



Advisory Committee Meeting 02 – January 9, 2018

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

ATTENDEES:

ADVISORY COMMITTEE (AC) MEMBERS

- Mr. Brian Bowen, Waste Management Hawaii
- Mr. Michael DeCaprio, Hawaiian Electric Company
- Mr. Nick Garofalo, Schnitzer Steel Industries, Inc.
- Mr. Dominic Henriques, RRR Recycling Services Hawaii
- Mr. Stephen Joseph, PVT Landfill
- Ms. Natalie McKinney, Kokua Hawaii Foundation
- Mr. Barry Nakamoto, Covanta Honolulu

- Mr. Mike 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

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

- Mr. Rafael Bergstrom, Surfrider Foundation

- Ms. Doorae Shin, Kokua Hawaii Foundation

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

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

- Mr. Michael Casey, State of Hawaii, Department of Health
- Mr. John Padre, CH2M
- Mr. Dan Pitzler, CH2M
- Ms. Elizabeth Schwing, CH2M

- COPY TO:** City and County of Honolulu, Department of Environmental Services, Refuse Division
- PREPARED BY:** CH2M
- MEETING DATE:** January 9, 2018
- PROJECT:** City and County of Honolulu 2018 Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan Update
- VERSION:** Final

This document provides notes from the January 9, 2018 Advisory Committee meeting. The notes include additional information from the City in response to some questions raised during the meeting. These responses are provided in square brackets and italics (i.e., [ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.....]).

Objectives

The purpose of this meeting was to confirm accuracy of the November 7, 2017 Advisory Committee (AC) Meeting 01 meeting minutes and to discuss and review the following draft sections of the City and County of Honolulu 2018 Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan (Plan): 1) Section 1, Existing System, and 2) Section 5, Special Wastes.

Summary

Topics and discussions from the meeting are summarized below.

Introductions, Agenda Overview

- Participants engaged in introductions
- CH2M reviewed the meeting agenda, which is as follows:
 1. Welcome and Agenda Overview
 2. November 7, 2017 Meeting Minutes – Comments or Corrections
 3. Presentation and Discussion – Section 1, Existing System
 4. Presentation and Discussion – Section 5, Special Wastes
 5. Public comments
 6. Next Steps, Thank You, and Adjournment

November 7, 2017 Meeting Minutes – Comments or Corrections

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

Advisory Committee Process

- Prepare Draft Section for AC review, discuss during meeting, incorporate comments and release Draft Plan after discussion of all chapters. Chapters will not be re-released immediately after associated meetings. Instead, they will be revised and ready for review during release of the compiled Draft ISWMP update scheduled for later in 2018. Big issues with previous chapters may be discussed at the start of next meeting.

Section 1: Existing System

Information regarding the following components of Section 1, Existing System, was presented:

- Main components of the current solid waste management system
- Population and employment statistics
- Collection system
- Convenience centers
- Commercial collection
- Transfer stations
- H-POWER
- Landfills
- Recycling and bioconversion
- Source reduction and re-use
- Household hazardous waste and electronic waste
- Public education

AC discussion covered the following topics:

- Regarding Slide 12 (and Section 1.3.3 of Draft), the Waste Management Hawaii representative indicated that there are some materials Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill (WGSL) is permitted to accept that the City has banned as a matter of policy.
- It was recommended that the amount of electricity generated at H-POWER be documented in Section 1.
- Note that H-POWER can only accept treated medical waste.

