

P&A Committee Members

Jean Josey, **Chair**
City of Dublin

Lorrel Plimier, **Vice Chair**
City of Piedmont

David Haubert, County of Alameda

Jennifer Hansen-Romero, City of Albany

Mark Humbert, City of Berkeley

Dave Sadoff, Castro Valley Sanitary District

Yang Shao, City of Fremont

Francisco Zermeño, City of Hayward

Matthew Jorgens, City of Newark

Ken Houston, City of Oakland

Rita Duncan, Oro Loma Sanitary District

Matt Gaidos, City of Pleasanton

Timothy Burroughs, Executive Director

AGENDA

**MEETING OF THE
PROGRAMS AND ADMINISTRATION
COMMITTEE (P&A)**

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2025

9:00 A.M.

***IN PERSON MEETING LOCATION:*
STOPWASTE BOARD ROOM
1537 WEBSTER STREET, OAKLAND, CA**

This meeting will be conducted in a hybrid model with participation both in-person and via teleconference:

Teleconference location #1	3300 Capitol Avenue, Building A, Fremont, CA
Teleconference location #2	806 Pierce Street, Albany, CA
Teleconference location #3	City of Dublin, 100 Civic Plaza, Dublin, CA
Teleconference location #4	2928 Linden Avenue, Berkeley, CA
Teleconference location #5	123 Main Street, Pleasanton, CA
Teleconference location #6	Newark City Hall, 37101 Newark Blvd. Conf Rm #1, Newark, CA
Teleconference location #7	30065 Skylark Court, Hayward, CA
Teleconference location #8	21195 Center Street, Castro Valley, CA
Teleconference location #9	22493 Bayview Avenue, Hayward, CA
Teleconference location #10	Scott Haggerty Heritage House, 4501 Pleasanton Ave., Pleasanton, CA

Members of the public may attend in person at the addresses listed above or by:

1. Calling US+1 669 900 6833 and using the Webinar ID 834 2225 5372
2. Using the [Zoom](#) website or App and entering meeting code 834 2225 5372

During the meeting the chair will explain the process for members of the public to be recognized to offer public comment. The process will be described on the StopWaste website at <http://www.stopwaste.org/virtual-meetings> no later than noon, Wednesday, December 10, 2025.

The public may also comment by sending an e-mail to publiccomment@stopwaste.org. Written public comments will be accepted until 3:00 p.m. on the day prior to the scheduled meeting. Copies of all written comments submitted by the deadline above will be provided to each Board Member and will be added to the official record. Comments will not be read into the record.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need assistance to participate in this meeting due to a disability, please contact the Clerk of the Board at (510) 891-6517. Notification 24 hours prior to the meeting will enable the agency to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

AGENDA

I. CONVENE MEETING

II. ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Open public discussion from the floor is provided for any member of the public wishing to speak on any matter within the jurisdiction of the Programs & Administration Committee but not listed on the agenda.

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IV. CONSENT CALENDAR

- 1 1. **Approval of the Draft P&A Minutes of October 9, 2025**

V. REGULAR CALENDAR

- 3 1. **Compostable Plastics Update (Michelle Fay & Kelly Schoonmaker)**

This item is for information only.

- 5 2. **2026 Meeting Schedule (Timothy Burroughs)**

That the Programs & Administration Committee approve the 2026 Meeting Schedule.

VI. MEMBER COMMENTS

VII. ADJOURNMENT – TO P&A MEETING – JANUARY 8, 2026 AT 9:00 A.M.

DRAFT

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

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2025

9:00 A.M.

***IN PERSON MEETING LOCATION:*
STOPWASTE BOARD ROOM
1537 WEBSTER STREET, OAKLAND, CA**

Members Present:

County of Alameda	David Haubert
City of Berkeley	Mark Humbert
Castro Valley Sanitary District	Dave Sadoff
City of Dublin	Michael McCorriston, (alternate)
City of Fremont	Yang Shao
City of Hayward	Daniel Goldstein
City of Newark	Matthew Jorgens
City of Piedmont	Lorrel Plimier
City of Pleasanton	Matt Gaidos

Absent

City of Albany	Jennifer Hansen-Romero
City of Oakland	Ken Houston
Oro Loma Sanitary District	Rita Duncan

Staff Present:

Timothy Burroughs, Executive Director
Alma Freeman, Communications Manager
Justin Lehrer, Operations Manager
Cassie Bartholomew, Senior Program Manager
Merri Soll, Senior Program Manager
Trevor Probert, Program Manager
Arliss Dunn, Clerk of the Board

Others Present:

Zachary Malone, UC Merced

I. Convene Meeting

Vice Chair Plimier called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Timothy Burroughs explained the process that would be utilized during the meeting. A link to the process is available here: [Virtual-Meetings-Instructions](#).

II. Public Comments

There were none.

III. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approval of the Draft Minutes of September 11, 2025

DRAFT

There were no public comments for the Consent Calendar. Board member Shao moved for approval of the Consent Calendar. Board member Haubert seconded, and the motion carried 9-0. The Clerk called the roll.

(Ayes: Gaidos, Goldstein, Haubert, Humbert, Jorgens, McCorriston, Plimier, Sadoff, Shao. Nays: None. Absent: Duncan, Hansen-Romero, Houston. Abstain: None)

IV. REGULAR CALENDAR

1. Compost Application and Carbon Sequestration Research (Trevor Probert)

This item is for information only.

Timothy Burroughs introduced the item. Trevor Probert provided an overview of the staff report and introduced Zachary Malone, UC Merced. Mr. Probert and Mr. Malone presented findings from a five-year study on compost application in urban parks sports fields, examining carbon sequestration potential in Alameda County. A link to the staff report and presentation is available here: [Compost-Study-Memo.pdf](#).

