



**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT LOCAL TASK FORCE**

Thursday, October 5, 2023, 3:00 – 5:00 pm

Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium

Tony Hill Room

307 Church Street

Santa Cruz CA 95060

Hybrid Meeting Information

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89319949592>

Meeting ID: 893 1994 9592

One tap mobile

+16694449171,,89319949592# US

+16699006833,,89319949592# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

• +1 669 444 9171 US

• +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Please note: Members/alternates attending remotely cannot vote or count toward a quorum unless arranged in advance with “just cause.”]

Voting Members Present: Scott Newsome (SC), Bob Nelson (SC), Jessica Kahn (Cap), Will Smith (Wat), Tami Stolzenthaler (Wat, alt.)

Alternates Present: Leslie O'Malley (SC alt) Danielle Green (Wat alt online).

Absent: Justin Cummings (County, chair), Felipe Hernandez (County, vice-chair) Jacob Guth (County, citizen rep), Alexander Pedersen (Cap, alt), Rene Golder (SC, alt), Allan Timms (SV), Eduardo Montesino (Wat).

Task Force Staff: Beau Hawksford (County), Darcy Pruitt (County)

Agency Staff: Christina Horvat (County).

Guests: Jakki Castorena-Davila (EI), Claudia Villalta-Mejia (EI), Laura Chain (CalRecycle online), Brian Fontes (County online), Colida Johnson (GWR online), Angelica Flores (GWR online), Victoria Nava-McClellan (GWR online), Matthew Lyles (Grey Bears online).

AGENDA

1) Welcome and Quorum Verification

- Quorum present, Chair & Vice-Chair absent, County Task Force staff started meeting at 3:05 PM

2) Oral communications – Public

- No public comments made to the commission.

3) Oral communications - Task Force members/alternates

- No comments made by commissioners.

4) Approval – June 1, 2023 meeting minutes

- Member Bob Nelson moved to approve the June meeting minutes, Member Will Smith seconded the motion. Voice vote resulted in unanimous approval of June meeting minutes.



5) Guest presentation (Attachment A) – Green Business and Green Schools Update by Environmental Innovations

- Jakki Castorena-Davila and Claudia Villalta-Mejia of Environmental Innovations shared information with commissioners about new programs to provide Green Business resources to small businesses in the County. Jakki presented information on free energy upgrade programs provided to businesses that use less than 50kWh or meet other small business criteria to qualify for PG&E’s “Simplified Savings” program. Jakki also outlined the “Turn the Tide” program to increase the use of free reusable food ware by providing grants to small businesses to purchase reusables. Jakki’s final update provided an overview on the Green Schools initiative to assist local schools to become green businesses and train their students to be environmentally aware citizens. Claudia provide updates on recognition events held to acknowledge Green Schools program participants, and explained about the outreach to businesses to increase participation in the Green Business program through the Novembrewery Challenge. EI worked with 25 breweries throughout the county this year.

6) Staff presentation 5-Year Plan Update (Attachment B) – Review staff prepared Review/Report Outline and preliminary report update analysis. Discuss 2024 Task Force meeting schedule to manage statutory approval schedule.

- Staff provided an update on the five-year review report and discussed next steps with commission members. Bob Nelson asked questions about the remaining data requirements. Staff responded to questions and members asked commission staff to share “final draft” numbers with members and their staff in advance of the December meeting to ensure time for fact checking.

7) Staff update and Commission Discussion - Debris Management, Climate Change, and Climate Action Plan Collaboration

- Bob Nelson moved to table this item to be brought back in December when members who requested the discussion are present. Will Smith seconded. The motion was approved unopposed.

8) Staff presentation - Summer Beach Litter Abatement (Attachment C).

- Beau Hawksford provided an overview of County’s standard litter abatement program, which includes working with Downtown Streets Team in North County and Watsonville Works in South County to provide litter collection services. The presentation also included news on the expansion of Downtown Streets service area with the acquisition of a new passenger van and outlined the ways in which program and collection services are increased from May to October when beach usage increases.

