



Western Riverside Council of Governments Solid Waste Committee

AGENDA

**Wednesday, November 20, 2024
1:00 PM**

**Western Riverside Council of Governments
3390 University Avenue, Suite 200
Riverside, CA 92501**

Remote Meeting Locations:

**City of Lake Elsinore
Conference Room B
130 S. Main Street
Lake Elsinore, CA 92530**

**City of Menifee
CSD Conference Room
29995 Evans Road
Menifee, CA 92586**

**City of Murrieta
City Manager's Conference Room - 2C
1 Town Square
Murrieta, CA 92562**

Committee members are asked to attend this meeting in person unless remote accommodations have previously been requested and noted on the agenda. The below Zoom link is provided for the convenience of members of the public, presenters, and support staff.

[Public Zoom Link](#)
Meeting ID: 879 5661 0348
Passcode: 082988
Dial in: 669 444 9171 U.S.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Government Code Section 54954.2, if special assistance is needed to participate in the Solid Waste Committee meeting, please contact WRCOG at (951) 405-6706. Notification of at least 48 hours prior to meeting time will assist staff in assuring that reasonable arrangements can be made to provide accessibility at the meeting. In compliance with Government Code Section 54957.5, agenda materials distributed within 72 hours prior to the meeting which are public records relating to an open session agenda item will be available for inspection by members of the public prior to the meeting at 3390 University Avenue, Suite 200, Riverside, CA, 92501.

In addition to commenting at the Committee meeting, members of the public may also submit written comments before or during the meeting, prior to the close of public comment to lfelix@wrcog.us.

Any member of the public requiring a reasonable accommodation to participate in this meeting in light of this announcement shall contact Lucy Felix 72 at least hours prior to the meeting at (951) 405-6706 or lfelix@wrcog.us. Later requests will be accommodated to the extent feasible.

The Committee may take any action on any item listed on the agenda, regardless of the Requested Action.

1. CALL TO ORDER (Liset Hernandez, Chair)

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

At this time members of the public can address the Committee regarding any items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Committee that are not separately listed on this agenda. Members of the public will have an opportunity to speak on agenda items at the time the item is called for discussion. No action may be taken on items not listed on the agenda unless authorized by law. Whenever possible, lengthy testimony should be presented to the Committee in writing and only pertinent points presented orally.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

All items listed under the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and may be enacted by one motion. Prior to the motion to consider any action by the Committee, any public comments on any of the Consent Items will be heard. There will be no separate action unless members of the Committee request specific items be removed from the Consent Calendar.

A. Action Minutes from the August 21, 2024, Solid Waste Committee Meeting

Requested Action(s):

1. Approve the Action Minutes from the August 21, 2024, Solid Waste Committee meeting.

6. REPORTS / DISCUSSION

Members of the public will have an opportunity to speak on agenda items at the time the item is called for discussion.

A. Legislative Activities Update

Requested Action(s):

1. Receive and file.

B. Organic Waste Contamination

Requested Action(s):

1. Provide direction to staff on potential initiatives regarding public education and outreach.

C. Solid Waste Committee Meeting Frequency

Requested Action(s):

1. Provide direction to WRCOG staff regarding additional Solid Waste Committee meetings.

D. CalRecycle Activities Update

Requested Action(s):

1. Receive and file.

7. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Members are invited to suggest additional items to be brought forward for discussion at future Committee meetings.

8. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members are invited to announce items / activities which may be of general interest to the Committee.

