

Advisory Committee Meeting 05– June 12, 2018

City and County of Honolulu
2018 Integrated Solid Waste
Management Plan Update

ATTENDEES:

ADVISORY COMMITTEE (AC) MEMBERS

Ms. Tina Alder, Waste Management Hawaii
(standing in for Mr. Brian Bowen)

Mr. Michael DeCaprio, Hawaiian Electric Company

Mr. Dominic Henriques, RRR Recycling Services
Hawaii

Mr. Stephen Joseph, PVT Landfill

Ms. Natalie McKinney, Kokua Hawaii Foundation

Mr. Barry Nakamoto, Covanta Honolulu

Mr. Michael O’Keefe, City and County of Honolulu,
Department of Environmental Services

Mr. Lane Otsu, State of Hawaii, Department of
Health

Ms. Breanna Rose, Hawaii Green Growth

Mr. Steven Serikaku, City and County of Honolulu,
Department of Environmental Services

Ms. Georgette Silva, West Oahu Aggregate

Mr. Joshua Stanbro, City and County of Honolulu,
Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and
Resiliency

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Mr. Rafael Bergstrom, Surfrider Foundation

Ms. Nicole Chatterson, Student

Ms. Jennifer Milholen, Kokua Hawaii Foundation

Ms. Doorae Shin, Kokua Hawaii Foundation

Mr. Quinn Vittum, Re-Use Hawaii

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, STATE OF HAWAII, AND PLAN CONSULTANTS

Ms. Hayley Cook, City and County of Honolulu,
Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and
Resiliency

Ms. Miya DeVoogd, City and County of Honolulu,
Department of Environmental Services

Mr. Henry Gabriel, City and County of Honolulu,
Department of Environmental Services

Mr. Kelly Kehoe, City and County of Honolulu,
Department of Environmental Services

Mr. Josh Nagashima, City and County of Honolulu,
Department of Environmental Services

Mr. John Padre, CH2M

Mr. Tom Parker, CH2M

Mr. Ahmad Sadri, City and County of Honolulu,
Department of Environmental Services

Ms. Elizabeth Schwing, CH2M

COPY TO: City and County of Honolulu, Department of Environmental Services, Refuse Division

PREPARED BY: CH2M

MEETING DATE: June 12, 2018

PROJECT: City and County of Honolulu 2018 Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan Update

VERSION: Final

This document provides notes from the June 12, 2018 Advisory Committee (AC) meeting.

Objectives

The purpose of this meeting was to confirm accuracy of the April 3, 2018 AC Meeting 04 meeting minutes; review comment/resolution on AC comments from Sections 3, 4, 6, 7, and 9; and discuss and review the following draft section of the City and County of Honolulu 2018 Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan Update (Plan): Section 8, Facility Capacity and Siting [Includes Convenience Centers,

Transfer Stations, Processing Facilities, H-POWER, and Landfills (Section 8 in 2008 Plan), Facility Siting (Section 11 in 2008 Plan) and Enterprise Zones (Section 14 in 2008 Plan)].

Summary

Topics and discussions from the meeting are summarized below.

Introductions, Agenda Overview

- Meeting attendees introduced themselves to the group.
- CH2M presented a safety moment on common causes of injury in the solid waste industry, such as distracted driving and slips, trips, and falls.
- CH2M reviewed the meeting agenda, which is as follows:
 1. Welcome and Agenda Overview
 2. April 3, 2018 Meeting Minutes – Comments or Corrections
 3. Review of Comment/Resolution on Sections 3, 4, 6, 7, and 9
 4. Presentation and Discussion – Section 8, Facility Capacity and Siting [Includes Convenience Centers, Transfer Stations, Processing Facilities, H-POWER, and Landfills (Section 8 in 2008 Plan), Facility Siting (Section 11 in 2008 Plan) and Enterprise Zones (Section 14 in 2008 Plan)]
 5. Public Comments on Section 8
 6. Next Steps, Thank You, and Adjournment

April 3, 2018 Meeting Minutes – Comments or Corrections

- No comments were received on the notes from the last meeting.

Review of Comment/Resolution on Sections 3, 4, 6, 7, and 9

- No comments were received on the comments/resolution on Sections 3, 4, 6, 7, and 9.

