up to \$250,000 in additional funding through SB 5040 to reimburse interested local governments for cleaning state highway ramps located in their jurisdiction. We were ultimately able to provide \$435,000 to these 11 recipients.

Outputs (ramps cleaned, pounds collected) will be compiled and published at the conclusion of the 2021-23 Biennium.

This is an ongoing grant program. The expectation right now is that in future biennia, SB 5040 will be a stand-alone grant program. Future funding levels will be determined by the overall amount of funding provided by the Legislature to Ecology for WRRLLCA activities

Bag Ban & Optional Serviceware

Shannon Jones, Solid Waste Management: 360-742-9874, shannon.jones@ecy.wa.gov

Single-Use Plastic Bag Ban - [RCW 70A.530](#)

There were significant implementation delays for the bag ban due to the pandemic. The ban was originally scheduled January 1, 2021 and the Governor amended the proclamation for the ban to take effect on October 1, 2021. All single-use bags are banned, but other bags are allowed. The ban only applies to single-use at point of sale.

Important notes and exemptions

- SNAP, EBT, WIC, & TANF customers exempt (even if using another method of payment at purchase)
- Food banks are exempt
- Single-use bag receptacles not allowed
- Businesses keep the .08 cent fee
- Customer receipt must show .08 cent fee

Ecology provided outreach to businesses and the public last year. Materials include a toolkit, signs, and flyers. We hope that businesses will be able to communicate the ban by using the outreach materials.

Enforcement is based on complaints on the bag ban website. The link goes live October 1, 2021. Standard operating procedures and guidelines on the process were developed to follow up on complaints. We will notify business and local governments with multiple attempts. Everything will be tracked in the database.

Resources

- [Ecology bag ban website](#)
- Manufacturer/Distributor Contact Lists
- [Ecology bag ban listserv](#)
- [Outreach toolkit](#) – designed with stakeholder input, accessible, translated, downloadable and customizable

Single-use serveware on request – [RCW 70A.245.080](#)

Begins January 1, 2022. Stakeholder input on outreach materials begins October 2021. An outreach toolkit is being drafted similar to the bag ban.

Requirements

- Businesses can no longer automatically include single-use items in customer orders
- Includes utensils, straws, condiment packages, and cold cut lids
- Cannot bundle utensils
- May provide a self-serve utensil station
- Applies to all food service locations including institutions like business or school cafeterias
- Healthcare facilities exempt

Resources

- [Ecology Single-Use Serveware on Request website](#)
- [Currently drafting outreach toolkit](#)
- Stakeholder review process
- [Ecology bag ban listserv](#)

Suggestion: Break out flyers on the page instead of in zip files and include preview links with images of each flyer to make it easier to view on mobile devices. Shannon will coordinate with the web team to make changes.

Question: How many uses can be expected from a reusable bag? Approximately 125 uses. Thickness requirements will increase over time. We hope people will become accustomed to bringing their own bags.

Member Updates

Troy Lautenbach was impressed with the presentations. He mentioned a lot of garbage during the first litter cleanup last weekend. There is a serious homeless problem and communities affecting communities. He asked if there is funding to help with cleanup. Steven Williams said that Senate Bill 5040 will pay for ramps. The City of SeaTac is focusing on that work. There is also a provision in LSWFA for homeless encampment cleanups. CLCP in general doesn't specifically define this, but jurisdictions can use money for encampment cleanup. Some use their funds for that purpose, like Seattle Public Utilities. Troy suggested this could be a future agenda item, and possibly a roundtable topic. He asked if anyone would like to talk about their grant funding, and encouraged members to reach out with more agenda suggestions.

Julie Gilbertson agreed with Troy's comment and suggested a future agenda topic could be litter and the nexus with impacts from unsheltered homelessness. The City of Vancouver did the first along WSDOT on/off ramps this past weekend. Results to come, but she was thankful for the funding from Ecology to pick up roadside litter.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:38 a.m.

Attendees

Committee Members/Interested Parties

Theresa Blaine, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Domenic Calabro, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
John Chelminiak, Waste Management
Holly Chisa, HPC Advocacy
Lisa Crosby, Beyond Waste
Jeff Gaisford, King County
Julie Gilbertson, City of Vancouver
Steve Gilmore, Republic Services
Pat Kaufman, Seattle Public Utilities
Kevin Kelly, Snohomish County
Troy Lautenbach, Lautenbach Recycling
Kristine Major, Spokane Regional Solid Waste System
Erik Makinson, Resource Synergy
Kyle Murphy, Utilities & Transportation Commission
Derald Ortloff, Yakama Nation
Becci Piepel, Douglas County Solid Waste
Art Starry, Thurston County
Heather Trim, Zero Waste Washington
Michelle Wade, Washington State Recycling Association
Rod Whittaker, Washington Refuse & Recycling Association

Department of Ecology

Solid Waste Management Program

Dave Bennett
Janine Bogar
Laurie Davies
Kelsey Dunne
Beth Gill
Shannon Jones
Alli Kingfisher
Lacy Kooiman
Jade Monroe
Tami Ramsey
Julie Robertson
Al Salvi
Kara Steward
Ryan Summerlin
Steven Williams
Faith Wimberley

Hazardous Waste & Toxics Reduction Program

Amy Correa