- It was noted that the presentation presents refuse by tonnage but H-POWER's ash quantity is presented by volume. Ash quantities are presented on both a volume and tonnage basis in the Plan.
- There was a question as to why H-POWER's supply commitment is set at 800,000 tons per year. It was noted that the supply commitment was set to allow for waste stream changes over the planned 30 years of operation.
- There was a question as to why the H-POWER contract was designed such that the City cannot meet it for many years, resulting in the consideration of recycling contracts for diversion to H-POWER. It was noted that when contract was signed (2007-2008), City was taking in close to 900,000 tons per year. The subsequent economic downturn led to less waste generation, which could not be forecasted at the time the contract was developed. Additionally, the City wanted extra capacity to meet future demand. The total capacity of H-POWER is approximately 900,000 tons per year.
- It was noted that the tonnage commitment does not affect the service fee, which is a fixed amount. If actual tons delivered are less than the commitment, the City pays Covanta for its share of the loss of electricity revenues (the City and Covanta split electricity revenues).
- It was recommended that the amount of money the City pays Covanta for the loss of electricity revenue be noted in the Plan. *[ADDITIONAL INFORMATION – In Fiscal Year 2016, the City paid Covanta approximately \$548,000 for their share of the electrical revenue lost due to the shortfall.]*
- Note that Slide 17 should reference WMH, not WMI.
- The City has a supply commitment for 250,000 tons per year at WGS�, which the City is currently meeting.
- It was suggested and agreed that Section 1 should contain a map that includes H-POWER and the landfills.
- In response to a question, it was noted that the recycling tonnage data comes from an annual recycling survey conducted by the Refuse Division. There was a brief discussion of changes to China's recycling markets and current market uncertainty. It was noted that wood waste recycling should increase to 150,000 – 200,000 tons in one to two years due to PVT's new gasification facility.
- It was suggested that the section should acknowledge that all Oahu public schools have recycling collection programs per the Department of Education's contract for refuse collection. Bins are currently serviced by West Oahu Aggregate as part of their contract with the schools.
- The City was asked to elaborate on the rationale for the proposed plan of cutting back blue cart service to once every four weeks (versus the current once every two weeks). City staff responded that survey results showed an average island-wide cart set out rate of 55-60%, with most carts not completely full. Decreasing the frequency of service would increase the efficiency of system without significantly impacting material recovery rates. Collections staff would be freed up to assist with other routes that could use more staff. Routes would be redesigned (to extent possible, without creating more routes) to include less carts, leaving capacity in the routes for households needing a second blue cart.
- A question was asked about the level of contamination in the blue carts and if public education could help reduce contamination. City staff responded that the City is fortunate to have a relatively low contamination rate: 9-11%. Given the reduction in pickup frequency, it was noted that it will be important to have a robust public education program to ensure proper sorting.
- It was noted that the City is moving from 64 gallon blue carts (issued 10 years ago, at start of program) to 96 gallon blue carts for all replacement and new carts, which will help provide added capacity for residents. The City will advise homeowners that if carts are fully utilized, more can be requested. The first option will be to replace 64 gallon carts with 96 gallon carts.

- Beach cleanup organizations would like to be able to drop off beach cleanup debris at convenience centers. City staff responded that convenience centers are provided for homeowner use only and that permit issues and staffing/management complexities prevent cleanup events from using these facilities. However, the City Department of Parks may be able to pick up waste at the clean-up site if appropriate arrangements are made. The City also offers tip fee waivers to beach cleanup organizations at City Transfer Stations and H-POWER if the City Department of Parks is not able to pick up debris. The City offered to share meeting minutes from a recent meeting with non-profits to discuss disposal options for park clean up debris. One idea is to partner with businesses to stage bins near cleanup areas.
- There was a question about why the Wahiawa Convenience Center no longer accepts green waste. City staff responded that residents can drop green waste off directly at the neighboring Hawaiian Earth Recycling facility.
- It was asked why the City no longer accepts new front end loader (FEL) service customers. *[ADDITIONAL INFORMATION – The City is currently not accepting new FEL customers. Current equipment and staffing levels only allow City to maintain existing service levels.]*
- It was asked why the City no longer accepts green waste Kawaioloa Transfer Station. *[ADDITIONAL INFORMATION – Since the City's Kawaioloa Transfer Station is relatively close to the Hawaiian Earth Recycling (HER) facility, residents are advised to deliver their green waste directly to HER to be recycled. If a resident chooses to drop off green waste at Kawaioloa Transfer Station, it is co-mingled with the regular refuse and hauled to H-POWER.]*
- In response to a question, it was noted that the two on-island licensed glass recyclers are RRR and Honolulu Disposal Service.
- It was asked if commercial recycling ordinances are enforced. City staff provided an overview of the enforcement process. Every year, the City sends a compliance packet to affected businesses and requests that they complete a compliance status survey. The City's four to five recycling staff concentrate compliance inspection efforts on high density areas but also visit select lower density areas. There is a 50-60% response rate for compliance reporting. The City visits some of the businesses who do not respond and some who respond that they're not in compliance. Due to staffing, the City cannot follow up with all business each year. Some Notices of Violation were issued last year for failure to comply. Businesses are fined through the issuance of a Notice of Order if not in compliance upon the City's second visit.
- A member of the public suggested that information about the economic benefits of re-use/ source reduction activities be added to the Plan. These preventative activities can save City a lot of money on clean-up (for example, keeping plastic bags from clogging storm drains).

