



MINUTES

SOUTH BAYSIDE WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
 MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
 August 8, 2024 2:00PM

San Mateo County Transit District 1250 San Carlos Ave, San Carlos CA 94070

AGENDA

Call to Order: 2:03 PM

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Agency	Present	Absent	Agency	Present	Absent
Belmont	X		Redwood City	X	
Burlingame		X	San Carlos		X
East Palo Alto	X		San Mateo	X	
Foster City	X		County of San Mateo	X	
Hillsborough	X		West Bay Sanitary District		X
Menlo Park	X				

AB 2449 - Just Cause Exemption: Jack Johnson of San Mateo joined the meeting virtually due to illness. Committee voted all in favor to allow remote participation

2. Public Comment

Persons wishing to address the Board on matters NOT on the posted agenda may do so. Each speaker is limited to three minutes. If there are more than five individuals wishing to speak during public comment, the Chairman will draw five speaker cards from those submitted to speak during this time. The balance of the Public Comment speakers will be called upon at the end of the Board Meeting. If the item you are speaking on is not listed on the agenda, please be advised that the Board may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed as allowed under The Brown Act (Government Code Section 54954.2). The Board's general policy is to refer items to staff for attention, or have a matter placed on a future Board agenda for a more comprehensive action or report and formal public discussion and input at that time. **Speakers may also submit comments via email prior to the meeting by sending those comments to rethinker@rethinkwaste.org.**

None

3. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Joe La Mariana welcomed everyone to the meeting and made the following announcements:

- He updated the committee on the SBWMA office move and offered a quick tour of the new office after TAC meeting for any committee members interested in viewing the progress. The City of San Carlos will officially have the current SBWMA space on September 1st.
- The Board meeting in October will be the first meeting in the new SBWMA office based on moving logistics.
- The October Board meeting is the annual budget draft study session and they will review the 2025 proposed operating budget, capital improvement plan, and this year will also include reviewing the long-range plan draft.

- Board positions will look different after our November elections as four of the current board members will not be running for re-election.
- SBWMA staff will be working remotely during the office move, but are readily available for in person meetings if needed.
- Some RethinkWaste staff will be away for the CRRA conference on August 19, 20, 21, 2024.
- He San Mateo County Civil Grand Jury has just published their 2023-2024 reports, two of which require responses from RethinkWaste. Staff is working to complete these responses for Legal Counsel and Board review in September.
- He informed the committee that TAC will be having a deep dive discussion on the 2025 Contractors Compensation Applications from Recology and SBI at the September 12 meeting. These are contractually mandated applications for both parties to submit cost projections for this upcoming year. Staff is working on the SBWMA review of these applications. Both contracts are CBA and are largely formulaic. Both applications will be in front of the board at the September meeting for their consideration of approval.
- A draft budget will be presented at the October board study session. Staff is aware of the several requests from TAC and other committee members for a cost projection model for what the cost escalators and rate increases might be in the near future Staff has been open about telegraphing cost increases related to large ticket site upgrades. He encouraged committee members to refer to a cheat sheet provided during the Site Optimization Plan discussion on several of these big-ticket items, and the estimated resulting rate increases. He suggested it would be a good tool for Member Agency's to help set rates and determine revenue collection. He added that he and Staff Mangini are available to attend Member Agency's rate setting meetings.
- Based on TAC recommendation, the September 2025 Board meeting will occur a week earlier in the month to help the tight turn around between Compensation Application approval and Member Agency rate hearings.
- He then gave an overview of upcoming projects at Shoreway. The underground storage tank (UST) replacement project, the work is starting in mid-September and will take four months, and will be very impactful to Recology and SBI operations.
- He noted that while the UST projected is mandated, the vision is for 2035 is to convert the fleet to alternative fuel, likely electric power.

Chair Lorenz asked what type of fuel will be in the new UST.

Executive Director La Mariana answered that it will renewable diesel. During the tank replacement period, both Recology and SBI will both commission their own wet fueling where a tanker truck will come in every night and hand fuel all the vehicles.

Chair Lorenz asked if the tanks will be replaced underground again.

Executive Director La Mariana answered yes, they will be underground again, and we will also be relocating the SBI fuel station 50-60 ft because its current location is creating a choke point. He also noted, that the site is deficient by eight big rigs having a place to park. He brought this to the TAC's attention because staff will be addressing this concern during the budgeting process, and he wanted the committee to have a starting point as to the explanation behind those budget increases.

4. Approval of Consent Calendar

Consent Calendar item(s) are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless members of the Board, staff or public request specific items be removed for separate action. *Items removed from the Consent Calendar will be moved to the end of the agenda for separate discussion.*

A. Approval of the Minutes from the May 9, 2024, TAC Meeting

Motion/Second: Mello/Tong

Roll Call Vote 6-0-2-3

Agency	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Agency	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Belmont			X		Redwood City	X			
Burlingame				X	San Carlos				X

East Palo Alto			X		San Mateo	X			
Foster City	X				County of San Mateo	X			
Hillsborough	X				West Bay Sanitary Dist.				X
Menlo Park	X								

5. 2024 Schedule to Approve 2025 Contractors Compensation and Collection Rate Adjustment by Member Agency

Staff Mangini gave an overview of the staff report which included the milestones in the process for approving SBI and Recology’s compensation applications. He noted that it was critical for TAC members to give input on the revenue disposal on agency fee projections issued on July 26. Noting that components make up half of the Member Agencies revenue requirements and the other half is Recology.

