

APPROVED

**MINUTES OF THE ALAMEDA COUNTY WASTE
MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY MEETING
OF THE
PROGRAMS AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

Thursday, June 13, 2019

9:00 A.M.

**StopWaste Offices
1537 Webster Street
Oakland, CA 94612
510-891-6500**

Members Present:

City of Albany	Rochelle Nason
City of Berkeley	Susan Wengraf
City of Dublin	Melissa Hernandez
City of Fremont	Jenny Kassan
City of Livermore	Bob Carling
City of Newark	Mike Hannon
Oro Loma Sanitary District	Shelia Young
City of Pleasanton	Jerry Pentin
City of Union City	Jaime Patiño (Alternate)

Absent:

County of Alameda	Keith Carson
City of Oakland	Dan Kalb
City of Piedmont	Tim Rood

Staff Present:

Pat Cabrera, Administrative Services Director
Anu Natarajan, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Manager
Meri Soll, Senior Program Manager
Teresa Eade, Senior Program Manager
Arliss Dunn, Clerk of the Board

Others Participating:

Steve Lautze, Oakland/Berkeley RMDZ Coordinator, City of Oakland

1. Convene Meeting

Chair Shelia Young called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

2. Public Comments

There were none.

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3. Approval of the Draft Minutes of May 9, 2019 (Pat Cabrera)

There were no public comments on this item. Board member Carling made the motion to approve the draft minutes of May 9, 2019. Board member Pentin seconded and the motion carried 6-0 (Ayes: Carling, Hannon, Kassan, Nason, Pentin, Young. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Carson, Hernandez, Kalb, Patino, Rood, Wengraf).

4. Recycling Market Development Zone (RMDZ) (Anu Natarajan)

Provide direction to staff on beginning the process of expanding the Berkeley and Oakland RMDZ to a countywide RMDZ, with StopWaste becoming the Zone Administrator.

Anu Natarajan provided an overview of the staff report and presented a PowerPoint presentation. Ms. Natarajan introduced Steve Lautze, current Oakland/Berkeley RMDZ Coordinator. Mr. Lautze provided an overview of his role as it relates to the current RMDZ program. A link to the combined report and presentation is available here: [RMDZ-06-13-19.pdf](#)

Board member Carling inquired why StopWaste is now being asked to become the zone administrator and what would be the potential administrative costs to StopWaste. Ms. Natarajan stated that Mr. Lautze will be retiring from the City of Oakland and given the critical needs in continuing to create local infrastructure for recycling StopWaste is well positioned to fulfill the role, and the administrative costs can be absorbed in our existing budget. Board member Carling inquired if Oakland and Berkeley have agreed to sign on to the proposal. Ms. Natarajan stated that there have been initial conversations between city staff but we wanted to get direction from the Board before pursuing a formal agreement. Mr. Lautze added the cities of Berkeley and Oakland will be well served under this proposal. Board member Pentin stated that he is concerned about mission creep and how it will affect the cities that are not involved with respect to potential changes in local land use and siting, especially in bedroom communities and cities that do not have large manufacturers. Ms. Natarajan stated that StopWaste will be working with the Economic Development staff from all of the cities as well as the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and all member agencies will be invited to provide input on the resolution. Ms. Natarajan added, the market is shifting and we are not only working with heavy manufacturing but more currently with manufacturers with respect to feed stock and also a shift to reuse and repair. Board member Pentin inquired as to why the City of Fremont pulled out of the RMDZ and inquired if can they rejoin. Ms. Natarajan stated that Fremont pulled out of the RMDZ because they believed a countywide approach would be more effective than a city-specific zone; they are now encouraging the expansion of the countywide RMDZ. Mr. Lautze added cities can opt in to the program if they would like and with respect to mission creep, working on creating recycling market infrastructure and demand on a local and regional level supports the Agency mission of reaching 75% recycling and beyond. Board member Wengraf stated that she is unaware of the proposal and inquired if the loans are available to the cities themselves or only to private entities. Mr. Lautze stated that cities are eligible for loans that are specifically for infrastructure to create recycling market development and in over two years, there has been one loan extended to a municipality. Mr. Lautze added there is between \$12-14 million in loan funding available and there has been a good track record of loan repayments. Board member Wengraf inquired how the program would be of benefit to Berkeley. Mr. Lautze stated expansion of the recycling zone is beneficial in that the focus would not reside with the city. StopWaste is devoted to market development issues. Board member Wengraf inquired regarding the application process. Ms. Natarajan stated that information regarding the loan application process and a detailed list of criteria is available

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on the CalRecycle website, and CalRecycle liaisons are available to provide assistance. Board member Wengraf commented that Berkeley is in process of rebuilding their transfer station and inquired if the program might provide some assistance. Mr. Lautze stated that in the event that the project may include some areas of reuse and repair the program may be able to provide some assistance. Board member Kassan stated that as a council member for Fremont she is in support of the proposal.

