

Public Comment Report: Regional Waste Advisory Committee



May 22, 2019

BACKGROUND

On March 7, 2019 the Metro Council approved the 2030 Regional Waste Plan to guide the greater Portland area's efforts to reduce the environmental impacts of the products we make, use and discard, provide a more equitable distribution of services and benefits to communities of color and other historically marginalized communities, and ensure a high quality, resilient garbage and recycling system. To help achieve this, the plan identifies an oversight structure to include:

- Metro Council
- Metro Committee on Racial Equity
- Metro Policy Advisory Committee
- A new Regional Waste Advisory Committee

To establish the new committee, the Metro Council must enact code language that identifies the committee's functions, membership categories and other elements.

Between April 29 and May 20, 2019, Metro conducted the public comment period for the proposed draft code language for establishing the Regional Waste Advisory Committee. Notification emails were sent to Metro's interested parties list and information was posted on Metro's web site on how to submit public comment. Comments were received primarily through an email address and online web form established for the comment period. All of the comments received are included with this report as Appendix A.

COMMENT SUMMARY

By the close of the comment period, 12 individuals provided comments:

- Two were supportive of the code as written
- Eight requested changes to membership
- Two were neutral

The changes requested to membership included:

- Appointing a Metro Councilor to chair the committee
- Increasing the number of individuals representing industry, including private waste companies, recycling processors, composting facilities and collection services.
- Ensuring there is representation from community advocacy groups such as Oregon Air
- Ensuring that there is representation from individuals with disabilities

AMENDMENTS MADE TO CODE LANGUAGE

Metro staff revised the draft code language to include health advocates for the organizations considered for the advocacy position on the committee. No other changes were made to the draft code language based on the comments. As written, the proposed membership includes positions for historically marginalized groups that includes individuals with disabilities. Staff believes industry representation and expertise is best served on ad hoc subcommittees that will provide more detailed review of particular topics.

NEXT STEPS

If the Metro Council adopts the ordinance to establish the Regional Waste Advisory Committee, the new committee will be established through the following process and associated timeline:

June 6 & 13	First and second readings of the ordinance to establish the committee and repeal code associated with the no-longer-operating Solid Waste Alternatives Advisory Committee
Mid-June	Solicitation of committee member nominations
Mid-July	Staff provides nominations to Council President Peterson for consideration
Late July	Council consideration of resolution to confirm committee appointments
September	First meeting of committee

Appendix A: Public Comments

From: [Winterhalter, Rick](#)
To: [2030 Regional Waste Plan](#)
Subject: RE: Opportunity to comment on creation of Regional Waste Advisory Committee
Date: Monday, April 29, 2019 4:31:45 PM

Thanks Laura, I figured as much and knew I was unnecessarily contributing to Eben's e-mail load.
cheers

From: 2030 Regional Waste Plan <RegionalWastePlan@oregonmetro.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 29, 2019 4:30 PM
To: Winterhalter, Rick <rickw@clackamas.us>
Subject: RE: Opportunity to comment on creation of Regional Waste Advisory Committee

Hi Rick,

This email went to the full SW Directors group, individuals who were on our SWAAC interested parties list, folks involved in the technical work groups for the Regional Waste Plan, and anyone who made a public comment on the Regional Waste Plan.

Eben Polk was included on the list. This was also posted as a public notice news item on Metro's website, so it will reach anyone signed up for Metro's garbage and recycling news digest.

Please feel free to share with others you think would be interested in providing feedback. These are the direct links to the public notice and the public comment web form:

<https://www.oregonmetro.gov/news/public-notice-opportunity-comment-creation-regional-waste-plan-advisory-committee>

<https://www.oregonmetro.gov/comment-creation-regional-waste-advisory-committee>

Thanks!

