

WMA Board, Energy Council, & Recycling Board

Tracy Jensen, **WMA President, RB 1st Vice President**

City of Alameda, WMA, EC, RB

Dave Sadoff, **WMA 1st Vice President**

Castro Valley Sanitary District, WMA, EC

Xouhoa Bowen, **WMA 2nd Vice President**

City of San Leandro, WMA, EC, RB

David Mourra, **EC President**

City of Emeryville, WMA, EC, RB

Francisco Zermeño, **EC 1st Vice President**

City of Hayward, WMA, EC

Jennifer Hansen-Romero, **EC 2nd Vice President**

City of Albany, WMA, EC

Virginia Harrington, **RB 2nd Vice President**

Solid Waste Industry Representative, RB

David Haubert, County of Alameda, WMA, EC

Mark Humbert, City of Berkeley, WMA, EC

Jean Josey, City of Dublin, WMA, EC

Yang Shao, City of Fremont, WMA, EC

Ben Barrientos, City of Livermore, WMA, EC, RB

Matthew Jorgens, City of Newark, WMA, EC

Ken Houston, City of Oakland, WMA, EC

Rita Duncan, Oro Loma Sanitary District, WMA

Lorrel Plimier, City of Piedmont, WMA, EC

Matt Gaidos, City of Pleasanton, WMA, EC

Jeff Wang, City of Union City, WMA, EC, RB

Ellen McClure, Environmental Educator, RB

Elaine Owyang, Environmental Organization, RB

Barun Singh, Recycling Programs, RB

Vacant, Recycling Materials Processing Industry, RB

Vacant, Source Reduction Specialist, RB

Timothy Burroughs, Executive Director

AGENDA

**JOINT MEETING OF THE
ALAMEDA COUNTY WASTE MANAGEMENT
AUTHORITY BOARD (WMA),
THE ENERGY COUNCIL (EC)
AND
THE SOURCE REDUCTION AND RECYCLING
BOARD (RB)**

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

3:00 P.M.

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

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

Teleconference location #1	118 Glashauss Loop, Emeryville, CA
Teleconference location #2	Fremont City Hall, 3300 Capitol Ave. Building 1, Fremont, CA
Teleconference location #3	123 Main Street, Pleasanton, CA
Teleconference location #4	David W. Smith City Hall, 37101 Newark Blvd, Conf Rm. 1, Newark, CA
Teleconference location #5	40087 Mission Blvd. Fremont, CA
Teleconference location #6	2928 Linden Avenue, Berkeley, CA
Teleconference location #7	Heritage House, 4501 Pleasanton Ave, Pleasanton, CA
Teleconference location #8	22493 Bayview Ave Hayward, CA
Teleconference location #9	806 Pierce Street, Albany, CA
Teleconference location #10	5935 Vallejo Street, Emeryville, CA
Teleconference location #11	Salt Lake City Marriott Hotel, 75 S West Temple, Salt Lake City, UT
Teleconference location #12	Salt Lake City Marriott City Center, 220 S State St, Salt Lake City, UT
Teleconference location #13	Castro Valley Sanitary District, 21195 Center Street, Castro Valley, CA
Teleconference location #14	10716 Apricot Street, Oakland, CA

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

1. Calling US+1 669 900 6833 and using the Webinar ID 859 2264 6175
2. Using the [Zoom](#) website or App and entering meeting code 859 2264 6175

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, November 19, 2025. The public may also comment by sending an e-mail to publiccomment@stopwaste.org. Written public comment 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. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDENTS - *(Members are asked to please advise the boards 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.

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V. CONSENT CALENDAR - The Consent Calendar contains routine items of business. Items in this section will be acted on in one motion for both the WMA & EC, unless removed by a member of either Board. Members of the WMA who are not members of the EC will vote as part of the consent calendar vote, but their votes will not be considered in connection with any EC items. Members of the RB will vote on their items separately. Any member of the public may speak on an item on the Consent Calendar at this time. Public Speakers are limited to three (3) minutes.

1 1. **Approval of the Draft WMA & EC Minutes of October 22, 2025 (WMA/EC only)**

5 2. **Approval of the Draft PC & RB Minutes of October 9, 2025 (RB only)**

9 3. **Recycling Board Attendance Record (RB only)**

11 4. **Written Report of Ex Parte Communications (RB only)**

VI. REGULAR CALENDAR

13 1. **SB 1383/ORRO Implementation Update (Rachel Balsley, Cassie Bartholomew and Kelly Schoonmaker)**

This item is for information only.