9. NEXT MEETING

The next Solid Waste Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at 1:00 p.m., in WRCOG's office at 3390 University Avenue, Suite 200, Riverside.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Solid Waste Committee

Action Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the WRCOG Solid Waste Committee was called to order by Abigail Gomez on August 21, 2024, at 1:01 p.m. in WRCOG's office.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Gomez led the Committee members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

- City of Beaumont - Sue Foxworth
- City of Corona - Jacqueline Zukeran
- City of Hemet - Dan Cortese
- City of Jurupa Valley - Andrea Mejia*, Abigail Gomez (alternate)
- City of Moreno Valley - Anna Chacon
- City of Perris - Liset Hernandez*
- City of San Jacinto - Caleb Hargis
- City of Temecula - Rebecca Kaiser
- County of Riverside - Janet Moreland

*Arrived after Roll Call

Absent:

- City of Banning
- City of Calimesa
- City of Canyon Lake
- City of Eastvale
- City of Lake Elsinore
- City of Menifee
- City of Murrieta
- City of Perris
- City of Riverside
- City of Wildomar

4. SELECTION OF SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR POSITIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024/2025

A. Leadership Selection for Fiscal Year 2024/2025 and Recognition of Outgoing Chair

RESULT:	APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED
MOVER:	Jurupa Valley
SECONDER:	San Jacinto
AYES:	Beaumont, Corona, Hemet, Jurupa Valley, Moreno Valley, San Jacinto, Temecula, County of Riverside

Action:

1. Selected Liset Hernandez, City of Perris, as Chair, and Jacqueline Zukeran, City of Corona, as Vice-Chair.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

RESULT:	APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED
MOVER:	Jurupa Valley
SECONDER:	San Jacinto
AYES:	Beaumont, Corona, Hemet, Jurupa Valley, Moreno Valley, San Jacinto, Temecula, County of Riverside

A. Action Minutes from the February 21, 2024, Solid Waste Committee Meeting

Action:

1. Approved the Action Minutes from the February 21, 2024, Solid Waste Committee meeting.

B. Approval of the Solid Waste Committee Meeting Schedule for 2025

Action:

1. Approved the schedule of Solid Waste Committee meetings for 2025

C. Used Oil and Filter Recycling Program Activities Update

Action:

1. Received and filed.

New Chair, Liset Hernandez, continued the meeting from this point.

7. REPORTS / DISCUSSION

A. Recycle From Home Presentation

Action:

1. Received and filed.

B. SB 1383 Activities and Food Rescue Activities Update

Action:

1. Received and filed.

8. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There were no requests for future agenda items.

9. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

WRCOG staff Olivia Sanchez reminded the Committee that members are allowed to participate remotely, as long as notice of their location is given at least 10 days in advance so that it can be added to the agenda.

10. NEXT MEETING

The next Solid Waste Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 10, 2024, at 1:00 p.m., in WRCOG's office at 3390 University Avenue, Suite 200, Riverside.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:04 p.m.



Western Riverside Council of Governments Solid Waste Committee

Staff Report

Subject: Legislative Activities Update
Contact: Olivia Sanchez, Program Manager, osanchez@wrcog.us, (951) 405-6721
Date: November 20, 2024

Recommended Action(s):

1. Receive and file.
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Summary:

WRCOG's Environmental Department helps member agencies comply with state mandates for education and outreach programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. California's waste diversion goals, established under laws like Assembly Bill (AB) 939, AB 341, AB 1826, and Senate Bill (SB) 1383, require local jurisdictions to promote recycling and organic waste programs for residents and businesses.

Purpose / WRCOG 2022-2027 Strategic Plan Goal:

The purpose of this item is to provide information on current solid waste legislation. This effort aligns with WRCOG's 2022-2027 Strategic Plan Goal #6 (Develop and implement programs that support resilience for our region) and sub-goal #6.3 (Continuing to support the Solid Waste and Recycling Program).

Discussion:

This presentation will be provided by Dr. Joanne Brasch, Director of Advocacy and Outreach for the California Product Stewardship Council, on recent solid waste legislation and potential impacts on local government.

Prior Action(s):

None.

Financial Summary:

This item is for informational purposes only; therefore there is no fiscal impact.

Attachment(s):

None.