Laura

Laura van der Veer

Resource Conservation & Recycling administrative specialist

Metro | oregonmetro.gov
600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232-2736
503-797-1651

From: Winterhalter, Rick [<mailto:rickw@clackamas.us>]
Sent: Monday, April 29, 2019 4:20 PM
To: 2030 Regional Waste Plan
Subject: RE: Opportunity to comment on creation of Regional Waste Advisory Committee

Thanks Marta. How extensive is the outreach for this. I want to make certain Eben sees it and expect you've sent it to SW Dir group in its entirety. I wanted to know if our Solid Waste Commission is an appropriate audience.
Cheers

From: Marta McGuire <regionalwasteplan@oregonmetro.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 29, 2019 2:11 PM
To: Winterhalter, Rick <rickw@clackamas.us>
Subject: Opportunity to comment on creation of Regional Waste Advisory Committee

Good afternoon,

On March 7, the [Metro Council approved](#) the [2030 Regional Waste Plan](#). The plan is a blueprint for how Metro, city and county governments, and the residents and businesses of the greater Portland area will:

- reduce the environmental and health impacts of the products we make, use and dispose
- provide high quality and equitable services in the garbage and recycling system that manages our discarded waste

A key framework of the plan is advancing equity in services and system benefits for communities of color and other historically marginalized communities.

To help achieve this, the Plan identifies an oversight structure to include:

- [Metro Council](#)
- [Committee on Racial Equity](#)
- [Metro Policy Advisory Committee](#)
- A new Regional Waste Advisory Committee

In June 2019, the Metro Council will consider [amendments to the Metro Code](#) to put that latter committee in place. [Metro invites comments on this proposal](#) from April 29 to May 20, 2019 at 5 p.m. Comments may be submitted to RegionalWastePlan@oregonmetro.gov or through the [web form](#).

Following the public comment period, Metro staff will review the comments and then develop the proposal that will be submitted to Council for consideration. The full 2019 timeline for establishing the committee is outlined below. Specific dates are still to be determined for the steps after the public comment period.

- April 29 – May 20: Public comment period
- June: First and second readings of the ordinance to establish the committee
- Mid-June to mid-July: Solicitation of committee member nominations
- Late July: Council appointment of committee members
- September: First meeting of committee

Thank you,

Marta McGuire

Principal Planner

Resource Conservation & Recycling Division

Metro | oregonmetro.gov

600 NE Grand Ave.

Portland, OR 97232-2736

503-797-1806



From: [Aaron](#) on behalf of [Metro](#)
To: [2030 Regional Waste Plan](#)
Subject: Form submission from: Comment on creation of Regional Waste Advisory Committee
Date: Tuesday, April 30, 2019 9:15:10 AM

Submitted on Tuesday, April 30, 2019 - 9:15am
Submitted by anonymous user: [162.158.107.71]
Submitted values are:

First name: Aaron
Last name: Douglas
Email: akdouglas@msn.com
Zip code: 97202

Provide your feedback: Sounds like a plan. I'd be interested in being considered as a user of the system since I've been involved with interviewing people from the City of Portland on multifamily recycling and disposal, etc.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.oregonmetro.gov/node/27151/submission/86331>

From: [Zephyr Moore](#)
To: [2030 Regional Waste Plan](#)
Subject: At Spencer House 60 apartments, five apartments may recycle. Everything else goes in garbage. All bottles in recycle bin have caps. All recycling is contaminated with books, ceramic pots, food, wishful recyclers who have never looked at picture sign...
Date: Wednesday, May 01, 2019 1:20:31 PM

At Spencer House 60 apartments, five apartments may recycle. Everything else goes in garbage. All bottles in recycle bin have caps. All recycling is contaminated with books, ceramic pots, food, wishful recyclers who have never looked at picture sign on front of recycle dumpster.

The waste area at Spencer has wood fence six-foot high. Behind recycle double lid 4 yard recycle bin is blank wall 2 X 10 feet. Wall could be used to put full size pictures of can, bottle w/out cap, paper, etc. Also, picture what is not recyclable: food, garbage, plastic bag, toy, clothes, etc.

I have begged Beaverton, Oregon recycling to use the wall to educate. They do nothing. Recycle bin is little used while garbage bin fills with tip up lids pried open. Ridiculous waste from families with children who will need resources that parents are TEACHING CHILDREN TO NOT CARE ABOUT ANYTHING.

TALE OF TIN, attached and following. Don't know how to attach. Attach has perfect margins.

TALE OF TIN

One of few metals known to early man is tin. Tin had a major influence on man in early times and is an essential part of modern society. Processed raw materials allow our way of life.

