



# Subcommittee Report

PRESENTED FOR COMMISSION MEETING DATE: April 16, 2018

SUBMITTED BY: Robert McCann

SUBCOMMITTEE NAME: Standing Subcommittee on Waste Reduction (SSCoWR)

SUBMITTED DATE: April 11, 2019

LAST SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING DATE: March 25, 2019

NEXT SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING DATE: April 23, 2019

## Subcommittee Goal:

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

## Summary:

### 1. C&D Waste Ordinance.

- No developments to report.

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

- Update on development of Staff Report: Patrick Tallarico.

### 3. Battery Recycling Project

- April 11. Update from Dan DeGarmo: Recycle collection bins have been received. Deployment is expected shortly.

### 4. Toward a Public Spaces Recycling Program for the City of Palm Springs.

- March 14. A final version of the SSCoWR White Paper was completed and submitted to the Sustainability Commission and City Councilmember JR. Roberts.
- April 1. The Report was further disseminated to City Council Members Geoff Kors and Christy Holstege.
- April 10. SSCoWR member Rob McCann completed development of databases for each of the City's public parks. The databases include an entry for all waste containers currently found in the parks. Each entry includes a written description of the container, its Lat-Long coordinates, and a depiction of its location on a park map. These data will be used to begin the process of developing and refining recommendations for Phase 1 of a proposed Palm Springs Public Space Recycle Program. Initial work in conjunction with Phase 1 will include determining how many additional blue recycle containers should be purchased from Trashcans Unlimited, and which existing trash containers they should be paired with. Longer term, the database can guide and help coordinate subsequent Phase 1 activities such as container painting, removal, lid fitting, re-positioning, and posting of signage.

#### 5. Initiation of a Vertical Integration Inquiry.

- April 7 . SSCoWR member Lani Miller completed a description of, and submitted several supporting documents for, a vertical integration inquiry whose goals are to:
  - Update our knowledge base of best practices for recycling in Palm Springs. In addition to the development of a reality-based list of recyclables, best practices include the proper preparation of those items prior to disposal.
  - Develop accurate and forward-looking waste container signage to be accompanied by a public educational campaign.
  - Investigate current services with respect to recycling and landfill waste management, in order to develop best practice guidelines and gain input from stakeholders.
  - Project future optimization of Palm Springs waste management systems in order to minimize municipal production of greenhouse gases, as well as protect our air and environment from particulate carbon and chemical impact.

#### 6. NUSA Presentation.

- April 11. Rob McCann and David Freedman met with Dan DeGarmo to critique early drafts of their presentations and provide feedback for next month's conference.


**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.

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