

## AGENDA

Tim Rood, **WMA President**  
City of Piedmont, WMA, EC  
Deborah Cox, **WMA 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, EC President**  
City of San Leandro, WMA, EC  
Shelia Young, **WMA 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**  
Oro Loma Sanitary District, WMA  
Melissa Hernandez, **EC 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**  
City of Dublin, WMA, EC  
Dan Kalb, **EC 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**  
City of Oakland, WMA, EC  
Jim Oddie, City of Alameda, WMA, EC  
Keith Carson, County of Alameda, WMA, EC  
Nick Pilch, City of Albany, WMA, EC  
Susan Wengraf, City of Berkeley, WMA, EC  
Dave Sadoff, Castro Valley Sanitary District, WMA  
Dianne Martinez, City of Emeryville, WMA, EC  
Jenny Kassin, City of Fremont, WMA, EC  
Francisco Zermeño, City of Hayward, WMA, EC  
Bob Carling, City of Livermore, WMA, EC  
Michael Hannon, City of Newark, WMA, EC  
Jerry Pentin, City of Pleasanton, WMA, EC  
Emily Duncan, City of Union City, WMA, EC  
Wendy Sommer, Executive Director

### MEETING OF THE ALAMEDA COUNTY WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (WMA) BOARD AND THE ENERGY COUNCIL (EC)

Wednesday, February 26, 2020

3:00 P.M.

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

Meeting is wheelchair accessible. Sign language interpreter may be available upon five (5) days notice by calling 510-891-6500. Members of the public wanting to add an item to a future agenda may contact 510-891-6500.

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

#### II. ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE

#### III. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDENTS - *(Members are asked to please advise the board or the council if you might need to leave before action items are completed)*

#### IV. OPEN PUBLIC DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

An opportunity is provided for any member of the public wishing to speak on any matter within the jurisdiction of the boards or council, but not listed on the agenda. Total time limit of 30 minutes with each speaker limited to three minutes unless a shorter period of time is set by the President.

#### Page V. CONSENT CALENDAR

- 1 1. **Approval of the Draft Minutes of January 22, 2020 (Wendy Sommer)**

#### VI. REGULAR CALENDAR

- 7 1. **Altamont Property Overview and Update (Kelly Schoonmaker)**  
This item is for information only.
- 9 2. **AB 619: New Reusable Container Law for California (Jeff Becerra)**  
This item is for information only.

**3. Interim appointment(s) to the Recycling Board for WMA appointee unable to attend future Board Meeting(s) (Arliss Dunn)**

(Planning Committee and Recycling Board meeting, March 12, 2020 at 4:00 pm, StopWaste, 1537 Webster Street, Oakland, CA)

**VII. MEMBER COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

DRAFT

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
ALAMEDA COUNTY WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (WMA) BOARD,  
THE ENERGY COUNCIL (EC)

Wednesday, January 22, 2020

3:00 P.M.

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

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

President Rood called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE**

City of Alameda	Jim Oddie, WMA, EC
City of Albany	Nick Pilch, WMA, EC
City of Berkeley	Susan Wengraf, WMA, EC
City of Dublin	Melissa Hernandez, WMA, EC
City of Emeryville	Dianne Martinez, WMA, EC
City of Fremont	Jenny Kassan, WMA, EC
City of Livermore	Bob Carling, WMA, EC
City of Newark	Mike Hannon, WMA, EC
City of Oakland	Dan Kalb, WMA, EC
Oro Loma Sanitary District	Shelia Young, WMA
City of Piedmont	Tim Rood, WMA, EC, President
City of Pleasanton	Jerry Pentin, WMA, EC
City of San Leandro	Deborah Cox, WMA, EC
City of Union City	Emily Duncan, WMA, EC

**ABSENT:**

County of Alameda	Keith Carson, WMA, EC
Castro Valley Sanitary District	Dave Sadoff, WMA
City of Hayward	Francisco Zermeño, WMA, EC

**Staff Participating:**

Wendy Sommer, Executive Director  
Justin Lehrer, Senior Management Analyst  
Jennifer West, Program Manager  
Arliss Dunn, Clerk of the Board  
Richard Taylor, WMA Legal Counsel

**Others Participating:**

Kathy Cote, City of Fremont  
Dagney Tucker, CEO, Vessel  
Peter Slote, City of Oakland  
Samantha Sommer, ReThink Disposable, Clean Water Fund

**III. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDENTS**

There were none.