9) Staff presentation – EPS Foam recycling (Attachment D)

- Darcy Pruitt provided a detailed presentation on EPS Foam recycling in northern California. The presentation included information on jurisdictions with EPS Foam recycling programs, grant opportunities, and recycling partnerships. The presentation also included a brief hypothetical cost summary of possible EPS Foam recycling strategies using the 13,000 pound weight/volume of EPS Foam recycled by Grey Bears in the 2022/2023 fiscal year. Several questions were asked by commissioners regarding the costs,

including the hypothetical availability of space to conduct the program in rented space. Staff also discussed the changes that SB 54 implementation will bring to EPS Foam recycling. SB 54

- 10) Legislative Update – Discussion on influencing State legislation.
 - Staff provided a brief overview of the plastic packaging legislation that was signed into law. Staff also provided an update on the battery legislation that is still pending. Staff provided a summary of the ways in which commissioners can affect legislation by sending personal communications to legislators, working with government associations and other advocacy groups to track and lobby on bills. Staff also provided an example of a letter that the commission had sponsored to oppose a bill in the 2015 legislative cycle that would have increased the cost of Household Hazardous Waste collection and handling.
- 11) Call for September agenda items:
 - Five Year Review Report Update;
 - Edible Food Recovery;
 - Disaster Debris Management, Climate Change, and Climate Action Plan Collaboration.
- 12) Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 4:15pm



ENVIRONMENTAL
INNOVATIONS



Santa Cruz County Green Business Program Updates

IWM Meeting
September 7th, 2023

Jakki Castorena Davila

Regional Program Manager

jcastorena@environmentalin.com

Claudia Villalta-Mejia

Bilingual Sustainability Consultant

claudiavmejia@environmentalin.com



ENVIRONMENTAL
INNOVATIONS



Agenda

Share new Green Business resources: free energy upgrades provided by PG&E
Simplified Savings and free reusable foodware via Turn the Tide campaign.

Deliver updates on recognition events, Green Schools Program, and Novembrewery
Challenge.



ENVIRONMENTAL
INNOVATIONS



GREEN

PG&E Simplified Savings

Supports PG&E's smallest business customers with FREE and discounted energy upgrades.

Small businesses who use <50kW and are located in Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) or meet one of the following:

- Under 10 employees
- Primary language other than English
- Lease their space



ENVIRONMENTAL
INNOVATIONS



GREEN

Turn the Tide

EPA P2 Source Reduction grant expanding the Turn the Tide on Plastic campaign to the rest of Monterey County and the Monterey Bay Area.

This grant includes:

- \$300 worth of reusables
- Calculate foodware outcomes
- Resource hub website

Before



After



Green Schools

Measures: [Checklist](#) organized by department, district and campus staff responsible

Partnerships: District admin, City and County partners, County Office of Education support, waste haulers, water district, and CBOs

Tools: Green Schools Detective Booklet for kids and a lesson plan for the educators. Developed in partnership with local CBO

Support: Technical assistance from a coordinator along with the support of our partners



Novembrewery Challenge

- Challenge = certification push
- Outreach to over 25 local breweries
- Connecting with Bay Areas Brewers Guild
- Goal is to certify breweries by November 1st



Novembrewery Challenge

Certify your brewery as a Green Business by November 1st!

Do you want to save money and operate your brewery more efficiently? The California Green Business Network invites you to participate in our regional effort to certify local breweries through our Novembrewery Challenge. Our Green Brewery checklist was tailor-made for breweries like yours.

Enhance your reputation as an environmentally responsible brewery. Take the lead in transforming our local brewing community into a thriving green sector.

Enroll today! greenbusinessca.org

Certification Benefits:

- ✓ Be a local green leader
- ✓ Public event recognition
- ✓ \$500 - \$1,000 rebate*
- ✓ FREE PC&E resources*

*For eligible businesses

Recognition Events

Board of Supervisors Meeting December 5th



Comments & Questions

Please share these updates with your jurisdiction and networks.

Jakki Castorena Davila
Regional Program Manager
jcastorena@environmentalin.com

Claudia Villalta-Mejia
Bilingual Sustainability Consultant
claudiavmejia@environmentalin.com

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DRAFT 5-year Review Report Template

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CalRecycle 709 (Rev. 03/19)

DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES RECYCLING
AND RECOVERY (CalRecycle)

Five-Year CIWMP/RAIWMP Review Report Template

Public Resources Code (PRC) Sections 41770 and 41822, and Title 14, California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 18788 require that each countywide or regional agency integrated waste management plan (CIWMP or RAIWMP), and the elements thereof, be reviewed, revised if necessary, and submitted to the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) every five years. CalRecycle developed this Five-Year CIWMP/RAIWMP Review Report template to streamline the Five-Year CIWMP/RAIWMP review, reporting, and approval process.

A county or regional agency may use this template to document its compliance with these regulatory review and reporting requirements and as a tool in its review, including obtaining Local Task Force (LTF) comments on areas of the CIWMP or RAIWMP that need revision, if any. This template also can be finalized based on these comments and submitted to CalRecycle as the county or regional agency's Five-Year CIWMP or RAIWMP Review Report.

