

Regional Recycling Working Group Meeting

Date: 6/23/2026

Meetings take place the 4th Tuesday of the month from 10 am – 12 pm

Location: Microsoft Teams meeting

Staff Contact: Eric Wolff

County of San Diego

(858) 226-0556

Eric.Wolff@sdcounty.ca.gov

Agenda

1) Introductions

- Alexander Galasso, City of San Diego
- Alexander Richter, County of San Diego
- Annika Andersen, HF&H Consultants
- Anthony Smith, Republic Services
- Avecita Jones, City of Carlsbad
- Caitlin Barboza, HF&H Consultants
- Cynthia Mallett, WM
- Dana Laosiri, Republic Services
- Daron Warkentin, City of San Diego
- Debbie Descans, WM
- Diana Jamaledine, City of Solana Beach
- Doug Kobold, CPSC
- Emily Schuetz, CalReycle
- Fernando Moreno, City of Escondido
- Gio Cortes, City of Escondido
- Heather Heckman, City of Santee
- Kristen Dare, WM
- Irini Penir, WM
- James H. Eggart, Woodruff & Smart
- Janin Rodarte, City of Oceanside
- Jennafer Steffen, City of Poway
- Karen Clay, I Love a Clean San Diego
- Madeleine Falco, SDSU
- Mallika Sen, Solana Center
- Manuel Medrano, City of Chula Vista
- Natalia King Quick, County of San Diego
- Nicole Grucky, City of Solana Beach
- Paul Maechler, City of Encinitas
- Roxana Montalvo, County of San Diego
- Serena Lee, City of La Mesa
- Stephen Mergener, Zero Waste San Diego
- Steve Weihe, County of San Diego
- Ting-yao Li, City of Escondido
- Tyla Soylu, Zero Waste San Diego
- Wbaldo Arellano, City of Imperial Beach

- 2) Transcripts and AI Notetaking** – Transcriptions and AI Notetaking are allowed. If you are using such services, please consider that they are not perfect and confirm with the source before quoting anyone.

3) Open Forum

- a) Solana Center
 - i) Eco World Presentation
 - (1) Interest is growing among cities in textile waste reduction and SB 54 readiness. Solana Center is interested in fostering collaboration and encouraging outreach.
 - (2) New educational initiatives, including gardening workshops developed with the Botanic Garden will begin in Fall 2026.

4) Presentations

- a) Strategic Plan to Reduce Waste – Annika Anderson & Eric Wolff
 - i) Regulatory Environment
 - (1) AB 341, AB 1826, and SB 1383 exist as the primary drivers of waste diversion in California.
 - ii) Waste Diversion Goals
 - (1) County of San Diego: 80% waste diversion by 2030, 90% by 2045
 - (a) 14 jurisdictions have goals of 80% or greater, 8 have goals of 90% or greater
 - iii) Current System and Accomplishments
 - (1) Unincorporated areas of San Diego County landfill 515,000 tons of material annually, 73% of which could be diverted
 - (2) Expanded Reuse, Repair, and Recycling supports job creation – 10 - 75x more jobs than landfilling
 - (3) 80% waste diversion could reduce emissions by 38,000 metric tons of CO₂, and 90% diversion 58,000 metric tons
 - (4) Collection Systems
 - (a) Residential
 - (i) Three bin system (Blue, Gray, Green), 6 waste haulers
 - (b) Commercial
 - (i) Commercial and roll off service, 10 haulers
 - (5) Accomplishments
 - (a) 20 programs from 2017 Strategic Plan are complete or under way
 - (b) 56% waste diversion in 2020 increased to 62% in 2024, projecting 64% for 2025
 - iv) Strategic Plan Process
 - (1) Zero Waste Hierarchy
 - (a) Reduce
 - (i) Reduce waste streams (e.g. junk mail reduction)
 - (b) Reuse
 - (i) Reuse items (e.g. Fix-it clinics)
 - (c) Recycle
 - (i) Recycle diverted goods (e.g. plastics, metal, cardboard)
 - 1. Outreach and education
 - (d) Compost
 - (i) Compost of organic materials (e.g. food, yard waste)
 - (e) Goals of Stakeholder Engagement