**IV. OPEN PUBLIC DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR**

There was none.

**V. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**1. Approval of the Draft Minutes of December 18, 2019 (Wendy Sommer)**

**2. Annual Audit for Fiscal Year 2018-19 (Pat Cabrera & Jennifer Luong)**

That the WMA Board and Energy Council review, accept and file the Fiscal Year 2018-19 Annual Audit.

There were no public comments for the Consent Calendar. Board member Young made the motion to approve the Consent Calendar. Board member Duncan seconded and the motion carried 12-0: (Ayes: Carling, Cox, Duncan, Hannon, Hernandez, Martinez, Oddie, Pentin, Pilch, Rood, Wengraf, Young. Nays: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Carson, Kalb, Kassan, Sadoff, Zermeño).

**VI. REGULAR CALENDAR**

**1. Reusable Food Ware Ordinance (Justin Lehrer)**

Review the options listed in the staff report, and provide direction to staff on how to proceed.

Board members Kalb and Kassan arrived during the presentation. Wendy Sommer introduced the item and provided some context and background on where we are today. Ms. Sommer stated that following the November committee meetings where this topic was introduced and discussed, staff has had several meetings and discussions with member agency staff and city managers. Through these discussions, an overwhelming majority of the input and feedback focused on concerns that with the significant demands from the impending SB 1383 legislation, proceeding with an ordinance at this time would take away resources and hinder StopWaste staff from assisting with the implementation of SB 1383. To that end, given the significant amount of feedback received from member agency staff, Agency staff feels that Option 1 Pilot Projects and Data Collection is the best approach at this time.

Ms. Sommer sought Board concurrence on the underlying objectives for pursuing a reusable food ware ordinance which include: reducing consumption of single-use food ware, creating and supporting countywide infrastructure to handle reusables, ensuring that replacement products don't contain toxics such as PFAs, and developing policy that's pragmatic, thoughtful and can be implemented equitably countywide. Board member Hannon asked if the reusable food ware ordinance is being developed as a staff or board priority. Ms. Sommer responded that the idea was brought up by several Board members during the priority setting process, which resulted in the guiding principle to only consider mandatory measures that go through a comprehensive resource analysis process. We are currently in the resource analysis stage.

Justin Lehrer provided an overview of the staff report. A link to the report is available here: [Reusable-FoodWare-Ordinance.pdf](#)

Board member Carling inquired about the 6-8 month timeline for start-up of the pilot and the proposed number and mix of the businesses. President Rood inquired if the pilot would target only certain

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jurisdictions or is it proposed to be countywide. Mr. Lehrer stated that the details are still being sorted but it wouldn't be feasible to include all of the businesses in a certain jurisdiction. Mr. Lehrer added, a key criteria would be if a jurisdiction would want to partner with us and be able to contribute resources either financially or in-kind, and that jurisdictions could potentially identify businesses that would be a good fit for the pilot. Mr. Lehrer added that we are working with a sub-committee of interested TAC members and will reconvene that group to work through the details. Board member Kassan inquired about the number of cities that are already doing pilot projects and how our proposed project would work with them. Mr. Lehrer stated that the City of Berkeley is the only city that has a pilot for reusables and we are currently working with the City of Fremont to provide technical assistance via the Re-think Disposable program. Board member Cox stated that her council had heard the details of SB 1383 as well as feedback from City staff and staff feels that they cannot take on any more projects at this time. Board member Cox inquired if the pilot would be looking at small mom and pop businesses and how we can help them build infrastructure to manage reusables in-house. Mr. Lehrer stated yes, we are working with groups that have the expertise in developing infrastructure for both in-house and mobile dishwashing services. Board member Cox inquired if we have learned any best practices from cities that have these types of ordinances. Ms. Soll stated that most of the cities that have the dine-in ordinances have not been implemented yet. Board member Cox stated that she is interested in Option 1 but she is not sure about city staff. Board member Martinez stated that she appreciates staff bringing forth Option 1 as this approach is the smartest and friendliest way to work with the small businesses in her city without posing undue burdens. Board member Martinez added this approach also provides the opportunity to bring in the California Restaurant Association (CRA) to talk to their members about their needs as well as collect data on the flow of their reusables. Board member Oddie inquired if there are any economies of scale that would enable us to reduce the cost if we decide to pursue a model or countywide ordinance or could we draft the model ordinance while learning from the pilot. Mr. Lehrer stated that Option 1 would provide an opportunity for testing out messaging and outreach but without the appropriate CEQA analysis we couldn't move forward with developing an ordinance. Board member Oddie stated that he likes the idea of a pilot and if we decide to pursue the pilot we should include chains and restaurant districts such as the Temescal district. Board member Oddie stated that his colleagues at the City of Alameda still have concerns about the cost of enforcement for their ordinance and the CRA offered to be a resource with regard to the use of incentives for participating versus fines for not participating and no one favored the surcharge on cups.

