

Minutes
CALRECYCLE ILLEGAL DUMPING TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, May 22, 2019 – 10 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Host: San Diego River Park Foundation
4891 Pacific Highway, Suite 114
San Diego, CA 92110

I. Call to Order

Chairman Larry Sweetser called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM

II. Introduction of Members and Guests

Members Attending

Larry Sweetser, ESJPA
Etienne Ozorak, Sac Regional WMA (conf call)
Veronica Prado, CRRC (conf call)
Russell Joyce, City San Jose Env. Svs Dept
Rob Hutsel, SD River Park Foundation
Christine Flowers, KCB
Mark de Bie, CalRecycle
Tedd Ward, Del Norte SWA (conf call)
Mattress Recycling Council Reps
Liz Wagner (phone) & Mark Patti
Steve Melewski, CEAC/LA Co PW (conf call)

Members Absent

Larry Notheis, CCC
Matt Carr, CDAA
Nick Cronenwett, CSAC
Doug Kobold/Heidi Sanborn, CPSC
Nick Lapis, Californians Against Waste
Maria Ferdin, Monterey Co IDTAC
Gary Harris, City LA Code Enf
Representative, Public Member
Frank Foster, City Oakland PW
Dave Sikich, Waste Mgt Ind./Atlas
Trent Manning, Cal Trans
Jason Rhine, League of CA Cities
Representative, CHMIA/Nevada Co
Terri Williams, CCDEH/LA Co
Eva Mann/Kevin Tisdell, City Richmond CE

Others Attending

Sharon Anderson, CalRecycle
Chris Lehon, Sac Regional WMA (conf call)
Jim Stone, San Joaquin County PW (conf call)
Jasiah Neff, City of San Diego
Jaimie Huynh, CalRecycle

Others Attending

Stephanie Becker, CalRecycle (conf call)
Steve Santa Croce, CalRecycle (conf call)
Roger Mitchell, San Diego RWQCB
Sarah Hutmacher, SD River Park Foundation

III. Approval of December 4, 2018 Meeting Minutes

The Committee approved the minutes of the December 4, 2018 meeting in Monterey with amendments provided.

IV. Old Business/Updates

A. Legislative and Regulation Updates

Larry Sweetser cued up legislative (AB - Assembly Bill and SB - Senate Bill) and regulatory activities that could impact/increase illegal dumping.

- AB 901 implementation starts later in 2019 and will replace the old disposal reporting system. Due to the nature of any new reporting system, there is a possibility illegal dumping could increase. However, the regulations provide tools for CalRecycle enforcement when people forget to report illegal disposal.
- SB 1383 regulatory development continues with a new version of regulations available for 15-day comment period following a June 18th meeting in Diamond Bar. [Comments were due on July 17, 2019]. A draft EIR will be out for comment when the regulatory development reaches a point when all concerns have been adequately addressed. Illegal dumping may increase since rates will likely increase when the regulations are adopted. Please see the following weblink for information <https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Laws/Rulemaking/SLCP/>
- AB 215 (now suspended) would extend fines and penalties for illegal disposal to private properties and highways.
- AB 1216 (now suspended) Pilot program to employ illegal dumping staff in the Bay Area
- SB 212 sets up EPR program for household pharmaceuticals and sharps – Key points:
 - Workshops were held throughout the year on proposed draft regulations. Comments due by July 1, and regulations will be effective in 2020.
 - Related to MSW and illegal dumping since sharps are found in both.
 - EPR take-back program, likely mail-in program back to companies. Pharmacies will have drop-off bins as well.
 - Has homeless component to allow drop-offs.

Question: Will load checking programs/illegal dumping cleanup crews have access to containers? In San Diego, staff are all provided with containers.

- EPR program will hopefully include a method to provide containers to jurisdictions

For more information see CalRecycle's weblink about the rulemaking

<https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/laws/rulemaking/pharmasharps>

B. Illegal Dumping Toolbox Modifications

Sharon Anderson, IDTAC Coordinator, continues to modify the online toolbox as needed to reflect membership, resources, presentations, and edits.

Additionally, staff continue developing a statewide, jurisdiction-based method to report illegal dumping with the possibility of a geolocation map.