Chair Lorenz states that Foster City adopted 5-year rates last year, anything Staff needs to know about their revenue should be available on Foster City’s website.

Staff Mangini noted that it’s important to get to that net revenue number which is not the schedule Q that Recology retains.

6. Senate Bill (SB) 1383 Program Update

- Update from Recology on SB 1383 (Alex Rinear)
- Organic Implementation
- SB1383 Waivers

Alex Rinear, Recology Waste Zero Manager gave a presentation updating the TAC on Recology’s SB 1383 outreach and technical assistance.

Executive Director La Mariana requested an explanation for two criteria that qualify for an SB 1383 compliance waiver.

Ms. Rinear reported that the first waiver is De Minimis waiver allowed if a customer has a limited amount of compostable material. The other waiver which is more difficult to get approved is space constraint waiver. If a customer does not have the space capacity to add an additional cart onsite they can apply for a space constraint waiver.

Ms. Rinear continued her presentation updating the committee on Recology’s SB 1383 Route Reviews

Member Tong asked if any residents or businesses have asked what Recology is doing while they’re performing route reviews or if there has been any other type of customer interaction.

Ms. Rinear answered that there have been no interactions as of now but the team is prepared in case that does come up, they have business cards and place cards with information on the SB1383 regulation.

Chair Lorenz asked if there is a backlog to the waiver request from SCS that Recology is still working through.

Ms. Rinear answered that Recology does not have a backlog as the SCS waiver requests were completed in Q1 of 2024 and Recology is up to date with their current lists. They try responding to waiver requests within two weeks of their submission.

Staff Mangini asked if there has been an increase in diversion that is directly correlated with SB1383?

Ms. Rinear reported that she thinks diversion has gone up as more compost is added, and customers are able to

decrease garbage whenever possible by adding compost service. She noted that the volume of generated material is the same, but it is now being separated to the green cart. She also added that the multifamily dwelling sector has been most impacted over the last couple quarters.

Member Mello asked if the waivers are only available for commercial and multifamily, or do the waivers also cover residential accounts.

Ms. Rinear answered that all residential accounts have compost collection included in their rates. All homes produce food and yard waste. So, the waivers are really for the commercial accounts where there is little to no compostable material.

Staff Chung included more information regarding the waiver process noting that the multifamily sector is rarely approved of for waivers due to the high amount of food waste.

Chair Lorenz added that SB1383 does not have a residential sector waiver at all. She then asked about the non-collection tags wondering if there is an incentive for customers to take the option clean up the contaminated load versus having it collected as garbage if both of those are options.

Ms. Rinear answered that there is a cost to collect it as garbage. Customers can clean it up and have it picked up during their next service week visit at no charge or they can have a pickup prior to their next week service for a trip charge. If the following service day it is still contaminated then it will be collected as garbage and it will be charged as garbage.

Member Tong asked what option to people generally go for.

Ms. Rinear answered that from experience of speaking to customers, it tends to be about half and half.

- Capacity Planning update

Staff Chung gave an update on the state's way of tracking each jurisdiction's capacity planning, how jurisdictions deposit organic waste material and how much room is available for the future based on increase in population projections. He noted that on behalf of the member agencies, he has filled out a 10 year projection for Member Agency with the help of internal staff and turned that sheet in to Jack Steinmann of San Mateo County which will then be submitted to CalRecycle. It is based on a CalRecycle calculator that uses the population number and the capacity of the facility that the material is being deposited into which is BVON & Newby, which provides a 10 year projection for us.

Member Tong states he is interested in the county projections and would like staff Chung to send those over to him.

- Notice of Violation reminders / status

Staff Chung reported that he has created a list of Member Agencies that have responded in need of help with Notice of Violations. Staff then sent a letter template that is editable by each member agency, once edits are complete that letter should be sent back to Staff Chung to mail out. He added that there are a few member agencies that have yet to respond and he encourages them to respond soon, because notice of violation letters need to be mailed out by end of the year.

- Recyclist Tool Refresher

Staff Chung noted that the Recyclist tool is to help compile all the SB 1383 information into a tracker. Recology uploads their data every quarter and each member agency can look at their information to access compliance stats. Member Agencies have the ability to upload CalRecycle Electronic Annual Report (EAR) numbers and procurement numbers. He reminded TAC members to connect with staff Chung to set up a training if their team would like a

refresher.

Member Mello asked how long a customer has to be in compliance after receiving a notice of violation letter, and what are the next steps after that period of time.

