

Juneau Commission on Sustainability (JCOS)
Solid Waste Subcommittee
Tuesday, June 27, 2023, 12:00 p.m. (Noon) Zoom

1. Call to Order

2. Land Acknowledgement

3. Roll Call

Solid Waste Subcommittee: Nick Waldo (chair), Marian Call, Jessie Barker
Other JCOS: Gretchen Keiser,
CBJ: Dianna Robinson
A quorum was present

4. Approval of Agenda

Approved

5. Approval of Minutes

No minutes to approve

6. Public Participation

Dan Hysell (Southeast Alaska Land Trust)

7. Agenda Topics

a. Memo on composting operations RFP

Gretchen attended the Public Works & Facilities meeting yesterday to discuss the memo. They will issue the construction/design RFP sooner but they still want to wait on the operations RFP. This is how it's been done in Juneau previously: build out the facilities first and then get a contractor for operations. There aren't many examples of our situation in other cities.

CBJ has a strict procurement process, and Katie Koester pointed out that it's not typical for JCOS to advise on procurement. Dianna clarified for the subcommittee that the intention from the beginning has been to contract with someone local, i.e. Lisa Dougherty, for the design process, although due to fairness concerns they can't be explicit that it would be Lisa. But big companies know that local experience is key, and Lisa could monetize this experience.

Action points: none.

b. Construction waste

Nick has been trying to reach out to local builders' associations to invite them to the solid waste subcommittee meetings, with a view towards partnerships in reducing construction waste. They have been positive but things are moving slowly.

CBJ staff have also been reaching out to specific industries to partner on construction waste reduction, so the key issue is how not to duplicate efforts or cause confusion, but instead figure out how JCOS could complement or support the City. Dianna will speak to CBJ Head of Engineering to clarify this. Gretchen thinks JCOS could play a role in community outreach, similar to the focus groups held in Whitehorse with institutions such as the hospital, jail, group of builders.

Action points: none on construction specifically, but for focus groups see role of JCOS below.

c. The role of the solid waste subcommittee

We need to be cognizant of not taking up CBJ staff time. This could be being a liaison between the Assembly and the public, or looking for grant opportunities. Gretchen suggested that we could generate questions to be used in focus groups similar to those in Whitehorse. Also exploring the role of behavior change. Jessie clarified that this will require some factfinding first, and identifying opportunities for individual behavior change versus institutional/organizational.

Dianna's priorities for behavior change are food waste diversion and reduction, as well as construction waste. Ultimately this would be at the organizational level, and Katie Koester is keen for City institutions to be early adopters, such as Bartlett and schools. But schools have recently renewed their contracts for custodial services so individuals would be more promising for now. Gretchen suggested this could be a future sustainability session for the outreach subcommittee, including radio appearances.

Action points: 1) Read 2-pager that Dianna sent with the zero waste planning memo, and think about how JCOS could slot into this. 2) Think about options for food waste behavior change. 3) Bring ideas from both of these for brainstorming at the next subcommittee meeting.

8. Information Items

None

9. Committee/Liaison Comments and Questions

None

10. Next Meetings

25 July 2023

11. Adjournment

1:02pm