Western Riverside Council of Governments Solid Waste Committee

Staff Report

Subject: Organic Waste Contamination
Contact: Olivia Sanchez, Program Manager, osanchez@wrcog.us, (951) 405-6721
Date: November 20, 2024

Recommended Action(s):

1. Provide direction to staff on potential initiatives regarding public education and outreach.

Summary:

WRCOG's Environmental Department supports member agencies in meeting state mandates for education and outreach to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through waste diversion. California's laws, including Senate Bill (SB) 1383, SB 54, and SB 343, work together to reduce waste contamination by promoting proper sorting of recyclable and compostable materials. These laws focus on reducing organic waste disposal, requiring recyclable or compostable packaging, and enforcing accurate labeling to prevent contamination in recycling and composting streams. This item offers an overview of relevant legislative items and outlines a potential campaign WRCOG staff may implement to address these issues.

Purpose / WRCOG 2022-2027 Strategic Plan Goal:

The purpose of this item is to provide information on organic waste contamination. This effort aligns with WRCOG's 2022-2027 Strategic Plan Goal #6 (Develop and implement programs that support resilience for our region) and sub-goal #6.3 (Continuing to support the Solid Waste and Recycling Program).

Discussion:

Background

Compost contamination is a significant challenge that occurs when non-compostable items, such as plastics, glass, or other contaminants, are mixed with organic waste. This contamination reduces compost quality, making it harder to achieve high-quality soil amendments, and it can cause entire batches of compost to be rejected. Proper education on sorting and separating compostable and non-compostable materials is essential to combat this.

Specific measures must be taken to reduce organic contamination; these include route reviews, audits (lid-flips), record keeping of contamination found in carts, and education to ensure that only appropriate materials are included in organic waste streams. These efforts to identify contamination sources and

implement corrective actions will help lower contamination.

Contamination and SB 1383 Requirements: SB 1383, passed in California in 2016, aims to reduce organic waste disposal by 75% by the year 2025. This legislation mandates local jurisdictions to implement organic waste collection programs, ensuring residents and businesses participate in separating food scraps and other compostable materials from general waste. SB 1383 also requires a significant increase in edible food recovery, with Tier 1 and Tier 2 generators (such as grocery stores and restaurants) working to donate surplus food to those in need. Additionally, jurisdictions must provide contamination monitoring and public education to ensure compliance with organic waste recycling programs.

Waste collection containers must follow specific color-coding requirements to indicate their designated purpose. Trash containers should be gray, black, or have a black lid; recycling containers should be blue or have a black body with a blue lid; and organics containers should be green or have a black body with a green lid. All new containers are required to have clear labeling specifying what can and cannot be placed inside.

A jurisdiction is not required to replace functional containers that do not comply with the color requirements before the end of their useful life, including containers purchased prior to January 1, 2022, or January 1, 2036, whichever comes first. However, jurisdictions are required to provide labels on the new lids or container bodies to clarify which materials are allowed and prohibited in each container. Labels must include text and/or images and may be in the form of stickers or imprinted directly onto the lid or body of the container.

Existing containers may continue to be used as long as they are clearly labeled to indicate their intended purpose.

Impact of SB 54 on Packaging Waste: SB 54, known as the Plastic Pollution Producer Responsibility Act, addresses California's mounting packaging waste problem, which makes up 27% of landfill material. This legislation requires that by 2032, the State must achieve the following goals:

- Cut single-use plastic packaging and food service ware by 25%.
- Recycle 65% of single-use plastic packaging and food service ware.
- Ensure 100% of single-use packaging and plastic food service ware are recyclable or compostable.

To achieve these targets, SB 54 establishes an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Program that places the responsibility for managing the lifecycle of single-use plastics on producers. This approach incentivizes producers to design products that are easier to recycle, reuse, or compost, thereby minimizing negative environmental impacts. By giving producers the responsibility for the end-of-life management of their products, the EPR Program encourages sustainable design choices and helps California meet its recycling and climate goals.

