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Agenda

**New Castle Climate and Environment Commission Virtual Commission Meeting
Thursday, January 21, 2021, 6:30 PM**

Due to concerns related to COVID-19, this meeting will be held as a virtual meeting only. The public is invited to attend.

[To join by computer, smart phone or tablet click HERE](#)

**If you prefer to telephone in:
Please call: 1-346-248-7799
Meeting ID: 709 658 8400**

Follow the prompts as directed. Be sure to set your phone to mute until called on.

Call to Order

Roll Call

Meeting Notice

Conflicts of Interest

Citizen Comments on Items NOT on the Agenda

Items for Consideration

- A. Presentation on Recycling by Mike Hinkley - District Manager, Mountain Waste & Recycling**
- B. Update: Educational Efforts on Wildfire Response, Fire Prevention, Assessment and Mitigation; Newsletter Information About Carting for Pets**
- C. Consider Agenda Items for the February 18, 2021 Meeting**
- D. Draft Minutes of the December 17, 2020 Meeting**

Adjourn

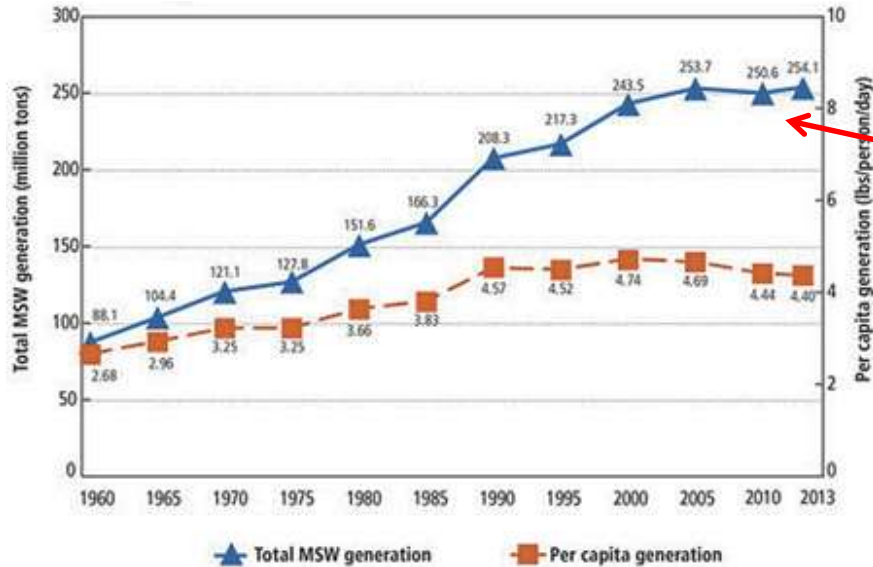
Recycling Realities

Garfield County, CO.

Mike Hinkley

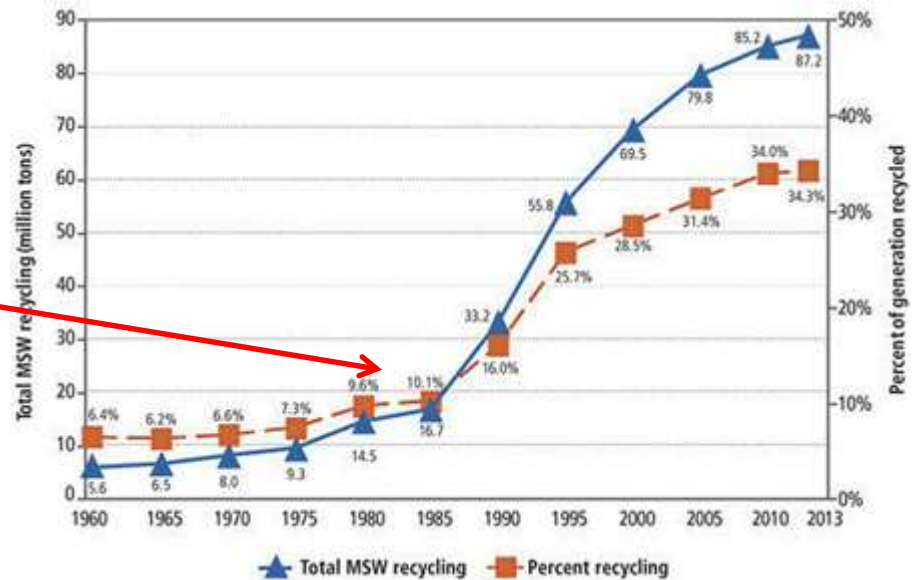


Excited to Go **Green** and To Do The Right Thing?



