

LONG RANGE SOLID WASTE PLANNING TASK FORCE

INTERIM REPORT TO COUNCIL

October 27, 2005

INTRODUCTION

The City of Austin Long Range Solid Waste Planning Task Force (Task Force), convened as an ad hoc subcommittee of the Solid Waste Advisory Commission, at the direction of Council Member Betty Dunkerley, first met on April 11, 2005. This, our first interim report, outlines our work to date and points toward our intended next steps. Attached, please find a roster of current members.

FINDINGS

The City of Austin Long Range Solid Waste Planning Task Force Finds:

- The issues of local and regional solid waste management are inextricably intertwined.
- Several and various City, County, Regional, State and Federal Government Agencies have jurisdiction and influence over matters of solid waste management; a situation that, without coordination, inhibits effective local and regional planning, management and regulatory efforts.
- The stakeholders in issues of solid waste management include the public-at-large, governments, service providers and the recipients of solid waste management services, all of which may benefit from a concerted and cooperative planning effort.
- The issues encountered in solid waste management planning are various, numerous and intricate.
- The Task Force has identified several key elements that warrant further research and discussion: baseline data, infrastructure, technology, public policy, implementation and ongoing management.
- Consensus has been reached, tentatively, on several topics; including adoption of Zero Waste as our target and the potential use of a solid waste authority or district or lead organization as a means of achieving that aim.
- Further investigation requires the application of a professional facilitator and/or consultant and ongoing staff support.

LONG RANGE SOLID WASTE PLANNING TASK FORCE

MEMBERS as of 10/27/05

Dennis Hobbs, Texas Disposal Systems
Robin Schneider, Texas Campaign for the Environment
Gerry Acuna, TRI Recycling
Gail Vitori, Center for Maximum Potential Building Systems
Adrian Neely, Triad Building Maintenance
Melinda Mallia, Travis County
Keith Helmers, CAPCOG
Melissa Martinez, SWS
Joyce Best, Northast Action Group
Trek English, Northeast Action Group
Steve Shannon, Allied/BFI
Matt Myers, Allied
John Clement, Ecology Action of Texas
Rebecca Hays, Goodwill Industries
Steve Jacobs, Waste Management, TX
Willie Rhodes, SWS
JD Porter, SWAC
Bob Gregory, Texas Disposal Systems
Christine Banks, Goodwill Industries
Melanie McAfee, Northeast Action Group
Thomas Vinson-Peng, Southwest Network for Zero Waste
Amy Word, Austin Apartment Association
John Kuhl, Travis County

Subject: FW: Draft e-mail to JD about Scope of Work
From: "Helmert, Keith" <khelmert@capcog.org>
Date: Tue, 18 Oct 2005 13:07:16 -0500
To: "JD Porter" <jdporter@tpoint.net>

JD,

We have reviewed the City of Austin Long Range Task Force Scope of Work and feel that it is in line with the goals of the COG's Regional Solid Waste Management Plan. We are in support of it being presented to the City Council and look forward to the outcome of the consultants report.

Keith Helmert

Solid Waste Program Coordinator

Capital Area Council of Governments

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