

West Linn Sustainability Advisory Board Meeting

7/21/16

Attendance	Board / Staff: Alex Mihm, Sara Harding Mihm, Cecil Denney, Glen Friedman, Tamara Gilbert, Clare Bean, Darren Wyss Guests: Andy and Ray Kahut of West Linn Refuse & Recycling, and Steve Donovan
Action Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● SAB members are encouraged to attend the City Council meeting on 8/1/16. Brief comment of support made by Alex and Clare, addressing the potential resident concerns, and that SAB can help create a formal survey to collect resident feedback, as well as an action plan to address concerns.● Work groups are to meet, determine six-month work plan, and send to Alex.● Regarding composting, the group is to connect with Bruce Walker at Portland and Lake Oswego to gather lessons learned.
Decisions Made	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● At the next SAB meeting, we will discuss the pesticides issue and the City's adoption of more renewable energy; to be joined by outside representatives for both discussions.
Proposal: Hybrid pick-up and Spring Clean Up Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● To improve the Curbside Cleanup Week program, WL Refuse & Recycling proposes a "hybrid" program to SAB. This hybrid program would include two components:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Everyone still gets one day of free extra pick-up: Customers to receive one voucher that they use to request additional pick up on a typical pick-up day of their choosing. The voucher would be advertised in each customer's bill prior to January 1. It would not be a physical coupon, but rather, a credit on each customer's account to be redeemed at the customer's discretion.○ A community Spring Clean Up event in April 2017 that would include a drop off. Locations discussed included Willamette Church and the police station. Also to include shredding, old medication drop-off, electronics recycling, and chance to give materials to reuse organizations such as Goodwill. To help reduce costs, the option to apply for a voucher through Metro, called Community Cleanup Disposal Voucher, was discussed.● The board discussed the possibility of evolving the trash drop-off event into a large-scale resident swap of unwanted household items. Either event could have local community organizations prepared to collect items for reuse, like Lions, Ace Computer Repair, Les Schwab, Buy Nothing West Linn, and others.

Composting

- There are currently 7,450 single-dwelling WL Refuse & Recycling customers.
- Yard debris pick up is available to many of those customers, with the exception of those who live in multi-family housing.
- If compost were added to the yard debris, the contents of the bin would be sent to a Type 3 facility (pathogen material) instead of a Type 1 facility (low risk, no pathogen infected). They require different treatment: Tier 1 becomes mulch, etc.; Tier 3 must be turned into compost.
- Type 1 facility currently used is located in Clackamas County.
- Type 3 facility would first require the debris to be sent to Metro South in Oregon City, then repackaged into trucks and driven 80 miles to Corvallis. This is considered a "deadhead" trip, where the load is full one way, but empty the return trip.
- Customers would not be able to "opt-in" to composting. If everyone agreed to composting, customers would receive a 1.26 gallon pail for collecting compost in the home.
- WL Refuse & Recycling stated that they would not "pilot" the program, and only act if we were to move forward on composting with absolute certainty.
- Customers' Costs:
 - **With 7,450 participants, each customer's yard debris disposal cost would increase approximately \$2 per month to \$2.62 total, including the cost of our existing service.**
 - Comparatively to neighboring Lake Oswego, and Portland, West Linn's costs to compost would be the lowest. Per month, WL weekly trash pick up + compost would be \$27.40, Lake Oswego is \$28.33, and Portland is \$29.15.
- Hauler's Costs:
 - \$96.25/ton for solid waste at Metro South.
 - \$15.33 per ton: Yard debris disposal rate at Type 1 yard debris processor (current cost)
 - \$63.61 per ton yard debris disposal rate at Type 3 yard debris processor (proposed)