Man's control of living has been shaped by the availability of raw materials, inventiveness and tools. Smelt tin ore becomes gas-heat, slag, residue of degraded fuel and tin (Element Sn, Atomic Number 50, melting point 231.93 degrees C). Tin alloy with copper (mp 1083 C) makes bronze. Bronze is harder than copper. Melted bronze poured into a mold is shaped into tools or weapons. "Iceman," *National Geographic*, July 2007.

The possession of bronze was so important in early social development, historians define this era as the Bronze Age. Tin is fuel for commerce-then and today, and a strategic metal. Sources of tin ore are distant from where refined tin is consumed. Navigating to a distant port, loading then transporting tin [work] defined trade routes of sailing ships.

There are few geographic sources of tin ore. Southeast Asia, West and Central Africa, South America and China are the major places where tin is mined. Chief tin consumers in 1940s: industrialized America, Europe, Japan and Russia.

America's major supply of tin ore is from the Southeast Asian countries of Malaysia and Sumatra. During World War II, 1941 – 1945, these lands were captured by the Japanese so

cut-off a source of precious metal for the United States. Bolivia, Congo and Nigeria were America's only reservoir of tin besides the tin coated steel (mp 1535 C) container used by every householder (37 C). The "tin can" is America's only homeland source of tin. Every patriotic citizen can remember the urgency to save and recycle tin cans-as my mother, 1910-1984, said, "*For the war effort.*" Children collected scrap paper at school and pulled wagons full of cans-crushed without labels, to scrap metal drives. Wartime motto: "*Slap the Japs with Scrap!*"

Today we are in a war against waste. Billions of tin cans are thrown away each year. Manufacturing metal, glass, paper and plastic packages to satisfy our lifestyle requires raw materials, like oxygen or tin ore. Effort to extract raw commodities and form useable items [work] consumes huge amounts of oxygen-fuel, water, land, plants and labor. Heat and waste of work combine with atmosphere, land and water. Recycling cuts demand to locate, extract and refine raw material, fuels oxidized, toxins to atmosphere-soil-water. Recycling influences pollinators* and coral**. A healthy environment-land, water, vegetation, climate plus symbiotic creatures, is the foundation for a vibrant society. Reduce consumption, reuse everything, easily recycle, plus; *never* put H₂O or organic matter in garbage = eliminate disposal cost then anaerobic respiration-landfill gas. Consume and conserve. Prevent resource wars and deterioration of local Planet by recycling at home, play, business.

Recycle for *PEACE!* What would salmon do? >W.W.S.D.?> if it had thumb? Wash, squash, de-label then recycle tin coated steel container *and* paper. Grab plastic litter. Stop work propelling 2.5 gram LEVI pant patch: Cut-off patch.

*"Hyperalarming" study shows massive insect loss." Ben Guarino, *Washington Post*, 10/15/2018. How to encourage insects?

"FIELD STUDY Can returning farmland to the wild help bumblebees in crisis?" *Smithsonian* April, 2015. If the only time you walk on lawn is to mow it, you don't need a lawn. Restore native vegetation for bugs, bees & birds.

Tale of Tin evolved from, "The Promotion and Collection of Strategic Scrap Materials during World War II," 13 p. Reader; thoughtfully consume, conserve and educate: Ask, "Do you use canned food-tin can? How many tin ore mines in North America?" Most folks are surprised when you say, "None." Offer the Tale. Stretch finite resources. Preserve water coated sphere > share Tale of Tin. Vibrant planet and butterfly silently applaud. W.W.B.D.?

[Define word roots. Vocabulary grows understanding and influence to preserve one-habitat, Orca.]

**Startling new research finds large buildup of heat in the oceans, suggesting a faster rate of global warming. Chris Mooney and Brady Dennis, *The Washington Post*, 10.31.18
"Oceans are warming faster than we thought," Angela Fritz, *Washington Post*, January 12, 2019. A warming climate allows pine beetles to ravage the West. The Bug that's Eating The Woods, National Geographic, April 2015.

We're all in this alone, together. So. Cut long twice,

Zephyr Thoreau Moore, The Voice of the Salmon. Founding member One-EarthSociety.

To become *member* One-EarthSociety, all one need do is *behave as if* there is one-Earth only.