- (i) Leverage, Receive, and Contribute
 - 1. Engage community stakeholders, gather feedback, and co-design a feasible updated Strategic Plan
 - a. Schedule
 - i. Will extend into 2026, leading into a presentation to the Board of Supervisors in 2027
 - 2. Engage page with included survey:
 - a. [Strategic Plan to Reduce Waste | Engage San Diego County](#)
- v) Questions
 - (a) What challenges have there been to recycling messaging?
 - (i) Multiple haulers confuses messaging due to differences in accepted materials, residents are encouraged to contact haulers for specific guidance
 - (b) Concerns over organics still being found in the improper bins
 - (i) Oops-tag programs, education on “ick factor”, and outreach to edible food recovery generators is needed to address this
 - (ii) Tailored education using behavioral models may be necessary for diverse communities, staffing increases will help in these efforts
 - (c) What role does education play in teaching K-12 students?
 - (i) Robust system is in place that educates over 30,000 students annually, alongside lunch sorting programs
 - (d) CHARM centers and Resource Recovery Parks are being considered as options to collect hard to recycle items

5) NSAC Update

- a) SB 936 and SB 501 are moving forward in the legislative process

6) CPSC Update

- a) AB 762: Disposable, battery-embedded vapor inhalation device: prohibition.
 - (1) Moving forward in the legislative process
 - (a) Reach out to Doug Kobold for participation in coalition letter
- b) AB 80 & AB 904: Carpet recycling.
 - i) Revived, adding Union stipend for training
- c) SB 1010: Hazardous waste: major appliances: recycling.
 - i) Had to pivot due to issues with cost and likelihood of appropriations
- d) Questions:
 - i) Status of SB 1371?
 - (1) Bill is sitting in appropriations
 - ii) Updates to SB 54 advisory process?
 - (1) Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO) plan being released on June 15th
 - (a) Advisory board has three meetings scheduled, with 60 days to put in comments to the CAA
 - (2) SB 54 PRO Plan:
 - (a) https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/13fA4a_wG_ALo5cctrxPhPAu0CaIVXsW2

7) Wasting Fee Update – No update.

- a) Agenda item will be removed

8) Waste to Worth Update

- a) Next phase of Waste to Worth initiative:
 - i) [Public engagement webpage is now live](#)
 - ii) [Public survey has launched](#)
 - (1) Receiving responses until July 31, 2026
 - iii) Sector-Focused Discussions
 - (1) Focuses on textiles, construction & demolition materials
 - (2) [Fill out this form to share your availability](#)
 - (3) Additional meeting will be held for municipalities

9) SB 1383 Roundtable

- a) Encouraged participants to watch SB 1383 and SB 54 webinars
- b) Grant and Loan Programs
 - i) Grants: Beverage container redemption, used oil payment, farm and ranch cleanup, tire aggregation
 - ii) Loans: Recycling market development zones
- c) Upcoming Workshops
 - i) Packaging Producer Responsibility Advisory Board meeting
 - ii) 2025 Electronic Annual Report (EAR) webinar
- d) SB 1383 Enforcement Guide introduced
- e) Six electric class dumpsters procured using SB 1383 funds

10) CRRRA 2026 Conference Planning

- a) CRRRA Conference registration
 - i) <https://www.crra.com/conference>
 - (1) Early bird registration ends June 30th, 2026

11) Other Regional Working Group Reports

- a) Edible Food
 - i) 25% increase in donations and 13% increase in food recovery from regulated businesses
- b) HHW
 - i) Monthly meeting overview
 - (1) Presentation from CUPA, common violations and prevention tips, annual reminders for submitting closure costs

12) Roundtable

- a) Goodwill is interested in setting up an SB 707 Working Group
 - i) CPSC Strategy: [CPSC Textile Stewardship | CPSC](#)
- b) Pilot program started in Yosemite for reusable cups
 - i) Public pushback received due to not being able to see color in drinks
- c) June 28th, 2026: Eco Fest Encinitas
 - i) [HOME | EcoFest](#)

13) Adjournment - next meeting 07/28/2026.