The [Five-Year CIWMP/RAIWMP Review Report Template Instructions](#) describe each section and provide general guidelines with respect to preparing the report. Completed and signed reports should be submitted to the CalRecycle's Local Assistance & Market Development (LAMD) Branch at the address below. Upon report receipt, LAMD staff may request clarification and/or additional information if the details provided in the report are not clear or are not complete. Within 90 days of receiving a *complete* Five-Year CIWMP/RAIWMP Review Report, LAMD staff will review the report and prepare their findings for CalRecycle consideration for approval.

If you have any questions about the Five-Year CIWMP/RAIWMP Review Report process or how to complete this template, please contact your LAMD representative at (916) 341-6199. Mail the completed and signed Five-Year CIWMP/RAIWMP Review Report to:

Dept. of Resources Recycling & Recovery
Local Assistance & Market Development, MS-9
P. O. Box 4025
Sacramento, CA 95812-4025

To edit & customize this template, the editing restrictions (filling in forms) must be disengaged. Select the Review tab, Protect Document, and then Restrict Formatting and Editing (uncheck editing restrictions). There is no password (options). Please contact your LAMD representative at (916) 341-6199 with related questions.

General Instructions: Please complete Sections 1 through 7, and all other applicable subsections. Double click on shaded text/areas () to select or add text.

SECTION 1.0 COUNTY OR REGIONAL AGENCY INFORMATION			
I certify that the information in this document is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, and that I am authorized to complete this report and request approval of the CIWMP or RAIWMP Five-Year Review Report on behalf of:			
County or Regional Agency Name County of Santa Cruz		County(s) [if a RAIWMP Review Report] Santa Cruz	
Authorized Signature		Title Recycling & Solid Waste Services Manager	
Type/Print Name of Person Signing Kasey Kolassa		Date	Phone (831) 454-2160
Person Completing This Form (please print or type) Darcelle Pruitt		Title Resource Planner IV	Phone (831) 454-2970
Mailing Address 701 Ocean Street, Room 410	City Santa Cruz	State CA	Zip 95060
E-mail Address darcelle.pruitt@santacruzcounty.gov			

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SECTION 2.0 BACKGROUND

This is the county's sixth Five-Year Review Report since the approval of the CIWMP. The following changes have occurred since the approval of the county's planning documents or the last Five-Year CIWMP Review Report (whichever is most recent):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diversion goal reduction | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>State Law Increase to</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New regional agency | <u>Diversion Goal(s) and less than 15 years</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Changes to regional agency | <u>of permitted landfill disposal capacity</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New city (name(s) _____) | <u>available within the county.</u> |

Additional Information (optional)

Senate Bill 1383 added organics diversion goals, edible food recovery goals, and organic waste procurement targets.

SECTION 3.0 LOCAL TASK FORCE REVIEW

- a. In accordance with Title 14 CCR, Section 18788, the Local Task Force (LTF) reviewed each element and plan included in the CIWMP and finalized its comments

☒ at the February 2024 LTF meeting. ☐ electronically (fax, e-mail) ☐ other (Explain):

- b. The county received the written comments from the LTF on 02/XX/2024.

- c. A copy of the LTF comments

☒ is included as Appendix A.
☐ was submitted to CalRecycle on _____.

**SECTION 4.0 TITLE 14, CALIFORNIA CODE of REGULATIONS SECTION 18788 (3)
(A) THROUGH (H)**

The subsections below address not only the areas of change specified in the regulations, but also provide specific analyses regarding the continued adequacy of the planning documents in light of those changes, including a determination on any need for revision to one or more of the planning documents.

Section 4.1 Changes in Demographics in the County or Regional Agency

When preparing the CIWMP Review Report, the county or regional agency must address at least the changes in demographics.

POPULATION			
Population For Each Jurisdiction	1990	2023	% Change
City of Capitola Population	10,171	9,625	-5.37
City of Santa Cruz Population	49,711	63,224	27.18
City of Scotts Valley Population	8,667	11,859	36.83
City of Watsonville Population	31,099	49,876	60.38
Unincorporated Population	130,086	127,467	-2.01
Countywide Population	229,734	262,051	14.07

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EMPLOYMENT			
Employment Factor For Each Jurisdiction	1990	2023	% Change
Countywide Employment	126,800	130,100	2.60

