

Recycling Committee of the Statewide Commission on Recycling Markets and Curbside Recycling

Public Notice and Agenda

Date: January 22, 2021, 1pm – 3pm PST

Present:

Commissioners: Jan Dell, Jeff Donlevy (Chair), Laura Ferrante, Nick Lapis, Alex Oseguera (Vice-Chair), Richard Valle, John Bouchard (1:18pm)

Absent:

1- Joseph Kalpakoff

Agenda:

Item 1: 1:00 pm (5 min) Call to Order, Roll Call, and Establishment of Quorum

Chair Donlevy calls the meeting to order and calls roll. Joseph Kalpakoff is absent and John Bouchard joins at 1:18pm. A quorum is established.

Item 2: 1:05 pm (5 min) Review and Potential Approval of Meeting Notes

Committee will approve December 4 meeting notes at next meeting. CalRecycle is uploading correct December 4, 2020 meeting notes to January 22, 2021 public notice.

Item 3: 1:10 pm (30 min) Stakeholder Presentation – Refillable Bottles

Agenda Item 3 was switched with Agenda Item 4 and began at 1:39 p.m.

Conscious Container's Caren McNamara presented on "Redefining the Landscape of Sustainable Glass Packaging".

Commissioner Lapis will draft a recommendation on refillable glass bottles, Chair Donlevy volunteers to assist.

Public comments (for complete text of comments, see Appendix I): None.

Item 4: 1:40 pm (25 min) Discussion of Policy Recommendations – Curbside Programs

Item 4 began at 1:10pm. Commissioner Valle leads discussion of policy recommendations on curbside programs. He discusses:

- Challenges of meeting desired material diversion levels suggested in franchise agreement RFPs.
- Desire for transparency and continuity in the industry's messaging about what is recyclable.
- Desire for transparency in operating costs when negotiating those agreements.
- Lack of public awareness about what goes into franchise fees.
- Difficulty in adhering to inconsistent or contradictory requirements from different local regulatory bodies.

Commissioner Dell suggests making it a contract requirement that companies show that items are recyclable if they are included in a recycling program.

Commissioner Valle will take the lead in drafting a recommendation about these issues and will submit it to the committee.

Public comments:

- Collen Foster, City of Oceanside

Item 5: 2:05 pm (25 min) Recycling Infrastructure Needs

Commission Oseguera discusses commission recommendations that focused on recycling infrastructure and cutting "green tape". Asks the committee about any additional items of concern to add to commission proposal about infrastructure.

Chair Donlevy suggests recommendation to increase residual percentage allowable in curbside to make it easier to permit processing facilities. Dell does not support the recommendation.

Infrastructure subcommittee should continue to reinforce the need to cut the green tape.

Public comments: None.

Item 6: 2:30 pm (10 min) Next Meeting, Proposed Meeting Schedule for 2020-2021, and Agenda Items for Future Meetings

Chair Donlevy will work to schedule the following items, previously suggested on the agenda, for upcoming meetings:

- Social services issues related to Bottle Bill
- Looking into pilot programs and restrictions they have
- Contract language for what is recyclable that cities could adopt
- Reverse vending machines and bag drop items

Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Friday, February 19 (9-10:30am) and Friday, March 12 (1-3pm).

Item 7: 2:40 pm (10 min) Public Comments – Items Not on the Agenda

No public comments.

Item 8: 2:50 pm (10 min) Meeting Summary and Closing

Chair Donlevy summarizes Agenda Item 3, 4 and 5 discussions and takeaways.

Appendix 1:

Collen Foster, City of Oceanside

Item 4 - Curbside recycling. I appreciate the policy discussion surrounding curbside recycling and the reality of wish recycling and the true cost of recycling. Much of the discussion focused on making the cities be more accountable. In your policy recommendations, please be sure to incorporate shared responsibility between the consumer, manufacturer, jurisdiction, hauler and processor. Eliminating contamination should not just be the burden of jurisdictions. If you are going to recommend Franchise Agreement edits for flexibility on recycling markets and the ability to charge for contamination or refuse recyclables, please be sure the haulers are also accountable for more proactive education efforts, not just punitive through fines or increased fees on the uninformed resident.