Board member Pilch stated that he had not discussed the ordinance with his council but he is confident that staff would not be in favor of doing it themselves and supports the idea of doing Option 1 with data collection prior to pursuing a model or countywide ordinance. Board member Duncan stated that she is confident that the council and staff would be open to participating in the pilot project but would appreciate more information regarding the resource requirements for implementation of SB 1383. Board member Pentin stated that the City of Pleasanton staff was initially onboard with a countywide ordinance given the pending SB 1383 legislation. Staff is now excited about the proposed pilot project because it allows the opportunity to learn from the cities that have adopted reusable food ware ordinances and could also provide information on how to bridge the food ware ordinance with requirements of SB 1383. Mr. Lehrer stated that a key connection point between this effort and SB 1383 is food recovery, and staff is interested in opportunities to integrate reusables into food recovery efforts if there is an opportunity within the pilot projects. Board member Hernandez stated that the City of Dublin staff was also concerned about the requirements for SB 1383 and had initially supported a countywide ordinance but would be asking that we wait a year before implementing it. Staff is now onboard with the pilot project. Board member Young stated that Oro Loma staff already has concerns about enforcing 1383 with the community and then introducing the food ware ordinance and stated her support for Option 1 and the proposed timeline. Board member Hannon stated that the City of

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Newark initially supported a countywide ordinance and now supports Option 1. Board member Hannon recommended that staff continue to work with the TAC to identify certain restaurants and to consider geographic density with regard to the smaller cities identifying fewer businesses for participating and the larger cities identifying more businesses. Board member Wengraf stated that the City of Berkeley ordinance was more costly to implement than originally anticipated and they have learned that most dine-in restaurants are already complying with the ordinance but the take-out restaurants are facing certain challenges such as how to provide compostable food ware for hot soup. There is also fear regarding permitting and space requirements for the smaller establishments. Board member Kalb stated that if we will be reaching out to the same businesses for SB 1383 and the food ware ordinance, it would be a missed opportunity to not simultaneously approach both issues. He expressed concerns about delaying the process and wanted to make sure that the pilots are robust enough with a variety of businesses and jurisdictions represented, so we could identify potential hurdles and unintended consequences and move forward with a countywide ordinance sooner rather than later. Ms. Sommer stated that Option 1 is not meant to delay the process, but rather to get enough information to support a thoughtful policy. Staff will rely on jurisdictions' cooperation to ensure a good mix of projects. President Rood stated that SB 1383 is the law and every business across the county will have to comply with it. He is not sure how outreach regarding reusable food ware will help implement SB 1383 across the county. President Rood stated that his council was initially in favor of a countywide ordinance but there appears to be a very strong consensus in favor of the Pilot Project and Data Collection and he is supporting Option 1 as well.

There were four public speakers on this item:

Kathy Cote, City of Fremont, stated that the Fremont City Council and staff support Option 1 and they will be participating with data gathering. Through their project with ReThink Disposable, they will be targeting 250 businesses. Dagney Tucker, CEO, Vessel, stated her support for Option 1. Ms. Tucker stated that through their pilot project in Berkeley, they have exceeded their anticipated number of sign-ups. Peter Slote, City of Oakland, stated that he supports the goal of reusables for the county and noted that in Option 3-Countywide Ordinance, he supports the requirement that compostables are limited to non-plastics. Samantha Sommer, ReThink Disposable, stated that through their pilot projects with smaller business the metrics demonstrate that the source reduction and transitioning to reusable food ware works for businesses.

