

Recycling Development Center Advisory Board Meeting June 14, 2021



The Washington Recycling Development Center (Center) Advisory Board met online on June 14, 2021; interested parties attended and offered comments. The meeting was hosted by Department of Ecology (Ecology) staff.

Advisory Board members:

Karl Englund, Washington State University
Kyla Fisher, AMERIPEN
Deb Geiger, Spokane County Solid Waste
Margo Gillaspay, Skagit County Public Works
Nina Goodrich, Sustainable Packaging Coalition
Sego Jackson, Seattle Public Utilities

Allen Langdon, Return-it
Scott Morgan, Evergreen State College
Tim Shestek, American Chemistry Council
Jay Simmons, North Pacific Paper Company
Heather Trim, Zero Waste Washington

Board members unable to attend: Corinne Drennan, Pacific NW National Laboratory, Mike Range, Waste Management; Derek Ruckman, WasteXperts

Agenda

- Center updates: Board, Ecology, and Department of Commerce (Commerce).
- Presentations:
 - Dan Weston, Ecology – Ecology data on glass
 - Patti Stacey, Kittitas County – Secondary recycling and feasibility study and preliminary action plan glass
 - Laura Henneman, Strategic Materials Inc. – glass recycling
 - Scott deFife, Glass Packaging Institute – US Glass Road Map
- Discussion of glass markets

The agenda and other materials for this meeting are available on the [Advisory Board website¹](#).

Updates: Board, Ecology, Commerce

Board members shared updates but no links to any online resources.

Ecology: Kara Steward, a Center staff position recruitment is coming soon, the one-time Center grants will wrap up at the end of June, a Center contract for market analysis will be coming in July, and the procurement of a facilitator for the [Senate Bill 5022²](#) stakeholder committee is in process.

Commerce update: Brian Young, still working on a staff hire, will be filling position to support the work of Senate Bill 5345, provided some funding to WSU for studies of plastic and solar panels.

Data and Outreach Subcommittee: no update for this meeting.

Attendee comments: none.

Glass presentations

- **Dan Weston**, Ecology – Ecology data on glass ([Slides](#) 11 to 21³)
- **Patti Stacey**, Kittitas County – Secondary recycling and feasibility study and preliminary action plan glass ([Slides](#) 22 to 35)
- **Laura Henneman**, Strategic Materials Inc. – glass recycling ([Slides](#) 36 to 44)
- **Scott deFife**, Glass Packaging Institute – US Glass Road Map ([Slides](#) 45 to 57)

Glass discussion

Gaps in the Ecology data include commercial glass collection, refillable bottles (beer, dairy), and crushed glass in aggregate or concrete.

There should be more focus on refillable glass. How can we bolster private and upcoming tech and reuse, on local smaller levels, even franchise style, and put out a how-tos and implementation.

Questions were raised regarding the air emissions issues at operating glass recycling facilities, especially for older equipment. The price to replace an older glass furnace was estimated in the \$30 million range with several months of down time.

Discussion of aggregating collected glass in areas of eastern Washington to ship glass from several counties more efficiently to Strategic Materials or other end users (potentially in Salt Lake City). For example, most of Spokane County no longer collects curbside glass containers. The transfer stations collect drop-off glass containers. Would be great to find an economical solution to get our glass to a recycling facility.

Questions were raised about plate glass or windshield glass. Plate glass is recyclable, pyrex glass is not. Plate glass is chemically different from container glass and cannot be combined in the same recycling process.

Best practices for municipalities for glass would be to collect separately from the single curbside bin, providing a cleaner, sorted stream.

Suggested topics for the August board meeting:

- Discussion of glass (part 2), review of the draft Glass paper.
- Summary of Center grants.
- Presentations from glass end uses: fiberglass, concrete aggregate, road bed/beads, refillables, and glass recycler.

Board Administration

Board members will review a revised charter adding details for Board membership renewal ([Slides](#) 62 to 64). Draft of the charter with edits shown in track changes is available [online](#)⁴.

Meeting to-do items

- Next board meeting is on August 11, 2021 – registration [link](#)⁵.
- Prepare a draft Glass summary paper.

For more information:

- Contact Center staff by [email](#)⁶.
- Visit the Center [Advisory Board website](#)⁷.

List of Attendees (excluding board members)

Interested Parties

Henry Allen, Spokane Valley
Marian Dacca, Gordon Thomas Honeywell
Scott DeFife, Glass Packaging Institute
Jeff Epstein, Carton Council
Laura Hennemann, Strategic Materials
Ruby Irving-Hewey, Klickitat County
Michelle Mulrony, Klickitat County Solid Waste
Preston Peck, Tacoma
Emily Terrill, Cascadia
Michelle Ross, SUM Recycling
Andy Smith, King County
Patti Stacey, Kittitas County

Ecology/Commerce/Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC)

Laurie Davies, Ecology
Shannon Jones, Ecology
Alli Kingfisher, Ecology
Ann LaRue, UTC
Julie Robertson, Ecology
Tina Schaefer, Ecology
Kara Steward, Ecology
Dan Weston, Ecology
Brian Young, Commerce

¹ www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias__1962/37596/recycling_development_center_advisory_board.aspx

² <https://app.leg.wa.gov/bills/summary?BillNumber=5022&Year=2021&Initiative=false>

³ https://www.ezview.wa.gov/Portals/_1962/Documents/rdcab/2021-06-Slides.pdf

⁴ https://www.ezview.wa.gov/Portals/_1962/Documents/rdcab/CenterCharter-revised-June-2021.pdf

⁵ <https://watech.webex.com/watech/onstage/g.php?MTID=ed859d0402b3637c2fb43f0a8052bf674>

⁶ <mailto:recdevcenter@ecy.wa.gov>

⁷ www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias__1962/37596/recycling_development_center_advisory_board.aspx