**TERRELL GARRETT
GREENWAY RECYCLING, LLC
15204 SE RIVER FOREST DR.
MILWAUKIE, OR 97267
(503) 793-9238
30 April 2019**

Metro Council President Lynn Peterson
Metro Councilors Craddick, Lewis, Dirksen, Gonzalez, Chase, and Stacey
Metro
600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232

Dear Council President Peterson and Councilors:

We have reviewed the proposed Code changes which remove the current SWAAC and replace it with a "Regional Waste Advisory Committee" and would like to provide comment.

Looking at most State governments one finds that each department or division has a "Commission" or "Advisory Board" that oversees the activities of that department or division. The members are generally appointed by the Governor for staggered terms, smoothing out transitions between Governors. Also, these members generally are expected to be extremely knowledgeable about certain if not many of the areas supervised by the underlying department; bringing their expertise to the equation. In other words, one generally does not find someone appointed to the Oregon Investment Council who has no financial background nor knowledge. Rather, most appointees to such a position have extensive backgrounds in public and/or private investment and finance.

The proposed Committee lacks the power usually seen in a State oversight committee or board. This is reasonable given the smaller size of Metro. However, in the place of hiring/firing authority a knowledgeable Council Member should be an active part of the Committee and the expert informational conduit to the other Councilors. Lack of having a Councilor on this Committee is either a gross oversight or indicates a general disinterest by Council in the subject. Solid waste excise taxes run a big part of the show at Metro and management of the solid waste system is a big job that should be a significant focus of the Council's time.

The other staffing omission is that there is no representation from the group that is being overseen by Metro. No position proposed requires nor contemplates any financial and operational knowledge about how the solid waste system works. Yes, there is a placeholder for ORRA, an organization that represents haulers and sometimes purports to represent processors. Neither that person nor that organization represents GreenWay Recycling nor do they have the expertise necessary to present relevant necessary economic and operational information required for good decision-making. This is equivalent to the concept of having an Oregon Environmental Quality Board with no member having any agricultural experience whatsoever despite agriculture's huge position in the State. Another example would be a Fish and Wildlife Commission with all environmental advocates or all hunters. The result would be disastrous. Balance is the key.

The proposed format removes the thin veil many in the industry have felt for the past five or six years: Staff has included us in order to "check the box", largely ignoring our advice and counsel so Staff may pursue their personal agendas. Yes, I know that some statements made by industry are self-serving and not necessarily in the public's best interest. I also know that many statements are valid, with the information presented necessary to good decision-making. A good Advisory Committee is balanced with no one group being left out, under-represented, or over-represented. The proposed structure of this Committee is unbalanced, and the resultant advice will be uneducated, short-sighted, and erroneous unless the transfer industry has real representation and a Councilor is placed on the committee.

The dry waste recycle rates of system facilities shown below are proof that the Council will be better served through direct involvement in this Committee, the oversight of solid waste, and the environmental future of this planet.

FACILITY	RECYCLE RATE
CORE	55%
GreenWay Recycling	36%
TVWR	22%
Willamette Resources	21%
ECR	16%
Pride	15%
Metro Central	9%
Metro South	6%
Recology	0%

These numbers are from January 2018 through end of February 2019 and are derived from Metro provided data.

Sincerely,



Terrell Garrett

From: [Metro](#)
To: [2030 Regional Waste Plan](#)
Subject: Form submission from: Comment on creation of Regional Waste Advisory Committee
Date: Monday, May 06, 2019 7:07:36 AM

Submitted on Monday, May 6, 2019 - 7:07am
Submitted by anonymous user: [108.162.246.243]
Submitted values are:

First name:

Last name:

Email:

Zip code: 97035

Provide your feedback: I think it's a great idea. Like metro transportation, but this is waste.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

<https://www.oregonmetro.gov/node/27151/submission/86781>

From: [Marie](#) on behalf of [Metro](#)
To: [2030 Regional Waste Plan](#)
Subject: Form submission from: Comment on creation of Regional Waste Advisory Committee
Date: Monday, May 06, 2019 8:55:24 AM

Submitted on Monday, May 6, 2019 - 8:55am
Submitted by anonymous user: [162.158.106.4]
Submitted values are:

First name: Marie
Last name: Valleroy
Email: msmuggle@yahoo.com
Zip code: 97221

Provide your feedback: Please be sure to include input from people w/ disabilities (hopefully you have already recognized this as a "historically marginalized group").

