

Public Meeting Notes – December 15-18, 2008

Introduction and Purpose

As part of the ISWMP Update, the County is seeking public input at various stages of the planning process. This document provides a record of the second set of public meetings that were held at three venues during the week of December 15, 2008. Those meetings with a summary of the attendees follow.

- **Kona, December 15, 2008.** There were 8 members of the public at the meeting, which went from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm. County staff present included Mike Dworsky, and consultant team staff present included Dan Pitzler and Marc Dexter.
- **Hilo, December 17, 2008.** There were 15 members of the public at the meeting, which went from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm. County staff present included Mike Dworsky and Chris Chin-Chance, and consultant team staff present included Dan Pitzler and Ron Terry.
- **Waimea, December 18, 2008.** There were 8 members of the public at the meeting, which went from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm. County staff present included Mike Dworsky, and consultant team staff present included Dan Pitzler and Ron Terry.

Presentation

At each meeting, Dan Pitzler made a presentation that provided an overview of the plan objectives, zero waste, and waste composition and quantities. After that overview, the presentation included a discussion of existing conditions and options for source reduction; and education; recycling, bioconversion and markets; household hazardous waste and e-Waste; collection and transfer; and residuals management.

Participants Opinions about Options

Participants were invited to ask questions during the presentation and were encouraged to indicate their preferences for different options by “voting”. A score of 5 indicated an option that is essential for implementation in the next 5 years, and a score of 1 indicated an option that the participant strongly opposed including in the plan. A summary of participant’s opinions is provided at the end of this document.

Comments

Comments received at each of the three venues follow.

Kona

Option 5 PAYT

- Illegal Dumping – has this been considered with this option? Yes, it will be important to include an education campaign and the option should be phased in through time.
- Does this work better for curbside versus transfer system? Maybe simpler to implement for curbside.
- Needs to be affordable
- Are tags easily counterfitted? Could be a concern – this issue would need to be addressed.
- Swipe cards instead of tags

Option 2 – Curbside Collection

- Can you explain why County crew would have to collect? Legal issue at state level – could be changed with state legislation
- Would union crew result in higher cost? It may.

Recycling

- Why aren't we looking at recycling that actually re-uses materials? Preferable to do so, but not always feasible economically.
- Glass going into hole in Hilo = being landfilled
- Household hazardous waste in jars then gets into landfill
- Public funds being used to recycle glass but glass is being landfilled
- Single stream program?
- Farm bill funding would be available if packaged right with a program to convert garbage into dirt. Use endangered species act as leverage to procure federal funds. Value of dirt and of saving endangered species is larger/ outweighs negating operating costs
- Money goes to societal uses – improves the education and should be considered in the equation
- Costs review needs to be done
- Perhaps waste stream separation and recycling does not work well here
- Appreciate the input all the way around

HHW

- Secondary containment should be implemented for one day events
- Final disposition will be important

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- Change view of waste from problem to opportunity

Transfer Stations

- What about privatizing stations?
- Future growth and changes need to be taken into account when planning decisions are made
- Optimizing transfer system in Ka'u area can be a good way to optimize efficiency
- Mixing cinder into product to dilute contaminants
- Pay-as-you-throw can generate proportionally high funds from multi-family homes

Hilo

- PAYT - will there be more dumping? Research from other communities indicates that typically it does not - possibly a short-term spike, but then back to long-term trend.
- Trash tags - we already pay ~7% for SW - is this more? Probably not.
- How much is too much? Xtra tags
- Tipping fee ordinance - Holiday trash?
- EPR - difficult with shipping in Hawai'i
- Packaging take backs
- Hazardous-take-back \$ - front and back end (e.g., fluorescent bulbs)
- Hot/moist climate tough for food collection
- People already take out HI-5 at Parks
- Costs for all this? Taxpayers pay
- Wants financials on current situation? How can I get a copy? Will be provided.
- Buy garbage - pay households for sorted garbage
- I'd think we could easily sort out plastic
- Support for WTE
- Can convert organics without much technology - it just decomposes
- There are some recyclers already sorting
- If you close small stations, may get illegal dumping
- There isn't enough money to do much of this
- Why is food going in dump?
- Piggeries are gone

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- WTE is less labor-intensive
 - Emphasize packaging reductions
 - County could save money by buying off-road diesel for County SW vehicles
 - Consider the interaction of major biomass energy proposals with ISWMP

Waimea

- Plastic packaging is excessive
- County reuse center RFP? Status
- Need to process greenwaste immediately to prevent odors
- Are DOH/planning permits burdensome? Can be for composting on agricultural lands.
- Why not composting at transfer stations?
- Earth machines are unavailable – need to make them more available
- Need some place to take compost - Especially to institutions, schools
- Involve the school-comm. boards gardens/parks
- Need bin/shredder for greenwaste
- No place for business to recycle
- Need to be able to dump FOG
- Pacific biodiesel – what presence on the island?
- Consider interactions with biomass to energy projects
- Why do existing personnel not help with recycling? This is something the County wants to improve.
- Education is key to all components
- Kona landfill remediation/excavation brownfields?
- How will future of recyclables shape up?
- Is bale and barge consistent with zero waste?
- Analog to digital TV disposal flood
- Put an electronics drop-off at transfer station

Hawaii County Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan Update
Summary of Participant Preferences from December 2008 Public Meetings

Instructions: Please provide a score for each option. Your score should range from 1 to 5 in accordance with the following scale. Please add any ideas, concerns, or comments next to your score.