TAXABLE SALES TRANSACTIONS			
Taxable Sales Factor For Each Jurisdiction	1990	2022-2023	% Change
City of Capitola Taxable Sales	303,753,000	508,058,669	67.26
City of Santa Cruz Taxable Sales	480,315,000	1,102,747,253	129.59
City of Scotts Valley Taxable Sales	138,614,000	218,890,476	57.91
City of Watsonville Taxable Sales	284,337,000	916,961,813	222.49
Unincorporated County Taxable Sales	442,424,000	4,795,865,250	984.00
Countywide Taxable Sales Transactions	1,833,560,000	7,542,523,461	311.36

Consumer Price Index			
Statewide Consumer Price Index	1990	2023	% Change
	135	332.04	145.96

Dwelling Information

Jurisdiction	Single Family Dwellings			Multi-family Dwellings			Mobile Homes		
	1990	2020	% change	1990	2020	% change	1990	2020	% change
Capitola	2,282	2,260	-0.96	2,229	2,521	13.10	771	773	0.26
Santa Cruz	12,718	15,854	24.66	6,240	7,751	24.21	406	349	-0.14
Scotts Valley	2,100	3,200	52.38	675	774	14.67	797	765	-0.04
Watsonville	6,320	8,711	37.83	2,832	4,385	54.84	757	1,130	49.27
Uninc. County	42,272	46,392	9.75	7,053	7,359	4.34	4,426	3,911	-11.64

The following resources are provided to facilitate this analysis:

- Demographic data, including population, taxable sales, employment, and consumer price index by jurisdiction for years up to 2006, are available at:
<https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/LGCentral/DiversionProgram/AdjustmentFactors>. Data for years beyond 2006 can be found on the following websites:
 - Population: [Department of Finance](#) E-4 Historical Population Estimates for Cities, Counties, and the State

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- Taxable Sales: [Board of Equalization](#)
 - Employment: [Employment Development Department](#) Click on the link to Local Area Profile, select the county from the drop down menu, then click on the "View Local Area Profile" button.
 - Consumer Price Index: [Department of Industrial Relations](#)
2. The [Demographic Research Unit](#) of the California Department of Finance is designated as the single official source of demographic data for State planning and budgeting (e.g., find E-5 City/County Population and Housing Estimates under Reports and Research Papers and then Estimates).
3. The Department of Finance's Demographic Research Unit also provides a list of [State Census Data Center Network Regional Offices](#).

Analysis

Upon review of demographic changes since 2019:¹

- ☒ The demographic changes since the development of the CIWMP do not warrant a revision to any of the countywide planning documents. Specifically, _____.
- ☐ These demographic changes since the development of the CIWMP warrant a revision to one or more of the countywide planning documents. Specifically, _____. See Section 7 for the revision schedule(s).

Additional Analysis (optional)

Section 4.2 Changes in Quantities of Waste within the County or Regional Agency; and Changes in Permitted Disposal Capacity and Waste Disposed in the County or Regional Agency

A number of tools to facilitate the analysis and review of such changes in the waste stream are available from the following CalRecycle sources:

1. Various statewide, regional, and local disposal reports are available at <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/LGCentral/Reports/DRS/Default.aspx>.
 - a. CalRecycle's [Disposal Reporting System](#) tracks and reports the annual estimates of the disposal amounts for jurisdictions in California; additional California solid waste [statistics](#) are also available.
 - b. CalRecycle's Waste Flow by [Destination](#) or [Origin](#) reports include solid waste disposal, export, and alternative daily cover. They show how much waste was produced within the boundaries of an individual city, or within all jurisdictions comprising a county or regional agency. These data also cover what was disposed at a particular facility or at all facilities within a county or regional agency.

¹ The year of the data included in the planning documents, which is generally 1990 or 1991.

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2. The [Waste Characterization Database](https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/WasteCharacterization/) provides estimates of the types and amounts of materials in the waste streams of *individual California jurisdictions* in 1999. For background information and more recent statewide characterizations, please see <https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/WasteCharacterization/>
3. CalRecycle's [Countywide, Regionwide, and Statewide Jurisdiction Diversion Progress Report](https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/LGCentral/DiversionProgram) provides both summary and detailed information on compliance, diversion rates/50 percent equivalent per capita disposal target and rates, and waste diversion program implementation for all California jurisdictions. Diversion program implementation summaries are available at <https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/LGCentral/DiversionProgram>

Together, these reports help illustrate changes in the quantities of waste within the county or regional agency as well as in permitted disposal capacity. This information also summarizes each jurisdiction's progress in implementing the Source Reduction and Recycling Element (SRRE) and complying with the 50 percent diversion rate requirement (now calculated as the 50 percent equivalent per capita disposal target), see [Per Capita Disposal and Goal Measurement \(2007 and Later\)](#) for details

- ☐ The county or regional agency (if it includes the entire county) continues to have adequate disposal capacity (i.e., equal to or greater than 15 years).
- ☐ The county does not have 15 years remaining disposal capacity within its physical boundaries, but the Siting Element does provide a strategy² for obtaining 15 years remaining disposal capacity.
- ☒ The county does not have 15 years remaining disposal capacity and the Siting Element does not provide a strategy² for obtaining 15 years remaining disposal capacity. See Section 7 for the revision schedule(s).