Board member Oddie stated that if we pursue the pilot project that he hopes that the pilot will have a diverse set of end users.

Board member Hannon made the motion to direct staff to move forward with Option 1 Pilot Project and Data Collection with the understanding that staff will come back in the near future to report on how the pilot is progressing and inform the Board on the specific implementation of the pilots. Board member Duncan seconded and the motion carried 13-0-3:

(Ayes: Carling, Cox, Duncan, Hannon, Hernandez, Kassan, Martinez, Oddie, Pentin, Pilch, Rood, Wengraf, Young. Nays: None. Abstained: Kalb. Absent: Carson, Sadoff, Zermeño).

## **2. Interim appointment(s) to the Recycling Board for WMA appointee unable to attend future Board Meeting(s) (Arliiss Dunn)**

(Planning Committee and Recycling Board meeting, February 13, 2020 at 7:00 pm, San Leandro Senior Center, 13909 E. 14th Street, Meeting Room C, San Leandro, CA 94578).

There were no requests for an interim appointment.

**Energy Council President Cox chaired the EC item.**

**3. Heat Pump Water Heater Grant Update and MOU (Jennifer West) (EC only)**

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the Executive Director to negotiate an MOU with local energy providers for implementation of the BAAQMD HPWH incentive program and other related actions to be formally approved by the Council when completed and to enter contracts with service providers to implement the MOU work program in an amount not to exceed funds provided by the signatories to the MOU.

Jennifer West provided an overview of the staff report and presented a PowerPoint presentation. A link to the report and the presentation is available here: [HPWH-Grant-01-22-2020.pdf](https://www.co.fresno.ca.us/egov/HPWH-Grant-01-22-2020.pdf)

Board member Hannon inquired that as we encourage residential properties to move from gas to electric water heaters, have we done an analysis on what the permitting differential might be for making the switch. Ms. West stated that we have not done an analysis on the impact of requiring permits, but we are requiring permits, which is why we targeted contractors, and not distributors, to be our mid-stream supply chain actors for the program. Ms. West added that with the number of permitting agencies, the difficulty and cost in getting a permit varies by location. Board member Hannon stated that we must be mindful of the cost issues as they are significantly costly to single family residents. Board member Wengraf inquired about the cost differential between gas water heaters and the heat pump water heaters. Ms. West stated that the heat pump water heaters are approximately \$600 more than gas water heaters.

There were no public comments on this item. Board member Kalb made the motion to approve the staff recommendation. Board member Pentin seconded and the motion carried 15-0:

(Ayes: Carling, Cox, Duncan, Hannon, Kalb, Kassan, Martinez, Oddie, Pentin, Pilch, Rood, Wengraf. Nays: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Carson, Hernandez, Zermeno).

**VII. MEMBER COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Ms. Sommer distributed the monthly topic brief on the Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan-2020 Update, available here: [2020CoIWMP-Update-Topic-Brief.pdf](https://www.co.fresno.ca.us/egov/2020CoIWMP-Update-Topic-Brief.pdf) and the monthly events, available here: [In-Your-Community-Jan-2020.pdf](https://www.co.fresno.ca.us/egov/In-Your-Community-Jan-2020.pdf)

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:56 p.m.

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**DATE:** February 26, 2020

**TO:** Waste Management Authority Board

**FROM:** Wendy Sommer, Executive Director

**BY:** Kelly Schoonmaker, Program Manager

**SUBJECT:** Altamont Property Overview and Update

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### **SUMMARY**

The WMA owns 1,600 acres of rangeland in the Altamont Hills in unincorporated Alameda County. At the February 26 WMA meeting, staff will present an overview of the property and provide an update on current activities taking place there.

### **DISCUSSION**

In 1993-94, the WMA purchased several parcels of land through voluntary agreements with property owners, using funds from the San Francisco Mitigation Fee account for the purpose of reserve landfill capacity. Current uses and tenants on the property include cattle grazing, transmission and communications towers, a residential rental of a historic farmhouse, and wind power generation.

In 2015, Golden Hills Wind, LLC, the operator of the wind farm conducted a “re-powering” project, both to increase energy production and reduce bird and bat mortality. The project replaced 400+ older style small wind turbines on the property with 20 modern, large turbines. To mitigate the habitat loss caused by the re-powering project, Golden Hills offered to purchase a conservation easement on the property. In September, 2018, the WMA Board authorized the execution of an agreement establishing a conservation easement on a portion of the property. In 2019, Golden Hills installed a system to identify golden eagles and shut down any turbines that pose a collision threat.

