



**ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ADVISORY
COMMITTEE (ESAC)
WASTE DIVERSION, COLLECTIONS, AND
EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE**

Approved on May 4, 2022

Minutes

Wednesday, April 06, 2022, 3:00 P.M.

Virtual Zoom Meeting

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Subcommittee Chairperson Garcia at 3:03 P.M.

Those present and absent were:

Present:

Kris Yarter

Representative, Ward 6

Margot Garcia, Chair

Representative, City Manager's Office

Yolanda Herrera (Joined at 3:12 P.M.)

Representative, Ward 5

Absent:

None

Staff Members Present:

Pat L. Tapia

Deputy Director, Environmental & General
Services (EGSD)

Cristina Polsgrove

Public Information Officer, EGSD

Laurie Pumphrey

Management Assistant, EGSD

Brittany Aldrich

Staff Assistant, EGSD

2. Approval of Minutes for November 3, 2021, and December 1, 2021

The minutes for November 3, 2021, were approved with corrections.

The minutes for December 1, 2021, were approved as written.

3. Chairperson's Report

Chairperson Garcia talked about an article that spoke on the changes made to the San Francisco Bottle Recycle Program where the Grocers Association had changed the collection of glass bottles.

• **Draft Annual Report**

Chairperson Garcia shared the draft annual report with the subcommittee. The subcommittee reviewed and discussed the draft annual report. Some edits were discussed.

4. **Waste Diversion**

Cristina Polsgrove, EGSD Public Information Officer, reported on the following item:

- **MRF Report**

Discrepancies in the past two audits raised questions regarding the high residue surcharge. EGSD Staff will seek guidance from the City Procurement Office to invoke the penalty clause. One of the discrepancies was regarded to the 'lost recyclables', which should be 5% or less. An amendment to the contract is due to expire now in April, an extension of the amendment will be requested allowing staff to discuss needed changes for the renewal of contract. An update on educational funds was discussed. The Environmental Education Exchange is awarded \$75,000 per year for educational outreach, with 195 live presentations given to elementary school aged children and 30 virtual zoom presentations conducted this past year. More discussion was held on the MRF Report.

5. **Collections**

Pat L. Tapia, EGSD Deputy Director, reported on the following items:

- **MRF Contract**

The audit process, the average commodity rate (ACR), and the profit share are some items being revisited and discussed for the amendment. Additionally, other factors like the speed of the conveyer belt can affect the contamination and ACR under the contract and profit sharing for the partnership.

- **Glass Update**

The collection of glass at City drop-off locations is ongoing. An agreement with Strategic Materials, Inc. (SMI) to collect glass stored at the Los Reales landfill to transport to their facility in Phoenix for \$5 per ton has begun. For every 10 tons collected a load of finely crushed glass is delivered to the Los Reales landfill in return. The crushed glass will be used to for filling sandbags, pipe bedding, and cement. On average 35-45 tons of glass a week has been collected, despite high gas prices. Due to staff shortages at the landfill, and the size of the City's glass crusher compared to the amount of glass being collected and other factors, the agreement with SMI became a good opportunity to expand new partnerships with other businesses. EGSD Staff is also having discussions with Glass King to grow the glass collection program at businesses in the downtown area and 4th Avenue.

6. **Public Outreach Update**

Cristina Polsgrove, EGSD Public Information Officer provided an update on the departments Public Outreach efforts.

- A Zero Waste Collection Event will take place on April 16, 2022, from 9 AM to 1 PM at the Thomas O. Price Center.
- An Earth Day event will take place on April 23, 2022, at the Children's Museum, was discussed. The details of both events were shared.

- **TreeCycle**

The weight or number of trees collected were not recorded. Trees collected are chipped and turned into mulch.

7. Code Enforcement Update

Laurie Pumphrey, EGSD Management Assistant reported on the following items:

- **Code Enforcement Customer Service Training**

One Customer Service Representative (CSR) has left the City of Tucson, leaving Code Enforcement with three CSR's. Training for CSR's are ongoing.

- **Absentee Landlord**

Code Enforcement is working with the City Attorney's Office to develop a foreclosure process in hopes of holding absentee landlords accountable on abandon or neglected properties. Citations for repeat offenders was discussed.

The deadline for EnerGov to go live has been moved to August 1, 2022. Tyler Technologies the software developer is working to resolve glitches in the program.

8. Future Agenda Items for Next Meeting (May 4, 2022)

Future agenda items for the following:

- Food Vendors Guidelines
- Recycling Contamination
- Safety Concerns
- Final Blue Tagging Report
- Landfill Update
- IAPC Audit Update
- Homeless Camp Protocol
- Collections Routing

9. Call to the Audience – No audience.

10. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 4:33 P.M.