



**Zero Waste Advisory Commission  
Organics Management Committee**

**Meeting Minutes  
July 15, 2016**

The Organics Management Committee of the Zero Waste Advisory Commission (ZWAC) convened on July 15, 2016, in the Board and Commission Room (Rm 1101) at the Austin City Hall room at 301 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Austin, Texas.

**Committee Members in Attendance:**

Heather-Nicole Hoffman, Amanda Masino, Kaiba White

**City Staff in Attendance:**

Austin Resource Recovery: Jessica King, Gena McKinley, Aiden Cohen, Woody Raine, Teresa Chapman, Maddie Morgan, Selene Castillo

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Committee Chair Hoffman called the Committee Meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

- a. Hoffman led the introductions of the Committee Members, staff, and stakeholders.
- b. Hoffman informed the audience that interaction was welcome during the meeting.

**2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION GENERAL**

No citizens spoke during the opportunity for citizen communication.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. Masino moved approval of the minutes for the June 6, 2016 meeting; Hoffman seconded; Motion passed 2-0-1, White abstaining.

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Universal Recycling Ordinance, Organics Diversion Implementation and CBD Compost Pilot Project (staff presentation, discussion, and possible action)

Aiden Cohen and Teresa Chapman briefed the Committee on the development, requirements, and implementation of the organics diversion phase of the Universal Recycling Ordinance. Implementation includes conducting a baseline survey to determine the current level of organics diversion among the affected community.

Committee members asked whether offering front-of-house organics diversion is required (it isn't), when the baseline survey information would be complete (by the end of the year),

what methods businesses can use to document donations, whether ARR provides guidance by business type (yes).

Cohen and Chapman noted that a bid solicitation for a pilot organics collection service downtown closed recently but, because the City had not awarded the contract yet, they were not able to discuss the bids. Meeting participants discussed earlier planning to implement the pilot project through the existing contract for downtown trash and recycling services.

Participants also discussed the value of organics diversion from landfills and supporting local gardens and agriculture, costs to collect and process organics, City rebates to reduce costs, contamination in front-of-house diverted organics, recognizing establishments that donate surplus food, and requirements to use Licensed Haulers.

## **5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Hoffman suggested Austin Water's 'Dillo Dirt operation as a topic for discussion at the next meeting.

## **6. ADJOURNMENT**

Hoffman called the meeting to a close at 1:36 p.m. without objection.