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.oregonmetro.gov/node/27151/submission/86786>

From: [R.B](#)
To: [2030 Regional Waste Plan](#)
Subject: Metro Membership Structure
Date: Thursday, May 16, 2019 10:31:57 AM

I would like to see Metro modify the proposed membership structure to include more space for community advocacy groups such as Oregon Air.

Respectfully,

Rocky Bixby
Ponyridge

From: [Cynthia](#) on behalf of [Metro](#)
To: [2030 Regional Waste Plan](#)
Subject: Form submission from: Comment on creation of Regional Waste Advisory Committee
Date: Friday, May 17, 2019 8:56:56 AM

Submitted on Friday, May 17, 2019 - 8:56am
Submitted by anonymous user: [172.68.174.74]
Submitted values are:

First name: Cynthia
Last name: Hedrick
Email: beckercc@comcast.net
Zip code: 97224

Provide your feedback:

Committee members should include representation from cities that have composting/waste companies within their borders, cities that are impacted by the waste companies processing and neighborhood environmental groups.

Tualatin and Sherwood are not represented yet Grimm's Fuel Company 18850 SW Cipole Rd in Tualatin and Pride Disposal 13980 SW Tualatin-Sherwood Rd in Sherwood reside within their borders.

Grimm's Fuel Company has been the source of odor and dust pollution for years destroying quality of life for the citizens of Tualatin, Sherwood, Tigard, King City and parts of Beaverton. Within this list only Beaverton has representation and King City as an alternate. Neighborhood groups such as Oregon Air and CASE that have been fighting to get Grimm's Fuel Company's odor and dust problem under control should also be included as committee members.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.oregonmetro.gov/node/27151/submission/87806>

May 20, 2019

Metro Council
600 NE Grand Avenue
Portland, OR 97232- 2736

RE: Metro Creation of the Regional Waste Advisory Committee and Industry Representation

Dear Metro Councilors,

This letter represents the Portland Haulers' Association (PHA) comments regarding Metro's outline to create the Regional Waste Advisory Committee. As you know, PHA members provide services across the solid waste system including hauling, resource recovery & transfer, processing and landfilling for all areas of the Metro region. Members are committed to working cooperatively with their regulatory local governments to provide safe, modern, and efficient waste collection services that include garbage, recycling, and organics collection at reasonable rates.

Last year, members submitted comments in support of the 2030 Regional Waste Plan. We appreciate all of the work representatives of Metro, community members, and industry stakeholders contributed to create the plan. We understand the purpose of the Regional Waste Advisory Committee is to provide an oversight structure to the 2030 Regional Waste Plan. Metro provides background [information online](#).

The plan is a blueprint for how Metro, city and county governments, and the residents and businesses of the greater Portland area will:

- *reduce the environmental and health impacts of the products we make, use and dispose*
- *provide high quality and equitable services in the garbage and recycling system that manages our discarded waste*

In order for the Regional Waste Advisory Committee to accomplish its purpose and be effective, the Committee must have adequate representation of those who are doing the work of providing waste services within the garbage and recycling system.

As a result, we accept the proposal for ORRA's Regional Director to serve as a voting member, but also request that the Regional Waste Advisory Committee include voting members from private solid waste facilities, recycling processors, and collection services.

PHA members provide these comments to demonstrate our strong commitment to work with Metro, local government, as well as the community at large, and share our expertise in the

industry. Partnering with local government, member haulers have promoted “reduce, reuse, and recycle” for decades and continue to improve their successful coordinated work reducing overall waste and related negative effects. It is these coordinated efforts among state, regional, local, industry and community members that contribute to Oregon’s position as a national leader in recycling and waste management. We look forward to the opportunity to continue serving as a resource, imparting experience from our own challenges as large and many small, family and women-owned companies, in navigating the business of waste management while promoting our common values advancing equity in waste management. Please don’t hesitate to contact Beth Vargas Duncan at 971-707-1683 or bethvd@orra.net with any questions.

