



To: Solid Waste Advisory Commission

From: Bob Gedert, Director, Solid Waste Services Department

Date: April 6, 2011

Subject: Director's Report

Performance Measures

Measures for this month are still being calculated and will be distributed at the May meeting.

Master Plan Update

The SWS staff and HDR consultants jointly presented the current draft of the SWS Zero Waste Services Plan on March 30th at a public meeting. Nearly 100 citizens attended and participated in the open comment period. Many substantial comments and program addition suggestions were received. The Department will revise the Plan accordingly. Future public input sessions are being planned for the Spring and Summer, with the goal of presenting the Master Plan to SWAC and City Council in July.

Star Employees

Isaac Bell was selected as a 2011 EIA Driver of the Year Finalist, a national completion for trash driver/operator career and driving excellence. Isaac has been a City of Austin employee since 1976 and has been part of our department's evolution from the Public Works Department focusing on sanitation and sewers to the Solid Waste Services Department focusing on our new goal of Zero Waste. With over 34 years of service, Isaac has never been involved in a safety infraction.

Tom Coleman was also selected as a 2011 EIA Driver of the Year Finalist. Tom has been a city employee since 1996. During his 15 years of service, Tom has received the Safety Achievement Award in 2010 for his dedication and commitment to providing a safe working environment.

City Department Partnerships

As Solid Waste Services Director, I have had meetings with numerous Department Directors to discuss the potential integration of the *Zero Waste Services Plan* within various City departments, and to engage in collaborative future planning. Opportunities for partnerships were identified and will be explored.

All City Departments

- Increase Visibility of Office Recycling
- Eco-Green Purchasing Options
- Recycling services to all Government facilities

Austin Convention Center

- Visitor and Operations Recycling Opportunities
- Facility Food Vendors / Organics Composting Pilot
- Eco-Green Exhibit Center with Zero Waste Displays

Austin Energy

- Solar Farm at FM 812 Landfill
- Co-op on School Education

Austin Water

- Hornsby-Bend Composting Facility
- Adding Food Scrap Organics (future)
- Co-op on School Education

Aviation Department

- Terminal and Operations Recycling Opportunities
- Facility Food Vendors / Organics Composting Pilot (future)
- In-Flight Recycling Service for Airlines
- Brush, Cardboard, Concrete, Metals
- Lamp and Battery Recycling
- 2010 Aviation Department diversion = 342,000 tons

Communications and Technology Management

- Electronics Recycling
- Duplex Copiers – Green Purchasing

Economic Growth and Redevelopment Services

- Locating Resource Consumption Small Businesses
- By-Product Synergies – waste pairings
- Support incentives to draw recycling re-processors
- Eco-Business Park & Eco-Industrial Park

Fire Department

- Battery Take-back / Recycling (bi-annual smoke alarm battery changeovers)

Fleet Services

- Fleet Operations Recycling & Vehicle Fluids Recycling
- Green Fuel Options (Compressed Natural Gas, E-85 fuel, Hybrids, Electrics)
- Eco-Green Purchasing Options
- Fueling Center / Heavy Fleet Repairs (co-locate facilities)

Health Department

- Food Organic Collection/Storage Standards
- Food-Grade Oils Collection/Recycling
- Restaurant Grease Reclamation

Law Office

- support on policies and ordinances

Library Department

- Visitor & Facility Recycling Opportunities
- “Recycled Reads” Branch – sale of “expired” books
- Public Education platform

Neighborhood Housing & Community Development

- Public Education of Client Base
- Recycling Opportunities at Multifamily Facilities

Police Department

- Pharmaceutical Take-backs

Public Works Department

- Operations Recycling – Metals and Inert Materials
- Glass Recycling Pilots – Sidewalk, curbs and road bed substitutes for aggregate and other uses
- Tire Rubber Recycling Pilots – Asphalt & road bed substitutes for aggregate

Parks & Recreation Department

- Visitor and Operations Recycling Opportunities
- Green Event Recycling/Composting Services
- Nature Center - Eco-Green Center with Zero Waste Displays
- Co-op on School Education – Curriculum Based – Expanded School Program
- Christmas Tree Recycling
- Mulch use and distribution
- Community Gardens & Pilot Organic Composting
- Use of Recycled Materials in PARD Construction Projects
- Glass recycling in sidewalks and concrete surfaces (sparkles with light reflection)
- Artist in Residence Program – Recycled Art Projects
- Summer Camps – Education and Recycled Art Projects
- New Policy (FY '12) – Tobacco Free Parks – to reduce cigarette litter
- “Totally Cool – Totally Art” project with teens

Planning & Development Review Department

- Green Building Standards – reduced waste generation
- Construction and Demolition Debris Ordinance – Permitting Implementation

Transportation Department

- Green Purchasing – Recycled Content Road Construction Safety Equipment/Signage

Watershed Protection

- Litter Prevention - co-op public education with Solid Waste Services
- Eco-Green Messaging to Public
- Earth Camp – Children education
- Green Neighbor Program – kids game