



Management Coordination Committee (MCC)

MEETING MINUTES

January 16, 2024

Item 3

ATTENDANCE

MCC Members:

- Stephanie Schwenger, SPU MCC—alternate for Susan Fife-Ferris, SPU, MCC Chair
- Kim-Khánh Vãn, SCA, Renton Councilmember
- Josh Baldi, KC WLRD
- Dylan Orr, PH SKC
- Mo McBroom, KC SWD

Other Attendees:

Alice Chapman, KC WLRD	Jourdan Keith, PH SKC	Maythia Airhart, KC WLRD
Andi Parnell, SCA	Julia Presar, KC WLRD	Michell Mouton, KC WLRD
Ashley Evans, KC WLRD	Kathy Thompson, KC WLRD	Minty LongEarth, PH SKC
Celina Kareiva, KC WLRD	Kristin Pace, KC WLRD	Mohamed Ali, PH SKC
Charles Wu, KC WLRD	Lakshmi Panikkar, KC WLRD	Roda Mohamed, PH SKC
Emmanuel Rivera, KC WLRD	Lauren Mansur, KC WLRD	Stef Frenzl, KC WLRD
Enrique Gonzalez, KC WLRD	Linda Van Hooser, PH SKC	Stephanie Schwenger, SPU
Heidi Zarghami, KC WLRD	Madelaine Yun, KC WLRD	Tracee Mayfield, PH SKC
Hena Parveen, PH SKC	Matt Wilson, PH SKC	Thanh Truong, KC WLRD

GENERAL BUSINESS

Introductions

- Stephanie Schwenger, Seattle Public Utilities (SPU).
- Heidi Zarghami, Health & Environmental Investigator II, Hazardous Waste Program, King County Water and Land Resources Division (WLRD).
- Councilmember Kim-Khánh Vãn, Renton, Sound Cities Association (SCA).
- Andi Parnell, Sound Cities Association (SCA).
- Dylan Orr, Division Director, Public Health Environmental Health Services Division - Seattle & King County (PH SKC).
- Ashley Evans, Project/Program Manager IV, King County Water and Land Resources Division (WLRD).

Announcements

- Josh Baldi, King County Water and Land Resources Division Director, announced he is covering for Susan Fife-Ferris, MCC Chair, who was not able to attend today’s meeting, and will be facilitating the meeting. Stephanie Schwenger is serving as the alternate for Susan.

- This is Mo McBroom’s last meeting as part of the MCC Board. Marin Burnett, Chief Administrative Officer for Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) will be stepping in as the new MCC representative for the King County Solid Waste Division (SWD).
- Charles Wu, Environmental Programs Managing Supervisor, introduced Heidi Zarghami, who came from SPU. Heidi has joined his team at the King County Hazardous Waste Program to support Business Services.
- Josh Baldi announced his new liaison, Kristin Pace, Performance Manager for the Haz Waste Program.
- Maythia informed the new MCC members that all MCC meetings are recorded, and they can contact her if they ever need to access a recording for review.

MCC Meeting Minutes

MCC reviewed and approved the December 19, 2023, meeting minutes without revisions.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Long-Term Planning Follow-Up

Maythia Airhart, Hazardous Waste Program Director, provided a summary of findings and next steps by reviewing the identified themes for long-term planning. These findings were informed by engagements with Haz Waste Program Lines of Business (LOB) managers and with the MCC. Of the six themes identified, most are already in progress and being addressed by the Program. The two themes that will need further discussion are: (1) clarity/enhancement of community approaches and (2) balancing countywide reach, equity in service delivery, and measurable impact. The Program will come back in February with recommended priorities for investment, early projections of how it will impact our Fund Balance, and next steps. MCC’s guidance and decision on this will inform our 3-year Action Plan for the long-term priorities and rate planning.

Plastics Policy and Hazardous Waste Operating Domain

Maythia Airhart, Hazardous Waste Program Director, started the conversation by noting that the decision memo provided to MCC referenced the problem that plastics is currently a gray area in the Program’s operating domain. Plastics are not statutorily considered hazardous in the U.S. or Washington state, so the Program has not engaged in plastics policies, such as the WRAP Act and bottle recycling. In the December MCC meeting, a few MCC members expressed via email interest and desire for Haz Waste to engage in the WRAP Act. The purpose of the decision memo is to demonstrate a logical link between how we address plastics and what we are legally able to spend from the Haz Waste Fund. Maythia clarified that the resources and focus of our other work would not be impacted.

However, because of such a strong desire expressed to support the WRAP Act, the Program will bring the topic back to MCC in February to address the following questions that were raised:

- Does this mean we are shifting our work focus or reallocating resources?
- Is there a bigger body of plastics work that we might step into in the future, and how big is this from an operational perspective?
- How big is this from an operational perspective?
- Does this leave us with ambiguity for the future (when there are different faces in the room)? Would the Program interpret this in some funky way that would have broader implications?

Follow up to the questions could inform potential revisions to the decision memo. It was clarified by Maythia that the intent and purpose of the decision memo is to demonstrate a logical link between how we address

plastics and what we are legally able to spend from the Haz Waste Fund. In addition, a written record of the Program's decision.

Hazardous Waste Communications Strategic Update

Michell Mouton, Hazardous Waste Communications Manager, presented an overview of the new strategies for Hazardous Waste Communications. The introduction covered a 10-part strategy to support MCC's understanding of the pivotal role of communications in the success of the Program's 10-year plan. Including the anticipated benefits and support for the 10-year vision, she highlighted both the key actions underway and the opportunities. In addition, she mentioned the challenges with low general awareness about Program services. Communications is working to improve engagement with community and will be looking at strategies that will allow us to bring in more community voices.

Residential Services Program Update

Linda Van Hooser, Residential Services Supervisor, and her team provided an overview of Residential Services Program (RSP) services and key initiatives. It included RSP's background, the 2023-24 work program, and areas of opportunities and challenges. The team also highlighted their current and future priorities to increase engagement and reach, to diversify education services, to collaborate early in planning for strategy development, and to build community support for policy change.

UPDATES

Director's Report and Look-Ahead Calendar

Written updates are provided to MCC. Below are updates highlighted by Maythia:

- Communication's RFP to improve community engagement and bring in community voices is in development and will be going out soon.
- MCC still needs to nominate its Chair and Vice Chair. Nominations and election of MCC officers will be discussed at next month's meeting.
- Having enough staff capacity to continue the Program's work is essential to our services. The Program is excited to note that currently there is a lot of hiring in progress and that we have been able to hire and onboard many new staff members.
- February will be one year since the reorganization. There is a plan to assess our new operating structure and make improvements. An outline and projected timeline of the assessment will be shared with MCC at the next meeting.

Next Meeting: February 20, 2024, 10 a.m. – 12 noon, Zoom teleconference