



City of Berkeley ZERO WASTE COMMISSION Regular Meeting

Tuesday, May 23, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.
City of Berkeley Corporation Yard (Ratcliff Building, Willow Room)
1326 Allston Way, Berkeley

MEETING AGENDA

PRELIMINARY MATTERS:

- 6:00 pm 1. Call to Order by Chair and Roll Call by Secretary
- **Steven Sherman (Chair)**, appointed by CM Rashi Kesarwani, District 1
 - **Christienne de Tournay (Vice Chair)**, appointed by CM Sophie Hahn, District 5
 - **Natalie Calhoun**, appointed by Mayor Jesse Arreguin
 - **Rachel Doughty**, appointed by CM Terry Taplin, District 2
 - **Antoinette Stein**, appointed by CM Ben Bartlett, District 3
 - **Holly Scheider**, appointed by CM Kate Harrison, District 4
 - **Sandra Curtis**, appointed by CM Susan Wengraf, District 6
 - **VACANT**, appointed by CM Rigel Robinson, District 7
 - **VACANT**, appointed by CM Mark Humbert, District 8
- 6:05 pm 2. Approve Meeting Agenda and Order of Agenda Items
- 6:10 pm 3. Approve Draft Action Minutes:
- April 25, 2023 Regular Meeting*
- 6:15 pm 4. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda
Speakers are allotted up to two minutes. Speakers may be allotted less time at the discretion of the Chair.
- 6:25 pm 5. Commissioner Announcements
Commissioners may make general announcements; no action will be taken.
- 6:30 pm 6. Staff Updates:
- Rates
 - Progress Report on Zero Waste Strategic Plan
 - Progress on SB-1383 Implementation
 - SUDs Ordinance Enforcement
 - Plastic Bag Ordinance

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS:

Members of the public may provide comments at the end of each discussion item and prior to the vote of the Commission on any action items. Speakers are allotted up to 2 minutes.

- 6:45 pm 1. [1 Thing Green](#) Presentation on Eco-Sorter (Ryan Collins)

Internal

- 6:55 pm 2. Discussion regarding Zero Waste Rate Discussion: prop 218 process and timeline
- 7:10 pm 2. Complete Commission Work Plan (All Commissioners – vote to approve)
- 7:20 pm 3. [Ridwell](#) Discussion (Natalie Calhoun)
- 7:30 pm 3. Deconstruction Ordinance Discussion (Antionette Stein)
- 7:40 pm 4. San Francisco Environment [Refuse Separation Law](#) (Antionette Stein)
- 7:50 pm 5. Discuss Future Agenda Items
- 8:00 pm 6. Adjournment

INFORMATION ITEMS:

Information items may be moved to discussion but no action will be taken.

- [Why San Francisco is spending \\$200,000 on dishware for restaurants](#)
- Proposed Work Plan attached for review in the Agenda Packet*
- The City of Berkeley is currently developing a **Zero Waste Strategic Plan** to help reach our waste reduction goals.

*Participation of our business community is of great importance in developing a successful and comprehensive Plan. Three on-line Zoom sessions are scheduled in May, featuring a short presentation by the firm Abbe & Associates. **Please share this information with your membership.***

- May 16 at 6pm
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYuf-CrpzkrEtdVHCRqyJfi55pFpUXMzZJ7>
- May 17 at 12 noon
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAqdu2uqz4vH9QwLXFpEIYcvL5O8HeosNVI>
- May 18 at 8am
https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYucumqgz0oE9RvuP8Ekhdzx_R_5Jpv6MA

COMMUNICATIONS:

Communications from the public are included as links or attachments in the agenda packet.

***Indicates material included in the agenda packet**

**** Indicates material to be available at the meeting**



ADA Disclaimer: This meeting is being held in a wheelchair-accessible location. To request a disability-related accommodation(s) to participate in the meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Disability Services Specialist at 981-6418 (V) or 981-6347 (TDD) at least three business days before the meeting date. Please refrain from wearing scented products to this meeting.

SB 343 Disclaimer:

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the Public Works Department located at the address below.

Communications Disclaimer:

Communications to Berkeley boards, commissions or committees are public record and will become part of the City's electronic records, which are accessible through the City's website. Please note: e-mail addresses, names, addresses, and other contact information are not required, but if included in any communication to a City board, commission or committee, will become part of the public record. If you do not want your e-mail address or any other contact information to be made public, you may deliver communications via U.S. Postal Service or in person to the secretary of the relevant board, commission or committee. If you do not want your contact information included in the public record, please do not include that information in your communication. Please contact the secretary to the relevant board, commission or committee for further information.