Board member Hannon inquired if StopWaste becomes the administrator for the program will we have final approval of any loan applications that come into the program, and further inquired if any of the eight loans extended through the program defaulted. Ms. Natarajan stated StopWaste will refer the loan applicants to CalRecycle for review and approval, and replied that none of the eight loans defaulted on payment. Board member Hannon inquired what will happen to the program if StopWaste does not become the administrator. Mr. Lautze stated that the program would reside with the City of Oakland and Recycling staff would probably assume the oversight. Mr. Lautze stated that Oakland staff have endorsed going regional. Chair Young stated that this is technically a loan program and inquired which service comes first, the technical assistance or the loan. Mr. Lautze stated the technical assistance comes first and if required the loan can follow. Board member Young inquired which tasks that staff would take on if StopWaste becomes the administrator. Ms. Natarajan stated that staff will continue to engage stakeholder groups and extend grants. Ms. Natarajan added the East Bay Economic Development Alliance has expressed interest in working regionally and CalRecycle is working with GO Biz (the Governor's office on Economic Development) to facilitate conversations to expand programs. Chair Young inquired about the origin of the funding. Mr. Lautze stated that the funding is from CalRecycle's general fund, but the City of Oakland partially funds his position utilizing a portion of Measure D funds. Chair Young stated that she considers the program to be an enhancement of economic development and supports the regional approach, however she is concerned that if in the future it requires hiring an additional staff person we would need to revisit the issue. Meri Soll stated that the area of repair and reuse is already a big focus of the agency's grants and the agency's focus on upstream. The program would merely be an enhancement and another tool in our tool box for the grants program. Adding this to our existing program would not require an additional position or an excessive increase in the amount of staff time. Board member Wengraf inquired if there is a cost to the cities, and if the loan amounts are dependent on percentage of tonnages will the loan amounts decrease. Mr. Lautze stated there is no cost to cities, and the loan amounts have decreased. Board member Wengraf inquired about the implications of the committee action requested today. Ms. Natarajan stated that staff is asking that the committee approve staff to continue the next steps to: Obtain a Resolution from the cities of Berkeley and Oakland; to obtain a WMA Board Resolution to expand the zone and to have StopWaste administer the program, and submit an application to CalRecycle followed by CEQA review if necessary.

There were no public comments on this item. Board member Pentin made the motion to approve for staff to continue the next steps. Board member Nason seconded and the motion carried 9-0 (Ayes: Carling, Hannon, Hernandez, Kassan, Nason, Patino, Pentin, Wengraf, Young. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Carson, Kalb, Rood).

5. Sustainable Landscapes in Alameda County – Annual Report (Jennifer West)

This item is for information only.

Teresa Eade presented the item in the absence of Jennifer West. Ms. Eade provided an overview of the staff report and presented a PowerPoint presentation. A link to the staff report and the presentation is available here: [Sustainable-Landscapes-06-13-19.pdf](#).

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The *Sustainable Landscapes in Alameda County* report is available online at stopwaste.org/landscapes

Board member Pentin stated that WorkDay, a finance and HR software development company, recently opened a new campus headquarters in the City of Pleasanton. Board member Pentin added the building is LEED Platinum and they have phenomenal landscaping. Board member Pentin stated that they are wrapping up the project and inquired as to who rates the landscaping. Ms. Eade stated that the landscaping team hires a rater and they submit the information to ReScape. It is possible to do it retroactively but it is usually done prior to starting the project. Board member Nason inquired if we are abandoning the Bay-Friendly branding and added although ReScape is a California-wide non-profit, the name ReScape has an opaque and bureaucratic sound to it as opposed to the pelican logo design of the Bay-Friendly branding. Ms. Eade stated that she was one of the architects of the Bay-Friendly brand design and understands the reluctance to let go of it. With respect to the issue of branding, many areas around California were using their own branding, e.g. Monterey Friendly, River Friendly, etc. and maintaining the branding infrastructure was becoming difficult and not cost-effective. Renaming the brand to ReScape California made it easier to take the initiative state-wide. Board member Nason inquired if the initiative is to have the landscape rated typically from city staff or the landscape architects. Ms. Eade stated that the initiative comes from both parties and the standard is for civic landscapes over 10,000 square feet. Chair Young inquired if we are completely abandoning Bay-Friendly branding. Ms. Eade stated that the branding has been turned over to the non-profit along with the toolkits as it wasn't cost effective for StopWaste to maintain. We continue to provide input and guidance to ReScape as needed or requested but currently we are not using the name Bay-Friendly. Staff is still interested in reusing the name at some point as there is a deep connection to the brand but it is still to be determined as we don't want to muddy the waters for ReScape California. We created a toolkit for the state model water efficient landscape ordinance and will be doing a training for member agency staff that do code enforcement for landscapes in October. The training is free and will be held at StopWaste and we can also conduct a training at the member agency site if there is adequate participation.

Chair Young thanked Ms. Eade for the presentation.

6. Member Comments

There were none.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.