Analysis

- ☐ These changes in quantities of waste and changes in permitted disposal capacity since the development of the CIWMP do not warrant a revision to any of the countywide planning documents. Specifically, .
- ☒ These changes in quantities of waste and changes in permitted disposal capacity since the development of the CIWMP warrant a revision to one or more of the planning documents. Specifically, Countywide Integrated Waste Management Summary Plan. See Section 7 for the revision schedule(s).

Additional Analysis (optional)

² Such a strategy includes a description of the diversion or export programs to be implemented to address the solid waste capacity needs. The description shall identify the existing solid waste disposal facilities, including those outside of the county or regional agency, which will be used to implement these programs. The description should address how the proposed programs shall provide the county or regional agency with sufficient disposal capacity to meet the required minimum of 15 years of combined permitted disposal capacity.

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Section 4.3 Changes in Funding Source for Administration of the Siting Element (SE) and Summary Plan (SP)

Since the approval of the CIWMP or the last Five-Year CIWMP Review Report (whichever is most recent), the county experienced the following significant changes in funding for the SE or SP:

■ _____

Analysis

- ☒ There have been no significant changes in funding for administration of the SE and SP or the changes that have occurred do not warrant a revision to any of the countywide planning documents. Specifically, _____.
- ☐ These changes in funding for the administration of the SE and SP warrant a revision to one or more of the countywide planning documents. Specifically, _____. See Section 7 for the revision schedule(s).

Additional Analysis (optional)

Section 4.4 Changes in Administrative Responsibilities

The county experienced significant changes in the following administrative responsibilities since the approval of the CIWMP or the last Five-Year CIWMP Review Report (whichever is most recent):

■ _____

Analysis

- ☒ There have been no significant changes in administrative responsibilities or the changes in administrative responsibilities do not warrant a revision to any of the planning documents. Specifically, _____.
- ☐ These changes in administrative responsibilities warrant a revision to one or more of the planning documents. Specifically, _____. See Section 7 for the revision schedule(s).

Additional Analysis (optional)

Section 4.5 Programs that Were Scheduled to Be Implemented, But Were Not

This section addresses programs that were scheduled to be implemented, but were not; why they were not implemented; the progress of programs that were implemented; a statement as to whether programs are meeting their goals; and if not, what contingency measures are being enacted to ensure compliance with Public Resources Code Section 41751.

1. Progress of Program Implementation

a. SRRE and Household Hazardous Waste Element (HHWE)

- ☒ All program implementation information has been updated in the CalRecycle Electronic Annual Report (EAR), including the reason for not implementing specific programs, if applicable.
- ☐ All program implementation information has not been updated in the EAR. Attachment _____ lists the SRRE and/or HHWE programs selected for implementation, but which

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have not yet been implemented, including a statement as to why they were not implemented.

- b. Nondisposal Facility Element (NDFE)
☒ There have been no changes in the use of nondisposal facilities (based on the current NDFEs and any amendments and/or updates).
☐ Attachment _____ lists changes in the use of nondisposal facilities (based on the current NDFEs).
- c. Countywide Siting Element (SE)
☒ There have been no changes to the information provided in the current SE.
☐ Attachment _____ lists changes to the information provided in the current SE.
- d. Summary Plan
☒ There have been no changes to the information provided in the current SP.
☐ Attachment _____ lists changes to the information provided in the current SP.
2. Statement regarding whether Programs are Meeting their Goals
☐ The programs are meeting their goals.
☐ The programs are not meeting their goals. The discussion that follows in the analysis section below addresses the contingency measures that are being enacted to ensure compliance with PRC Section 41751 (i.e., specific steps are being taken by local agencies, acting independently and in concert with _____, to achieve the purposes of the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989) and whether the listed changes in program implementation necessitate a revision to one or more of the planning documents. _____

Analysis

- ☐ The aforementioned changes in program implementation do not warrant a revision to any of the planning documents. Specifically, _____.
- ☐ Changes in program implementation warrant a revision to one or more of the planning documents. Specifically, _____. See Section 7 for the revision schedule(s).