Staff Chung answered 60 days to be in compliance. And, noted that the state will be asking for how many notice violations have been sent and how much enforcement has been done in the EAR reports. Regarding next steps, RethinkWaste will be asking Recology who has signed up for compost service and who has not, if they remain unsubscribed after 60 days they will be forwarded to the City for enforcement. Enforcement options include monetary and withholding permits for example.

Member Mello asked the committee if they have reached the end of the 60-day notice in their own city's yet, and what have they chosen as next steps.

Chair Lorenz noted that Foster City is currently working on figuring out what the next steps will be, whether it be another letter or if the enforcement process will begin.

- Outreach update

Staff Rosales-Jose gave an update on SB 1383 outreach. She noted that San Mateo county will be running a campaign on composting, specifically avoiding recycling in the compost. Deliverables and outreach materials for marketing will be provided by the county. The mediums will be in three languages, there will videos and social media content available next year. Additionally, a proper sorting campaign which ran last year, will be re-run again by RethinkWaste and in different languages as well.

Chair Lorenz asked member Tong if there has been an update on the alternative procurement option with Peninsula Clean Energy (PCE).

Member Tong answered that the County is waiting for PCE to respond and their Request for Information which has yet to happen.

7. Discussion on 2023 EAR completion

Staff Chung gave a verbal update on the 2023 CalRecycle Electronic Annual Report (EAR) status. He noted that the Agency's contract Ascent Environmental, Inc. compiles data from Recology and SBWMA. Each jurisdiction provides 1383 procurement numbers and construction and demolition numbers. He noted two changes in this year's report: Change one – Newby and BVON are no longer accepting compostable plastics which includes compostable bags. And change two – tracking of notices of violations has changed and all are being reported through EAR. He also noted that CalRecycle has lumped SB1383 and EAR reports so going forward, all of NOV letters that you are issuing and the number of enforcements that you are following up on are all being reported in the EAR. Unfortunately, none of us have sent out any NOV notices in 2023 and have reported zero. He stressed the importance of NOV letters going forward for the future EAR's. He added that It is yet to be determined what the state will do for those that have yet to send out NOV letters but from previous experience, not having done anything is not good but having a written plan on what will be done helps even if that plan is written and there is nothing done to enforce said plan. The state will put jurisdictions on some kind of compliance review, and warned that jurisdictions should be ready for when that time comes and we receive our compliance review.

Chair Lorenz is interested in learning more about compostable bags, she understands the request but noted that Foster City Parks Department has very expensive compostable bags and would not like a un-lined bin. She asked if there is a bin linking option would be acceptable.

Staff Chung answered that this is a tough subject but as of now there is no other option. Compostable bags don't break down as fast as they would like them to in commercial compost facilities.

8. Discussion on Planning for Zero Emission Vehicles and Charging Infrastructure

Executive Director La Mariana informed members that the CA Air Resources Board (CARB) mandates, there be a plan in place for the Recology fleet to be 100 percent zero emission vehicles by 2035. One quarter of the fleet needs to be converted needs to be converted in phase one before 2030. The first phase includes of 51 electric trucks, 65-70 vehicles. Increased truck costs is one of the challenges; \$922,000 per vehicle. Secondly, these electric vehicles have reduced tonnage capacity. An electric collection vehicles holds two tons less than our current vehicles, so we will require more vehicles in our fleet. Which causes a third challenge, Shoreway space constraints and parking. PG& E recently had a Shoreway site visit, and can bring the power to Shoreway for this number of vehicle charging, and the power infrastructure cost will be taken on by PG&E since they have goals to reach as well. Staff will be looking into alternative funding components as well.

Staff Southworth noted that there are possible partnerships for solar panels through a local PCE. And staff is working cost savings alternatives.

Dwight Herring General Manager of SBI noted that SBI will test a roll off EV truck in September to see how it works.

9. Contractor Updates

Recology of San Mateo County

- Mia Rossy, Community Outreach Manager noted that they on track for the hydrogen collection vehicle arriving at the end of August 2024 pilot. And announcement will be sent out in case anyone wants to take a look at it.
- She also announced that Regional Financial Analyst – Chuck Collins will be retiring at the end of the month

SBI

- Executive Director La Mariana complimented Dwight Herring, Chris Valbusa and Staff Gans who have been working very hard to update a whole variety of maintenance across the site. He acknowledged that there is still a lot to do but its a great start.

10. Committee Member Comments

Chair Lorenz acknowledged new TAC members

- Richard Perez with East Palo Alto
- Nisha Patel, Public Works Director for Belmont
- Robert Roth of who is working on the SB1383 compliance for Belmont
- Regina Wheeler San Mateo County Special Districts Program Manager

Executive Director La Mariana added that he is available to provided tours to the new members if they would like to learn more about what RethinkWaste does.

Chair Lorenz noted that she will be visiting Shoreway during a public tour in November and invited anyone who would like to join.

11. Adjourn: 3:25 p.m.