

Recycling Development Center Advisory Board Meeting March 8, 2022



- The Washington Recycling Development Center (Center) Advisory Board met on March 8, 2023.
- Department of Ecology (Ecology) staff hosted the board meeting in-person in Tacoma at the Evergreen State College campus and remotely on Zoom.
- [McConkey Grower Products](#)¹ provided an afternoon facility tour.

Advisory Board members:

Natalie Caulkins: Republic Services

Sam Dart: Grant County

Corinne Drennan: Pacific NW National Laboratory

Kyla Fisher: AMERIPEN

Allen Langdon: Circular Materials

Kris Major: City of Spokane

Scott Morgan: Evergreen State College

Chris Piercy: Kitsap County

Mike Range: Waste Management

Tim Shestek: American Chemistry Council

Jay Simmons: NORPAC

Jon Smieja: GreenBiz

Heather Trim: Zero Waste Washington

Not present: Karl England: Washington State University

Agenda

- Board, Ecology, and Department of Commerce (Commerce) updates
- Subcommittee on prioritization
- Presentations
- In person tour of McConkey Grower Products facility in Sumner.

Meeting agenda and other materials are available on the [Advisory Board website](#)²

Refer to the [meeting slides](#)³ where noted.

Board, Commerce, Ecology updates

Board members shared the following updates with links to online resources.

- Kyla Fisher, AMERIPEN: plans to publish a white paper on packaging trends for next decade.
- Allen Langdon, Circular Materials: finalized an agreement with Toronto and in January began collection in Ontario as the largest operator in that system.
- Scott Morgan, Evergreen State College: looking for a sustainable solution to waste electronics in school systems. E-Cycle is not an option for his college.
- Jay Simmons: the economic shift in the paper market is overwhelming with printing papers almost disappearing but packaging still strong.
- Mike Range, WM: WM working on the retrofit of the Woodinville material recovery facility.

Washington Recycling Development Center - Advisory Board meeting notes

- Jon Smieja, GreenBiz: [Circularity23](#)⁴ is coming to Seattle from June 5 to 7 “Accelerating the Circular Economy.”
- Heather Trim, ZeroWaste Washington: Provided an update on legislative actions in Washington. Find information on the [ZWW website](#).

Commerce update – Rob Duff:

- Industrial Symbiosis work continues with a request for proposals soon to be published.
- Providing funds for two contracts – one with WSU on textiles from hotels and one with Seattle Good Business Network for the WA Materials Marketplace.
- Commerce is a sponsor of [Circularity23](#) conference.
- Recent business development topics: Columbia Pulp (fiber manufacturer) could be restarting, MURA Tech (plastic recycling) in Arlington and Divert (organics) in Longview are in the startup process.

Ecology update – Kara Steward (presentation slides 10 through 14):

- [NextCycle Washington](#)⁵ continues to move forward under contract with King County Solid Waste Division.
 - The Circular Accelerator [pitch showcase](#)⁶ is scheduled for March 23 at Kane Hall on the UW campus from 10 am to 5 pm. The event is free to attend and has a virtual attendance option.
 - NextCycle Washington [Renew Seed Grants](#)⁷ recipients have been selected and will soon be announced: 41 recipients have until June to complete their grant funded work. Commerce is overseeing this work.
- An overall update of the Center’s efforts for this biennium (July 2021 to June 2023): Aside from agency staff time, the majority of available funds have focused on NextCycle Washington (83%), other projects (17% on studies, research, sponsorships). Our focus in the coming biennium (July 2023 to June 2025) will be committed to NextCycle Washington and staff-led projects.

Ecology update – Mya Keyzers (presentation slides 15 through 24):

- Provided a summary of commodity prices in the northwest for plastic, fiber, metal, and glass from the RecyclingMarkets.net data Ecology purchases.
- UW Evans School of Public Policy and Governance is researching data and metrics used in market development efforts across the U.S. That report is due in June with a presentation to the Board at the June 14 board meeting. Let Mya know if you want to be on the draft report review team.
- The Eastern Washington Glass Summit is scheduled for May 3, 2023, in Ecology’s Union Gap office. [Registration](#)⁸ is currently open on EventBrite, in person and remote attendance available, free of charge (lunch included) from 9 am to 4 pm.
- Provided an update about the Center board subcommittee on the prioritization tool. The subcommittee will meet again and bring the ‘tool’ to the board for review at the June board meeting. Conducted a poll of attendees to suggest project work for Center staff.

