

Juneau Commission on Sustainability (JCOS) Solid Waste Subcommittee

DRAFT - Minutes

Tuesday, August 22, 2023, 12:00 p.m. (Noon) Zoom

1. Call to Order

12:03pm

2. Land Acknowledgement

3. Roll Call

Outreach Subcommittee: Nick Waldo (chair), Marian Call, Jessie Barker

CBJ: Gretchen Keiser

Public: Dan Hysell, SEALT, Brandi Tolsma, Tlingit & Haida

A quorum was present

4. Approval of Agenda

Agenda not submitted in advance, discussed in the meeting and approved by voice vote.

5. Approval of Minutes

NA

6. Public Participation

Brandi Tolsma: Tlingit & Haida has ordered their composter and is constructing a building to commence processing food waste for the org

7. Agenda Topics

a. Fall recommendations to Assembly

Nick: How many items should be submitted? One?

Gretchen: it would make sense to make a recommendation coordinated with the funds potentially coming in for the consulting and analysis related to the compost project.

Gretchen has requested details about the CIP process & schedule so we will know when and how to connect & comment. That is usually fourth quarter into January.

We have 4 points of contact to advise the assembly: 1) CIP, connecting directly with engineering, 2) suggesting larger overarching goals in the letter to the assembly before their retreat, 3) sharing legislative priorities with state and federal representatives, and 4) use of marine passenger fees.

Hopefully we'll have clarity on dates/deadlines for CIP and related work we should do before the Sept 6th meeting.

Marian: in the early stages of brainstorming, what priorities should we be thinking of pursuing?

Nick: I had been thinking in terms of larger assembly goals rather than specific CIP.

My thought was to request some involvement/engagement with the upcoming study on waste streams, keeping a finger on the pulse of that. Staying engaged in the outcome of the study so that we can participate in what is done with the results.

Dianna: the RFP will go out this week for the solid waste characterization study. We want to capture cruise ship waste, so we hope to do it next spring extending into May when cruise ships arrive.

Nick: how about timing for the compost EPA funding?

Dianna: we don't get to know, and don't get to know when we get to know.

Marian: new assembly members will need a fairly simple message, communicating that compost is going to be important is key, with or without tons of details

Jessie: yes, high-level, but combined with action items

Gretchen: assembly members are assigned to committees fairly early so we can start engaging individual assembly members before the retreat. This subcommittee might put together a little memo for the public works and facilities committee early on, so that there is some education background for those members by the time the retreat comes around

Nick: that's a valuable narrowing of our pathways for making recommendations. My summary takeaway is to connect in person Sept 6th and share composting and staying involved in the waste characterization study as our priority goal for the fall.

b. Brainstorming solid waste items to add to JCOS website

Merges with the next agenda item, and detailed discussion is deferred until next meeting:

c. Subcommittee organization

Proposal to combine solid waste and outreach subcommittee working sessions – since outreach's work is now solid waste-oriented, and solid waste's next projects overlap with outreach.

There's also a plan to propose on Sept 6th that the Adaptation and Mitigation subcommittee (created but never convened) start meeting, so that there's time to create recommendations for the assembly.

Proposal is adopted, Dianna advises not trying to co-host a meeting or share time, nor dissolving one committee, nor merging – most viable situation is to have one subcommittee briefly suspend meetings and to be invited to the other subcommittee's meeting, so as to work together.

b. Information Items

Mr. Benke reported on JCOS comments on the EPA port grant RFI. An issue regarding the potential need for assembly approval of all JCOS correspondence to government agencies was avoided when comments prepared by the Dock & Harbors director incorporated JCOS concerns.

Chair Keiser will be polling members regarding preferences for time slots for committee meetings. Mr. Teal reported that JEDC will continue to pursue federal grant funding for an energy loan program despite CBJ concerns regarding collateral requirements and on-bill financing. Those concerns will be addressed when, and if, the grant review team requires such information. Jeff Rogers suggested that a meeting of players in various projects/topics—including dock electrification, C-PACE, building code revision, on-bill financing and other potential funding methods/sources, downtown circulator, electric buses, energy planning and other energy issues—may be overdue and offered to set-up/coordinate meetings. The intent of such meetings would be to reach a common understanding of issues and attempt to reach consensus on joint recommendations for action in preparation for an assembly committee of the whole meeting.

c. Commissioner/Liaison Comments - None

d. Next Meetings

Sept 19th, 2023, at noon

e. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at **1:23** pm.

Minutes submitted by Marian Call