

MEMO



Staff Reports
Item #: 12

Meeting Date: October 20, 2023

To: Board of Directors
From: Director of Communications, Zoë Shoats
Approved by: General Manager, Felipe Melchor

Subject: TAC / SB 1383 Update from September 13, 2023, Meeting

Recommendation

Information only.

Background

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) is a staff working group comprised of at least one representative from each member jurisdiction ReGen Monterey serves; the three franchise haulers who serve them; and ReGen Monterey staff. The TAC was initially formed to better coordinate ReGen Monterey member jurisdictions in choosing a common franchise hauler to provide curbside collection service for the benefit of the community. Since then, the group meets at a frequency set by demand to share resources and work collaboratively towards common goals and meet regulations. The Committee does not make decisions, rather, staff members recommend actions for the ReGen Monterey Board and/or their elected bodies to take action.

Discussion

The TAC met on Wednesday, September 13, 2023, virtually via Zoom. Items discussed include:

1. **ReGen Monterey Landfill Characterization Study** – ReGen Monterey Engineering staff informed the member jurisdictions and haulers of an upcoming waste characterization study taking place this fall. The study aims to determine how much and what type of recyclable and organic materials are being placed in the waste stream that could be diverted from the landfill. This study will also provide a baseline as it relates to community participation in food scrap diversion per SB 1383 regulations during the two-year educational period from 2022-2024.
2. **CalRecycle Oversight and Enforcement (SB 1383 Jurisdiction Compliance)** – ReGen Monterey staff shared new guidance from CalRecycle regarding jurisdictional compliance with SB 1383.

Communications & Public Education staff recently attended the California Resource Recovery Association (CRRA) Annual Conference which had an informative session from multiple divisions within CalRecycle. CalRecycle enforcement staff shared that they will be

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inspecting one-third of the state each year due to limited staffing. They will be focusing on jurisdictions that are not meeting regulations and are non-communicative showing “substantial effort.” They may also visit jurisdictions that are doing exceptionally well implementing programs for compliance so they can use them as a case study.

Should a jurisdiction fall into the enforcement process, there is a three-year timeline before fines are enacted. That timeline includes notices of violation (NOV), extension of NOV, corrective action plan (CAP), and extension of CAP.

TAC members including jurisdiction staff, ReGen Monterey staff, and haulers all feel that we are in a good place as a region in implementing this extensive law.

3. **Edible Food Recovery Presentation at CRRRA Conference** – Third-party contractor, Blue Strike Environmental, shared a presentation they gave at the California Resource Recovery Association (CRRRA) Annual Conference on behalf of and in conjunction with ReGen Monterey and Salinas Valley Recycles. The session shared our regional approach to edible food recovery which includes:
 - I. Building capacity for more edible food storage and donation through annual grant programs funding food recovery organizations. Over the last two years \$ 185,975 in grant funds have been distributed by ReGen Monterey and Salinas Valley Recycles; and
 - II. Implementation of the Careit app to help connect food generators with food recovery organizations, ensuring even small donations can be shared with those who are hungry. The app also helps food recovery organizations with tracking for mandated reporting.

The presentation also featured three local food recovery organizations who had directly benefited from donations received. Those organizations include St. George’s Episcopal Church, Dorothy’s Place, and The Salvation Army in Salinas.

4. **Roll-Off Compaction Update by HF&H** – At a previous TAC meeting, one of the haulers servicing our area brought the concern of roll-off dumpster compaction by third-party companies. The companies claim that they can compact dumpsters so more can fit in the dumpster, but haulers were concerned with potential liabilities. HF&H Consultants researched the concern and reported findings at this meeting. While third-party compaction companies like “Smash My Trash” are operating in nearby counties, so far there have not been reports of them operating in Monterey County. This item was informational only.

Financial Impact

None

Conclusion

The TAC will continue to meet monthly and staff members will make recommendations to the boards they serve for action as needed.]