Additional Analysis (optional)

Section 4.6 Changes in Available Markets for Recyclable Materials

The county experienced changes in the following available markets for recyclable materials since the approval of the CIWMP or the last Five-Year CIWMP Review Report (whichever is most recent):

Analysis

- ☐ There are no significant changes in available markets for recycled materials to warrant a revision to any of the planning documents. Specifically, _____.
- ☐ Changes in available markets for recycled materials warrant a revision to one or more of the planning documents. Specifically, _____. See Section 7 for the revision schedule(s).

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Additional Analysis (optional)

Section 4.7 Changes in the Implementation Schedule

The following addresses changes to the county's implementation schedule that are not already addressed in Section 4.5:

Analysis

- ☒ There are no significant changes in the implementation schedule to warrant a revision to any of the planning documents. Specifically, _____.
- ☐ Changes in the implementation schedule warrant a revision to one or more of the planning documents. Specifically, _____.

Additional Analysis (optional)

Note: Consider for each jurisdiction within the county or regional agency the changes noted in Sections 4.1 through 4.7 and explain whether the changes necessitate revisions to any of the jurisdictions' planning documents.

SECTION 5.0 OTHER ISSUES OR SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (optional)

The following addresses any other significant issues/changes in the county and whether these changes affect the adequacy of the CIWMP to the extent that a revision to one or more of the planning documents is needed:

Analysis

SECTION 6.0 ANNUAL REPORT REVIEW

- ☐ The Annual Reports for each jurisdiction in the county have been reviewed, specifically those sections that address the adequacy of the CIWMP elements. No jurisdictions reported the need to revise one or more of these planning documents.
- ☐ The Annual Reports for each jurisdiction in the county have been reviewed, specifically those sections that address the adequacy of the CIWMP (or RAIWMP) elements. The following jurisdictions reported the need to revise one or more of these planning documents, as listed.

Analysis

The discussion below addresses the county's evaluation of the Annual Report data relating to planning document adequacy and includes determination regarding the need to revise one or more of the documents:

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Task Force staff have determined that the Summary Plan needs to address the export of waste materials outside of the county and Senate Bill 1383's requires Santa Cruz County jurisdictions to collaborate on edible food recovery funding.

SECTION 7.0 REVISION SCHEDULE (if required)

March 2025 - Countywide Integrated Waste Management Summary Plan revisions to address: 1) additional State mandated diversion requirements for organics and edible food recovery and 2) jurisdictions with less than 15 years of permitted disposal capacity.



Department of Community Development and Infrastructure

Litter Abatement Overview

October 5, 2023 Integrated Waste Task Force Meeting

Matt Machado, Deputy CAO, Director of Community Development and Infrastructure

Presented by:

Beau Hawksford, Department Administrative Analyst

Illegal Dumping

- Bulky item pick-up program (GreenWaste) has been successful in reducing illegal dumping
 - 4,068 bulky items events in 2022
- Community Partnerships
 - Downtown Streets Team (DST) (with HSD and HSA) – North Coast, Felton, City of Santa Cruz-Emeline – 4 days/week on North Coast/3 days/week
 - Save Our Shores – Coastal areas and beaches
 - Watsonville Works (with HSD and HSA) – City of Watsonville and unincorporated areas adjacent to City of Watsonville
 - County Parks
 - Roads Litter Crews
 - Trash Talkers (Pitch-In Santa Cruz Campaign)
- Education and outreach efforts
 - GreenWaste truck signs, frequent TV and radio ads
 - Zero Waste Newsletters to GreenWaste customers by sector
 - Convenient reporting system for timely removal (My Santa Cruz County app)
 - Weekly radio show (Trash Talkers) on KBCZ
 - Various tabling events including Earth Day events



Summer Litter Campaign

- Community Partnerships
 - Save Our Shores – Bulk of outreach occurs during the Spring/Summer months (May – September)
 - GreenWaste – increases public container collection from 2x per week to 3x per week
 - Began deployment of Pitch-In Santa Cruz signs and stickers at public access points this Summer
 - Will begin deployment of 4 high-powered cameras and 2 decoy cameras at known illegal dumping hotspots



Questions?

Thank You





Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan

Integrated Waste Management Task Force

Expanded Polystyrene Foam [EPS Foam] Recycling Overview

County Policy on Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Foam

Santa Cruz County has a “Full Ban” on EPS Foam:

- No food service ware or “coolers, pool or beach toys, packing peanuts or other packaging materials” can be rented/sold within the unincorporated County.
- All cities within the County have a “Full Ban” similar to the County’s except Scotts Valley, which has a food service ware EPS Foam ban.