Sincerely,

Vallerie Gruetter Hill, President
Portland Haulers’ Association

May 20, 2019

Metro Council
600 NE Grand Avenue
Portland, OR 97232- 2736

RE: Metro Creation of the Regional Waste Advisory Committee and Industry Representation

Dear Metro Councilors,

This letter represents the Clackamas County Refuse and Recycling Association's (CCRRA) comments regarding Metro's outline to create the Regional Waste Advisory Committee. As you know, CCRRA members provide services across the solid waste system including hauling, resource recovery & transfer, processing and landfilling for all areas of the Metro region. Members are committed to working cooperatively with their regulatory local governments to provide safe, modern, and efficient waste collection services that include garbage, recycling, and organics collection at reasonable rates.

Last year, members submitted comments in support of the 2030 Regional Waste Plan. We appreciate all of the work representatives of Metro, community members, and industry stakeholders contributed to create the plan. We understand the purpose of the Regional Waste Advisory Committee is to provide an oversight structure to the 2030 Regional Waste Plan. Metro provides background [information online](#).

The plan is a blueprint for how Metro, city and county governments, and the residents and businesses of the greater Portland area will:

- *reduce the environmental and health impacts of the products we make, use and dispose*
- *provide high quality and equitable services in the garbage and recycling system that manages our discarded waste*

In order for the Regional Waste Advisory Committee to accomplish its purpose and be effective, the Committee must have adequate representation of those who are doing the work of providing waste services within the garbage and recycling system.

As a result, we accept the proposal for ORRA's Regional Director to serve as a voting member, but also request that the Regional Waste Advisory Committee include voting members from private solid waste facilities, recycling processors, and collection services.

CCRRA members provide these comments to demonstrate our strong commitment to work with Metro, local government, as well as the community at large, and share our expertise in the

industry. Partnering with local government, member haulers have promoted “reduce, reuse, and recycle” for decades and continue to improve their successful coordinated work reducing overall waste and related negative effects. It is these coordinated efforts among state, regional, local, industry and community members that contribute to Oregon’s position as a national leader in recycling and waste management. We look forward to the opportunity to continue serving as a resource, imparting experience from our own challenges as large and many small, family and women-owned companies, in navigating the business of waste management while promoting our common values advancing equity in waste management. Please don’t hesitate to contact Beth Vargas Duncan at 971-707-1683 or bethvd@orra.net with any questions.

Sincerely,

Josh Brown, President
Clackamas County Refuse and Recycling Association

May 20, 2019

Metro Council
600 NE Grand Avenue
Portland, OR 97232- 2736

RE: Metro Creation of the Regional Waste Advisory Committee and Industry Representation

Dear Metro Councilors,

This letter represents the Washington County Haulers Association's (WCHA) comments regarding Metro's outline to create the Regional Waste Advisory Committee. As you know, WCHA members provide services across the solid waste system including hauling, resource recovery & transfer, processing and landfilling for all areas of the Metro region. Members are committed to working cooperatively with their regulatory local governments to provide safe, modern, and efficient waste collection services that include garbage, recycling, and organics collection at reasonable rates.

Last year, members submitted comments in support of the 2030 Regional Waste Plan. We appreciate all of the work representatives of Metro, community members, and industry stakeholders contributed to create the plan. We understand the purpose of the Regional Waste Advisory Committee is to provide an oversight structure to the 2030 Regional Waste Plan. Metro provides background [information online](#).

The plan is a blueprint for how Metro, city and county governments, and the residents and businesses of the greater Portland area will:

- *reduce the environmental and health impacts of the products we make, use and dispose*
- *provide high quality and equitable services in the garbage and recycling system that manages our discarded waste*

In order for the Regional Waste Advisory Committee to accomplish its purpose and be effective, the Committee must have adequate representation of those who are doing the work of providing waste services within the garbage and recycling system.

As a result, we accept the proposal for ORRA's Regional Director to serve as a voting member, but also request that the Regional Waste Advisory Committee include voting members from private solid waste facilities, recycling processors, and collection services.

WCHA members provide these comments to demonstrate our strong commitment to work with Metro, local government, as well as the community at large, and share our expertise in the

industry. Partnering with local government, member haulers have promoted “reduce, reuse, and recycle” for decades and continue to improve their successful coordinated work reducing overall waste and related negative effects. It is these coordinated efforts among state, regional, local, industry and community members that contribute to Oregon’s position as a national leader in recycling and waste management. We look forward to the opportunity to continue serving as a resource, imparting experience from our own challenges as large and many small, family and women-owned companies, in navigating the business of waste management while promoting our common values advancing equity in waste management. Please don’t hesitate to contact Beth Vargas Duncan at 971-707-1683 or bethvd@orra.net with any questions.

