



Subcommittee Report

PRESENTED FOR COMMISSION MEETING DATE: December 21, 2021

SUBMITTED BY: Tracy Sheldon

SUBCOMMITTEE NAME: Standing Subcommittee on Waste Reduction (SSCoWR)

SUBMITTED DATE: December 16, 2021

LAST SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING DATE: December 2, 2021

NEXT SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING DATE: January 4, 2022

Subcommittee Goal:

Divert 90% of waste generated by the City of Palm Springs from landfill by 2030.

Summary:

1. Reducing Single-use Plastic Food Ware and Plastic Straws by Food Service Establishments.

- City staff held a kick-off meeting with the Food Ware consultants, Abbe & Associates and ReCreate Waste Collaborative, LLC, the week of November 22, 2021. It is anticipated that businesses requiring the most technical assistance will be those which primarily offer take out, coffee shops and bars. City staff also anticipates cups presenting the highest challenge because people like to take cups with them. The consultants have begun contacting businesses both remotely and with in-person site visits the week of December 16, 2021.
- Lids are listed as an accessory item in the Food Ware Ordinance, while the new State law does not include cup lids or sleeves as “accessories.” City staff has recommended that we modify our definition of food ware accessories to be consistent with the new state definition.
- City staff was contacted by Bike Palm Springs with a request for a bottle filling station and a Sustainability Scholarship application was provided to them.
- The city received two (2) submissions for the Reusable Food Ware pilot and are in the process of evaluating.

2. SB 1383 Planning & Franchise Update

- The second reading of the new Solid Waste Ordinance Update was presented to City Council for approval at the December 9, 2021 City Council meeting and was passed. The Solid Waste Ordinance Update will go into effect on January 9, 2022.
- City staff and PSDS have continued meeting and reviewing the Franchise Agreement and it is anticipated to go to City Council in January 2022.
- The public hearing was held for the PSDS Annual Rate Adjustment and Extraordinary Rate Adjustments at the December 9, 2021 City Council meeting and was approved.
- City staff provided an update on the upcoming changes to solid waste collection and the Food Ware Ordinance at the ONE-PS meeting on December 14, 2021.
- Community Works Design Group (CWDG) provided a Mulch and Compost Utilization Analysis report to city staff on December 1, 2021. Of the twelve City-owned properties which were assessed there is an estimated total of 82.2 acres of turf. Property turf area varied from a high of 35 acres of turf at the Demuth Community Center, Park, and Dog Park to a low of 0.1 acre at the new Downtown Park. Turf areas were assessed and identified as an opportunity where compost could be incorporated into existing maintenance practices to meet SB 1383 procurement goals and revitalize soils. A .5” depth application of compost as a topdressing was calculated for turf areas to be used during the over seeding process. This top dressing applied over all assessed areas of turf equals to 5,522 cubic yards of compost. The conversion for 1 ton of organic waste in a procurement target to cubic yards of compost is 1.45 cubic yards of compost = 1 ton of organic waste. A .5” application of compost across the assessed turf areas would equal 3,808.2 tons of organic waste. This would met 99.6% of the

procurement target goal of 3,820 tons. City staff has a follow up call scheduled with CWDG for December 20, 2021.

- City staff has drafted a communications and outreach plan which includes social media, radio, television, in-house video production, billboards, newspaper, attendance at community meetings such as ONE-PS, Village Fest and the Certified Farmers Market to target residents, commercial businesses and tourists.
- City staff has reviewed software systems as part of the reporting requirements for SB 1383 and participated in a demonstration by Recyclist.
- City staff has met with all departments for the Environmentally Preferred Purchasing Policy and anticipates this to be placed as a Consent item on City Council agenda for January 2022.
- Commissioner Barrett suggested city staff and PSDS perform site visits to mobile home parks. City staff will schedule visits prior to the January Commission meeting and provide an update.
- City staff mailed letters to all MFD's and has confirmed they are required to report out on weigh tickets for all green waste. City staff will clarify with CalRecycle if the city collects the weigh tickets or if the generator keeps weigh tickets for reporting purposes.
- CalRecycle postponed their annual site visit which was scheduled for December 7, 2021 to a date TBD.
- City staff has not received any recent communications from Community composting.

3. Downtown Trash Can Signage

- City staff placed “no” smoothie and coffee cup stickers on the downtown recycling cans the week of November 15, 2021. An audit will be completed at the end of December to determine if the messaging is effective.

4. Battery Recycling Project

- Staff have collected and shipped six (6) containers of batteries (approximately 210 pounds) since the last report.

5. Toward a Public Spaces Recycling Program for the City of Palm Springs.

- Nothing to report.

6. Outreach

- Staff is continuing to work on outreach material for residents on recycling.

7. Non-compliance with Commercial Recycling and Organics Requirements

- City staff continues to contact businesses who have been previously unresponsive to AB 1826 organics and AB 341 recycling management in an effort to achieve 100% compliance.

8. Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP)

- Nothing to report.

9. Shredding and E-waste Collection Event – January 15th

- The City will be hosting a shredding and e-waste recycling event on Saturday, January 15, 2022 from 8am-12pm at City Hall. Please advise city staff if you are available to volunteer for this event.

Recommendation/Request

Subcommittee members will continue to conduct research and refine products to improve recycling rates and report on progress at future Commission meetings.

ACTION ITEMS REQUEST TO COMMISSION	None
ACTION ITEMS REQUEST TO OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY	Conclude Franchise Agreement discussions with PSDS. Continue following up with businesses who are not in compliance with recycling and organics requirements. Work on SB 1383-related ordinance. Prepare new rates for waste management services.
POTENTIAL FISCAL IMPACT/REQUEST IF ANY:	N/A