

SWARM Committee Teleconference Tuesday, August 21, 2023, 3–4 p.m.

Summary

Mr. Coby Skye, Deputy Director of Los Angeles County Public Works (PW) Environmental Services Core Service Area, welcomed everyone to the call. Mr. Skye introduced this meeting of Infrastructure LA's Sustainable Waste and Recycling Management (SWARM) Committee as the kick-off for the Zero Waste Plan (ZWP), which was adopted by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (Board) on September 13, 2022. Mr. Skye noted that the ZWP is an update to the Roadmap to a Sustainable Waste Management Future adopted by the Board in 2014.

Attendance:

- 174 participants joined the call:
 - Participants included representatives from PW, County Departments, Cities, waste haulers, developers, and environmental groups.
 - Cities in attendance included: Artesia, Agoura Hills, Baldwin Park, Bell, Bell Gardens, Beverly Hills, Bradbury, Burbank, Cerritos, Cudahy, Chula Vista, Carson, Claremont, Compton, Culver City, Diamond Bar, Downey, El Monte, El Segundo, Gardena, Glendale, Glendora, Hermosa Beach, Industry, Inglewood, Irwindale, La Habra Heights, La Mirada, La Puente, La Verne, Lawndale, Lakewood, Lancaster, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Maywood, Monterey Park, Oceanside, Pacoima, Palmdale, Paramount, Pasadena, Redondo, Rosemead, Rolling Hills Estate, Pico Rivera, San Diego, San Dimas, San Marino, Santa Clarita, Sierra Madre, South Gate, Temple City, Walnut, West Covina, and Whittier.

Zero-Waste Plan (ZWP)

- The presentation was provided by:
 - Mr. Fahim Rahimi (Senior Civil Engineer, Los Angeles County Public Works)
 - Mr. Charles Darensbourg (Civil Engineer, Los Angeles County Public Works)
- The Roadmap established the following long-term targets to divert waste going to landfills:
 - 80% by the year 2025
 - 90% by the year 2035
 - 95%+ by the year 2045



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- The ZWP was developed as an update to the Roadmap to address many significant developments impacting the waste management industry in California since the original Roadmap was adopted.
- The ZWP is organized into three Focus Areas: Regional/Countywide, County Unincorporated Communities, and County Operations.
- The ZWP includes three Strategies: Programs and Services, Measuring Results, and Facilities and Infrastructure. The ZWP also includes numerous Initiatives that support the Strategies in each Focus Area.
- The ZWP:
 - prioritizes waste prevention,
 - incorporates equity and environmental justice in the development and expansion of waste management infrastructure, programs, and services, lays out the general framework for programs and policies the County can implement to reduce reliance on landfills,
 - emphasizing maximizing materials recovery and reuse,
 - encouraging initiatives that support funding for infrastructure development,
 - promotes procurement of recovered organic waste products, and
 - encourages partnerships with local agencies and non-profits to work towards source reduction and waste prevention.

Following the presentation was a question-and-answer session which will be posted on the ZWP website.

Mr. Skye expressed that he looks forward to continuing discussions related to the ZWP.

Public Works will continue to engage various groups of stakeholders to solicit additional suggestions and provide information on how stakeholders can participate.

Information on the ZWP Focus Areas, Strategies, Initiatives, and Sub-Initiatives is available on the ZWP website.

Links to the meeting presentations and resources can be found on our website at: https://infrastructurela.org/es/swarm-meetings/.

If you have questions regarding SWARM, you may contact us at lLASWARM@pw.lacounty.gov. If you have questions regarding Infrastructure LA, you may contact us at lnfrastructureLA@pw.lacounty.gov.