Sincerely,

Mike Leichner, President
Washington County Haulers’ Association



POSITIVE ATTITUDES | MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIPS | QUALITY RESULTS

May 20, 2019

Metro
600 NE Grand Avenue
Portland, OR 97232-2736

Re: Membership on the proposed Regional Waste Advisory Committee

Dear Council President Lynn Peterson:

I am Scott Jenkins, President and CEO of Environmental Fibers International, Inc. (EFI). EFI was founded in 2001 and is one of the largest, family-owned commercial recycling companies in the Northwest. EFI is proud of all we have accomplished in over 18 years of hard work in the recycling business. We have been recognized for our leadership and for our successful efforts in recycling.

I have been closely following the development of the recently approved 2030 Regional Waste Plan. Metro says the Plan is a blueprint for how the region will "...provide high quality and equitable services in the garbage and recycling system that manages our discarded waste". The Plan and its successful implementation will have significant environmental, economic, and livability impacts on the region, its citizens and its businesses for years to come.

To that end, the Plan identifies an oversight structure that includes the establishment of a new Regional Waste Advisory Committee. In April Metro announced the opportunity to provide comments on the creation of the committee. I am concerned about the proposed membership of the committee.

As noted, the Plan is the blueprint for *how* to provide high quality and equitable services to the community. When looking at how to do something, it is prudent to get input from folks who actually have experience *doing* it. It makes sense to ask teachers about needed classroom improvements and farmers about successful practices for sustainable food production. Such should be the case with this important committee.

The proposed committee membership includes 12 positions: six from government, three from historically marginalized communities, an environmentalist, a solid waste system customer and the Oregon Refuse and Recycling Association (ORRA) for the solid waste industry. So, 11 of the positions either regulate the system, are impacted by it or use it.

Each position has a valuable role in providing input, however I strongly question whether this composition will provide the committee with the necessary information, experience and expertise that will be needed regarding all aspects of the solid waste industry.

The solid waste system is broad and varied and includes the collection, transport, processing, marketing and disposal of numerous waste and commodity materials. EFI is one component of the system. Our facility operations and economics differ significantly from collectors, dry waste processors and landfills. A single solid waste industry representative on the committee is not sufficient. In the Metro region, ORRA primarily represents its members that provide franchised collection and it is an excellent choice for the committee. However, when it comes to matters involving non-franchised facilities operating in the open market place, ORRA may not be able to take a position.

The 1995 Regional Solid Waste Plan understood this. It established a Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) comprised of citizen representatives, government representatives and separate recycling, hauling and facility representatives (see attached). The committee was large and some thought it was unwieldy but what it did offer was differing perspectives, valuable input, information sharing and an opportunity for dialogue.

I am not suggesting that the earlier SWAC should be the model for the RWAC but I am asking that Metro add two industry positions, including one specifically representing source-separated recyclable material recovery facilities. Considering the major impact that local economics and global markets have on the sustainability of region's recycling programs, the experience and expertise of this representative would be invaluable to the committee's success.

Lastly, the attached document also indicates that a Metro councilor was a member of SWAC and served as the chair. This was important because the councilor directly heard the discussions, could provide input as needed and was a liaison to the Council. I was told having a Councilor on the RWAC was discussed during the development of the Plan but this is not included in the proposal. I strongly encourage that a position for a Metro Councilor be added to the RWAC.

Thank you for the thoughtful consideration of my input and recommendations. I welcome the opportunity to discuss this with you in person if you would find that helpful.



Scott Jenkins,
President and CEO
EFI Recycling

Solid Waste Advisory Committee

The Metro Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) meets the third Wednesday of each month, Metro Regional Center, Conference Room 370, 8:30 - 10:30 AM (unless otherwise announced). Call Connie Kinney 797-1643 if you would like to receive copies of SWAC meeting agendas.

