

# Recycling Development Center Advisory Board Meeting October 14, 2020



The Washington Recycling Development Center (Center) Advisory Board met online on October 14, 2020, interested parties attended and offered comments. The web meeting was hosted by Department of Ecology staff.

## All Advisory Board members attended:

Name	Organization	Name	Organization
Corinne Drennan	Pacific NW National Laboratory	Allen Langdon	Return-it
Karl Englund, BOARD COCHAIR	Washington State University	Scott Morgan, BOARD CHAIR	Evergreen State College
Kyla Fisher	AMERIPEN	Mike Range	Waste Management
Deb Geiger	Spokane County Solid Waste	Derek Ruckman	Recology
Margo Gillaspay	Skagit County Public Works	Tim Shestek	American Chemistry Council
Nina Goodrich	Sustainable Packaging Coalition	Jay Simmons	North Pacific Paper Company
Sego Jackson	Seattle Public Utilities	Heather Trim	Zero Waste Washington

## Meeting Agenda:

### Topic

- Center updates: Board, Ecology, and Commerce
- Commerce glass study presentation
- Recycling market development presentation and discussion
- Charter update review, membership discussion, outreach and data subcommittee update

### Meeting goals and materials

The goals of the meeting were to:

- Update the board on Ecology and Commerce work.
- Review other states' recycling market development work.
- Discuss board topics.

Materials for this meeting are available on the [Board EZview website](#) and hyperlinked in this document.

## Updates

Board members shared a few links during the update discussion:

- Corinne Drennan:
  - Lectures: [Towards Understanding and Advancing the Catalytic Chemistry of Plastics Upcycling](#)
  - Grants: [EMERGING FRONTIERS IN RESEARCH AND INNOVATION](#) (EFRI): Distributed Chemical Manufacturing (DChem) and Engineering the Elimination of End-of-Life Plastics (E3P)
- Tim Shestek:
  - [Accelerating Recycling report](#)
  - [Chevron Phillips plastic recycling](#)
- Derek Ruckman:
  - [European Union landfill directive](#)

### Agency updates

- Ecology:
  - Presentations about the Center that are coming up: update to the Washington city and county recycling coordinators on October 29<sup>th</sup> and at the EPA America Recycles panel recycling markets on November 17<sup>th</sup>.
  - Ecology's [draft report to the legislature](#) was routed to board members for review and comment. Comments were due October 23<sup>rd</sup>. That draft is available on the Board EZview site for anyone interested. The report is due to the legislature by December 2020.
  - Outreach efforts with Board Members are ongoing, if you haven't heard from us yet, you will soon.
  - We met with Colorado's contractor, RSS, to discuss Center work. Colorado's market development effort started this year. RSS is preparing a report for Colorado's Department of Public Health and Environment.
  - There is a list of [Recycling Market Development](#) around the US for board members and interested parties, with hyperlinks, as supplemental information to the presentations later.
  - Ecology's purchase of export data from WISERTrade is moving forward.
- Commerce:
  - Still not able to hire our Center market expert. Glass study update coming next. Research services will continue to support Center work until legislative session starts.
  - There are two business opportunities on the Commerce "hot list," that means the proposal has moved to the site selection step, spending time and money to bring their proposal to the state. Due to confidentiality, not able to share specifics, generally they are focused on plastics and recycling.
- Glass study update: Commerce's Research Services provided a summary of the glass study in [slides 7 through 39](#). The report will be posted on the Board EZview webpage later this year.
- Attendee comments about the Glass Study presentation – *due to time limitations, these questions were not discussed during the meeting, responses are provided:*
  - Is the map only about glass recycling or commingled recycling? *(slide 10) The map identifies all curbside and drop box recycling opportunities in the state. It is all recyclables, not just glass.*
  - Do you have an update on Strategic Materials? *(slide 33) There were no updates about specific facilities in the state.*
  - Does the glass recycling report indicate or provide TEA (techno-economic assessment) or LCA (life cycle assessment) reviews to determine the best path forward? This is a concern for areas (rural) that have low volumes and are a long distance to glass manufacturers and transportation hubs, for example, is it better to turn it back into glass or should we use it as fill? *(overall question) The study does not go into this detail.*

