



Subcommittee Report

PRESENTED FOR COMMISSION MEETING DATE: April 17, 2018	SUBMITTED BY: Robert McCann
SUBCOMMITTEE NAME: Standing Subcommittee on Waste Reduction (SCoWR)	SUBMITTED DATE: April 17, 2018
SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING DATE: March 26, 2018	NEXT SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING DATE: April 23, 2018

Subcommittee Goal:

Divert 90% of waste Generated by the City of Palm Springs from landfill by 2030.

Summary:

- C&D Waste Ordinance.
 - April 5. SCoWR committee members met with Dan DeGarmo, Chris Cunningham, and Gary Calhoun to discuss changes to the draft ordinance from December in order to address Councilmember Robert’s concerns about the impact on small business owners. Specific changes were discussed and agreed to that would alleviate the upfront financial obligations to smaller project contractors, provide guidelines for exemptions, and take the penalty for smaller project contractors down to an administrative fine.
 - April 11. Rob McCann sent out an edited version of the draft ordinance for comments. Input has been received from Roy Clark and Chris Cunningham. The document is currently being updated to incorporate their comments.

- Reducing Polystyrene Take-Out Containers for Restaurants.
 - February 14: City of Palm Springs City Councilmember J.R. Roberts asked the Sustainability Commission to
 - Research City Ordinances that ban Extended Polystyrene (EPS) containers.
 - Offer recommendations and suggestions.
 - Provide an update on legislation seeking to provide a statewide ban on EPS containers and plastic straws.
 - Jessica Spry has continued to research ordinances in other municipalities.
 - April 12. SCoWR members Jessica Spry, Roy Clark, and Robert McCann attended the April meeting of the Palm Springs Hospitality Association. Commissioner Clark briefed the attendees on the proposed ordinance to ban EPS containers. Extensive feedback was received from restaurant owners, including concerns about cost differentials between EPS containers and recyclable alternatives and the possibility that including exemptions in the ordinance would put non-exempted business owners at a competitive disadvantage. It was proposed that a joint subcommittee be formed to work the ordinance going forward.
 - April 17. Jessica Spry researched the cost differential between EPS (Styrofoam) containers and

recyclable alternatives and reported on the difference.

- Recycling Containers in Public Parks.
 - Assessments of recycle container options were discussed at the monthly SCoWR meeting on Monday, March 26th.
 - April 9. Robert McCann reported the results of research he did on candidate outdoor recycle containers suitable for deployment in public parks. A power point file was generated that identifies, describes and, in the final slide, evaluates the candidates on whether or not they contain several relevant design features.
 - April 12. A consensus was reached by SCoWR committee members and Staci Schafer on the 35 gallon recycle container offered by Trashcans, Unlimited of Honesdale, PA.
 - April 17: Trashcans, Unlimited provided a quote of \$12,935 for 35 recycle containers including shipping.
 - April 17. Travis Armstrong, Parks and Recreational Commission, sent an e-mail train from August, 2015, in which Kenneth Kershaw, Parks Supervisor, reported to Michele Mician that recycle bins had been placed in various locations in Demuth, Sunrise, Baristo, Ruth Hardy, and Victoria Parks. We are actively researching the current status of these containers.

- Plastics Recycling Crisis
 - April 6. Jessica Spry contacted Madisen Gittlin, Global Green USA, and found that Global Green has a program to assist Southern California cities to prepare for the demands of AB-1826, SB-1383, and other environmental goals. Global is currently selecting two Southern California cities as partners to participate in a new food waste recycling program, using an Eco-Ambassador resident outreach model. Over a four-month implementation period, Global Green will guide each city in creating a sustainable resident outreach program that is specific to the city's needs and objectives. The programs will address the interconnected issues of food waste and clean, renewable energy (i.e. biogas) in underserved communities.
 - Jessica is gathering information to complete an application to Global Green on behalf of the City of Palm Springs.

Recommendation/Request

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ACTION ITEMS REQUEST TO COMMISSION	N/A
ACTION ITEMS REQUEST TO OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY	N/A
POTENTIAL FISCAL IMPACT/REQUEST IF ANY:	N/A