Additional time was provided to the Board for discussion and for clarifying questions. An audio link is provided here: [Compost-Study-Discussion](#). Mr. Probert informed the Board that staff will share the compost application research results with member agency staff through the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and Technical Advisory Group (TAG). There were no public comments. Vice Chair Plimier thanked Mr. Probert and Mr. Malone for a very informative presentation.

2. Upstream Grants Program Update and Evaluation (Meri Soll & Cassie Bartholomew)

This item is for information only.

Timothy Burroughs introduced the item and announced that Meri Soll would be retiring at the end of the year, and this would be her final presentation to the Recycling Board. Ms. Soll has worked at StopWaste for nearly 30 years.

Ms. Soll and Ms. Bartholomew provided an overview of recent grant awardees, the upcoming grants solicitation, and an update on the current evaluation process. A link to the staff report and presentation is available here: [Upstream-Grants-Program-Update-memo.pdf](#). Staff will return to the Board with an update on the grants program evaluation in fall 2026. There will be a new round of reusable transport packaging grants in spring 2026. Additional time was provided to the Committee for discussion and for clarifying questions. An audio link to the discussion is available here: [Upstream-Grants-Program-Update-Discussion](#)

There were no public comments. Board member Sadoff thanked Ms. Soll for her energy, hard work, and her commitment to StopWaste's mission and added that it has been a great pleasure working with her over the last 15 years. Ms. Soll stated that she feels very fortunate to have worked at an organization that's aligned with her mission and goals and is dedicated to reducing waste. Vice Chair Plimier thanked staff for a wonderful update and congratulated Ms. Soll on her retirement.

V. MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Burroughs notified the Committee that the November 13 P&A meeting is cancelled in lieu of the joint meeting of the Waste Management Authority Board, Energy Council, and the Recycling Board on November 19 at 3:00 p.m. The next P&A meeting will be held on December 11 at 9:00 a.m.

VI. ADJOURNMENT – TO P&A MEETING – DECEMBER 11, 2025 AT 9:00 A.M.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.



DATE: December 11, 2025

TO: Programs and Administration (P&A) Committee/Recycling Board (RB)

FROM: Michelle Fay, Program Manager
Kelly Schoonmaker, Senior Program Manager

SUBJECT: Compostable Plastics Update

SUMMARY

Compostable plastic, a type of plastic marketed as an “eco-friendly” alternative to conventional plastic, is increasingly ubiquitous in our society, and used to make things like disposable utensils, straws, bags, takeout food containers, and cups. However, increasing awareness and emerging research suggest that compostable plastics present challenges to both waste management facilities, the environment, and human health. At the December 11 P&A and RB meetings, staff will present an overview of compostable plastics, regulatory momentum and challenges, and discuss the Agency’s stance on these materials as well as the role that we’re playing in addressing these issues.

BACKGROUND

Compostable plastic is a family of resin types created from both plant and petroleum sources that are designed to completely biodegrade in the composting process. These resins are combined with other materials, such as plasticizers and other chemicals, to create products such as food ware and film plastic bags. Starting in the mid-2000s, industry and residents in general looked to compostable plastics, particularly bags and liners, as a tool to help divert more organics from landfill to composting. As use of these products has expanded in the last two decades, what actually happens to compostable plastics after they are disposed of is under increased scrutiny by policy makers, local governments, processors, and the public.

Issues with compostable plastic include: the proper identification and sorting of compostable plastics by generators as well as composters; inadequate standards for what can be labeled compostable; and incomplete biodegradation of the material into potentially harmful microplastic residue. In addition, compostable plastic products cost more, often don’t meet performance needs, and perpetuate a single-use culture that increases waste and disincentivizes investment in innovative sustainable solutions. Meanwhile, there is a confusing regulatory landscape, with some state regulations requiring the use or collection of compostable plastics, while other state and federal regulations prohibit the collection and processing of compostable plastics.

At the December 11 meetings, staff will provide an overview of the environmental and health concerns with compostable plastics and will share research and updates on existing regulations

and policy underway that have implications for the acceptability, distribution, processing, and messaging of compostable plastics in California.

RECOMMENDATION

This item is for information only.



PROGRAMS & ADMINISTRATION (P&A) COMMITTEE

2026 MEETING SCHEDULE

The regular meeting schedule for the Programs & Administration Committee is held on the second Thursday of each month at 9:00 a.m. Meetings are held at StopWaste, 1537 Webster Street, Oakland, CA, unless noted otherwise.

All meetings held at an in-person location will also include hybrid meeting access, e.g., via Zoom or telephone.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
January 8	9:00 a.m.	StopWaste, 1537 Webster Street, Oakland
February 12	9:00 a.m.	StopWaste, 1537 Webster Street, Oakland
March 12	9:00 a.m.	StopWaste, 1537 Webster Street, Oakland
April 9	9:00 a.m.	StopWaste, 1537 Webster Street, Oakland
May 14	9:00 a.m.	StopWaste, 1537 Webster Street, Oakland
June 11	9:00 a.m.	StopWaste, 1537 Webster Street, Oakland
July 9	9:00 a.m.	StopWaste, 1537 Webster Street, Oakland
August – NO MEETING	SUMMER RECESS	
September 10	9:00 a.m.	StopWaste, 1537 Webster Street, Oakland
October 8	9:00 a.m.	StopWaste, 1537 Webster Street, Oakland
November 12	9:00 a.m.	StopWaste, 1537 Webster Street, Oakland
December 10	9:00 a.m.	StopWaste, 1537 Webster Street, Oakland

Recommendation

That the Programs and Administration Committee approve the 2026 Meeting Schedule.