

## Waste & Consumption TWG Meeting #3 Summary

Wednesday, May 23, 2018

9:00-11:00 PM

1400 S. Flores Main Conference Room

**Facilitators:** Danielle Vitoff (Navigant)

### Introduction Presentation

- Introduced new Waste & Consumption TWG members
- Goal of the meeting: vote on broader mitigation goals that should be included in the plan
- Reviewed CAAP timeline: GHG baseline is mostly completed with some minor refining to do and starting to develop future scenarios
- Provided examples of other CAAP frameworks for reference:
  - NYC's 1.5 Degree Plan for its evaluation of co-benefits and incorporating equity in metrics
  - New Orleans' Plan for its broad, audacious goals with a focus on resilience
  - Climate Smart San Jose for its "Three Pillars" approach

### Measure Brainstorm

- Prompt: *What components are critical to San Antonio's climate action strategy around waste and consumption?*
- TWG were asked to write their responses on Post-it notes to the question and stick them on easel pads under the categories of personal/institutional practices, codes/standards, programs, smart cities, social/quality of life, and other (see images below)
- Responses were reviewed and some were re-categorized and clarified.
- Most responses were clustered around smart cities, followed by programs, practices (personal and institutional), social/quality of life, codes & standards

### GHG Reductions

- Scan of Past & Current Plans
  - Examined 31 plans to attempt to quantify GHGs. Suggestions for this planning process include increasing GHG awareness; developing/applying methods for estimating GHG emissions; emergency management must include fuel shortage possibility in planning; expand funding for non-auto options; leverage land use to reduce congestion and vehicle miles travelled; assess proposed projects for GHG impacts
  - Make sure we have the right agencies/policies/processes to reduce GHG emissions
- Draft 2040 Community Emissions
  - Discussed 4 possible GHG emissions projections compared to 2016

### Measure Prioritization

- Consider four elements to prioritize proposed measures
  - GHG Impact: Does the measure have to potential for low, medium, or high GHG emissions reductions?
  - Equity
  - Ease of implementation: Is the measure hard or easy to implement? Does implementation require a small or large number of stakeholders?
  - Cost of implementation: Is the implementation cost low or high, when including cost borne be all

stakeholders?

- The ideal measure will have potential for high GHG emission reductions, be equitable, easy to implement, and low in cost
- Activity: measure the four criteria, vote for your top three with colored dots (all dots weighted equally, colors have no meaning), and review the top 3-5 measures through voting
  - Results: Commercial Recycling ordinance received the most votes. (See photos below for results of prioritization activity.)
  - Comments:
    - Incentives are preferable to regulation, but regulations should also be considered. Do not forget that with regulation, monitoring has its associated costs.
    - Behavior change is difficult, and we have to understand what inspires behavior change (e.g. fines, penalties, etc.)
    - International recycling market is changing, and we need to make sure our strategies are not brittle.
    - Localized recycling is important as is the circular economy discussion (i.e. “closing the loop”).
    - The average resident still gets confused about what can and cannot be recycled; we need to have clear, concise, easy-to-understand goals.
    - City of San Antonio Solid Waste Management Department has a Zero Waste Plan.

### Meeting Wrap-up

- Wrap-up
  - Nicholas Galus, Assistant Director, City of San Antonio Solid Waste Management Department
    - Need to consider effects of policies (ex. Seattle mandated commercial composting, but there are piles of compost with no place to go.); when considering CNG v. diesel trucks, some diesel trash trucks are cleaner now; ReWorksSA focuses on commercial recycling and can consult to various businesses
- Homework for next meeting due TBD:
  - Work on drafting language to clarify top 3-5 selected goals
  - Look for request to provide input on cost-benefit analysis
- Feedback to be sent to [lisa.lin@sanantonio.gov](mailto:lisa.lin@sanantonio.gov) or [danielle.vitoff@navigant.com](mailto:danielle.vitoff@navigant.com)
- The next meeting is an online meeting on Wednesday, June 27<sup>th</sup> from 9:00-10:00am. The 1400 S. Flores Main Conference Room will be reserved at that time if you would like to watch it as a group.

