**Deschutes County Department of Solid Waste**

**Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)**

**February 27, 2018**

**2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

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|  | **Committee Members:** |  |  |  |  |
|  | Jerry Andres  Citizen at Large |  | Brant Kucera  City of Sisters | 🗸 | Smith Reese  Citizen at Large |
| 🗸 | Brad Bailey  Bend Garbage and Recycling |  | Catherine Morrow  Citizen at Large | 🗸 | Mike Riley  The Environmental Center |
| 🗸 | Jared Black  Citizen at Large |  | Jake Obrist  City of La Pine | 🗸 | Erwin Swetnam  Cascade Disposal |
| 🗸 | Bill Duerden  City of Redmond | 🗸 | Gillian Ockner  City of Bend |  | Rick Williams  Citizen at Large |
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|  | **Consultant(s):** |  |  |  |  |
| 🗸**C** | Doug Drennen  JRMA | 🗸**C** | Jennifer Porter  GBB, Recycling Specialist |  |  |
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|  | **Dept. of Solid Waste Staff:** |  |  |  |  |
| 🗸**S** | Chad Centola  Operations Manager | 🗸**S** | Sue Monette  Management Analyst | 🗸**S** | Timm Schimke  Director |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **Guest(s):** |  |  |  |  |
| 🗸**G** | Jeramy Davis  Responsive Recycling | 🗸**G** | Chris Ogren  Deschutes Co. BOCC, Intern | 🗸**G** | Denise Rowcroft  The Environmental Center |
| 🗸**G** | Matt Samp | 🗸**G** | Randy Stutzman  Bend Garbage and Recycling | 🗸**G** | Linda Swearingen |
| 🗸**G** | Gary Vodden |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *🗸* | *Present at meeting* | *\** | *Teleconference* |  |  |
| ***C*** | *Consultant* | ***G*** | *Guest* | ***S*** | *Staff* |

Decisions/Actions/Comments made by the Committee in Blue

Items Requiring Follow-up in Red

**Call to Order**: The meeting was called to order by Timm Schimke, Deschutes County Department of Solid Waste Director, at 2:10 p.m.

**Welcome & Introductions**: Timm Schimke opened the meeting and turned the meeting over to Doug Drennen, Project Manager. Doug started by introducing Jennifer Porter, GBB who will be presenting Chapter 3 – Waste Prevention/Reduction, Reuse and Recycling. Doug began the meeting by reviewing the Agenda for the meeting. The Agenda included the following:

1. Review of Updates to Chapter 2 – Background Conditions
2. Present Chapter 3 – Waste Prevention/Reduction, Reuse and Recycling

Background Conditions

Needs and Opportunities

List of Alternatives

1. Public Comments

1. **Updates to Chapter 2**

Doug indicated Chapter 2 has been updated with information about the City of Bend and Deschutes County economic conditions and population projections. The updates are a result of learning of new reports that contain more recent data. Sources include the City of Bend’s Growth Management Department and “Visit Bend” reports that demonstrate employment growth in the City and region is expanding based on a more diversified economy. This includes speciality manufacturing, ssecondary wood products, aviation/aerospace, renewable energy resources and recreation equipment. Also, data suggest that visitor/ tourism have increased by more than 25% since 2010. Sections of the Chapter have been updated based on this information and are highlighted for the committees’ review.

Population data obtained from these reports suggest that the City of Bend has experienced almost twice the increase than projected by the Population Research Center. This does not mean the entire county is growing at that rate and no additional information is available to suggest this is the case. The data does support the population projections in Chapter 2 showing that Deschutes County is expected to grow at faster pace than the rest of Oregon. Therefore, no changes to the waste generation projections using these population estimates will be made.

Doug reported that DEQ just released its' 2016-17 Waste Composition Study. This report shows the composition of the waste stream that is being disposed at landfills throughout the State. It also shows the details of the composition of waste disposed from both residential and commercial consumers. This data was compared to Table 2-13: Deschutes County Waste Stream 2016. It confirmed that between 45% to almost 50% of the waste disposed is organics of which about 50% is food waste. Also, it showed about 40% of what is disposed is comprised of commodities such as paper, plastics and metals.

This information does not significantly differ from what was developed for Table 2-13 so no changes were made. However, as the plan is prepared the project team will consult this data to complete our analysis of different options.

Decisions/Actions – The committee acknowledged changes. Chapter 2 of the report will be posted on the County web site as a Final Draft and the highlights removed. Gillian Ockner, representing the City of Bend, mentioned that some references for the tables in Chapter 2 needed to be reviewed and cleared up.