19 2. **Reducing Contamination in the Recycling and Composting Streams (Shasta Phillips)**

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) (WMA only)**

(Planning Committee and Recycling Board meeting on December 11, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at StopWaste, 1537 Webster Street, Oakland, CA)

VII. MEMBER COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

VIII. **ADJOURNMENT TO: PC & RB MEETING, December 11, 2025 AT 6:00 P.M.**

WMA & EC MEETING, December 17, 2025 AT 3:00 P.M.

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

**Wednesday, October 22, 2025
3:00 P.M.**

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Jensen called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.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. ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE

WMA & EC

County of Alameda	David Haubert, WMA, EC
City of Alameda	Tracy Jensen, WMA, EC (President)
City of Albany	Jennifer Hansen-Romero, WMA, EC
Castro Valley Sanitary District	Dave Sadoff, WMA
City of Dublin	Jean Josey, WMA, EC
City of Emeryville	David Mourra, WMA, EC (EC President)
City of Fremont	Yang Shao, WMA, EC
City of Livermore	Ben Barrientos, WMA, EC
City of Newark	Matthew Jorgens, WMA, EC
City of Oakland	Ken Houston, WMA, EC
Oro Loma Sanitary District	Rita Duncan, WMA
City of Piedmont	Lorrel Plimier, WMA, EC
City of San Leandro	Xouhoa Bowen, WMA, EC

ABSENT

City of Berkeley	Mark Humbert, WMA, EC
City of Hayward	Francisco Zermeño, WMA, EC
City of Pleasanton	Matt Gaidos, WMA, EC
City of Union City	Jeff Wang, WMA, EC

Staff Participating

Timothy Burroughs, Executive Director
Pat Cabrera, Administrative Services Director
Justin Lehrer, Operations Manager
Alma Freeman, Communications Manager
Kelly Schoonmaker, Senior Program Manager
Jennifer West, Program Manager
Arliss Dunn, Clerk of the Board
Richard Taylor, WMA Legal Counsel

Others Present

Joe and Charlene Paulo, Paulo Farms
Marlene Dehlinger, [Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger LLP](#)
Dylan Hoffman, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDENTS

There were none.

IV. OPEN PUBLIC DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

There were no public comments.

V. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approval of the Draft WMA & EC Minutes of July 23, 2025

There were no public comments for the Consent Calendar. Board member Josey moved approval of the Consent Calendar, and Board member Haubert seconded.

The Clerk called the roll: WMA Vote: 14-0 EC Vote: 15-0

(Ayes: Barrientos, Bowen, Duncan, Haubert, Houston, Jensen, Josey, Mourra, Plimier, Sadoff, Shao. Nays: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Gaidos, Hansen-Romero, Humbert, Jorgens, Wang, Zermeño)

VI. REGULAR CALENDAR

1. Grazing License at Altamont Property (Kelly Schoonmaker)

That the Board: 1) hold a public hearing concerning the proposed grazing license, 2) make a finding that states the use of the Property subject to the license will be compatible with other ongoing uses of the Property and that the license will be of public benefit, and 3) authorize the Executive Director to enter into a grazing license agreement with Joe and Charlene Paulo.

Timothy Burroughs introduced the item. Kelly Schoonmaker provided an overview of the proposed grazing license agreement at the Altamont property with Paulo Farms. Joe and Charlene Paulo were available to answer any questions, as were Marlene Dehlinger, the attorney assisting with property. A link to the staff report is available here: [Grazing-License-memo-pdf](#).

Additional time was provided to the Board for discussion and for clarifying questions. A link to the discussion is available here: [Grazing-License-Discussion](#). President Jensen opened the public hearing. There were no public comments, and the public hearing was closed. President Jensen thanked Ms. Schoonmaker for the presentation. Mr. Burroughs stated that staff will explore hosting a visit to the property in the spring.

Board member Hauber moved for approval to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a grazing license agreement with Joe and Charlene Paulo. Board member Houston seconded, and the motion carried 15-0. The Clerk called the roll:

(Ayes: Barrientos, Bowen, Duncan, Hansen-Romero, Haubert, Houston, Jensen, Jorgens, Josey, Mourra, Plimier, Sadoff. Nays: None. Abstained: None. Absent: Gaidos, Humbert, Shao, Wang, Zermeño)

2. Legislative Update 2025 – October (Jennifer West)

This item is for information only.

Timothy Burroughs introduced the item. Jennifer West provided a summary update of the Legislative session that concluded in September. The staff memo represents the status of bills and positions as of Oct. 14, 2025. A link to the staff report is available here: [2025-Legislative-Positions-memo.pdf](#).