In December 2019, the WMA began implementation of a carbon farming plan developed by the Alameda County Resource Conservation District (ACRCD). Funded by multiple state grants, compost was applied over 12.5 acres. ACRCD and UC Merced will collect and analyze data on soil carbon sequestration, soil greenhouse gas fluxes, and water quality.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

This item is for information only.

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**DATE:** February 26, 2020  
**TO:** Waste Management Authority Board  
**BY:** Jeff Becerra, Communications Manager  
**SUBJECT:** AB 619: New Reusable Container Law for California

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### **SUMMARY**

In 2019, the California legislature passed AB 619, which allows consumers to bring their own reusable containers to restaurants for takeout (although participation by restaurants is optional). The new law is designed to reduce the proliferation of single-use disposable food ware. At the February 26 WMA meeting, staff will provide an overview of the law, and implications for local restaurants and potential reusable food ware policy in Alameda County.

### **DISCUSSION**

AB 619 amends existing California Retail Food Code, which provides for the regulation of health and sanitation standards for retail food facilities. The new state law clarifies existing health code laws, ensuring that the public can bring reusable containers to restaurants for takeout. The law also allows temporary food facilities at events to serve customers in reusable containers rather than single-use disposables. However, AB 619 does not require restaurants to accept reusable containers – the practice remains optional – but it does clarify the safe food handling guidelines for how to deal with them.

The law now gives restaurants the option to fill customer containers as long as they are either isolated from the serving surface or the surface is sanitized after each use. StopWaste staff has been informally creating an inventory of local restaurants that allow the use of reusable containers. Staff intends to expand its outreach to restaurants and consumers on how best to take advantage of this new law next fiscal year as part of the reusable pilot project.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

This item is for information only.

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**March 2020  
Meetings Schedule**

**Alameda County Waste Management Authority, the Energy Council, & Source Reduction and  
Recycling Board**

(Meetings are held at StopWaste Offices unless otherwise noted)

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>9:00 AM Programs &amp; Administration Committee</b> <b>Key Items:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. CoIWMP review</li> <li>2. Fiscal forecast</li> <li>3. Unfunded Liability Policy</li> </ol> <hr style="width: 20%; margin: 10px auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>4:00 PM Planning Committee &amp; Recycling Board StopWaste</b> <b>Key Items:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. CoIWMP review</li> <li>2. Fiscal forecast</li> <li>3. Unfunded Liability Policy</li> </ol>	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>3:00 PM Waste Management Authority and Energy Council</b> <b>Key Items:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. First Reading CoIWMP</li> <li>2. Legislative Bill Positions</li> <li>3. Energy Policy Updates (EC)</li> </ol>	26	27	28
29	30	31				

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**Energy Council**  
**TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP (TAG)**  
Tuesday, February 18, 2020 – 1:00 to 2:30 pm

**Attendance:**

Alameda County: Allison Abbors

City of Alameda: Patrick Pelegri-O'Day (phone)

City of Albany: Lizzie Carrade, Bianca Hutner (Fellow)

City of Berkeley: Katie Van Dyke

City of Emeryville: Nancy Humphrey

City of Fremont: Robbie Barton

City of Hayward: Erik Pearson, Jack Steinmann (Fellow)

City of Oakland: Sooji Yang (Fellow)

City of Piedmont: Justin Szasz (Fellow)

City of San Leandro: Hoi-Fei Mok

StopWaste: Jennifer West, Emily Alvarez, Ben Cooper, Miya Kitahara, Chris Hunter

Guests: Judi Ettlinger, Charlie Cardillo, and Matt Martin, Underground; Laura Seidman, Alameda Municipal Power; Beckie Menten, Feby Boediarto, Zac Thompson, and Alex DiGiorgio, EBCE; Ashwin Kedia, Shamik Mehta, Dash Pinger, and Sung Chun, Intertrust

**Meeting Summary:**

**Introductions and welcome**

- Introduced Chris Hunter, who replaced Jeffery Liang as the Energy Council Program Services Specialist. Chris will provide marketing and outreach support for BayREN programs.

