Waste and Resource Management: An ‘Our County’ Workshop

September 28, 2018
The Team
Consultant Team

Topic and data collection and analysis leadership and stakeholder engagement co-leadership

Topic expert: health and wellbeing

Topic expert: open space

Topic expert: housing, economy & workforce development

Topic expert: transportation

Topic expert: air quality

Stakeholder engagement co-leadership
The Chief Sustainability Office provides comprehensive and coordinated policy support and guidance for the Board of Supervisors, County departments, the unincorporated areas, and the region to make our communities healthier, more liveable, economically stronger, more equitable, more resilient, and more sustainable.
The Plan
The plan should be:

- Aspirational, Comprehensive, Long-Term, Regional, Actionable

The task:

- Develop a comprehensive framework for County and City sustainability initiatives
- Serve as template for local cities when preparing sustainability/climate action plans
- Prepare the region to be competitive for funding
The County’s Sphere of Influence

Support

Influence

Direct Control
County operations
Unincorporated areas

Regional Agencies

State Policy and Programs
Countywide Sustainability Plan Framework

- Water
- Energy
- Climate
- Air Quality
- Land Use and Transportation
- Open Space, Recreation and Habitat/Biodiversity
- Resource Recovery and Waste Management
- Public Health and Well-Being
- Economy and Workforce Development
- Housing

Equity & Resilience woven throughout
Organizing Principles

Nurturing Healthy Communities

Cultivating a Just Economy

Fostering a Healthy Relationship with the Environment

Making It Happen
Key Terms

Vision
A core value or values at the heart of the plan – the “why”

Goals
Broad, aspirational statement of what we want to achieve

Strategies
Approach or approaches that we take to achieve a goal (strategies may support multiple goals)

Actions
Specific policy, program, or tool we take to achieve a strategy

PERFORMANCE MONITORING

Indicators
Quantitative measures used to assess performance on a regular basis

Targets
Levels of performance that are sustainable
Key Terms

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Today’s Focus
Stakeholder Process and Today’s Agenda
Stakeholder Engagement

Equity Statement

Equity

Goal
Reduce disparities across geographies due to race, class, gender, and other social differences

Strategy
Commit resources to include those often left out of policy and planning discussions

Indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distributional</th>
<th>Actions that repair current and historical imbalances</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Procedural</td>
<td>Participatory decisionmaking with vulnerable communities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transformational</td>
<td>Strategies securing future benefits for at-risk populations</td>
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Stakeholder Engagement Plan

UCLA
Environmental NGOs, Public Sector, Private Sector

Liberty Hill Foundation
Equity-Focused NGOs

Estolano LeSar Advisors
Public Sector, Private Sector

County of Los Angeles
Internal Stakeholders

NGO SECTOR | PUBLIC SECTOR | PRIVATE SECTOR
Stakeholder Engagement Timeline

- **Prepare Stakeholder Engagement Plan**
  - NGO, Public, and Private Sector Workshops
  - MAR 18, APR 18, MAY 18, JUN 18, JUL 18, AUG 18, SEP 18, OCT 18

- **Prepare Discussion Draft**
  - Sustainability Summits
  - NOV 18, DEC 18, JAN 19, FEB 19, MAR 19, APR 19, MAY 19, JUN 19

- **PREPARE**
  - Spring 2018

- **LEARN**
  - Summer-Fall 2018

- **CREATE**
  - Winter 2018-Spring 2019

- **FINALIZE**
  - Summer 2019

**Summary Report**
Today’s Team Leaders

Stakeholder Engagement

- Liberty Hill: Michele Prichard, Ben Russak & Chuy Flores
- UCLA: Laurel Hunt & Ari Simon

Data & Analysis and Topic Teams

- UCLA: Stephanie Pincetl
- BuroHappold: Adam Friedberg
Community-Based Anchor Organizations

- Supervisor District 1 (Solis): **East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice**
- Supervisor District 2 (Ridley-Thomas): **Strategic Concepts in Organizing and Policy Education**
- Supervisor District 3 (Kuehl): **Pacoima Beautiful**
- Supervisor District 4 (Hahn): **Communities for a Better Environment**
- Supervisor District 5 (Barger): **Day One**
Today’s Agenda

9:00  Welcome
  • Welcome (Chief Sustainability Office and LAANE)
  • Workshop Overview (Michele Prichard, Liberty Hill)
  • Past Workshop Feedback (Ari Simon, UCLA)
  • Waste and Resource Management Overview (Adam Friedberg, BuroHappold)
  • Question and Answers

10:00  Breakout Session 1 -  Goals

10:50  Reconvene and Report Back

11:00  Breakout Session 2 -  Strategies by Issue Area

12:05  Reconvene, Report Back, and Dot Voting

12:30  Lunch and Breakout Session 3 -  Collaboration Strategies

1:15  Wrap Up and Evaluation (Michele Prichard, Liberty Hill)
LA County Waste and Resource Management Overview
What We Know About Materials

- Largest manufacturing hub in the US
- Producing computers, clothing apparel, electronics, chemicals, petroleum products and other products
- Approximately 13,000 manufacturers
- Over $71 Billion worth of manufacturing products produced in L.A. County
- Over 350,000 jobs
Waste Status and Trends

- Waste disposed by L.A. County residents and businesses declined more than 15% compared to 2005 but has increased slightly since 2014.
- Reporting and data on generation, recyclables, organics and other waste needs improvement.
Where are our recyclables going?