Dylan Hoffman, Shaw, Yoder, Antwi, Schmelzer, and Lang, was present to answer any questions. Additional time was provided to the Board for discussion and for clarifying questions. An audio link to the discussion is provided here: [2025-Legislative-Positions-Discussion](#). Mr. Burroughs provided an update on plastic bag regulations, noting that effective Jan. 1, 2026, state law now prohibits distribution of both thin and thick plastic bags at retail stores, building on Alameda County's reusable bag ordinance. Staff will send outreach materials to all Alameda County jurisdictions regarding the new regulations. There

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were no public comments on this item. President Jensen thanked Ms. West for the update.

3. Interim appointment(s) to the Recycling Board for WMA appointee unable to attend future Board Meeting(s) (Timothy Burroughs) (WMA only)

(The joint meeting of the WMA Board, Energy Council, and the Planning Committee & Recycling Board will be held on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 3:00 p.m., at StopWaste, 1537 Webster St., Oakland, CA)

There were no requests for an interim appointment.

VII. MEMBER COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Burroughs announced the monthly topic brief for October highlights StopWaste's board governance structure, available [here](#).

Mr. Burroughs announced that Pat Cabrera, Administrative Services Director, would be retiring at the end of the year. Ms. Cabrera has been with the Agency for nearly 30 years. Mr. Burroughs offered his personal sentiments to Ms. Cabrera and stated that it was an honor and a pleasure to work with her and added the Agency might honor her in a special way at a future Board meeting. Ms. Cabrera thanked the Board for their support and stated that it was a pleasure to work with such talented and committed colleagues. President Jensen thanked Ms. Cabrera for her contributions and wished her a happy retirement.

Board member Sadoff announced that the Castro Valley Sanitary District staff has moved into their new Operations and Engineering building at 21195 Center Street, Castro Valley. They are planning a grand opening in the spring.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT – TO JOINT WMA, EC, AND PC&RB MEEITNG ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2025, AT 3:00 P.M

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

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**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
PLANNING COMMITTEE
AND
ALAMEDA COUNTY RECYCLING BOARD**

Thursday, October 9, 2025

6:00 P.M.

IN PERSON MEETING LOCATION:
Castro Valley Sanitary District
21040 Marshall Street,
Castro Valley, CA

I. CALL TO ORDER

First Vice President Jensen called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Timothy Burroughs explained the meeting process being utilized during the meeting. A link to the process is available here: [Virtual-Meetings-Instructions](#).

II. ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE

Xouhoa Bowen, ACWMA
Rita Duncan, ACWMA (interim)
Virginia Harrington, Solid Waste Industry Representative
Tracy Jensen, ACWMA (Interim President)
Ellen McClure, Environmental Educator
David Mourra, ACWMA
Elaine Owyang, Environmental Organization
Jeff Wang, ACWMA
Vacant, Recycling Materials Processing Industry
Vacant, Source Reduction Specialist

ABSENT

Barun Singh, Recycling Programs

Staff Present

Timothy Burroughs, Executive Director
Alma Freeman, Communications Manager
Cassie Bartholomew, Senior Program Manager
Meri Soll, Senior Program Manager
Trevor Probert, Program Manager
Arliss Dunn, Clerk of the Board
Farand Kan, County Counsel

Others Present

Zachary Malone, UC Merced

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT

There were none.

IV. OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

There were none.

V. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approval of the Draft PC & RB Minutes of September 11, 2025

2. Board Attendance Record

3. Written Report of Ex Parte Communications

There were no public comments for the Consent Calendar. Board member Harrington moved for approval of the Consent Calendar. Board member Wang seconded, and the motion carried 8-0. The Clerk called the roll:

(Ayes: Bowen, Duncan, Harrington, Jensen, McClure, Mourra, Owyang, Wang. Nays: None. Absent: Singh. Abstain: None)

VI. REGULAR CALENDAR

1. Resolution - Castro Valley Sanitary District (Timothy Burroughs)

That the Recycling Board adopt the attached resolution “Celebrating and Commending the Completion of the Castro Valley Sanitary District Operations and Engineering (O&E) Building.”

Board Member Sadoff welcomed the Board and provided an overview of CVSan’s new Operations and Engineering Building. CVSan staff will be moving into the new facility soon and a grand opening is planned in the spring. Timothy Burroughs introduced the resolution presented by StopWaste. A link to the resolution is available here: [CVSan-Resolution.pdf](#). There were no public comments. President Jensen offered congratulations on the new facility.

Board member Harrington moved to approve the adoption of the Resolution. Board member McClure seconded, and the motion carried 8-0. The Clerk called the roll:

(Ayes: Bowen, Duncan, Harrington, Jensen, McClure, Mourra, Owyang, Wang. Nays: None. Absent: Singh. Abstain: None)

2. 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. President Jensen thanked Mr. Probert and Mr. Malone for a very informative presentation.