### Market development presentations

- [Kara Steward](#) – Ecology, shared a [document](#) from the Board EZview page that summarizes market development work in the US. This is a summary of non-profit, states and local jurisdiction efforts. The document is not expected to be complete or comprehensive, relies on two references.
- [Matt Flechter](#) – Michigan State Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE):
  - Michigan EGLE [Market Development report](#)
- [Anna DeLage](#) – South Carolina Department of Commerce, provided information in her presentation ([slides 44 to 51](#)) and provided these links to more information:
  - SC Commerce [incentives](#)
  - SC Commerce [2019 Annual Report](#)

- [Carbon Conversions](#)
- [Will Sagar](#) – [Southeast Recycling Development Council](#), provided information in his presentation ([slides 52 to 65](#)).
- Discussion topics:
  - Some recycling is truly circular: making cardboard from cardboard. Some recycling is not: making fiber or carpet from plastic bottles.
  - States can lead markets by requiring recycled content in procurement policies.
  - Recommendations: Contract for a materials marketplace, that platform need experts to facilitate the marketplace and make connections with users (manufacturers) across the state.
  - Make connections with manufacturers and listen to their challenges.
  - At the first board meeting a phenomenological study was recommended, this type of study gets at the lived experiences of people's perception on recycling.
  - Review Waste Management's [report](#) on plastic.
- Attendee comments – *not all comments were discussed during the board meeting:*
  - Are there chemical and molecular difficulties in infinitely recycling plastic?
  - How is the US Plastics Pact involved with each state? *Ecology has signed on to the Plastics Pact and will be tracking those efforts.*

## Board discussion

- **Charter:** [Charter edits](#) from Corinne Drennan were accepted by all board members. The [updated board charter](#) has been added to the Board website.
- **Board Membership:** The board chair facilitated a discussion about adding representation to the current board membership. Board members identified perspectives not on the current board: resident, brand owner/manufacturer, equity, investment, or venture capital. Board members agreed to consider adding representation when there is a need.
- **Data and outreach subcommittee:** The data and outreach subcommittee presented a draft data matrix. Board members asked for more time to review the matrix and to discuss this at a future board meeting.
  - Subcommittee draft [data matrix](#)
  - [Brunel University](#) study
  - California [recyclability matrix](#)

## Meeting to-do items

- Board member comments on the [Center Report to the Legislature](#) were due to Ecology by October 23.
- Next board meeting is on December 9, 2020. Materials will be posted and shared by email message.

## Questions

- Contact the Center staff at: [recdevcenter@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:recdevcenter@ecy.wa.gov)
- Visit the Advisory Board EZview website at:  
[https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias\\_1962/37596/recycling\\_development\\_center\\_advisory\\_board.aspx](https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias_1962/37596/recycling_development_center_advisory_board.aspx)

## List of Attendees

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### Interested parties

Ann Soule, City of Sequim  
Anna DeLage, South Carolina Dept  
of Commerce  
Brad Lovaas, Washington Refuse  
and Recycling Association  
Bruce Stein, Anchor Packaging  
Bryce Hesterman, RRS  
Catherine Holm, Washington Food  
Industry Association  
Domenic Calabro, EPA  
Emily Coleman, King County  
Jeff Epstein, Carton Council  
John Martin, DTG  
Matt Flechter, Michigan EGLE

Meggan Uecker, Clallam County  
Michelle Ross  
Natalie Caulkins, Republic Services  
Preston Peck, City of Tacoma  
Quinn Apuzzo, Recology  
Rod Whittaker, Washington Refuse  
and Recycling Association  
Rodd Pemble, Sanitary Service  
Company  
Ruby Irving, Klickitat County  
Sarah Bergquist, WSU  
Susan Bush, Circular Matters  
Suzanne Noble  
Wendy Weiker, Republic Services  
Will Sagar, SERDC

### Commerce staff

Brian Young  
Becca Duncan  
Tammi Vellinga

### Utilities and Transportation

#### Commission staff

Ann LaRue

### Ecology staff

Peter Guttchen  
Tina Schaefer  
Kara Steward  
Katherine Walton  
Dan Weston

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