Section 5: Special Wastes

Information regarding the following components of Section 5, Special Wastes, was presented:

- Asbestos
- Used motor oil
- Petroleum-contaminated soil (PCS)
- Lead acid batteries
- Municipal solid waste (MSW) combustion ash
- Sewage sludge
- Agricultural waste

- Medical waste
- Scrap tires
- White goods
- Abandoned and derelict vehicles
- C&D debris

AC discussion covered the following topics:

- There was a question about whether citation and discussion of federal regulations covering handling, transportation, and disposal of specific special wastes adds value to the Plan. It was further noted that this level of detail was not provided for all federal, state, and local regulations. City staff expressed a preference for the plan to indicate a more general discussion over citation of specific regulations where applicable, but noted that all regulations should be cited if specific discussion is kept.
- The date that WGSL stopped accepting Asbestos Containing Material (ACM) is not accurate. WGSL is still permitted to accept ACM, but the City made a decision to stop accepting ACM at WGSL. *[ADDITIONAL INFORMATION – The City started directing householders to dispose of ACM at PVT landfill in March 2017.]*
- PVT landfill has been seeing a decline in ACM because less ACM remain in old buildings.
- It was noted that further public education regarding appropriate disposal of used motor oil is still needed.
- PVT continues to receive large quantities of petroleum contaminated soil (PCS). PCS is used as cover and covered with soil when analytical results are below industrial action levels. PCS with analytical results greater than industrial action levels is buried same day with a GPS locator.
- It was suggested that the existence of a ban on disposal of lead acid batteries at WGSL per state law be confirmed. *[ADDITIONAL INFORMATION - Hawaii Revised Statutes Sec 342I-1 states that no person may: (1) Place a used lead acid battery in mixed municipal solid waste; or (2) Discard or otherwise dispose of a lead acid battery, except by delivery to: (A) A lead acid battery retailer or wholesaler; (B) A collection or recycling facility permitted under chapter 342H; or (C) A secondary lead smelter permitted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.]*
- It was suggested that, because this is a 10-year plan, disposal of other types of batteries, such as lithium ion batteries, be discussed. It was noted that there are no current plans known to include these batteries. – *[ADDITIONAL INFORMATION - the City is currently looking into accepting certain types of these batteries at the Convenience Centers and Kapaa Transfer Station.]*
- It was asked if the Plan should include a discussion of ash from other power plants (i.e., AES Power Plant). City staff responded that ash from AES is generated through coal combustion, not MSW, so it was not considered in the Plan. AES ash is disposed of at the PVT landfill, and is not taken to the City's WGSL.
- It was suggested that the City should issue separate Request for Proposals (RFPs) for ash and auto-shredder recycling residue. *[ADDITIONAL INFORMATION – As currently structured, the RFP will include ash and auto-shredder residue together. The results of the RFP are expected to become public during the course of this ISWMP process and the results will be shared with the AC.]*
- A question was asked about the differences between bottom ash and fly ash, and whether one has more recycling potential. It was clarified that bottom ash is typically targeted for recycling. *[ADDITIONAL INFORMATION – As currently structured, the RFP will include bottom and fly ash*

together. The results of the RFP are expected to become public during the course of this ISWMP process and the results will be shared with the AC.]

