



Subcommittee Report

PRESENTED FOR COMMISSION MEETING DATE: Dec 18, 2018	SUBMITTED BY: Robert McCann
SUBCOMMITTEE NAME: Standing Subcommittee on Waste Reduction (SSCoWR)	SUBMITTED DATE: Dec 11, 2018
LAST SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING DATE: Dec 10, 2018	NEXT SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING DATE: TBD

Subcommittee Goal:

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

Summary:

1. C&D Waste Ordinance.

- Findings on other cities and their C&D diversion ordinances released Dec 10, 2018.

2. Reducing Single-use Nonrecyclable Plastic Food Ware and Plastic Straws by Food Service Establishments.

- 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.
- Oct 2. SSCowR members Roy Clark and Robert McCann met with Councilmembers Kors and Holstege to discuss modifications to the proposed Palm Springs Ordinance in light of the passage of AB 1884. The consensus from the meeting was for the SSCowR to research and report on the impact of more comprehensive ordinances in other CA municipalities that cover all food service establishments and also ban virtually all forms of non-recyclable plastic food ware (cups, stirrers, utensils, straws, clamshell food storage containers, etc).
- Latest Developments:
 - Nov 29: SSCoWR Report completed and released to stakeholders.
 - Dec 10: Councilmember Christy Holstege requested that the Sustainability Commission approve a recommendation to City Council to move forward with a comprehensive ordinance that would ban all forms of nonrecyclable plastic food ware, including plastic straws.
- Sample “core” ordinance language for consideration by Sustainability Commissioners:

Food or beverage products supplied by commercial food providers shall not be sold, packaged, distributed, or consumed with food service ware made of EPS foam, rigid polystyrene #6, and non-recyclable and non-compostable material in the City of Palm Springs. “Commercial Food Provider” means a person or place that provides or sells food within the City to the general public, including but not limited to grocery stores, supermarkets, sit-down or fast-food restaurants, drive-throughs, cafes, coffee shops, snack shops, public food markets, farmer’s markets, convenience stores, mobile food vendors, caterers, and food trucks.

- Commission Motion for Consideration: Recommend City of Palm Springs pass comprehensive Ordinance with similar language to above, and pass Commission report on to the City to develop into a Staff Report.

3. Diverting and Recycling Wet Organic Waste in the City’s Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Stream From Landfill:

- November 13. Anergia delivered a description of the design package they would produce if funding was provided by the City. Robert McCann forwarded the proposal to City Council members Christy Holstege and Geoff Kors, City Representatives, and other stakeholders.
- Dec 10. In December SSCoWR meeting, Councilmember Christy Holstege recommended, and the SSCoWR concurred, that the Anergia proposal be evaluated in the context of the larger planning exercise currently ongoing for the Palm Springs Wastewater Treatment Facility.

4. Battery Recycling Project

- July 24. The City of Palm Springs was awarded a grant from CalRecycle in the amount of \$35,450.00 for the battery recycling program.
- Nov 30: Authority-to-Proceed granted.
- Dec 10. Commissioners Clark and McCann discussed outreach and educational options with Dan DeGarmo in advance of container ordering in January.

Recommendation/Request

The SSCowR notes that the bright blue recycle containers now in our public parks are currently co-existing with bright blue trash containers that were placed in the parks at the beginning of this year. To avoid confusion and decrease the rate of contamination of the waste stream being placed in our recycle containers, the SSCowR recommends that the bright blue trash containers be replaced with the standard brown trash containers that have been deployed in downtown areas, or that the bright blue trash containers in the city parks be painted brown with “trash only” signage.

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