

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

October 5, 2022 – 5:30 – 7:30pm

MEETING NOTES

SWAC MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Carol Jones, Chair Robin Barr (MML rep.), Vice Chair Sara Bixby Troy Cavell	Paula Jenson Amy Maron Chaz Miller	Ellen Ryan Candy Schimming
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SWAC MEMBERS ABSENT: Jasim Ahmed, Adam Diamond, Shaun Kiviat, Fred Kranz, Heidi Lovett, Mark Symborski

RRMD STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Willie Wainer, Director, Recycling and Resource Management Division, RRMD
David Frank, Waste Reduction and Recycling Section, RRMD
Lisa Shine, Executive Administrative Aide, RRMD

The regular meeting of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) was called to order by the Chair at 5:32 PM on October 5, 2022.

Featured Presentation: Budget and Staffing Priorities for FY2024

Speaker: Willie Wainer, Director, Recycling & Resource Management Division, DEP

RRMD staff are working on the budget now on a November-December timeframe for submission to OMB. There are three possible time frames for SWAC to provide input in the budget process:

- SWAC comments to RRMD to inform their internal deliberations - are most useful by November 2.
- SWAC comments to inform CE/Executive Branch deliberations across-agencies – Willie will let us know what the timing is for this (it will be early in 2023).
- SWAC comments to County Council after the CE budget has been submitted (which occurs on March 15) – early April.

Collections

Collections contracts (a huge portion of the budget): RRMD is considering a pilot trial of new contract options for recycling collections in the next areas to be competed (Areas 6 and 8 in Gaithersburg and Laytonsville). One goal is to see if more competitors will compete for contracts with these changes (only 1 bid on the last hauling contract.)

Bins: RRMD also seeks to change equipment from blue bins to wheeled carts which are much safer for haulers to work with.

Programs: Willie Wainer reviewed future program plans to expand food scraps recycling, and explorations of policy innovations to promote increased edible food recovery and to shift to a unit-based pricing system for trash.

Capital Projects: Willie Wainer also reviewed the current status of several capital projects that are in process, including the Transfer station re-design (project approved and funded 2 years ago; target date for completion is August 2024) and the Gude Landfill remediation (a five-to-seven year, \$62 million project).

Personnel: The range of activities above demand more staff to manage them. RRMD will be seeking a number of new positions.

RRMD Updates

- **Sept. 7 fire** at the Transfer Station, in the cardboard and mixed paper processing facilities was caused by 2 batteries coming in contact with one another. The building and the equipment were saved, ~140 tons of papers material was lost.
- **RFP for organics facility options:** anticipate it will be posted soon, 60 days will be allowed for responses, and an award may be made in March or April.
- **Annual recruitment for new SWAC members:** Lisa has sent the request for recruiting new members to the County Executive's office; we are in the queue.

SWAC updates

- **SWAC Field trips:**
 - **Transfer station/recycling center: Wed. Nov 16, 10-12noon** – *if anyone who has not signed up becomes available and interested in going, please let Lisa and Carol know.*
 - **Bioenergy Devco AD: Thursday, October 27, 11am – 12:30pm.**
- **Elections for SWAC offices (Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary):** will occur in November, the last official meeting of CY2022. Nominations for all positions are open. Carol Jones, Robin Barr and Adam Diamond have stated they are willing to run again for Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary respectively.
- **DAFIG:** The new SWAC rep to the **Dickerson Area Facilities Implementation Group (DAFIG)** will be Amy Maron.

Future meeting agendas

For November 2022,

- Willie is inviting the contractor for the SAYT RFP (Lisa Skumatz, SERA) to do a presentation on their project. (Here is the presentation she did to the Zero Waste TF in 2019: <https://montgomerycountymd.gov/SWS/Resources/Files/master-plan/pay-as-you-throw-sera.pdf>)
 - Discuss recommendations/draft letter from the SWAC Budget and Strategic Planning committee.
- NOTE: There is no regularly scheduled SWAC meeting in December.

Future meetings:

- C&D waste: current status (quantity generated, facilities processing it), current approaches (banning roofing, raising C&D tipping fees) and future options to promote waste reduction and reuse
- RRMD Performance measures
- (before March, so February?): Keith Levchenko, County Council T&E Committee: Budget (and programmatic, legislative) priorities
- March: Briefing on County Executive's budget referred to County Council
- April: SWAC discussion of draft budget letter

- Optimizing washing and reuse of packaging, Possible Speaker: Crystal Dreisbach, Don't Waste Durham, plus local organizations promoting re-use
- Organics recycling facilities –
 - Onsite composting (restaurants, multi-unit housing), Speaker: Jeffrey Neal, Loop Closing: <https://www.loopclosing.com/>
 - Recommendations from pending contract reviewing options

SWAC adjourned at 7:17 pm.

ACRONYMS

C&D	Construction and Demolition	MML	Maryland Municipal League
CC	County Council	MCPS	Montgomery County Public Schools
CE	County Executive	OLO	Office of Legislative Oversight
CNG	Compressed Natural Gas	PAYT	Pay As You Throw
CPI	Consumer Price Index	RRF	Resource Recovery Facility
DAFIG	Dickerson Area Facilities Implementation Group	RRMD	Recycling & Resource Management Division
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection	SA	Service Area for County collection
FTE	Full Time Employee	SAYT	Save As You Throw
FY	Fiscal Year	SCA	Sugarloaf Community Association
MDE	Maryland Department of the Environment	SWAC	Solid Waste Advisory Committee
MC	Montgomery County	SWMP	Solid Waste Management Plan
MES	Maryland Environmental Services	T&E	Transportation and Environment Committee
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility	TPD	Tons per Day
		ZWTF	Zero Waste Task Force