County Code Chapter 5.46 – Environmentally Acceptable Packaging Materials
Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors finds and declares:

- (A) The County of Santa Cruz has a duty to protect the natural environment, our economy, and the health of its citizens.
- (B) Products made from expanded polystyrene foam (commonly called Styrofoam) **are not biodegradable, returnable or recyclable.** Polystyrene foam easily breaks up into smaller pieces and, because it is lightweight, is carried by the wind even when it has been disposed of properly....

Santa Cruz County – EPS Foam Recycling History

- Valley Women's Club acquired EPS foam densifier in December 2014
 - Did not obtain air permit – unable to operate.
- Grey Bears obtained air permit & began EPS foam recycling program
 - Densified EPS foam at Chanticleer Campus from 2019–2023
 - Ended EPS foam recycling in July 2023
 - Contract commitment w/ County ended June 30, 2023
 - Worker safety concerns
 - High staff cost to densify EPS foam
 - Large footprint needed to store/densify EPS foam for recycling
 - Net losses for low value material
 - Densified approx. 13,000 pounds of EPS foam in FY 2022–2023
 - Gross EPS foam revenue \$2,606
 - FY 2023 net loss of over \$50,000

EPS Foam Collection – Jurisdiction Overview

City of Redding – Currently accepts EPS Foam at its drop off center/transfer station

- Received a \$49K grant to purchase a densifier in 2016 from Foam Recycling Coalition, a food packaging association.
- Equipment cost \$103,000 to purchase and must be loaded by hand.
- No special charge for recycling drop off.
- City charges a transportation fee for large volume pickup to cover fuel & staff costs.
- Uses existing staff to manage program, sort out contamination, and densify material.
- City staff indicates that a lot of space is needed to process and store material before a full load is ready for shipment.
- Program goal is landfill diversion.
- City had planned to expand to curbside program until it understood the high contamination sorting, hand loading, and staffing requirements.



EPS Foam Collection – Jurisdiction Overview

City of Ripon – Currently accepts all EPS Foam products at its drop off recycling center

- No special fee is charged to drop off EPS Foam
- City has no market for EPS Foam
- All EPS Foam collected is landfilled
- Currently looking for a recycling partner that will take undensified EPS Foam

• **City of Tracy** – Recently eliminated EPS foam from its residential curbside recycling program

- Prior recycling program included
 - Curbside collection of clean EPS foam
 - No special fee was charged
 - Densified EPS Foam before it 's collected by the recycler
 - Recycling partner extruded densified EPS into pellets for reuse
 - Recycling partner went out of business
- Reasons for discontinuing the program
 - High level of food contamination on incoming curbside EPS Foam materials
 - Amount of staff time devoted to processing material (sorting/densifying)
 - Lack of local market – collection of EPS Foam inconsistent for lack of demand
 - Ended EPS Foam recycling after loss of **two** recycling partners

EPS Foam Recycling Facts from Jurisdictions

- Few Recycling Partners Accept EPS Foam
 - Many EPS Foam recyclers have gone out of business
- EPS Foam Processing (Densification or Shredding)
 - Densified foam is accepted by one recycler in Northern California
 - Ships material to Indonesia
 - No shredded EPS market was identified in Northern California
- Few EPS Foam regional recycling partners
 - City of Tracy – discontinued EPS Foam recycling for lack of recycler
 - City of Ripon – Still collects loose EPS Foam but landfills materials for lack of recycler
 - City of Redding – Collects, densifies, and stockpiles EPS Foam. Has shipped two densified EPS loads since 2017 (20-28 pallets/load)
 - Ships to Intco/Greenmax (paid 36 cents/lbs. in April 2022)

EPS Foam Recycling Grant Information

- Grants sponsored by Foodservice Packaging Institute [Foam Recycling Coalition]
 - \$15,000–\$50,000 grants are available for EPS foam recycling equipment
 - Eligibility criteria
 - Public/private entity with a MRF/recycling program
 - No EPS foam ban in community
 - Grant commitment to recycle EPS foam for a designated time
 - Grant Selection Criteria:
 - 50,000 households or more served
 - MRF application of foam densifier (in a single-stream or dual-stream MRF)
 - Residential curbside collection of postconsumer foam
 - Well-defined end markets
 - Detailed project planning timeline
 - Multifaceted outreach plan
 - Comprehensive budget
 - Thorough supporting documentation (i.e., equipment quote)

Northern California Recyclers – Foam Recycle LLC

Accepts loose EPS foam at its Sunnyvale location

- Charges \$10 to accept 30-gallon volume of EPS foam for recycling
 - Approximately \$5/lbs. before shipping & handling costs
- No longer collects Styrofoam from recyclers
- Accepts EPS foam on Monday and Thursday
 - Large loads accepted by special arrangement
- Foam is densified and recycled onsite
 - Neighboring business cuts new & recycled EPS foam
 - Uses recycled EPS foam to produce products on site
- Specializes in:
 - Signs
 - Large scale lettering
 - Museum exhibits
 - Event decor
 - Custom props



Northern California Recyclers – GreenCitizen, Inc.