Commission Secretary:

Julia A. Heath, Recycling Program Manager,
Zero Waste Division, 1201 2nd St. Berkeley, CA 94710
510-981-6357
jheath@cityofberkeley.info



Zero Waste Commission

INFORMATION CALENDAR

June 3, 2023

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Zero Waste Commission
Submitted by: Steve Sherman, Chair, and Christienne de Tournay, Vice-Chair,
Zero Waste Commission
Subject: Zero Waste Commission Fiscal Year 2023-24 Work Plan

INTRODUCTION

The Zero Waste Commission (ZWC) is responsible for making recommendations on city-wide zero waste policies and goals, including commercial and residential refuse, recycling, and compost services, hard to recycle materials programs, budgets, rates, and other decisions relating to reducing solid waste in the City of Berkeley. The ZWC adopted the FY 2023-24 Work Plan on May 23, 2023.

M/S/C: /; Ayes: ; Abstain: ; Absent: ()

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Over the last few years, the City of Berkeley, along with the rest of the world, has made its best efforts to survive during Covid-19. Operations and staff have suffered from low-staffing/high vacancies following the initial lock-down period and subsequent supply-chain issues and labor shortage. The City of Berkeley is enacting important changes and improvements to its Zero Waste services and long-term plans, including:

- Continuing the process to design and build the replacement of the Solid Waste & Recycling Transfer Station (SW&RTS), which is currently nearing submission for the required CEQA process,
- Adapting to changes in the recycling export markets and determining which materials should be accepted in any of our streams, and assessing what else can be diverted from landfill through near approaches and partnership programs,
- Berkeley's compliance with SB1383 and its Food Recovery Mandates,
- Implementing the Single Use Foodware and Litter Reduction Ordinance and Pre-check Bag Reduction Ordinance
- Participating in the Zero Waste Strategic Plan Development process, and
- Reviewing and recommending to Council which State and Regional Bills to support in order more gainfully achieve our zero waste goals.

ZWC supports the development of the Zero Waste Strategic Plan, and SW&RTS replacement, as well as seeks to evaluate and/or recommend new or proposed local

legislation or programs that could target some remaining components of avoidable waste in our community.

These projects advance the City’s Strategic Plan goals to:

1. Provide state-of-the-art, well-maintained infrastructure, services, and facilities
2. Be a global leader in addressing climate change, advancing environmental and social justice, and protecting the environment.

The following goals have been identified for the upcoming year:

Goal	Resources	Program activities	Outputs	Outcomes
Transfer Station Rebuild	City Staff, Consultants (when hired)	Stay abreast of CEQA progress status; Consultant presentation for next phase TBD	Recommendations to Council as appropriate when process proceeds to next phase.	State-of-the-Art facility that replaces outdated, aged structure; increase public interaction.
Zero Waste Strategic Plan	Abbe & Associates, City Staff	Presentations for updates ZW plan throughout process (total 3). Disseminate information to increase public input, including individual commissioners.	Recommendations to Council as needed.	To support the development of a comprehensive and detailed plan suited to achieve City’s ZW goals.
Food Recovery and Organics Diversion SB1383	City Staff, Community Partners	Continue updates from staff, explore community compost opportunities, invite Berkeley Food Network to present.	Recommendations to Council as needed.	To help achieve compliance with SB1383 requirements and promote local resiliency.
Zero Waste Ordinances (SU Foodware & Litter Reduction, Pre-Check-out Bags Reduction, future & proposed, etc.)	City Staff, Ecology Center, UC Berkeley/Cal Zero Waste, Grocery Association/BIDs	Review progress of Foodware Reduction Ordinance; offer staff support for successful implementation of Pre-checkout Bag Reduction Ordinance. Explore sustainable alternatives for banned materials/products.	Recommendations to Council as needed. Support Reusables Foodware Pilot program with recommendations. Engender community partnerships for innovative reuse programs.	To increase Council’s awareness of status an ordinance’s Implementation progress and/or viability of implementation plan.
Review & Assessment of Accepted Materials: Inclusion or Exclusion in City Collection Services	City Staff, Urban Ore, CCC, Ecology Center, CAW, NCRA, CPSC, Status of Materials Markets, StopWaste, Local Partners	Presentations at ZWC by community partners, specialists. Review existing ordinances and recommend changes; support or suggest	Commission feedback to City Partners and Council	To help Council have an accurate understanding of our collection services and if they are achieving our ZW and environmental/social justice goals.

Goal	Resources	Program activities	Outputs	Outcomes
		new or proposed ordinances.		
Review of State & Regional Proposed Legislation/Bills that the City of Berkeley Should Support	City Staff, Californians Against Waste, CPSC, NCRA	Presentations by outside organizations that align with City's ZW goals. Research/vet proposed laws.	Recommendations for Council Support	To establish strong State and Regional Laws that support our ZW goals and potentially reduce staff time to implement.