C. Cleanup Grants - Steve Santa Croce/Stephanie Becker

Steve Santa Croce, CalRecycle, presented information on [Illegal disposal site abatement grants](#) and the [Legacy disposal site abatement partial grant program](#) (weblinks embedded) Illegal Disposal Site Abatement Grant key points for 2018/19 FY:

- \$1M / year
- Awards were given out in March – City of LA, City of Norwalk, and City of Oakland

- Applicant must be a public agency – can partner with community groups, but a public agency must sponsor, can be irrigation districts, regional parks, Joint Power Authorities, and so forth
- Cannot fund existing programs
- Intended for new programs (i.e. mattress pickup, furniture pickup, or new neighborhood program, and similar programs)
- Must go towards cleanup and disposal of materials, not for staff time
- Limited funds for prevention and public information, up to 25% of the entire grant
- Can be used for homeless encampments, but must be the solid waste component
- Contact CalRecycle early before the grant cycle begins
- Grants are capped at \$500,000 per applicant.

Disposal site cleanup grant other key points:

- August - applications open, September applications close (depending on staff availability *FY 19/20 will open by November)
- Grant period spans approximately 2.5 years. Payments are considered reimbursements and generally process in roughly 30 days

Contact Steve Santa Croce steve.santacroce@calrecycle.ca.gov for any questions on the grant process

Farm and Ranch Grant

Stephanie Becker, CalRecycle, presented information on the [Farm and Ranch Cleanup and abatement program](#)

- Provides funding to clean up California’s rural lands, farmland, forest lands, and urban gardens
- Eligible applicants: cities, counties, resource conservation districts (RCD), federal tribes
- Can be applicable to homeless encampment cleanups if the encampment is in rural areas
- Next application due August 2019 (and new cycle by November 7, 2019)
- Grant can provide funds for sites that have already been cleaned up, no statute of limitations, application must fit criteria in order to be reimbursed
- RCDs can be a good resource and can apply on behalf of non-profit organizations
- Informal workshop for feedback on proposed regulations July 18, 2019, 1pm – 5pm
- Grant allows cleanup on public and private land. If someone purchased a plot of land and the illegal dumping was already there, they can apply for the grant if they can prove they did not know of it previously

Stephanie Becker is available to do presentations, and encourages interested parties to sign up on the listserv for updates – see the following link for all listservs managed by CalRecycle <https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/Listservs/>

V. Presentation/Discussions

A. Presentations by City of San Diego Environmental Services, and San Diego River Park Foundation (SDRPF) Illegal Dumping Programs

Jesiah Neff, City of San Diego, presented information on Clean San Diego Program

- In May 2017, the City of San Diego kicked off a pilot program to abate waste and debris city-wide by sanitizing sidewalks, illegal dumping cleanup and enforcement, and public awareness. The staff identified hot spots throughout the City and removed over 2100 tons of waste from litter and illegal dumping.
Lessons learned on how to be more effective: increase community curbside cleanups to give communities an opportunity to bring their clutter out. Allow program to be request/complaint driven and expand resources to canyons and creeks within the city limits.
- City of San Diego developed their Get It Done platform: residents can send in complaint (like a 311), allows City to track where these requests are coming from and shift resources as needed. Once detailed reports are filled out, the application will automatically notify the necessary departments. See the following web link for more information: <https://www.sandiego.gov/get-it-done>
Key components of Get It Done: Code compliance officers receive requests or complaints and are then able to investigate and issue citations if needed. The platform was developed by Deloitte through Salesforce and it took approximately 18 months to launch and implement. Get It Done is a joint department partnership with agencies such as Police, CalTrans, Public Works, Code Enforcement and so forth, and has resulted in waste abatement of 330 tons of waste removed downtown, 284 tons removed in partnership with SDRPF in the San Diego River Bed, 141 tons removed in canyons, 88 tons removed in Chollas Creek, and other areas over 490 tons removed. The City also sanitized 2300 street blocks; sanitizing is not pressure washing, staff use misting and reclaim the water used.
 - Anecdotal observations: Root causes of illegal dumping stem from businesses, multi-family homes, and haulers which points to a need for a City-wide educational campaign.
Prevention measures and lessons learned: Biggest challenge is correcting the behavior of the residents and businesses. Joint message between agencies to let everyone in the City know that all involved need to address these issues
 - Additional information from other jurisdictions with similar programs:
Kern County has an evening and weekend drop-off option. Amount of illegal dumping in hot spots has decreased. Enforcement is difficult because cameras and license plate trackers don't get a clear photo; therefore, their law enforcement agencies can't easily investigate/enforce
In San Joaquin County the addition of availability of facilities open more days cost the County ~\$600,000 per year (San Diego would be around \$3M). Community cleanups have worked in San Joaquin County. Results in decreased amount of illegal dumping in the areas.
City of Oakland enforcement officers tag vehicles that look like they're hauling.
People must prove they are either self-hauling or are a registered hauler.
- The committee asked about the cost of San Diego's program - Primary source for this program comes from the general fund ~\$4M, and the City's ordinance does not have a solid waste fee. Mr. Neff will research illegal dumping fines collected in the past year and how much the Get It Done platform cost. jneff@sandiego.gov (619) 481-1786