**Unprecedented in our lifetime!
2008 - First Decline in Waste
Generation... EVER!**

**Beginning of curbside recycling
in the U. S. circa 1988-90**



Collecting Recyclables – The OLD Way

Paper/Fiber, metal cans, plastics, glass



Collected in **separate containers or bins** from homes and businesses.



Collecting Recyclables (the NEW Way) “Single Stream”

All recyclables are collected together in one truck.

Recycle is collected, taken to our facility and loaded into larger containers. They are then hauled to the MRF processing center in Denver.



The materials are sorted at the facility and prepared for shipment & sent to market.



Pitkin County Change - Nov. 2014

No Longer Accepting Unlimited Recyclables

Recycling costs money, and Pitkin County consumers will have to pay

Bob Ward

The Aspen Times

So, which do you want to pay for your recycling services: Pitkin County or a private waste hauler?

One way or another — through a property tax bill or a monthly or quarterly invoice — residents of unincorporated Pitkin County will have to bear the cost burden.

On Tuesday, Pitkin County commissioners held their second discussion about the county's recycling program, which is presently losing upwards of \$350,000 per year. They all agreed that the leak must be plugged but weren't certain how to do it.

Solid Waste Manager Cathy Hall and Public Works Director Brian Pettet suggested two courses of action:

■ Maintain the existing system of

recycling collection centers around the county, but find another revenue stream to make up the shortfall;

■ Require waste haulers in the unincorporated county to provide curbside pickup of recyclable materials and essentially get the county out of the recycling business.

Since the county began its voluntary recycling program in the late 1980s, the entire trash-hauling and recycling industry has changed, county staff members reported.

"It's time to talk about changing the way we do business" Pettet said. "We now have commercial haulers doing their own recycling in the valley, and that's the primary condition that has changed."

Commissioners didn't seem wedded to either of the suggestions. They asked for more information to differentiate the options and floated various

thoughts about the current situation.

Commissioner Rob Ittner asked, "Which option would create more recycling?" The more material the county can divert from the landfill, the better, commissioners agreed. Ittner also wondered whether the county could reduce the flow of red ink by boosting the so-called "tipping fees" charged at the landfill gate.

Commissioner George Newman expressed some reservations about the existing program, outside of the budgetary shortfall. The recycling centers in Aspen and Basalt have become dumping grounds for all kinds of household throwaways, he said.