BACKGROUND

- **Transfer Station Replacement:** Community meetings were held in 2019 for design of replacement input. First Carbon Solutions has been retained to conduct the CEQA certification process for the replacement project.
- **Zero Waste Strategic Plan:** Currently in progress.
- **Food Recovery & Organics Diversion SB 1383** requires reduction of organic waste disposal 50% by 2020 and 75% by 2025. Starting in 2022, all CA jurisdictions will need to provide organic waste collection services to all residents and businesses. Berkeley will be required to use products made from this recycled organic material, such as renewable energy, compost, and mulch. Food service businesses must donate edible food to food recovery organizations. This will help feed the almost 1 in 4 Californians without enough to eat. California has a 2025 goal to rescue 20% of edible food currently thrown away, and redirect it.
- **Single-Use Foodware & Litter Reduction Ordinance:** All of the phases of the ordinance have been enacted. Phase 2, requiring disposable foodware to be compostable and includes a 25 cent charge for disposable cups, took effect on 1/1/2020. Phase 3, mandating reusables for dine-in, took effect on 7/1/2020. Enforcement of all phases was relaxed due to the pandemic; staff is currently aggressively working to affirm and monitor compliance.
- **Plastics - Feasibility of Recyclability:** Due to declining infrastructure/operations and unreliable markets for many grades and compositions of plastics, the City's municipal collection program will require reassessment of which plastics should be acceptable in its stream, and how to locate and support new regional facilities for processing materials that currently have markets out of the region, State or country.
- **Proposed State and Regional Legislation that Council Can Support:** Berkeley can officially show support for proposed legislation that helps to further the City's current zero waste goals.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Potential to reduce quantity of material sent to landfill and reduce consumption of new materials.

POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

Future Action Items that ZWC may send to City Council include:

- Recommendation to support a Regional Deconstruction Ordinance
- Recommendation to adopt the new Zero Waste Strategic Plan
- Resolution to support a Citywide Reusable Food Container program
- Resolution to support an expanded coordinated effort with UCB during Cal moveout months

FISCAL IMPACTS OF POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

Reusable Food Container pilot program and other reuse programs require funding.

CONTACT PERSON

Julia Heath, Recycling Program Manager, Public Works, (510) 981-6357

MINUTES

The meeting was convened at 6:05 p.m. with Steven Sherman, Chair, presiding.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chrise de Tournay, Steven Sherman, Rachel Doughty, Holly Scheider, Sandra Curtis
LOA: None
Absent: Natalie Calhoun, Antionette Stein

STAFF PRESENT: Julia A. Heath

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT: 5

PUBLIC COMMENTS (on non-agenda items): 2

ACTION MINUTES:

1. Approval of the April 25, 2023 Regular Meeting Agenda

Action Taken: M/S/C (de Tournay/Curtis) to approve the meeting agenda for April 25, 2023.

Ayes: Unanimous; Abstain: None; Absent: Stein, Calhoun

2. Approval of the March 28, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

Action Taken: M/S/C (de Tournay/Doughty) to approve the March 28, 2023 meeting minutes

Ayes: 5; Abstain: Scheider; Absent: Stein, Calhoun

3. Public Comment

Two public comment. No Action Taken.

- CCC proposed citywide community cardboard drop sites
- Transportation Commission liaison shared statistics on increased wear and tear to streets caused by electric trash trucks

4. Commissioner Announcements

Discussion only. No Action Taken.

5. Staff Updates

- Rates
- Progress on Zero Waste Strategic Plan
- SB 1383 Implementation
- SUDs Enforcement
- Plastic Bag Ordinance
- Disaster Management Plan Briefing

Discussion only. No Action Taken.

6. CCC Presentation on Textile Collection & Materials Markets

Discussion only. No Action Taken.

Public Comment: 2

7. Discussion on Proposed 5 Year Zero Waste Rate Schedule set for April 25, 2023 City Council meeting

Discussion only. No Action Taken.

Public Comment: 2

8. Commission Work Plan Discussion

Discussion only. No Action Taken.

Public Comment: 0

9. Deconstruction Ordinance

Action Taken: M/S/C (de Tournay/Doughty) to move topic to May 23, 2023 agenda

Ayes: Unanimous; Abstain: 0; Absent: Stein, Calhoun

10. SFE Refuse Separation Law Discussion

Action Taken: M/S/C (de Tournay/Doughty) to move topic to May 23, 2023 agenda

Ayes: Unanimous; Abstain: 0; Absent: Stein, Calhoun

11. Discuss future agenda items

- Complete 2023 Work Plan
- Deconstruction Ordinance Discussion
- SFE Refuse Separation Law
- Rates update
- Eco Sorter Presentation

Public Comment: 0

12. Adjournment at 7:52 p.m.

M/S/C (de Tournay/Doughty) to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Unanimous; Abstain: None; Absent: Stein, Calhoun

The next regular meeting of the Zero Waste Commission will be held on Tuesday, May 23, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in person at City of Berkeley Corporation Yard (Ratcliff Building, Willow Room) 1326 Allston Way, Berkeley.

Respectfully Submitted:

Julia A. Heath, Secretary