Rob Hutsel and Sarah Hutmacher of the SD River Park Foundation (SDRPF) presented information on the San Diego River Trash Management Program

- With the San Diego River's 44-mile watershed, the SDRPF relies on volunteers to help with cleanups. Data guides their plan and types of cleanups such as who needs to be there, what types of materials are expected. Cleanups have led to 2M pounds of trash removed by volunteers, with some sorting of materials (e-waste, hazardous waste, recyclables), but most of the trash goes to landfill.

In 2017, almost 100% was sourced to homeless encampments (data is collected by volunteers). During that timeframe, San Diego experienced a Hepatitis A outbreak, and volunteer community cleanups had to pause.

Elected officials' participation is the crucial to getting encampments cleaned up in the San Diego River.

Land ownership proved a complicated issue to navigate in order to effectuate cleanups and SDRPF was a middle person between the public/private landowners:

- They helped gather the data on who owns what
 - SDRPF will also be an advocate for the landowner so illegal dumping data isn't just used for enforcement
 - Federal property responsiveness proved difficult, but the Mayor is making attempts to contact them
- The Committee provided additional discussion on the topic:
Christine Flowers has been working with American River Basin Collaborative – cleaned up 100,000 tons along the American River/tributaries. Ms. Flowers offered to help San Joaquin County navigate the flood control district and regional water board issues via the Valley Foothills Watershed Collaborative.
Trash Amendment from water board has helped bolster the SDRP Foundation's efforts towards partnerships.
- SDRPF public data portal www.immappler.com/sandiegorivertrash

B. Recap of Illegal Dumping Workshop in San Joaquin County/City of Stockton

Jim Stone, County of San Joaquin (via conference call) recapped the workshop in San Joaquin County on May 2, 2019 where over 40 staff and officials from the County and the City of Stockton attended. Speakers from other jurisdictions presented their experiences and workable solutions to help stem illegal dumping.

- Key outcomes: meet with County Administrator, Public Works Director, and Community Development Director to form a plan to take to Board of Supervisors explaining that in order to successfully combat illegal dumping, the county must have full-time staff dedicated to the program.
- Also, the workshop highlighted the County's code enforcement program lack of authority to enforce codes for illegal dumping. Currently, code enforcement is under the community development department, and they're trained to enforce only building codes. To have broader range for code enforcement, the county would need to revamp the program and change codes to address illegal dumping. Butte County passed an

ordinance that includes administrative penalties and holds property owners responsible for disposal as an example.

Further, there are existing, underutilized programs that include vouchers for one free pickup. However better cooperation, collaboration and communication with the cities and the County would improve results. The participants highlighted an MOU for public outreach to the community as another first step.

The County is also looking to start an award-based program to encourage proper disposal. If someone brings in a load with their voucher, they are entered to win a prize.

C. Discuss Illegal Dumping Prevention during Emergency Cleanup and Fire Debris Removal

- Mr. Sweetser explained the problem associated with emergency cleanup and fire debris. In some cases, residents are moving debris to landfills on their own. Landfills are turning them away because the contaminant levels are beyond what can be accepted. People end up illegally dumping the debris as a result.
- As another example, after the floods in Sonoma, people started putting damaged material on the streets without permission. The City had not given clearance or instruction to pile materials outside. However, the City ended up cleaning it up.
- Russell Joyce from the City of San Jose mentioned they may have guidance/policies on how to deal with debris management after a natural disaster, but it was noted that emergency plans usually don't include the solid waste end.
- The committee heard a recap from Butte County (via email read aloud to the committee) and suggested that Mr. Sweetser and Ms. Anderson could develop draft guidance for consideration by the committee.
- Mr. de Bie reminded the committee that the Governor's revised budget will include funds for CalRecycle to assist jurisdictions on debris removal.