3. 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 stated that she feels very fortunate to have worked at an organization that's dedicated to reducing waste.

Ms. Soll and Ms. Bartholomew provided an overview of recent awards, 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. There were no public comments. President Jensen thanked staff for a wonderful update and congratulated Ms. Soll on her retirement.

VII. MEMBER COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Burroughs reminded the Board that he sent out an email update earlier in the month with information about the Agency's programs and services underway. President Jensen announced that she introduced a resolution of support for the Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act at the Alameda City Council meeting and the City Council voted to support the resolution. Board member McClure invited everyone to the Berkeley Unified School District Fall Fix-It Fest on October 18. The event is for the community to learn how to repair broken household items with the support of repair coaches.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT – TO JOINT WMA, EC & PC&RB MEETING – NOVEMBER 19, 2025 AT 3:00 P.M.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

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2025 - ALAMEDA COUNTY RECYCLING BOARD ATTENDANCE

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
REGULAR MEMBERS												
B. Barrientos		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	A	I		
X. Bowen		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
V. Harrington	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
T. Jensen	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
G. Liao	X	X	X	X	X	A	X	X	X			
E. McClure	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
L. McKaughan	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
D. Mourra	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
E. Owyang	X	X	A	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
J. Wang	X	X	X	X	I	X	X	X	X	X		
B. Singh				X	X	X	X	X	X	A		
INTERIM APPOINTEES												
R. Duncan					X					X		

Measure D: Subsection 64.130, F: Recycling Board members shall attend at least three fourths (3/4) of the regular meetings within a given calendar year. At such time, as a member has been absent from more than one fourth (1/4) of the regular meetings in a calendar year, or from two (2) consecutive such meetings, her or his seat on the Recycling Board shall be considered vacant.

X=Attended

A=Absent

I=Absent - Interim Appointed

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DATE: November 19, 2025
TO: Recycling Board
FROM: Timothy Burroughs, Executive Director
SUBJECT: Written Reports of Ex Parte Communications

BACKGROUND

Section 64.130 (Q)(1)(b) of the Alameda County Charter requires that full written disclosure of ex parte communications be entered in the Recycling Board's official record. At the June 19, 1991 meeting of the Recycling Board, the Board approved the recommendation of Legal Counsel that such reports be placed on the consent calendar as a way of entering them into the Board's official record. The Board at that time also requested that staff develop a standard form for the reporting of such communications. A standard form for the reporting of ex parte communications has since been developed and distributed to Board members.

At the December 9, 1999 meeting of the Recycling Board, the Board adopted the following language:

Ex parte communication report forms should be submitted only for ex parte communications that are made after the matter has been put on the Recycling Board's agenda, giving as much public notice as possible.

Per the previously adopted policy, all such reports received will be placed on the consent calendar of the next regularly scheduled Recycling Board meeting.

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DATE: November 19, 2025

TO: Waste Management Authority/Recycling Board

FROM: Rachel Balsley, Senior Program Manager
Cassie Bartholomew, Senior Program Manager
Kelly Schoonmaker, Senior Program Manager

SUBJECT: SB 1383/ORRO Implementation Update

SUMMARY

State law SB 1383 and the Organics Reduction and Recycling Ordinance (ORRO) took effect on January 1, 2022, to reduce the amount of food and other compostable materials sent to landfill. StopWaste supports member agencies with various implementation activities including compliance monitoring/enforcement, CalRecycle reporting, outreach and education, edible food recovery, recovered organic waste product procurement, and more. At the November 19 Joint WMA and Recycling Board meeting, staff will provide a summary update of those efforts.

DISCUSSION

Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement – Recycling and Compost Service Requirements

SB 1383 requires all organic waste generators to have compost and recycling service or an approved waiver. StopWaste has taken the lead on behalf of member agencies to conduct compliance monitoring and enforcement of the compost and recycling collection service (“service”) requirements at commercial and multifamily properties. In partnership with member agencies, StopWaste provides education and assistance to businesses to support compliance and, when needed, issues notices of violation, citations, and fines for noncompliance.

Official enforcement of the service requirements began in October 2022 with notice of violation (NOV) letters. The first citations were sent in March 2023 to accounts that did not come into compliance within 60 to 75 days of their NOV. Fines range from \$100 to \$500 per violation and are determined based on a site’s weekly garbage service volume and number of prior violations. We estimate that approximately 70 percent of accounts that are out of compliance come into compliance after enforcement actions and compliance support – either

by adding the required recycling and compost service(s), obtaining a waiver, or by properly documenting compliant alternative recycling services such as self-haul, back-haul, or shared service.