Committee Members (and alternates)	Affiliation	Telephone
Committee Chair:		
Jon Kvistad	Metro Council	797-1549
Recycling Industry Representatives:		
John Drew	Far West Fibers	643-9944
Jeff Murray (Alternate)	Far West Fibers	255-2299
Hauling Industry Representatives:		
Jim Cozzetto, Jr.	Metropolitan Disposal & Recycling Corporation	285-0571
Dean Kampfer (Alternate)	Alpine Disposal & Recycling	253-5403
Steve Schwab	Sunset Garbage Collection Company	774-4122
Jack Deines (Alternate)	Deines Brothers Sanitary Service	654-1449
David White	ORRA / Tri-County Council	690-3143
Brian Heiberg (Alternate)	Heiberg Garbage & Recycling	231-9949
Tom Miller	Miller's Sanitary Service, Inc.	644-6161
Mike Leichner (Alternate)	Pride Disposal	625-6177
Solid Waste Facility Representatives:		
Doug Coenen	Oregon Waste Systems	1-454-2030
Gary Penning (Alternate)	Waste Mgt. of Oregon	249-8078
Ralph Gilbert	East County Recycling	253-0867
Steven Miesen	BFI / Trans Industries	226-6161
Citizen Representatives:		
Jeanne Roy		244-0026
Merle Irvine		222-6565
Bruce Broussard		240-8565
Chad Debnam (Alternate)		240-0708
Government Representatives:		
Ken Spiegle	Clackamas County	650-3374
Susan Ziolk (Alternate)	Clackamas County	655-8521
Gary Hansen	Multnomah County	248-5219
Lynne Storz	Washington County	648-8609
Bob Kincaid	Clackamas County Cities	635-0220
Debra ("Debbie") Noah	Multnomah County Cities	684-7829
Lynda Kotta (Alternate)	Multnomah County Cities	661-3000
Loreen Mills	Washington County Cities	639-4171
Dave Kanner (Alternate)	Washington County Cities	648-8611
Susan Keil	City of Portland	823-7763

(continued)

Committee Members (and alternates)	Affiliation	Telephone
Non-Voting Members:		
Judy Ashley	Yamhill County	1-434-7516
Bob Baumgartner	DEQ	229-5323
Brian Carlson	Clark County	(360) 699-2375
Renee Dowlin	Port of Portland	231-5000
David Kunz (Alternate)	DEQ	229-5061
Jim Sears	Marion County	1-588-5056
Bern Shanks	Metro Solid Waste Director	797-1650
Ad-Hoc Members:		
Lex Johnson	Oregon Hydrocarbon	735-9525
Jeff Grimm	Grimm's Fuel	636-3623

Metro Officials and Staff

Metro Elected Officials:

Mike Burton	Executive Officer	797-1502
Ruth McFarland	Council Presiding Officer	797-1547
Jon Kvistad	Councilor, SWAC Chair	797-1549

Metro Regional Environmental Management Planning Staff:

Bern Shanks	Director, Regional Environmental Management	797-1650
Debbie Gorham	Waste Reduction and Planning Services Manager	797-1679
Marie Nelson	Planning Supervisor	797-1670
Kelly Shafer Hossaini	RSWMP Public Involvement Coordinator	797-1503
Connie Kinney	Clerk to the Committee	797-1643

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From: [Brett Hamilton](#)
To: [2030 Regional Waste Plan](#)
Subject: Regional Waste Advisory Committee
Date: Monday, May 20, 2019 4:49:14 PM

Dear Metro,

On behalf of the members of Oregon Air, I would like to express our excitement regarding Metro's formation of a Regional Waste Advisory Committee. We appreciate Metro's goal of advancing equity in services and system benefits for communities of color and other historically marginalized communities.

We hope that a representative from Oregon Air has an opportunity to serve on this new committee, however we are concerned that the proposed membership structure of the advisory committee might not provide room for our interests to be represented.

We would request that Metro either 1) open up the committee membership criteria to explicitly include representatives of the residents who live near the largest composting facilities in the Metro region and/or 2) increase the number of seats for environmental advocates on the committee and/or 3) provide an additional membership category for representatives from community advocacy groups such as Oregon Air.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed amendment to the Metro Code. We look forward to working with Metro on this process.

Thank you,
Brett Hamilton
Oregon Air
<http://www.oregonair.org/>