D. IDTAC Work Plan

Prioritize and Assign--Sweetser/Anderson suggested Issues--Develop additional issues as IDTAC determines

Mr. Sweetser provided an overview of the proposed issues that would form the basis of a workplan for the committee address, and had asked members to vote for their top 3 concerns (via survey) on the following issues:

- Integrate Environmental Justice in illegal dumping program activities.
- Conduct outreach/training sessions in Illegal Dumping program management.
- Update Local Government Illegal Dumping Cost Surveys, and Waste Composition Data.
- Integrate other strategies such as Ocean Litter Prevention, KCB.
- Gather data/solutions regarding marijuana farming and illegal dumping.
- Identify standards for cleanup/enforcement at encampments.
- Residential Refuse Service Providers.

Larry Sweetser presented the results of the survey and explanation of the issues.

Table 1A lists each issue from above and the number of votes received, with the top 2 issues as:

- Conduct outreach/training sessions in Illegal Dumping program management.
- Identify standards for cleanup/enforcement at encampments.

Also identified were needs for data collection and survey tools that can also work with stormwater compliance; and, development of multi-agency response teams.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Integrate Environmental Justice in Illegal dumping program activities	50.00% 4
Conduct outreach/training sessions in Illegal Dumping program management	75.00% 6
Update Local Government Illegal Dumping Cost Surveys, and Waste Composition Data	25.00% 2
Integrate other strategies such as Ocean Litter Prevention, KCB	37.50% 3
Gather data/solutions regarding marijuana farming and illegal dumping	0.00% 0
Identify standards for cleanup/enforcement at encampments	62.50% 5
Residential Refuse Service Providers	50.00% 4
Total Respondents: 8	

Table 1A

The committee further discussed concerns to be addressed within a workplan. Identify strategies for cleanup and enforcement relating to illegal dumping, including encampments. Establish and maintain strategies. Conduct outreach and training sessions for agency staff and establish enforcement as part of illegal dumping program management. Task forces are key to tackling certain issues and should be included as part of program management. Include a list of codes and which entity enforces them, and fold in waterway litter/trash amendments. Roger Mitchell with the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board offered to investigate the water code. A taskforce model will help with program maintenance because if people leave the program, someone will be there from a prior year to train new staff.

The following outline guides development of the workplan for the top issues identified:

- Strategy
 - Task force
 - Which entities/agencies involved
 - Create partnerships
 - Establish and maintain
- Outreach
 - Agencies
 - Public
- Standards
 - Cleanups
 - Training
- Enforcement Tools

The committee identified further considerations, as well as revisions to the online toolbox to make it easier to self-navigate:

- Curriculum with examples
- Road show
- Query to direct individual resource
- Checklist to tools
- Matrix of agencies/entities for involvement, show nexus
- Ordinances
- Public/private

VI. New Business

A. Discussion of IDTAC Chair

1. Take vote at next meeting
2. Any nominations for the chair position, send to Sharon Anderson

B. Discussion of membership and meeting frequency

1. Open haz mat representative (now filled – SA edit)
2. Open public member (Jaimie will contact community members from EJ Initiative to nominate)
3. Open public works agency member (County Engineers Assoc)
4. Twice a year meeting is still good especially with the four subgroups

C. Additional Items/Updates

MRC Update on Illegal Disposal

1. Coming up with concept for illegal dumping grant, no known grant number yet.
2. Release end of 2019
3. Applicants will be for public agencies, municipalities, and NGOs who deal with illegal dumping in the public right-of-way
4. Putting together a Blue-Ribbon Task Force meeting early fall. It will help people understand illegal dumping, include academics and people who work on illegal dumping every day, with a goal to provide solutions at the end of the day.

VII. Next Meeting

November 6, 2019, Northern California

Host: City of San Jose, Environmental Services Department

Environmental Innovation Center, 1608 Las Plumas Ave.

San José, CA

Any topics for Rob Hutsel or SDRP Foundation need to be considered early in agenda

Conference Call-In Number – (877) 918-5788

Participant Code - 299056