In the last year, a total of 2,820 enforcement letters were sent for violations of the service requirement – 680 Notices of Violation and 2,140 citations were sent to 1,114 sites for lack of service. The fine payment rate has remained steady over the past two years at roughly 45 percent.

Countywide, 97 percent of all commercial accounts are now in compliance with the recycling and compost collection service requirements, compared to the baseline of 52 percent compliance in December 2022. Approximately 9,175 accounts have come into compliance since the start of enforcement. Roughly 98 percent of multifamily accounts are now in compliance with the service requirement, up from 92 percent at the start of enforcement.

Waivers and Alternative Compliance

Within the last year, approximately 925 waivers were approved, bringing the total approved since the start of the program to nearly 5,370, with the vast majority for de minimis generation of materials. This equates to approximately 29 percent of the roughly 20,000 commercial garbage accounts countywide. Approximately 5 percent of accounts have an approved “Certification of Recycling Service” on file for alternative collection arrangements (self-haul, back-haul, or shared service).

Outreach, Education, and Technical Assistance

StopWaste continues to offer a suite of services and materials to educate sites about the SB 1383/ORRO requirements and help with compliance. The SB 1383/ORRO webpages at www.StopWaste.org/rules provide streamlined access to information on the requirements and free resources. Highlights include city-specific information where users can select their city from drop-down menus to get their hauler’s contact information, city-specific guides and brochures, information about rates (including discounted or free recycling and compost service where available), as well as posters, signs, and free indoor bins. Website translation functionality provides accessibility in five different languages and many resources are offered in multiple languages, such as the printable [overview flyers](#) for businesses and multifamily properties.

In FY 2025, our contracted technical assistance (TA) team reached out to 571 accounts to offer assistance and provided either virtual or in-person assistance to 431 businesses and multifamily properties. TA representatives assist accounts with coming into compliance by helping them subscribe to the required collection services, setting up indoor recycling/composting stations, assessing needs and assisting with surplus edible food recovery program set-up, training staff, and submitting documentation or waiver applications on their behalf, if applicable.

StopWaste also continues to provide indoor food scrap bins valued at up to \$500 per site as well as stickers to label indoor bins. In FY 2025, 63 sites received free green bins, and over 200 sites received StopWaste’s free stickers to label indoor bins.

Edible Food Recovery Outreach, Inspections, and Reporting

SB 1383 requires certain food-generating businesses to have a contract or written agreement with at least one food recovery organization, maintain food donation records, and donate the maximum amount of surplus edible food. StopWaste continues our food recovery compliance work in partnership with the Alameda County Environmental Health Department (ACEHD), which is assisting with education and compliance monitoring at Tier One (e.g., grocery stores and markets) and Tier Two (e.g., restaurants and entities serving prepared food) permitted commercial edible food generators in the county. All member agencies have signed MOUs with ACEHD and letter agreements with StopWaste, formally designating each to assist with implementation and enforcement of selected food recovery activities and conduct inspections of commercial edible food generators.

ACEHD conducted Tier One inspections starting in 2022 to educate edible food generators of the requirements. Enforcement officially began in September 2024, with over 500 Tier 1 and Tier 2 compliance inspections conducted at 378 sites by ACEHD to date. StopWaste conducts compliance inspections at a select number of Tier One generators – primarily wholesale food vendors and distributors who are permitted by the California Public Health Department – and conducted 121 inspections in the last year. If a violation is found during inspection, the inspection report indicates that a NOV has been issued. After a NOV, StopWaste is responsible for issuing citations for all sites that fail to come into compliance. Since January, a total of 170 food recovery citations have been issued to 112 generators. Inspected Tier One generators have a compliance rate of 82 percent and Tier Two generators have a compliance rate of 77 percent.

Food Recovery Organizations and Services

Through annual edible food recovery reporting, we have identified 94 active food recovery organizations and services operating in the County. A public list of nearly 30 food recovery organizations and services that have additional capacity to pick up or receive donated food from Alameda County’s food-generating businesses is maintained within the Agency’s RE:Source tool. StopWaste continues to support these food recovery partners through monthly Alameda County Food Recovery Network meetings and the Agency’s grant program.

Record-keeping and Data Reporting

Member agencies and their hauler representatives have access to real-time account-level activity data that StopWaste or its consultants are conducting in their jurisdiction through a Member Agency Data Portal and CRM database. This includes data regarding enforcement letters, waivers, submissions for certification of recycling services and proof of service, technical assistance activities, and food recovery organization annual reporting. StopWaste

also provides support to member agencies with their SB 1383 annual reporting to CalRecycle by compiling summary level data in a format that matches the questions asked in the CalRecycle Electronic Annual Report (EAR), due in August.