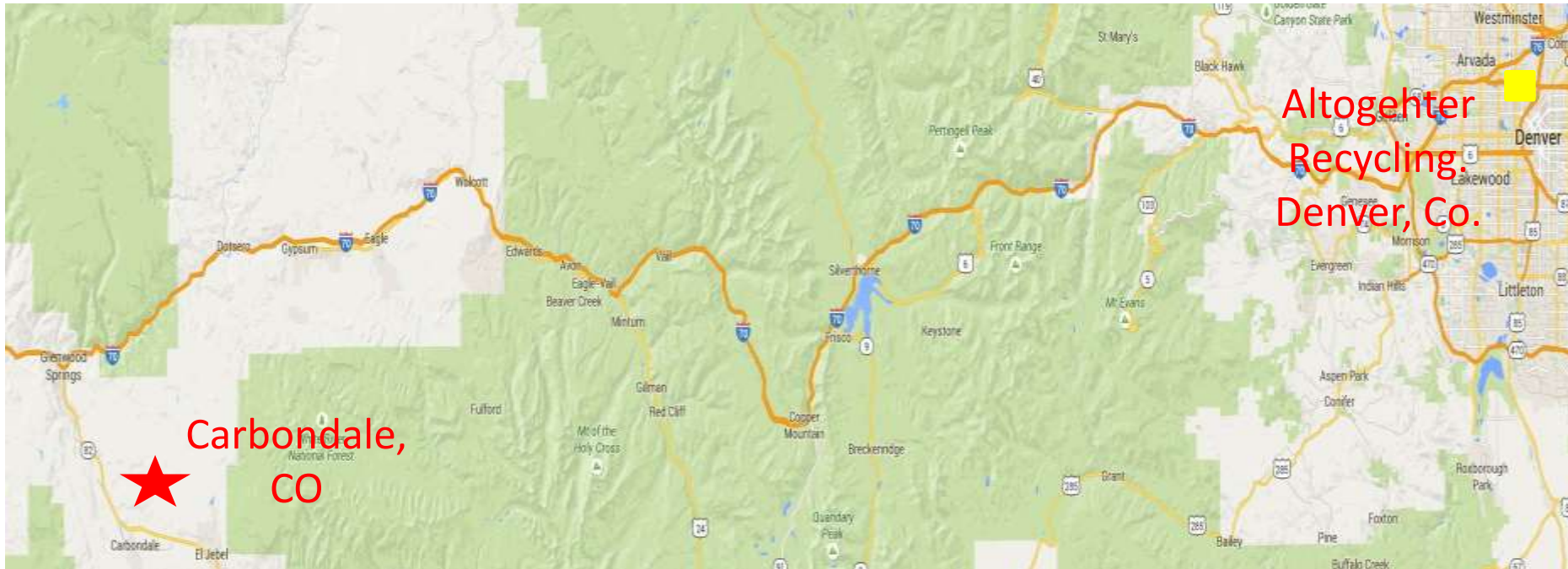
"The Basalt center is probably the worst," Newman said. "I've seen mattresses there. I've seen TVs there. You name it, it's getting dumped there."

Alpine Waste & Recycling MRF – Materials Recovery Facility

- 50,000 sq ft. Built on 5.5 acres = \$8.5 million
- Located on Rail
- Processes up to 55,000+ Tons Per Month of Recyclables
- \$6mil Improvements/Expansion Completed



Our Closest & Only Option from a Recycling Sorting Facilities



**Altogether Recycling MRF – 160 miles one way
(single stream)**

New Cost of Recycling Means Changes for Us

- “Pay as You Throw” or “VOLUMETRIC” Pricing traditionally applied to trash headed to landfills (make trash more expensive to prompt recycling)
- **New Reality in our area:** collecting, transporting, and processing recyclables costs **2x** that of waste
- **Unlimited volumes for recycling are no longer possible; must be aware of amounts being transported long distances**



Education and Transparency Leads to Informed Decisions

- Policy makers have traditionally subsidized the cost of recycling with higher trash collection rates to “incentivize” consumers to recycle
- We feel that recycling is the right thing to do, but like every other activity involving the handling of materials – Recycling Costs Money!
- In our area of the state it costs significantly more money due to transportation to Wolcott or Denver

Sorting Facility Options

Location	Owner	Distance	Accepts	Restrictions	Drop Off ?	Fee	Notes
Pitkin County	Pitkin County (to WM Denver)	Local - 32 miles	Single Stream	<i>Residents only ; haulers max of 40 tons/year</i>	Yes, through the County locations	\$26 per ton; free to County residents	Transload recyclables to WM Denver
Eagle County	Eagle County	Regional - 45 miles	Dual Stream	None	Yes, through the County locations	Free	Haulers in Vail area take single stream to Denver; majority of volume comes from Garfield and Pitkin area haulers
Grand Junction	Waste Management	Regional - 85 miles	Dual Stream	Hauler Limitations	Yes	\$30 - 40 per ton	Mostly Mesa County volumes
Denver - Alpine	Alpine Waste & Recycling	State - 160 miles	Single Stream	None	No	\$36 per ton	Largest, most efficient sorting plant in Colorado; superior rail access
Denver - Waste Management	Waste Management	State - 160 miles	Single Stream	Hauler Limitations	No	\$30 - 40 per ton	Medium capacity/high volume site with tight rail access
Carbondale (unbuilt)	Mountain Waste & Recycling	Local - 13 miles	Single Stream	Public Use Prohibited	NO - RFTA Restrictions for Traffic	TBD	Recycling Transload, Compost & Trash

Recycling – Local Drop Off Locations

- Pitkin County residents (no commercial)
 - Aspen (Rio Grande – no attendant)
 - Redstone (summer only – no attendant)
- Town of Basalt – previously subsidizes WM monthly to allow residents (no commercial) to drop off at the WM transfer location in Willits Lane (staffed)
- City of Glenwood (staffed) – New Location is 13th & Pitkin Ave

Where Does It All GO?