- It was noted that H-POWER now uses fabric filtered baghouses, not electrostatic precipitators, for air pollution control.
- A question was asked about where Synagro's product ends up. City staff responded that 95% is sent to parks, golf courses, and agriculture. The small amount of pellets that are not to spec are disposed at the WGSL.
- It was clarified that the main concern about accepting agricultural waste at H-POWER is odor.
- It was noted that AES has burned tire derived fuel in the past. There are limits in the facility air permit, but tires currently represent about 1% of the fuel AES burns. Mr. Michael DeCaprio agreed to follow up with AES regarding the status of this activity and the quantities burned (confirm 3,000 tons per year).
- It was recommended that the City consider what will happen to tires burned at AES when AES' coal power contract runs out. It was noted that H-POWER has some additional capacity for tires, but it currently not permitted to process tires other than those managed by the City's Department of Environmental Services. Tires are also currently handled in the private sector where they are shipped off-island and used as refuse derived fuel.
- It was noted that ENV is responsible for the bulk of the City-generated scrap tires, but other City departments have some. It is the City's goal to process all acceptable tires (large tires are not accepted) at H-POWER. The City will always need Unitek or another tire recycler for non-acceptable tires.
- There was a question about the rationale behind the City taking white goods processing from the private sector to its proposed white good recycling facility. City staff responded that this is part of a long term goal to develop a more integrated approach to managing its solid waste. For white goods, City aims to centralize processing and marketing of metals from white goods and H-POWER. The contract for processing at the new City facility would be bid out via the RFP process. The City expects the solicitation to be issued in the next month, with additional information becoming available over the course of the Plan update process. *[ADDITIONAL INFORMATION – The results of the RFP are expected to become public before this ISWMP process is complete and the results will be shared with the AC.]*
- The City mentioned two additional RFPs expected in the near future: 1) local beneficial re-use technologies for recycled glass; and 2) beneficial re-use of ash from H-POWER.
- It was noted that the 311 mobile app can be used to report abandoned and derelict vehicles. The app allows users to input information, add photos, and include a GPS location.
- Questions were asked about use of the \$7 per vehicle registration abandoned vehicle collection fee and the number of abandoned vehicles collected per month. City staff responded that additional information covering this topic can be added to the Plan.
- PVT landfill has already excavated/reclaimed 20% of buried waste and will excavate/reclaim another 20% over the next 9 months. Carbon black is currently imported for use in asphalt production, but will soon be produced locally as a byproduct of gasification.
- A question was asked about whether the City is considering a permit system for home renovations. It was noted that some areas require a deposit up front that is returned if debris is recycled. City staff responded that such a system is not under consideration at this time, and would probably need to be implemented through a City Council initiative.

- It was recommended that information regarding disposal of industrial food waste (such as from a freezer going out) and non-agricultural animals (deceased cats, turtles) be added to the Plan. WGS� receives a lot of calls asking how to dispose of these materials. Industrial food waste is currently sent to H-POWER.
- It was noted that auto-shredder residue represents a high volume of waste and should be considered for recycling. City staff indicated that an RFP is expected in the near future.
[ADDITIONAL INFORMATION – The results of the RFP are expected to become public before this ISWMP process is complete and the results will be shared with the AC.]
- It was noted that there is a preference to not mention contractors with short term contracts in the Plan because they change often. It seemed agreeable to most to include the names of only those contractors with contracts lasting the duration of the Plan (10 years).

Next Steps

- The schedule for next meeting was discussed, and it was noted that the next sections would be provided at least one week prior to the next meeting. It was agreed that individual sections would be provided as soon as they are ready rather than waiting until all three sections are ready.