Section 8: Facility Capacity and Siting

Information regarding the following components of Section 8, Facility Capacity and Siting, was presented:

- Goals and objectives
- Legislative requirements
- Enterprise zones
- Waste processing capacity and solid waste growth overview
- Existing capacity and future needs overview
- Convenience centers: introduction, processing capacity and solid waste growth, capacity analysis, future needs
- Transfer stations: introduction, processing capacity and solid waste growth, capacity analysis, future needs
- Waste-to-energy facility - H-POWER: introduction, processing capacity and solid waste growth, capacity analysis, future needs
- Municipal solid waste (MSW) landfill – Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill (WGSL): introduction, processing capacity and solid waste growth, capacity analysis, future needs
- Construction and demolition (C&D) debris landfill - PVT: introduction, processing capacity and solid waste growth, future needs

- Recycling and processing facilities: introduction, existing capacity, future needs
- New refuse facility in Campbell Industrial Park: introduction, future needs

AC discussion covered the following topics:

- There was a question regarding inclusion of anticipated source reduction activities in projected future waste volumes. It was clarified that the *2017 Assessment of Municipal Solid Waste Handling Requirements for the Island of O‘ahu*, used as the basis for projecting future waste volumes, includes an accelerated rate of recycling.
- It was noted that the 2017 Waste Composition Study, expected to be released in the next few weeks, includes information on the types of waste received at various facilities and can be used to target specific types of waste for reduction. It was clarified that a waste composition study is required as part of the Plan update and was last completed by the City in 2008. It was suggested that comparison of the 2008 and 2017 results could provide an interesting look at changes to waste composition over time.
- It was observed that community cleanup and coastal cleanup organizations would like to be able to access all convenience centers and transfer stations following cleanup events, and a request was made to include an action item in the Plan stating that the City will partner with non-profits to allow consistent access to drop-off facilities and waive tip fees. It was estimated that over 100 cleanups occur throughout the year, including small daily cleanups and larger scheduled events. City staff expressed interest in working with non-profits, citing the valuable service they provide to the community. One option under consideration is to offer transfer station passes to cleanup organizations operating consistently, in lieu of application for one-time waivers. This would streamline the process for non-profits while avoiding delivery of large volumes to convenience centers, which could interfere with availability for homeowners. City staff noted that they are working on this issue and have a meeting scheduled in the next few weeks with groups involved in cleanup. The hope is to fold the results of that discussion into this process and the updated Plan.
- There was a request for standardization of materials accepted at convenience centers and transfer stations based on the observation that inconsistent acceptance is confusing and can lead to illegal dumping. It was noted that material acceptance at each facility is limited by the facility permit and available space; however, the City is working to standardize material acceptance.
- Concern was expressed about lost revenue from commercial dumping of green waste at convenience centers and transfer stations. It was recommended that a physical or electronic voucher system be implemented to better restrict commercial use. Options were discussed, such as replacing the two load per resident per day maximum with a set number of loads per resident per year and tracking via license plate.
- City staff indicated that screening, training, and inspection procedures are being developed to reduce commercial delivery of green waste to convenience centers and transfer stations. It was noted that there is currently no way to electronically track vehicles, but an electronic solution is likely during the upcoming ten-year period covered by the Plan. It was recommended that the Plan include a commitment to work toward an electronic system.
- It was noted that the City intends to implement some form of residential user fee in the near future, which would require payment verification and tracking. Electronic tracking of convenience center and transfer station use could be implemented in tandem with the fee system. Concern was expressed regarding the difficulties elderly residents and guards may encounter adjusting to an electronic system, however it was acknowledged that technology will become more ubiquitous over time and these difficulties can be overcome with the right support.