Organic Waste Product Procurement

In 2024, StopWaste sponsored AB 2346 (Lee), which took effect January 1, 2025, and provides flexibility for jurisdictions to comply with SB 1383's organic waste product procurement requirements (e.g., compost and mulch). Notably, the new law allows local jurisdictions to calculate their procurement target using local diversion data, rather than statewide data. This has resulted in a two-thirds reduction in the procurement target for Alameda County jurisdictions, resulting in a countywide savings of at least \$1M annually. Having a lower, more manageable procurement target is enabling jurisdictions to use more compost locally, both to manage their landscapes and to give away to residents. Member agencies are also taking advantage of new opportunities, such as the ability to get procurement credit for investments in compost spreading equipment and using mulch from city tree trimmings.

Meanwhile, StopWaste continues to support member agency compliance with procurement regulations in the following ways:

- Working with the Alameda County Resource Conservation District to develop and run educational events to support the Alameda County Compost for Agriculture Program, which provides compost to farms, ranches, and vineyards;
- Expanding compost distribution through compost hubs at urban farms and other locations;
- Facilitating on-site composting education at urban farms through SWEET training;
- Providing education and technical assistance on compost and mulch use to member agencies' landscape staff and contractors for landscape maintenance and compliance with AB 1572, the statewide ban on irrigation of non-functional turf; and
- Supporting research and innovation to expand compost markets, including research on soil carbon and water savings benefits of compost use on sports fields in partnership with UC Merced and the cities of Dublin and Pleasanton; the effectiveness of composted mulch in slowing spread of fire; and the use of composted mulch to encourage native plant growth in grassland restoration.

CalRecycle Compliance Evaluations

CalRecycle's Jurisdiction and Agency Compliance and Enforcement (JACE) Branch department is expected to evaluate every local jurisdiction in the state every four years, and five of our member agencies are currently undergoing evaluations that started in July 2024. JACE staff reviewed these member agency's Implementation Records and conducted field visits to determine compliance with the extensive jurisdiction SB 1383 requirements. We are waiting for CalRecycle to send draft findings reports which will convey areas of possible non-compliance. One new member agency has been notified that their compliance evaluation is expected to begin soon. StopWaste staff have been supporting member agencies throughout this process.

Exploring Methods to Improve Sorting

With SB 1383/ORRO project implementation now well underway, the team is looking ahead toward the next phase of implementation including efforts to improve sorting behaviors and systems to reduce organics and recyclables sent to landfill and reduce contamination in compost and recycling streams. Based on the 2023-2024 waste characterization study, roughly one-third of what goes to landfills from the commercial sector is compostable organics. Now that most accounts are subscribed to organics and recycling collection services, it's clear more needs to be done to improve sorting behavior. The team plans to help analyze those methods to develop best practices for activities that can move the needle to improve downstream sorting. A separate report on this work is being presented at the November 19 Waste Management Authority and Recycling Board meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

This item is for information only.

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DATE: November 19, 2025
TO: Waste Management Authority/Recycling Board
FROM: Shasta Phillips, Program Manager
SUBJECT: Reducing Contamination in the Recycling and Composting Streams

SUMMARY

As part of StopWaste’s ongoing work to implement SB 1383 and the Organics Reduction and Recycling Ordinance (ORRO), ensuring clean, properly sorted material streams is critical. Both SB 1383 and ORRO rely on high levels of participation from residents and businesses to divert organic material from the landfill, reduce contamination, and meet state-mandated waste diversion targets.

The Clean Streams Initiative builds on the Agency’s SB 1383 compliance monitoring program by identifying research and evidence-based strategies that help people sort correctly, reduce contamination, and increase the recovery of compostable and recyclable materials. In partnership with member agencies and haulers, StopWaste is testing interventions and determining their effectiveness in reducing contamination and increasing participation in our recycling and composting programs.

DISCUSSION

Despite decades of education and outreach on proper sorting, nearly half of materials disposed of in curbside landfill bins could have been diverted through recycling or composting. Contamination in recycling and composting streams creates significant problems for processors and limits the ability to recirculate materials back into the economy and increases strain on the natural environment.

StopWaste has launched the Clean Streams Initiative to build on past and existing lessons learned and efforts to address these challenges. Working with a diverse team of staff members, the initiative will conduct an extensive literature review and collaborate closely with experts doing similar work to identify evidence-based best practices that show strong potential for reducing contamination and increasing participation in recycling and compost streams.