GreenCitizen Accepts loose EPS foam at its Burlingame location

- Charges \$5 to accept 30-gallon volume of EPS foam for recycling
- Approximately \$2.50/lbs. before shipping & handling costs
- Accepts EPS Foam from 10:00 – 6:00 Monday-Friday
- Also offer pick up service to businesses (within 50 miles)
- Large loads accepted by special arrangement
- Densifies EPS Foam on site



"Styrofoam is difficult to recycle because it is mostly air, it's big, bulky, and difficult to transport because it takes up a lot of room...Styrofoam is expensive to recycle...it costs \$3,000 to recycle a ton of Styrofoam (on the other hand, it costs less than \$100 to recycle one ton of paper.)"

GreenCitizen, Inc. Website

Northern California Recyclers – Ming's Recycling

Accepts densified EPS foam at its two facilities in California

Hayward CA

- No EPS foam customers

Sacramento CA

- Two EPS foam customers

Pays between \$0.12-\$0.20/lbs. for densified EPS foam

- Payment depends on densification method and weight of processed material
- Ships densified EPS Foam

"EPS has really phased out of use in the past 10 years. There are other efficient and environmentally friendly options [to replace EPS foam]."



EPS Foam Recycling [VERY] Hypothetical Cost

- Staff labor cost for County to densify same volume as Grey Bears 2022/2023 operation (wages & benefits only)
 - \$96.17/hour @ 16 hours/week = \$1,515.10/week (\$78,785/year)
- Facility – No appropriate County densification site available
 - \$30,240/year for 2,100SF@14.40/SF/year (to rent available South County industrial space)
- Transportation (to recycling facility – County transportation costs \$202/hour + \$1.25/mile)
 - \$800/load – Ming's pickup fee for densified EPS (2 loads per year = \$1,600)
 - \$667/load – Santa Cruz County to Sunnyvale loose EPS (30 loads/year = \$20,010)
 - \$900.62/load – Santa Cruz County to Burlingame loose EPS (30 loads/year = \$27,019)
- Cost to recycle
 - Ming's pays \$0.12–0.20/lb. for densified EPS = \$2,600 (melt densified) or \$1,560 (pressure densified)
 - FoamRecycle LLC in Sunnyvale charges \$10/30 gallons of EPS (\$258,540) for 30 transfer truck loads
 - GreenCitizen, Inc. in Burlingame charges \$5/30 gallons of EPS (\$129,265) for 30 transfer truck loads
- Machines
 - Twin ram baler (electric) to densify EPS material \$120,000 (\$2,400/year for EPS Foam – also used for other materials)
 - EPS Foam densifier (electric) to densify EPS material \$50,000 (\$10,000/year for EPS Foam – only used is for EPS Foam)
 - Loose EPS material \$0
- Air Permit
 - None required to ship loose material/compress with electric twin ram baler
 - \$2,488 (New Application \$1,769.00/Public Notification \$719.00) for heat densified EPS
 - Staff costs to apply for and manage permit (\$9,030.60 for 60 hours @ 150.51/hour)
- Hypothetical Cost to Recycle EPS Foam
 - Loose EPS (Sunnyvale) – \$278,550
 - Loose EPS (Burlingame) – \$156,284
 - Pressure densified EPS – \$111,465
 - Melt densified EPS – \$129,543

Key Problems to Recycling EPS Foam

- Major factor in the failure of EPS Foam recycling are:
 - high processing costs,
 - limited market for materials, and
 - lack of available recycling partners.

"Current markets for EPS recycling are overseas, mainly in Indonesia...From a green house gas, carbon footprint, and environmental standpoint, I think it's much better to have the [EPS Foam] material go into the nearest landfill. Then use the same resources to go after other material like glass, plastic bottles, aluminum, and tin cans [that are recycled locally]...People have really woken up that the cost, time, and energy [to recycle EPS Foam] are not worth it...To continue to recycle [EPS Foam] help[s] the producers sell EPS and the disinformation that their product is recyclable."

Jeff Donlevy, Ming's Recycling General Manager

Questions?

Thank You