Score

- 5 = Absolutely essential for implementation in the next 5 years
- 4 = Good idea; should be included in the next 5 years if at all possible
- 3 = Some support; include in next 5 years if funding is available, or possibly in the future
- 2 = Other options are better; consider inclusion in the future
- 1 = Strongly oppose including this option in the plan

	Median Scores			
	Total	Kona	Hilo	Waimea
	n=19	n=1	n=12	n=6
Source Reduction and Education Options	Score (1-5)	Score (1-5)	Score (1-5)	Score (1-5)
1. Improve County Source Reduction Practices	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
6. Expanded Home Composting Program	4.5	5.0	4.0	4.5
7. Expanded Reusable Bag Program	5.0	5.0	4.5	5.0
2A. Business Waste Audits - Education and information	4.5	5.0	4.5	4.0
2B. Business waste reduction plans for building permits	5.0	5.0	4.0	5.0
3. Tourism Industry - Partnering	5.0	5.0	3.5	5.0
4. Expanded Reuse Facilities – More services; more facilities	4.5	5.0	4.0	4.5
8. Expand Source Reduction Education	4.0	4.0	3.5	4.5
9. Establish Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Policy	4.5	5.0	3.5	4.5
11. Establish Opportunity to Recycle Legislation	4.0	4.0	4.0	5.0
12. Active State/Regional Zero Waste Public Policy	4.0	4.0	4.0	5.0
5. Pay-As-You-Throw for Residential Discards at Transfer Stations	2.0	5.0	2.0	2.0
10. Landfill Ban and Mandatory Recycling Policy	3.0	3.0	2.0	4.0
13. Create a Zero Waste fund	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0

	Score (1-5)	Score (1-5)	Score (1-5)	Score (1-5)
Recycling and Bioconversion Options				
1. Green waste dropoff at (or near) County Recycling/Transfer Stations	5.0	4.0	5.0	5.0
6. Commercial recycling and green waste with 4 key elements	4.5	5.0	3.0	4.5
10a. Improve recycling opportunities in County parks	5.0	3.0	5.0	5.0
10c. Expand the promotion of event recycling	5.0	4.0	5.0	5.0
10e. Construction and demolition waste reduction plans	5.0	5.0	4.0	5.0
5. Mandatory recycling or disposal bans at Recycling/Transfer Stations	4.0	4.0	2.0	5.0
7. Bioconversion of food and other organics from businesses and institutions	4.0	4.0	3.0	5.0
9. Marketing partnership with other Hawai'i counties and State	4.0	3.0	4.0	4.0
10d. Increase County efforts to promote visitor industry recycling	4.0	3.0	4.0	5.0
8. Increase County procurement of recycled materials	3.0	5.0	3.0	3.0
10b. Improve recycling opportunities in downtown streets	4.5	3.0	4.5	5.0
4. 3-stream residential curbside collection (organics, recyclables, garbage)	3.5	4.0	1.5	3.5
2. Residential curbside collection of recyclables	2.5	5.0	1.5	2.5
3. Residential curbside collection of green waste	1.0	5.0	1.0	1.0

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	Median Scores			
	Total n=17	Kona n=1	Hilo n=12	Waimea n=6
Source Reduction and Education Options	Score (1-5)	Score (1-5)	Score (1-5)	Score (1-5)
Collection and Transfer Options	Score (1-5)	Score (1-5)	Score (1-5)	Score (1-5)
2. Change Permits to Allow Commercial Recycling at Recycling and Transfer Stations	4.0	4.0	2.5	5.0
3. Timely Reconstruction of Stations That are in Need of Major Repair	4.0	3.0	5.0	4.0
7. Lower Transportation Costs by Compacting Recyclables	4.0	3.0	4.5	4.0
1a. Retain existing collection system	4.0	2.0	4.0	4.0
1b. License all residential collection companies	3.0	2.0	3.0	3.5
1c. Licensing with mandatory curbside collection	2.0	2.0	1.0	3.0
1d. County provide residential curbside collection with County crews	2.0	4.0	1.0	2.0
5. Add Full-Time Attendants, Reduce Operating Hours, and Implement PAYT at Recycling and Transfer Stations	1.5	1.0	1.5	2.5
1e. Exclusive franchises for residential curbside collection	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.0
4. Add Full-Time Attendants and Reduce Operating Hours at Recycling and Transfer Stations	1.0	1.0	1.0	4.0
6. Reduce System Costs by Closing Select Stations and Reducing Operating Hours	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.0

	Score (1-5)	Score (1-5)	Score (1-5)	Score (1-5)
Recovery, Treatment, and Landfill Disposal (Residuals) Options				
LF1. Expand SHSL for East Hawai'i residuals, and use WHSL for West Hawai'i residuals	4.0	3.0	4.5	4.0
R2. Waste-to-Energy Facility for East Hawai'i; Ash and Bypass Materials to SHSL	3.0	1.0	3.0	3.0
R3. Waste-to-Energy Facility for all County Residuals; Ash and Bypass Materials to WHSL	3.0	1.0	3.0	4.0
R4. One or More Modular Waste-to-Energy Facilities in Rural Areas; Ash and Bypass Waste to SHSL and WHSL	2.0	1.0	3.0	2.0
R5. Develop Mechanical-Biological Treatment (MBT) Facility at the SHSL and/or WHSL Sites	3.0	4.0	3.0	3.0
R1. No New Recovery or Treatment; Wait to Assess Success of Current Conversion Technology Projects	2.5	2.0	2.5	3.0
LF3. Bale and Barge East Hawai'i Waste and utilize WHSL for West Hawai'i residuals	1.0	1.0	3.0	1.0
LF2. Close SHSL and landfill all County Waste at the WHSL	1.0	2.0	1.0	1.0