1 **New Castle Climate and Environment Commission Virtual Meeting**
2 **Thursday, December 17, 2020, 6:30 PM**

3
4 **Due to concerns related to COVID-19, this meeting was held as a virtual**
5 **meeting only. The public was invited to attend.**

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7 **To join by computer, smart phone or tablet:**
8 **<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7096588400>**

9
10 **If you prefer to telephone in:**
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12 **Meeting ID: 709 658 8400**

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14 **Call to Order**

15 Commission Chair Denise Scheberle called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

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18 **Roll Call**

19 Present	Commission Chair Denise Scheberle
	Commissioner Bruce Leland
	Commissioner Ines Baquero;
	Commissioner Tom Elder;
	Commissioner Jean Brown;
	Commissioner Myrna Candreia;
25 Absent	Commissioner Jeanne Huyser

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27 Also present at the meeting were members of the public. All in attendance joined by
28 computer, tablet, smart phone or land line.

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31 **Meeting Notice**

32 Commission Chair Denise Scheberle verified that the Clerk's office gave notice of the
33 meeting in accordance with Resolution TC 2020-1.

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35 **Conflicts of Interest**

36 There were no conflicts of interest.

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39 **Citizen Comments on Items NOT on the Agenda**

40 There were no citizen comments.

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43 **Items for Consideration**
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1 **Presentation: Kyle & Emily Lord, Founders of Reconnect Clean Energy, on Solar**
2 **Energy as an Economic Benefit and Driver of Local Economies**

3 Commissioners learned more about the economic and environmental benefits of solar
4 energy, particularly the benefits of rooftop solar for homeowners. Presenters noted that
5 centralized energy provision is giving way to decentralized energy; that improvements in
6 battery storage and cost advantages of renewable energy are partly driving this change.
7 They provided information regarding net metering and reliable energy bills. The last part
8 of the presentation focused on how municipalities could help transition to renewable
9 energy use through public education, providing EV charging stations, requiring that new
10 construction be solar-ready, reducing fees, and creating a culture of sustainability, among
11 others. They also noted that the weatherization assist program includes support for solar
12 panels and the importance of energy equality. Discussion followed, with keen interest in
13 advancing the use of renewable energy in the town and increasing the town's resilience in
14 the face of extreme weather (high temperatures, drought, wind). Commissioners asked
15 about how solar panels could work on multi-unit homes such as triplexes. Commissioners
16 talked about promoting solar use and the natural advantages of ample sunshine in New
17 Castle. Commissioners thanked Emily and Kyle Lord for their informative presentation.

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20 **Update on Educational Efforts on Wildfire Response, Fire Prevention, Assessment**
21 **and Mitigation**

22 Commissioners Candreaia and Baquero had no new updates. Efforts to further educate New
23 Castle residents on wildfire danger and home mitigation remain on the agenda, though
24 commissioners agreed to focus on this topic in March or April.

25
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27 **Discussion: 2021 Budget Considering the Approved Plan and Commission Goals**

28 Commissioner Leland reported that the town council had provided a \$2,000 budget for the
29 commission. Some discussion revolved around how to best use the funds, with support for
30 public education being paramount.

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33 **Consider Approval of the November 19, 2020 minutes**

34 **MOTION: Commissioner Elder made a motion to approve the minutes of the**
35 **November 19, 2020 meeting. Commissioner Baquero seconded the motion and it**
36 **passed unanimously.**

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39 **Consider Agenda Items for the January 21, 2021 Meeting**

40 Commissioners agreed to focus on recycling for the next meeting. Discussion of items for
41 the town newsletter included how to help pets survive extreme weather. Commissioner
42 Scheberle volunteered to contact the two local vet clinics asking for their assistance.

1 **MOTION: Commissioner Leland made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner**
2 **Candria seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

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4 The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

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7 Respectfully submitted,

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12 _____
13 Chair Denise Scheberle

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16 _____
17 Secretary Ines Baquero

18

DRAFT