Legislative Update: Julie Robertson, Ecology

Refer to the [meeting slides](#) for the content from this presentation.

- Provided an update on several active bills in the Washington State legislature – presentation slides 27 through 37.

Presentations

Refer to the [meeting slides](#) for the content from the following presentations.

- Natalie Caulkins, Republic Services, presentation slides 42 through 65.
- Allen Langdon, Circular Materials, presentation slides 67 through 78.
- Kevin Kelly, Ridwell, presentation slides 80 through 99.

Meeting to-do items

- Next board meeting is on [June 14](#)⁹ – planned for in-person, location expected to be in the South King County or Seattle area with facility tour in the afternoon. There will be a remote attendance option via Zoom for the board meeting portion.
- Provide Center project ideas to Mya Keyzers for analysis by the prioritization subcommittee.
- Register for the Glass summit scheduled for May 3rd (in person or remote).

For more information:

- Contact Center staff by [email](#)¹⁰
- Sign up for our [email list](#)¹¹
- Visit the Center [Advisory Board website](#)¹²

List of Attendees (excluding board members)

Interested Parties	State Agency Staff
Brad Lovaas, WA Refuse and Recycling Assn	Caleb Carlson, Ecology
Bruce Boram	Dan Weston, Ecology
Carolyn Moulton, Lautenbach Recycling	Diana Wadley, Ecology
El Rose	Elizabeth Court, Ecology
Emily Terrill, Cascadia Consulting	Janine Bogar, Ecology
Eric Dombrowski, ECoverse	Julie Robertson, Ecology
Erin Gagnon, DTG Recycle	Kara Steward, Ecology
Greg Herlin, Shyft AI	Kirk Esmond, Commerce
Haifang Wen, Washington State University	Lacy Kooiman, Ecology
Hannah Scholes, King County	Megan Warfield, Ecology
Holly Yanai, Divert Inc	Mya Keyzers, Ecology
Jason Cummings, Snohomish Co. PUD	Paula Wesch, Ecology
Jessica Paschal, Eastman	Shannon Jones, Ecology
John Martin, DTG Recycle	Robert Duff, Commerce
Kevin Kelly, Ridwell	Tina Schaefer, Ecology
Lindsay Iten, Serlin Haley	

Interested Parties

State Agency Staff

Lisa Heltemes, Nippon Dynawave
Lisa Graham, Ravel
Lucy Pierce, GreenBlue
Mary Troncoso
McKenna Morigan, City of Seattle
Nancy Eklund, City of Tukwila
Rory Wintersteen, Lincoln County
Sam Schlaich, Flexible Packaging Association
Shari Jackson, American Chemistry Council
Wendy Weiker, Republic Services

¹ <https://mconkeyco.com/>

² [Department of Ecology - Committees, Boards, and Workgroups \(wa.gov\)](#)

³ https://www.ezview.wa.gov/Portals/_1962/Documents/rdcab/2023-03-08-Slides.pdf

⁴ <https://www.greenbiz.com/events/circularity/2023>

⁵ www.nextcyclewashington.com/

⁶ <https://www.nextcyclewashington.com/news-collection/circular-accelerator-pitch-showcase>

⁷ <https://www.nextcyclewashington.com/renew-seed-grant>

⁸ <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/eastern-washington-glass-summit-tickets-559100874767>

⁹ <https://waecy-wa-gov.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMvdeiuqjMtHNN76BxE9jpcJOkpZxDCdvWm>

¹⁰ <mailto:recdevcenter@ecy.wa.gov>

¹¹ https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WAECY/subscriber/new?topic_id=WAECY_112

¹² https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias_1962/37596/recycling_development_center_advisory_board.aspx