- There was a question about the permit renewal application development timeline, given that the convenience center and transfer station permits are up for renewal in 2020. City staff indicated that permit renewal applications must be submitted six months prior to expiration, and the City plans to begin drafting the applications in late 2019 or early 2020 to meet the deadline. Each permit renewal application would include any changes implemented during the period covered by the permit. It was further clarified that the City has the option to submit a permit modification application at any time if changes are desired before the next permit renewal.
- There was a question about whether bulky item collection could be regulated during planned H-POWER maintenance periods (February/March) to avoid diversion to the landfill. It was suggested that the planned H-POWER baling project could meet this need, as convenience centers and transfer stations do not have the space to store bulky items. Alternatively, it was suggested that the City may be able to notify residents and temporarily suspend bulky item collection. It was noted that the City has used this approach when completing transfer station refurbishment projects, though some increases in illegal dumping near affected facilities were noted. An observation was made that this approach would be more challenging to implement for bulky item residential collection, as it would require double pick-up following each suspension.
- There was a request to include actual timeframes for planned annual H-Power maintenance action items. It was clarified that timeframes will be included in the Implementation Plan section of the Plan.
- It was noted that there are opportunities throughout the document to further incorporate zero waste and source reduction. AC Member Natalie McKinney offered to provide specific comments addressing these opportunities.
- There was a request to add language throughout Section 8 indicating that the future waste projections do not account for expected source reduction.
- There was a question about why the recycling growth rate increased in the *2017 Assessment of Municipal Solid Waste Handling Requirements for the Island of O’ahu*. It was clarified that the consultant preparing the assessment saw that recycling is taking hold in the community and is expected to continue to increase in the future. The rationale is described in more detail in the assessment report.
- There was a question regarding whether there is enough buffer in the H-POWER future capacity analysis to account for fluctuation in daily receipts. It was noted that storage space is the limiting factor for H-POWER; the boilers can handle the tonnage received, but the facility can get backed up receiving and processing waste. Currently, the only option available if the facility gets backed up is the landfill. It was recommended that additional storage be considered for peak periods.
- Given that equipment capacity is not currently a limiting factor, it was recommended that the Plan include language stating that ‘expansion or other alternatives’ will be considered as needed moving forward.
- There was a recommendation to include language in the Plan about avoiding large infrastructure expenses through source reduction as another benefit of the City’s on-going and proposed source reduction efforts.
- It was recommended that ‘personal communication’ not be referenced as a source for information included in the Plan.
- Additional information was provided regarding H-POWER diversions to WGSL in 2017. It was noted that diversions were caused by the reduction in processing capacity during refurbishment of the

refuse derived fuel processing lines, which took about 6 weeks per side. The newly refurbished lines process waste more quickly and more reliably clear the floor.

- It was clarified that WGSL is closed Christmas Day and New Year’s Day, so the permitted waste capacity should be reduced to account for only 363 days of operation.
- There was a question about whether the WGSL projected waste quantities account for waste associated with natural disasters. In response, it was noted that this waste is not included in the projections. Most disaster debris would go to PVT landfill; household waste would go to WGSL if H-POWER was unable to accept it.
- A question was asked about whether the projected waste quantities reported in the Plan align with the mayor’s goal to not need an everyday landfill. In response, it was noted that projected quantities would align with the goal since some of the MSW volume is residue from H-POWER, bulky items not accepted at H-POWER, and diversion during routine H-POWER maintenance.
- It was clarified that residue from H-POWER is comprised of glass, gravel, dirt, sand, and some organic content. H-POWER’s goal is to reduce the organic component and only filter out inert material.
- It was recommended that language regarding source reduction be added to the discussion of expected landfill life, as source reduction efforts could extend landfill life beyond 2038.
- Several clarifications were made regarding WGSL operations, and it was recommended that revisions be made to Section 8:
 - WGSL no longer takes food waste; all food waste goes to H-POWER
 - The 600 ton per day permit limit is for ash only; residue is part of MSW
 - WGSL can accept bulky items during H-POWER diversions
 - WGSL can accept asbestos per the operating permit; it is the City’s policy not to accept it
- In response to a question regarding measurement of the amount of food waste received at H-POWER, it was noted that the 2017 Waste Characterization Study provides this information (see vegetative and non-vegetative categories).
- There was a question about the timeline of the landfill management contract bidding process. It was noted that negotiations would likely start two to three years prior to contract expiration.
- It was noted that PVT landfill recently won a Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) gold award.
- In response to a question regarding end uses for used concrete processed at PVT, it was noted that this material is primarily used onsite and as ballast for solar panels.
- It was clarified that PVT is now permitted to accept 3,000 tons per day, which should be updated in Section 8.
- It was noted that the City’s disaster contractor has developed a disaster management plan, as required by FEMA. Staging areas have been identified throughout the island for sorting disaster debris prior to recycling or disposal.
- It was noted that PVT recycled 179,000 tons last year and expects to be up to around 235,000 tons recycled within the next two years.
- In response to a question regarding use of recycled concrete for City projects, it was noted that use depends upon the project. Additionally, recycled concrete is used for aggregate in ready mix concrete and by the military as road base. It was noted that there may be legislation requiring the

City to use virgin base coarse for projects, meaning that a regulatory change would be required to allow use of recycled material. Follow up was recommended to ensure accurate discussion in Section 4 of the Plan.

