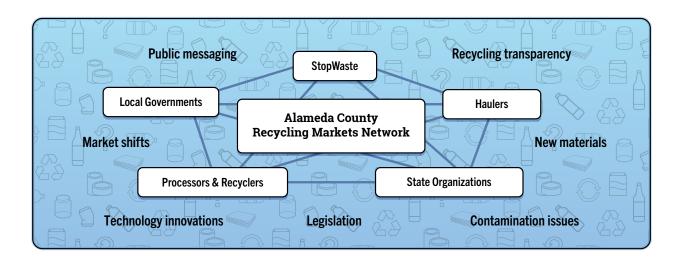




Alameda County Recycling Markets Network

Questions around what is recyclable and what happens to our recyclables have increased since China's National Sword policy and other changes in global markets disrupted recycling programs across the country.

To help address these challenging shifts in the recycling landscape, since 2018, StopWaste has convened a taskforce, known as the Alameda County Recycling Markets Network, made up of haulers, processors, and local government staff to collaborate and discuss solutions.



The network meets quarterly and is a unique model where for-profit and non-profit recyclers, franchisees and franchisors, and competitors alike come together in a neutral and constructive space to discuss a variety of topics, such as changing markets, contamination, new technology, and legislation.

California's own Statewide Commission on Recycling Markets and Curbside Recycling, established in 2019 and tasked with evaluating California's state of recycling and recommending policies to restore it, was modeled after this network.

A primary focus of the Recycling Markets Network will be on new State law, SB 54, known as the Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility Act, which sets new goals to reduce plastic packaging and requires that all forms of single-use products be recyclable or compostable by 2032. The law carries broad implications for local governments, haulers, and processors, making the Recycling Markets Network an important forum for discussing and informing the regulatory process. You can read more about SB 54 here.

For more information about the Alameda County Recycling Markets Network, contact Michelle Fay at mfay@stopwaste.org.



Recycling Markets Network participants tour the Port of Oakland, where recyclable materials such as paper are exported to overseas markets.