- China has been the main importer of California’s recyclables for over two decades.
- China’s National Sword Policy puts restrictions on recyclables and bans the imports of 24 types of recyclables.
- Expansion of existing programs – Recycling Market Development Zones (RMDZ), Materials Exchange, etc.

[Chart: California Recyclables Exports Outside the United States]

Organics

- Approximately 41% of the waste disposed is organic (17-18% is food waste) - estimate
- Major legislation – AB 1826 in process and SB 1383 is coming.
- Existing edible food waste programs throughout the county.
- There is a significant shortage of organic waste treatment facilities in L.A. County.


Credit: LA County DPW
Where does the waste go?

- Approximately 37 MSW transfer stations and/or MRFs, 19 chipping and grinding facilities for yard waste, composting sites and anaerobic digestion treatment facilities
- Waste management facilities tend to be concentrated in communities of color and lower income communities
Where does the waste go?

- MSW exports have increased annually over the last eight years.
- Unincorporated areas are responsible for only 8% of the total landfilled waste but 60% of the landfills used for countywide disposal are in the unincorporated areas.

Annual Waste Exports from L.A. County

Data analyzed from CIWMP Annual Reports, SWIMS Disposal Reports, SWIMS Solid Waste Sites Database and the LACSD Website: Solid Waste and Recycling.
Illegal Dumping

• Illegal dumping of MSW, C&D and Hazardous waste is a major issue across L.A. County. Approximately 14,000 tons of waste is illegally dumped per year in the unincorporated areas alone.

• Historical issues with cleanup being addressed in disadvantaged communities.
Hazardous Waste

- Hazardous waste in L.A. County is estimated to be as much as 20% of the total annual MSW.
- Approximately 26,000 hazardous waste generators in L.A. County.
- Approximately 2.2 million tons of hazardous waste generated in L.A. County.
E-waste/Pharmaceuticals/Sharps

- Residents are generating more e-waste due to the number of products purchased.
- Pharmaceuticals are often flushed or disposed in the trash bin and may enter the aquatic environment.
- Manufacturers may be required to implement takeback and education programs for sharps – SB 212.
The Role of the County in Waste and Resource Management

- Department of Public Works fulfills a number of waste management roles – advising the Board of Supervisors, preparing the landfill Siting Element, coordinating and implementing unincorporated area waste programs and manage the franchise system and Garbage Disposal Districts (among other responsibilities).

- Department of Public Health’s Toxics Epidemiology Program identifies, controls and prevents the health effects associated with toxic agents in the L.A. County population.

- L.A. County Fire Department’s Health Hazardous Materials Division (HHMD) manages the Hazardous Waste Generator Program.

- Other entities:
  - The Sanitation Districts of L.A. County accept solid waste to be processed or transferred from the waste haulers that serve various communities.
  - Individual jurisdictions in L.A. County (e.g., Los Angeles, Long Beach, Santa Monica)
Draft Goals for Discussion

A. Pave the way toward a circular economy that encourages reuse, repair, and regeneration, while minimizing waste and pollution.

B. Eliminate the use of and exposure to toxic substances.

C. Reduce organic waste generated across L.A. County with the target of 75% diversion of organics by 2025.

D. Accelerate a waste free future by targeting the highest priority waste streams in a comprehensive approach that includes reduction, reuse, and resource recovery.

E. Address special waste streams with broad impact on county residents and ecosystems.
• **Organic Waste** – e.g., food waste, yard waste, composting, digestion and infrastructure.

• **Manufacturing & Remanufacturing** – e.g., increasing the reuse of plastics, textiles, e-waste, and other discarded materials sent to China, recyclables policy, and green manufacturing/green chemistry/industrial ecology opportunities.

• **Worker Safety, Green Economy and Jobs** – e.g., the waste sector is characterized by low-paying, dangerous jobs with high turnover, collection and franchising issues, etc.

• **Environmental Impacts** – e.g., air, water, soil & brownfields, land use, and ocean/marine and stormwater.

• **Public Health** – e.g., air pollution impact on adjacent communities, odors, nuisance, recycling businesses, pharmaceuticals and sharps, and unauthorized commercial activities in neighborhoods with noxious impacts.

• **Source Reduction/Natural Resources** – e.g., reduce the use of materials (especially plastics, textiles, e-waste), eliminate hazardous materials, environmental/health impacts, conservation and retailer/manufacturer takebacks.

• **What’s Missing** – e.g., transportation and shipping?