- There was a recommendation to include additional information on recycling and reclamation activities in the PVT future needs section.
- It was requested that the Plan indicate that quantities of Asbestos Containing Material (ACM) received are decreasing each year, and Oahu will run out of ACM requiring disposal before PVT landfill runs out of ACM airspace.
- There was a discussion regarding white goods, which are a major problem for the City. It was noted that the City will be releasing a Request for Proposals (RFP) soon. The City is also willing to consider extended producer responsibility for white goods, as discussed in the Plan, which could include manufacturer contributions to a fund or take back requirements. A recommendation was made that extended producer responsibility be discussed in Section 4.
- It was clarified that the City's receipt of white goods is tied closely to metal values. White goods are scavenged when metal values are high, which is illegal as waste materials become the City's property when placed at the curb. Residents should call the City when they see scavenging, which also raises liability and privacy considerations for residents.
- In response to a question, it was confirmed that new contracts will be included in the Plan, as timing allows.
- It was noted that the new refuse facility building is 140,000 square feet and currently 99.9% complete.
- It was recommended that the City account for sea level rise when siting new facilities.
- There was a recommendation to update the public viewing area action item to read "Consider building a public viewing area and education center" (current wording is "or").
- In response to a question regarding glass rebottling, it was noted that the City discussed this option with the processor responsible for recycling the City's HI-5 and blue bin glass. There is not enough volume on Oahu to make rebottling profitable, so the cost to the City would be high. There are many other promising options for glass recycling, and an RFP is expected to be released in the next 45 days. Responses will indicate whether any glass recycling options are viable, but the City is cautiously optimistic.
- In response to a question regarding methods to increase glass volumes collected, it was noted that the City has looked at a state-wide approach encompassing blue bins, advance disposal fee glass, HI-5 glass, and sources not currently collected such as liquor and wine bottles. The City's glass RFP will initially focus on glass collected in the blue bins, but require a successful proposal to be able to scale up.
- It was noted that the AC liked the inclusion of information regarding customer service, facility upgrades, and new facility development in the Plan. This information shows the public that the City is already doing a lot of good things.

Comments received from the public included:

- It was expressed that the commenter would like to see a more visionary approach to the Plan. The *2017 Assessment of Municipal Solid Waste Handling Requirements for the Island of O'ahu* assumed a 3% increase in waste generated in the next ten years. With a heavy focus on source reduction, the City could commit to avoiding an increase in waste generated over time. It was suggested that the

City work to change the culture through policy; many disposable items are a matter of convenience not necessity.

- It was noted that source reduction is at the top of the pyramid and the City should focus on reducing waste generated per capita. The last Plan focused on expansion of H-POWER; a lot has changed over the past ten years and the Plan needs to evolve to make source reduction part of the City's mission moving forward.
- There was a discussion on zero waste principles and adding aspirational goals throughout the Plan. Local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) offered to research these topics, as well as applications in other jurisdictions, and provide the information for City review and incorporation into the Plan. The City expressed interest in reviewing the material collected and including aspirational goals in the Plan. Representatives from Jacobs Engineering agreed to provide guidance on the best format for submitting this material per the AC's request.
- It was suggested that a source reduction working group be developed. Concern was expressed that the AC may not be able to fully address source reduction, especially implementation of aspirational goals, in next 3 months during Plan development. It was recommended that the AC start the conversation during Plan development and commit to keeping the conversation going after the 2018 Plan update is complete.
- It was noted that this AC is a unique chance for experts to inform the direction of solid waste management in a coordinated way and many council conversations are on hold to see what the AC comes up with as part of the revised Plan. Concern was expressed that pushing too much of the conversation to a later date could result in loss of a valuable, time-sensitive opportunity.
- It was suggested that additional meetings be considered to allow the AC to revisit source reduction.
- It was announced that a meeting is scheduled for July 14th to launch a zero-waste Hawaii coalition. Details will be provided to the AC.
- It was recommended that the City solicit information regarding what the public would like to see in the Plan prior to the public hearing to avoid a high volume of comments near the end of the process.

Next Steps

- It was announced that the 2017 Waste Characterization Study would be made available to the AC via email prior to the next meeting.
- The schedule for the next meeting was discussed. The meeting will cover Section 2: Solid Waste Generation, Section 10: Energy Balance and Alternative Technologies, and the existing system portion of Section 11: System Cost Analysis. The future system portion of Section 11 will be developed and presented in tandem with Section 12: Implementation Plan.
- There was a question regarding the timeline between review of the Draft Plan and release of the Final Plan. It was noted that the Hawaii Revised Statutes do not contain much guidance on timeline. The City is required to gather comments and draft written responses, but there is no specific timeline.
- There was discussion regarding extension of the next meeting to four hours, potentially beginning at 8:00 am.
- AC Member Josh Stanbro indicated that he would not be able to attend the next AC meeting.
- It was announced that all interested parties were welcome to attend the upcoming SWANA meeting, held June 12th at 4:00 p.m.