Early research and Agency experience indicate several interventions are effective in this area. Strategies that reduce confusion and simplify sorting decisions have shown positive results, as

has real-time feedback. Several state-level policy changes that put more responsibility on product and packaging producers to invest in the recycling system should also reduce the complexity of the current system. The goal of this work is to identify a set of best practices, grounded in research, to help inform the Agency's work and the efforts of member agencies and their haulers moving forward, to ultimately reduce recyclable and compostable materials sent to landfill and reduce contamination in the recycling and compost streams.

RECOMMENDATION

This item is for information only.

**December 2025
Meetings Schedule**

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

(Hybrid 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 9:00 AM Programs & Administration Committee Key Items: 1. 2026 Meeting Schedule 2. Compostable Plastics Update <hr/> 6:00 PM Planning Committee & Recycling Board 1. Election of Officers 2. 2026 Meeting Schedule 3. Measure D Five-year Audit Phase 1 4. Compostable Plastics Update	12	13
14	15	16	17 3:00 P.M. Waste Management Authority & Energy Council, Key Items: 1. 2026 Meeting Schedule 2. Mid-year Consent TBD 3. SB 54 Update	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 AGENCY HOLIDAY	25 AGENCY HOLIDAY	26	27
28	29	30	31			

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Energy Council
TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP (TAG)
Tuesday, October 21, 2025 – 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm at 1537 Webster St., Oakland

Attendance (all in-person):

Alameda County: Karen Cook, Naomi Shroeder, Jenna Mackouse (Fellow), Seini Petelo (Fellow)
City of Alameda: Danielle Mieler
City of Albany: Michelle Plouse, Aleesha Siddiqui (Fellow)
City of Berkeley: Sarah Moore, Mia Loo (Fellow)
City of Emeryville: Matt Anderson, Violet Rice
City of Fremont: Allyn McAuley
City of Hayward: Erik Pearson, Mireille Vargas, Melany Chavez (Fellow)
City of Oakland: Shayna Hirshfield-Gold, Nick Kordesch, Adam Barr
City of Piedmont: Deniz Ergun, Emma Grossman (Fellow)
City of Pleasanton: Megan Campbell
City of San Leandro: Kimberly Anderson, Anthony Barnett (Intern)
City of Union City: Mayank Patel, Meliya Soller (Fellow)
Guests: Sam Fishman, SPUR and Ava Community Energy: Cait Cady, Dan Bertoldi, Helen Mejia and Andy McElroy
StopWaste: Jennifer West, Emily Alvarez, Maria Hart, Ben Cooper, Natalia Guerrero, Miya Kitahara, Robin Plutchok

Introductions

The State of Electrification Data in Alameda County – Jennifer West, StopWaste

- StopWaste received data from TECH and SGIP programs on heat pump installations by jurisdiction
 - In Alameda County, TECH provided almost \$9M in incentives and installed 3,834 HPs (both HVAC and HPWH) with about 25% of installed units for low-income households
- Reach codes passed by jurisdictions are being tracked by the Building Decarbonization Coalition

Ava Community Energy Decarbonization Program Updates – Jennifer West, StopWaste and Dan Bertoldi, Helen Mejia and Andy McElroy, Ava Community Energy

HPWH Mid-Stream Incentive Program

- Our program evolved from an initial study with East Bay Energy Watch (EBEW) in 2018
 - Identified HPWH as a potential entry point into electrification
 - This work aligned with the State goal to install 6 million heat pumps by 2030
- This program was an attempt to have one unified mid-stream (incentives provided to the contractor) program across the Bay Area region
 - The initial outreach included all seven CCAs and municipal utilities
 - Ultimately three CCAs and one municipal utility joined the program
- BayREN held trainings for contractors and building departments
- The Air District provided funding through a grant and we were able to have a steady program for five years (2020 – 2025) while other programs (such as TECH) started and stopped

- Layering with TECH and other programs was important, but the stopping/starting was not good for the market. Overall, these programs got contractors paying attention to this business opportunity.
- Over the course of the program, we incentivized just over 1,500 HPWHs, with 44% of those (663 units) in Ava territory. These were mostly in single family homes.
 - Completed some installations through BayREN multifamily program under the grant at the beginning of the program as well.
- Barriers to participation included:
 - Location/siting of current water heater
 - Electrical upgrades needed (this barrier has been reduced over the years due to power efficient design and 120v options)
 - Affordability as the cost for equipment and installation has gone up and not down
 - Awareness of technology is still low, though it is increasing significantly
 - Difficulty switching from gas to heat pump quickly in emergency replacement scenarios
 - We have heard mixed reviews about “loaner” programs, where a working water heater is installed while the infrastructure work is completed for the final HPWH to be installed
- Lessons learned:
 - Higher incentives would have been more impactful. We know based on when our incentive was layered with TECH/BayREN Home+
 - SMUD’s incentive for a similar program was \$3k from one program
 - Ava’s pause in funding in 2023/24 impacted Alameda County numbers since momentum was lost with contractors
 - Contractors who participated were enthusiastic about HPWHs and the program, but had hard time selling HPWHs if homeowners didn’t know about them already
 - Multiple efforts to raise awareness include Switch is On, BDC, and more
 - Location of installs largely driven by contractors who pushed HPWHs (Barnett Plumbing in East Alameda County)