Reducing Contamination Through SB 54: SB 54 also contributes to reducing contamination within the waste stream. By requiring that 100% of single-use packaging and plastic food service ware be recyclable or compostable by 2032, SB 54 directly supports efforts to lower contamination rates in composting and recycling programs. When producers design packaging that is either fully compostable or easily recyclable, it reduces the chances of non-compostable materials being mistakenly mixed into

organic waste streams, which is a significant cause of compost contamination.

Additionally, the EPR Program incentivizes producers to use materials that align better with existing recycling and composting infrastructure, ensuring that the products consumers dispose of can be correctly processed. This alignment helps minimize confusion for consumers and reduces the risk of contamination in recycling and composting efforts, supporting the broader goals of SB 1383 and contributing to a more effective and efficient waste management system. Local jurisdictions will need to ensure that the Covered Materials List aligns with local recycling and composting infrastructure capabilities.(Section 42060.5)

Reducing Contamination Through SB 343 Labeling Requirements: SB 343 further helps reduce contamination in organic waste streams by setting stricter labeling requirements for recyclable products. By prohibiting the use of the "chasing arrows" recycling symbol on items that do not meet specific criteria, SB 343 aims to eliminate misleading labels that can confuse consumers. When consumers incorrectly believe a product is recyclable or compostable based on misleading labeling, it often leads to contamination of recycling or compost streams.

Under SB 343, products can only display the recycling symbol if they are truly collected, sorted, and processed for recycling in California. This ensures that only items that can be effectively handled by the existing recycling infrastructure are labeled as recyclable. As a result, consumers are less likely to place non-recyclable or non-compostable items into organic waste bins, thereby reducing contamination. Clear labeling also helps to educate consumers about proper disposal practices, ultimately contributing to cleaner organic waste streams and improving the quality of compost produced.

Present Situation

Based on these various legislative requirements, the Solid Waste Committee may consider a regional approach to educating the populations in member jurisdictions on contamination reduction. Educational efforts are crucial to achieving these goals, and WRCOG, *if directed by the Solid Waste Committee member agencies*, can undertake various initiatives. These could include virtual community workshops and informational social media campaigns to raise awareness about the impacts of contamination on organic recycling efforts. Some of these efforts may include:

Leverage Existing Social Media Platforms: Create a series of posts educating residents about organics contamination. Content can include:

- Infographics that explain what can and cannot go into organic bins.
- Short videos or reels on properly sorting compostable items from non-compostable ones.
- Success stories of local businesses or residents reducing compost contamination.
- "Did You Know?" posts linking contamination to lower compost quality and missed environmental goals.
- Organization of peer education campaigns where residents are encouraged to share their successful practices on social media using a common hashtag.

Community Online and Recorded Workshops:

- Organize virtual workshops with local organizations to discuss decreasing recycling and green waste container contamination.

Digital Email Campaign:

- Use WRCOG's email newsletter or collaborate with local jurisdictions to distribute a digital flyer or e-newsletter outlining best practices and consequences of contamination.

Prior Action(s):

None.

Financial Summary:

Activities related to SB 1383 are included in the Agency's adopted budget for Fiscal Year 2024/2025 under the Solid Waste Fund (130).

Attachment(s):

None.



Western Riverside Council of Governments Solid Waste Committee

Staff Report

Subject: Solid Waste Committee Meeting Frequency
Contact: Olivia Sanchez, Program Manager, osanchez@wrcog.us, (951) 405-6721
Date: November 20, 2024

Recommended Action(s):

1. Provide direction to WRCOG staff regarding additional Solid Waste Committee meetings.

Summary:

WRCOG's Environmental Department helps member agencies comply with state mandates for education and outreach programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. California's waste diversion goals, established under laws like Assembly Bill (AB) 939, AB 341, AB 1826, and Senate Bill (SB) 1383, require local jurisdictions to promote recycling and organic waste programs for residents and businesses. To support these efforts, WRCOG formed the Solid Waste Committee (SWC), consisting of representatives from its member agencies.

