



**Zero Waste Advisory Commission
Construction & Demolition Recycling Committee**

**Meeting Minutes
December 13, 2016**

The Construction & Demolition Recycling Committee of the Zero Waste Advisory Commission (ZWAC) convened on December 13, 2016, at City Hall, Bull Pen Room 1029, Austin, Texas.

Committee Members in Attendance:

Attending: Joshua Blaine, Chair Kendra Bones Shana Joyce

City Staff in Attendance:

Austin Resource Recovery: Woody Raine
Austin Energy Green Building: Sarah Talkington

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Committee Chair Blaine called the Committee Meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

- a. Committee Members, staff, and stakeholders introduced themselves.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION GENERAL

No citizens spoke during the opportunity for citizen communication.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Joyce and second by Bones, the Committee unanimously (3-0) approved the minutes for their August 30, 2016 meeting.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Deconstruction

Guest speaker: Kathy Robinson, representing The Reuse People, described the benefits of deconstruction as illustrated by some of her recent projects. In addition, she summarized some of the policies and programs in Portland OR, Boulder CO, Seattle WA, and Cook County IL that support deconstruction. Blaine asked what Robinson would like the City to do to support deconstruction. Robinson replied she'd collect more information to propose several suggestions.

Guest speaker: Kyle Kerrigan with Goodwill of Central Texas explained how his organization would use deconstruction projects to support their employment mission. Blaine asked what the current barriers are. Kerrigan replied the current demand supports their employing only two to three employees, with Goodwill serving as a subcontractor to deconstruction contractors working with The Reuse People. Blaine followed up asking what ZWAC could

do. Kerrigan answered the City could require that City buildings be deconstructed instead of demolished.

b. C&D Material Markets

ARR staff presentation: Raine presented information that illustrated the supply and demand for several of the main materials produced by construction or demolition projects, both residential and commercial. In summary, although their values change with time, concrete and metal from all types of projects have local markets. Paper packaging and plastics are low-quantity materials that have some local markets. Local recycling markets are weak, however, for three large-quantity materials: scrap wood, dry wall scrap (even from new construction projects), and roofing material. Cement kilns do value scrap wood as a fuel, however.

c. Qualified Processors

Guest speaker: Walter Biel, owner of Recon Services, presented information about his related businesses that haul and process construction debris, focusing on Recon Recycles, the first commingled C&D debris processor registered by Austin Resource Recovery as a Qualified Processor. Recon Recycles will be the first facility in the US to employ robotics sorting of commingled C&D debris. Biel recommended that the city require concrete to be recycled into aggregate rather than used as clean fill. In addition, he recommended that the city recognize fuel use of C&D-derived scrap wood as diversion as does the U.S. Green Building Council.

d. Construction debris management standards under Austin Energy Green Building rating systems

Guest speaker: Sarah Talkington with Austin Energy Green Building (AEGB) discussed the history, current status, and future direction of AEGB's basic requirements and voluntary credits for construction material management. Currently, AEGB accepts as meeting their requirements fuel use of scrap wood from processed from commingled C&D debris by an RCI-certified processor or ARR-registered Qualified Processor.

e. C&D Recycling Ordinance – first two months' metrics

ARR staff presentation: Raine presented information summarizing the projects affected by the ordinance in the first two months. About one-fourth of the project applicants so far have been commercial reroofing projects. These projects do not generate much material, particularly on a per square foot basis. Raine noted that he would probably suggest exempting these projects from the ordinance to reduce the administrative burden from these roofing contractors and ARR.

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a. Programs and policies implemented by other communities to support deconstruction
- b. Information on other communities and organizations that do or don't credit fuel use of C&D-derived scrap wood as diversion

6. ADJOURNMENT

Blaine called the meeting to a close at 8:15 pm without objection.