Critical Municipal Facilities (Ava)

- This program is serving four jurisdictions with two sites each
 - Ava will be the asset owner for solar and storage projects
 - Ava prioritize locations with simple interconnection applications with PG&E, straightforward roofs, and other site factors
- In permitting now and will break ground in time to have installs completed by April 2026
 - Work will be done by a single installer
- Hope to expand the program in the future

Other Ava Decarbonization Efforts

- Ava HPWH permit streamlining project has ended for now
 - Partnered with SolarApp to expand their solar permitting software to apply to HPWH and eventually other HP and electrification technologies to expedite plan checks and issue permits
 - Informed by SolarApp that due to federal impacts on the solar industry (repeal of solar tax credits), they are not able to move forward to build out the HPWH functionality at this time
 - Ava is still motivated to help with reform and permitting in other ways

- Wrapping up Health-e Communities program that replaced gas stoves with induction and monitored Indoor Air Quality (IAQ)
 - 150 installs will produce data on pollutants, with results in about 6 months
- Ava is currently going through a strategic planning process but will continue programs during this time

BAAD Rule 9-4 and 9-6 Implementation – Sam Fishman, SPUR

- SPUR published several papers on electrification, including on the topics of affordability, electrical panels, and permitting
- SPUR is helping with implementation of the Bay Area Air District (BAAD) rules (2023) that would phase out gas-fired water heaters and furnaces based on NOx pollution impacts
 - Rule 9-6 will take effect as it applies to small gas-fired water heaters in 2027 and large commercial water heaters in 2031
 - Rule 9-4 will regulate residential and small commercial gas-fired central furnaces in 2029
- BAAD developed implementation working groups (IWGs) for each rule and is currently in an amendment process to adjust the rules to address any implementation concerns
 - These rules do not require replacing functioning equipment, and do not apply to stoves, and there is no requirement for panel/service upgrades (they are actually trying to avoid electrical upgrades)
- The purpose of these rules is to reduce NOx (nitrous oxide) and improve health in our communities
 - Swapping out gas furnaces and water heaters reduces exposure to harmful pollutants like NOx, averts asthma symptoms, etc.
 - Buildings emit more NOx than light duty vehicles and power plants
 - Most NOx emissions in buildings are from space and water heating
- BAAD estimates 100k-125k water heaters are replaced each year in our region. The current national demand is 200k HPWHs annually
- Challenges to be addressed:
 - Challenging installations due to space constraints
 - Limited options for equipment variation for difficult settings
 - Need to ensure equity for low-income residents
 - Uncertainty of incentives
 - Align with upcoming rules from other agencies
- Rule amendments:
 - Timeline: Concept paper will be released with recommendations to Board in October (came out 10/24/25), workshops and committees meet in the end of 2025/early 2026, full Board discussion in 2026 with vote scheduled for Spring 2026
 - Types of exceptions being considered: equipment-based, project-based, and fee-based
 - Proposal from the Bay Area Clean Air (BACA) coalition was shared in Sept
 - Hoping to provide flexibility without causing a major delay in implementing rules
- Concern about misinformation campaigns. Cities and counties can support the rules by:
 - Passing a resolution supporting the rules
 - Signing a letter of support
 - Participating in the amendment rulemaking
 - Continuing to spread the word about the benefits of HPs

- Supporting rule implementation through jurisdictional permit process improvements, helping building owners avoid unnecessary electrical panel/service upgrades, work with CCAs/RENs on supportive incentives and financing, developing the workforce

Announcements

- Next BayREN Codes & Standards virtual forum is on November 19 - topic will be on existing building decarbonization policies and reach codes for local governments. [Register here](#)
- CalREN is hosting a forum also on November 19 on Equitable Electrification, Ben Cooper from StopWaste will be presenting on the BAMBE program. [Register here](#)
- BayREN's EASE Home program is collecting community events happening in the fall to table or provide information, so please let Natalia Guerrero know of what is going on in your jurisdiction!
- Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act – checking on which jurisdictions passed a support position
- CalNEXT proposals are being submitted and StopWaste is partnering on two