### Public Comment

- There should be a recognizable metric for waste that would motivate behavior change similar to the community’s knowledge of the aquifer level.
- “All stakeholders” should include future generations. Paris Agreement does not go far enough. We need zero emissions. Also, new diesel engines produce very fine particles which have adverse cardiovascular and pulmonary effects which CNG does not produce.
- Q: Have we done a recycling audit, and do we know where our recycling ends up?/A: The State of Texas Alliance for Recycling (STAR) did a comprehensive review answering that question.

# CODES + STANDARDS

Publicly funded institutions (funded by taxes - schools, police, fire buildings) must have prof-top rules, they must also dedicate vegetable food waste for composting.

Require CONSTR. + Demolition Recycling

Develop Code Requirements For Commercial Bldgs To have space for Recycling, Composting

Relax Greywater Use Restrictions

EPR policies

Extended Producer Responsibilities

Reduce Fuel Use from Collection Vehicles

Increase Organic (Food) Diversion

(Big part of City's Green Goals)

Require Commercial Recycling For Businesses

Organic Commercial Composting

Commercial Recycling Ordinance

Commercial, Residential, + Institutional Sectors - equal participation (requirements)

# PROGRAMS

Barter Markets

Events showcasing local sustainable

companies/organizations

use opportunities to learn about best practices

"Feeding the 5000" citywide event - education + awareness

Export Pearl Man Compost model to other high-density sleeping areas

Fund Cost Parity for Commercial Recycling

Food waste that is still consumable - how to redistribute to people that need it

"Personalize" the narrative of CAAP in San Antonio - how will BAA affect our institutions in specific ways.

New business that recycle products - may need some kind of support from City

Ways to collect food left-overs from commercial sites

City and/or Parks+Rec incorporate organics collection drop-off sites throughout city

Localize composting

Eco-Ambassador Program

Partner w/ SAHA other multifamily housing

Plastic/glass buybacks

Incentivize local commercial re-use

Remove barriers with Bring Your Own @ businesses

Recycling + Composting in all schools + major employers

Source reduction

Backyard Chicken Incentive

Is it feasible to arrange exchange of trial waste products?

Reverse Pitch

# SOCIAL / QUALITY OF LIFE

City-wide cleanup  
of urban areas  
- media awareness

SUPPORT +  
FUND A  
COMPREHENSIVE  
RESIDENTIAL  
RECYCLING  
EDUCATION + OUTREACH  
PROGRAM

Awareness  
at public events  
like Fiesta

More frequent  
Community  
Clean ups  
I.E. Basura Bash

# SMART CITIES

Explore blockchain  
token incentives for  
recycling

Incentivize  
innovation  
encourage  
institutional  
initiatives

Commercial business  
incentive to  
implement  
organics recycling

Encourage  
Growth of  
Businesses -  
Manufacturing  
based on  
Recycled Materials

Circular  
Economy

How can SATX-  
CoSA reduce packaging  
(esp. non-recyclable)  
of products from out-  
side SATX and sold  
in SA?

Move from  
waste management  
to  
resource management

Chain  
Redesign

How can medical waste  
of the large medical industry  
of SA be reduced while  
maintaining safety, product  
quality, infection of the patients  
and community @ large?

Waste to  
energy - Anaerobic  
Digestion

Zero waste

Promote local  
secondary market  
for recycled  
materials

Create Infra-  
structure  
for Organic  
Diversion

Survey of local  
organizations  
addressing any piece  
of waste cycle and  
boost successful efforts

Cross Sector  
collaboration

~~Tax/Finance~~

# PRACTICES (PERSONAL + INSTITUTIONAL)

Cultivate buy-in  
by using CAAP  
members, orgs,  
institutions, businesses

Identify local  
"good actors" &  
adopt their models

Capture  
Methane  
from  
Landfills

Encourage personal  
community gardening  
& composting

Reward  
"Good actors"  
(Orgs, Institutions,  
Businesses) through  
PR

Recognize/incentivize  
people already  
practicing zero waste/  
"green" behaviors

Localize  
Recycling

Waste Water  
Treatment

Promote  
"Reuse" +  
"Repurpose"  
of existing  
materials

Educate  
Consumers -  
on  
sources of  
high production  
business transportation

## OTHER

Ways to include  
other cities in  
Bexar County

Fund Research  
into improving  
single stream  
Residential  
RECYCLING

Extend  
Opportunity  
for encapsulated  
cities within  
BOSA to participate