Purpose / WRCOG 2022-2027 Strategic Plan Goal:

The purpose of this item is to provide information on the frequency of the SWC meetings. This effort aligns with WRCOG's 2022-2027 Strategic Plan Goal #6 (Develop and implement programs that support resilience for our region) and sub-goal #6.3 (Continuing to support the Solid Waste and Recycling Program).

Discussion:

Background

The SWC currently meets quarterly to discuss regional solid waste management issues, including compliance with State mandates such as SB 1383, SB 54, and SB 343. Member jurisdictions have proposed increasing the frequency of SWC meetings to enhance responsiveness and coordination on waste management initiatives. The adopted Committee Procedures for the SWC requires that the SWC meeting at least quarterly but allows the SWC to meet more frequently if the Committee chooses to do so.

Present Situation

An increase in meeting frequency can provide both pros and cons. Each side presents areas for

discussion for the SWC to consider.

Pros of increasing meeting frequency to monthly:

1. Improved timeliness of discussions: More frequent meetings would allow for quicker responses to emerging issues, state regulatory changes, and compliance deadlines. This is particularly relevant as implementation and monitoring requirements under SB 1383 and other waste management laws become more rigorous.
2. Enhanced collaboration and coordination: Monthly meetings would allow member agencies to collaborate, share best practices, and address challenges in real-time. This could improve regional alignment and ensure a more cohesive approach to waste diversion goals.
3. Greater focus on key initiatives: With more frequent meetings, the SWC could dedicate more time to each initiative, allowing for deeper discussion on specific programs such as food recovery, solid waste issues, or public outreach strategies. This could enhance the effectiveness of programs to reduce contamination and improve recycling outcomes.

Cons of increasing meeting frequency to monthly:

1. Increased administrative burden: Monthly meetings would require additional staff time and resources to prepare agendas, minutes, and meeting materials, as well as to manage scheduling and follow-up activities. This could strain member agency staff.
2. Potential for meeting fatigue: A more frequent meeting schedule can lead to diminished attendance and participation over time, particularly if there are no urgent items to discuss. This could lead to less productive meetings and reduced engagement from member agencies.
3. Budget and resource considerations: While WRCOG's SWC operates with a modest budget, increasing the meeting frequency could have indirect costs, such as staff time and logistical expenses. These additional demands may need to be balanced with other priorities within WRCOG's environmental programs.

Conclusion

Switching to a bi-monthly (every other month) meeting schedule could enhance responsiveness and improve coordination on solid waste issues, but it may also increase staff workloads and strain resources. Balancing the need for more frequent discussions with the potential for administrative burden and meeting fatigue is essential. SWC members can choose to adjust the frequency or maintain the current schedule based on priorities and resource availability.

Prior Action(s):

None.

Financial Summary:

This item is for informational purposes only; therefore, there is no fiscal impact.

Attachment(s):

None.



Western Riverside Council of Governments Solid Waste Committee

Staff Report

Subject: CalRecycle Activities Update
Contact: Olivia Sanchez, Program Manager, osanchez@wrcog.us, (951) 405-6721
Date: November 20, 2024

Recommended Action(s):

1. Receive and file.

Summary:

WRCOG's Environmental Department helps member agencies comply with state mandates for education and outreach programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. California's waste diversion goals, established under laws like Assembly Bill (AB) 939, AB 341, AB 1826, and Senate Bill (SB) 1383, require local jurisdictions to promote recycling and organic waste programs for residents and businesses.

Purpose / WRCOG 2022-2027 Strategic Plan Goal:

This purpose of this item is to provide information on CalRecycle's current efforts. This effort aligns with WRCOG's 2022-2027 Strategic Plan Goal #6 (Develop and implement programs that support resilience for our region) and sub-goal #6.3 (Continue to support the Solid Waste and Recycling Program).

Discussion:

Staff from the CalRecycle Local Agency Market Development Department will provide a presentation on current solid waste programs and policies that affect local jurisdictions.

Prior Action(s):

None.

Financial Summary:

This item is for informational purposes only; therefore, there is no fiscal impact.

Attachment(s):

None.