**County-wide campaign**

- Several member agencies had asked for support to craft a bigger vision and cohesive message around climate change and the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Earth Day.
  - StopWaste responded by contracting with Judy Ettlinger and Underground to develop a messaging campaign member agencies can use.
  - Also coordinate Earth Day and actions campaigns with EBCE.
- Feby Boediarto, EBCE Outreach coordinator, discussed their first big call to action campaign which aims to encourage residents and businesses to opt up to Renewable 100.
  - For each “opt up,” EBCE will donate to the public education funds in the customer’s city.
  - Media and outreach would include a landing page, announced in city newsletters, social media, and paid advertising.
  - Prizes are planned for residents who opt up including a Grid Alternatives solar install for income-qualified household, batteries, and an electric bike.
- StopWaste has hired Underground to help develop campaign (have worked on recycling, food waste, and BayREN campaigns previously).
  - Agency is not launching the campaign, but will develop messaging cities can use.
  - Aim is to be positive and inspiring, not negative, recognizing the climate emergency.

- Campaign will shift focus from individual choices to community action and from harm reduction to re-generation.
- Audience includes youth, people who are already aware, cities and agencies in Alameda County, and community organizations.
  - Builds on the Yale study that Alameda County is the most climate aware in the nation and that there is a spectrum of engagement that people have with climate change (from dismissive to alarmed). Six Americas report.
- Essential message: there is a positive, vibrant future emerging and a need to take action – what role do you want to take? Individuals can take action, but it requires a larger, community-effort.
  - Call to action: You are part of this emerging future, learn and join to move forward together.
- Possible deliverables include an animation to tell story, poster/postcards, social media, websites, and talking points (consistency in messaging throughout county). What would member agencies find most helpful?
  - Central website with all events happening around the county.
  - Ways to get involved – groups, actions, what is next if someone wants to get involved?
  - Would be useful to have deliverables by Earth Day events.
  - Bring together all cities to show united effort/messaging across the county.
  - Ways to influence consumer decisions and business practices.
  - Postcard, video, etc. are things city staff may not have time or funds to do and would be really helpful.
  - Pledge/checklist of things that are meaningful that everyone can take immediately (successful at recycling clinic in Albany).
  - Clear and reusable messaging/products.
  - Opportunities for schools to do project-based learning.
  - What can you do at work? We often talk about at home, but should consider all aspects of their lives that can have an impact, not just as residents of one city.
- Next steps: recommendations and creative concepts, developing materials to show team with enough time to get launched before Earth Day.

### **Intertrust demo of data mapping tool**

- As cities moved towards electrification of buildings and vehicles, there is a need to address whether or not the electric grid can handle additional load. Grid issues are a *global problem*.
  - Intertrust has partnered with utilities in Germany to visualize and streamline the grid analysis for placement of EV chargers. Tool is being developed for 50% of Germany.
- Electrification of transportation = low hanging fruit in Germany.
  - Discovered biggest impediment was not price, but infrastructure to support charging.
  - Grid updates needed to put chargers everywhere; we need to know where the grid is ready.



- Beginning partnerships in the Bay Area/California. Looking for a statewide solution. StopWaste and cities' roles would be to advocate and support.
  - Intertrust has partnered with the City of San Francisco to plan their electrification readiness and are applying for DOE grant.
  - Meeting with CPUC next week, working on cooperation and planning at the State level.
- Intertrust provided a demo of the tool showing what is possible, including:
  - Location of voltage lines, transformers, low voltage lines to individual homes, and connections between homes and transformers.
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> party demographic data (likely EV purchasers in the near future)
  - Identify potential problem areas. Solar potential (analysis of rooftops). Can crowdsource charging location feedback. Location of parking garages and commercial data.
- Helpful for electrification planning:
  - Can target a portion of the city with a lot of capacity.
  - Utilities can place the potential location of a new load (EV charger, heat pump water heater) and see if current infrastructure can handle it. Price estimate for upgrades.
  - Can target DER and DR efforts where grid is close to being over-loaded.