Action: Mike Riley requested reviewing his comments from the January 2018 meeting.

Section 1.3 Item 4: Mike Riley proposed having the Consultant team expand the issue to include “…and enhance resource recovery.”

Section 1.3: Mike Riley and Gillian Ockner recommended adding a statement to reinforce a goal to reduce impacts on greenhouse gas or related climate change. The factor could compliment the City of Bend’s Climate Action Process soon to be under development by the new Climate Action Process Steering Committee. The Consultant team will research and Mike Riley will assist in preparing a draft statement for consideration.

1. **Chapter 3 – Waste Prevention, Reduction, Reuse and Recycling**

Jennifer Porter presented Existing Conditions as described in Chapter 3. In 2016 the Deschutes County wasteshed achieved a 33% recovery rate. The new goal recently adopted by the state is for the County to achieve a 45% recovery rate by 2025. This Chapter discusses the current program and services. Jennifer discussed how the comprehensive promotional and education programs are being performed in a coordinated effort between the County, franchised haulers and the Environmental Center, with other partners. The County spent $110,000 for these programs and the franchised haulers also contributed to funding these efforts. The overview shows the County and cities are largely in compliance with the promotional and education programs and services as listed in the regulations:

* ORS 459A.007 – Outlines necessary planning elements for robust recycling program = “Opportunity to Recycle”
* ORS 459A.008 – Guidance for educational and promotion programs designed to encourage more sustainable behavior
* ORS.459A.010 – Statewide goals for recovery rates

Needs and Opportunities – Jennifer outlined several focus areas rising to the forefront for Deschutes County:

* 1. Residential Yard Waste/Food waste
  2. Commercial Food Waste
  3. Upgrade organic waste processing facilities
  4. Construction & Demolition Debris
  5. Focus on Tourism
  6. Multifamily Recycling

Alternatives in each of these areas will be further explored in the forthcoming collection and recycling/processing chapter.

**Impacts of National Sword /Current Markets for Recycled Materials**

Doug updated the SWAC on the current markets for recycled materials. China is the leading outlet for recycled materials for U.S. processors. With the adoption of the “National Sword” policy to restrict bales of materials that contain more than a 0.5% contamination and reduction of licenses to both paper mills and plastics processors outlets for recycled materials have been greatly reduced. First, no MRF even operating with most advanced technology can meet this level or quality of materials. Second, with reduction for outlets there is a glut of materials on the market driving prices for paper towards a negative value. Clean plastics such as HDPE, PETE and clean film still have strong markets, but all other plastics have limited or no value at this time.

Brad Bailey with Bend Garbage and Recycling reported that DEQ is considering temporary waivers to allow certain jurisdictions to landfill materials. So far, a few jurisdictions like Medford have been granted approval to landfill source separated recyclables. Brad reported they are considering applying since it has added significant cost to their operations. There may be other options including a temporary rate increase to subsidize the collection and transportation cost.

1. **SWAC Input**

Mike Reilly mentioned the State is considering new legislation that will indicate stronger regulations regarding carbon emissions. He advised the consultant team to review this draft legislation and recognize in the plan how it might impact future decisions for managing waste.

Some committee members felt there needed to be more standardization of the recycling services, like everyone using the same color bins and similar services. Also, they felt it important the more universal services were the easier to develop consistent education and promotional materials. The consultant team will review this and report back.

1. **Public Comments**

The meeting was opened for public comments or questions.

* Jeremy Davis works at Sunriver. He mentioned there are a lot of recycled materials that are discarded in rental units in Sunriver. Visitors just don’t care or are uninformed on ways to recycle. He believes there is an opportunity to recover more materials.

SWAC – Sunriver has a policy that no containers/bins can be placed out for collection. As a result, the franchise hauler must go to each residence to pick up and carry cans to the truck.

As mentioned the consultant team has acknowledged the amount of tourism in the County and the challenges to getting them to recycle. This will be examined.

* Gary Vodden, resident of Bend, mentioned that he observes there needs to be more opportunity to recycle bulky items for reuse, especially during move-outs. People are throwing away items that may have reuse value. He thinks there is more to be done to intercept these items and find a value for them with partners such as Goodwill or other organizations.

Doug thanked everyone for their input and indicated these items will be considered in developing the plan.

1. **Next Meeting:** SWAC Advisory Group meetings will be held the 4th Tuesday of each month at the Deschutes Services Building (1300 NW Wall St., Bend, OR 97703) from 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Public meetings will be held in the evening. The next Solid Waste Advisory Committee meeting is **March 27, 2018 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

**Meeting Adjourned**: 3:50 p.m.