#### **Member comments**

- Emily Alvarez, StopWaste, is attending the East Bay ICC meetings on behalf of BayREN and will report to TAG.
- Next BayREN Forum is March 3 on the 2019 Energy Code Cycle.
- Conferences that may be of interest to member agencies in 2020:
  - SEEC June 22-23 in Sacramento, not free for public agencies anymore.
  - California Adaptation Forum August in Riverside.
- Future TAG discussion item: with EBEW ending this summer, what is the role of TAG? Let's explore how TAG can most benefit your jurisdiction and consider gaps to be filled without EBEW.
- Emeryville requested that cities share if they have information on the cost-benefit (costs to greenhouse gas emissions saved) for reach code efforts.
- Hayward reported that EBCE shared a legal memo on reach codes and their city attorney wanted to include an exception to all-electric if the builder can prove their case for using gas.
  - Have other cities dealt with this? Unsure how to define what the request would be, who would process it (building department, City Council, etc.), and who pays for the review?
- Building Decarbonization Coalition regularly updates the list of California cities who have passed electrification reach codes for new construction – up to 27 jurisdictions so far.

#### **2:30 – 3:30 pm East Bay Community Energy meeting**

- Notes by EBCE

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# ENR

Engineering News-Record

ENR 2019 Top 25 Newsmakers

## Bruce King: Engineer Inspired Nation's First Low-Carbon Concrete Code



King found his footing in green building materials, including high-volume fly-ash concrete, by working on the 5,000-sq-ft Real Goods Solar Living Center in the early 1990s.

*PHOTO COURTESY BRUCE KING*

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January 21, 2020

Nadine M. Post

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Much like the mouse that roared, tiny unincorporated Marin County, Calif., population 60,000, is making a big statement about low-carbon concrete. On Jan. 1, the county's Bay Area Low-Carbon Concrete Code went into effect. It is the first building code of its kind in the U.S.

Bruce King, a consulting engineer, catalyzed the code's development to rein in the profligate overuse of carbon-intensive cement in concrete. "We hope it will be the code heard around the world," says King, founder of the nonprofit Ecological Building Network (EBNet). "I personally have talked to [people] in Santa Monica and New York City."

Among other activities, the 20-year-old EBNet produced "The New Carbon Architecture: Building to Cool the Climate," published in 2017 by New Society Publishers. The book is a collaboration with the Carbon Leadership Forum, led by Kate Simonen, also a Top 25 Newsmaker, for championing embodied carbon reduction in building production. EC is the sum total of greenhouse gases emitted in building production, from material extraction to the jobsite.

Like all EC reductionists, King is on a mission to change the built environment from being a net emitter to a net absorber of greenhouse gases. "I'm a life-long tree-hugger," says the 65-year-old King, who still sees himself as a bewildered kid in engineering school—the only one with a ponytail.

In 1978, King graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in architectural engineering from the University of Colorado Boulder. In 1989, still not grounded, he moved back to his native California and hung out his shingle. Things changed when, on a four-day hike in the Sierras, he met green architect Sim Van der Ryn.

They hit it off. Subsequently, Van der Ryn asked King to work on the 5,000-sq-ft Real Goods Solar Living Center, which contains earth-plastered straw bale walls, high-volume fly-ash concrete columns and sustainably produced lumber.

King calls it his most successful green project. Not only that, he had found his calling in sustainable materials. In 1996, Ecological Design Press published his "Buildings of Earth and Straw." In 2005, King wrote about high-volume fly-ash concrete in "Making Better Concrete," published by Green Building Press. "Design of Straw Bale Buildings" followed in 2006, also published by Green Building Press. And from 1999 through 2016, King organized five BuildWell conferences on materials.

All the while, he supported himself and his family by practicing engineering. "It was a Robin Hood existence," he says. "I worked for the rich to feed the poor."

Nadav Malin, president of consultant BuildingGreen, calls King an inspiration. "He is driven by the imperative of using readily available and low-impact materials to protect the planet," says Malin. And "he is talented and confident enough to work from first principles and figure out how to build with materials that don't come from the typical supply yard."

For the concrete code, King was the visionary, says Alice Zanmiller, who as the planner for Marin County’s sustainability team managed the code project, including the up-to-\$206,456 grant from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District.

Marin County intends to promote the standard to other jurisdictions and provide guidance on how to replicate it. Alameda and San Francisco counties are already weighing action. “There is no news yet about others adopting the code, but we are hopeful,” Zanmiller says.

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Nadine Post is Editor-at-Large of ENR

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