



Meeting Agenda

City Council

City Hall
601 4th Avenue E
Olympia, WA 98501

Information: 360.753.8244

Tuesday, September 17, 2019

5:30 PM

Council Chambers

Study Session

1. ROLL CALL

2. BUSINESS ITEMS

- 2.A** [19-0728](#) Special Recognition - Waste ReSources Award Winning Staff

Attachments: [Photograph of Staff](#)

- 2.B** [19-0587](#) Waste ReSources Update: Briefing on the City's Residential Recycling Program

3. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 3.A** [19-0837](#) Executive Session Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i); Litigation and Potential Litigation

4. ADJOURNMENT

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City Council

Special Recognition - Waste ReSources Award Winning Staff

Agenda Date: 9/17/2019
Agenda Item Number: 2.A
File Number: 19-0728

Type: recognition **Version:** 1 **Status:** Recognition

Title

Special Recognition - Waste ReSources Award Winning Staff

Recommended Action

Committee Recommendation:

Not referred to a committee.

City Manager Recommendation:

Recognize Robert Landis, Mark Clawson, and Kris Carpenter for placing first in the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) equipment rodeo.

Report

Issue:

Whether to recognize staff for winning the conference competition.

Staff Contact:

Gary Franks, Waste Resources Director, Public Works, 360.753.8780

Donald Ragsdale, Waste Resources Lead Worker, Public Works, 360.753.8273

Presenter(s):

Gary Franks, Waste Resources Director

Donald Ragsdale, Waste Resources Lead Worker

Background and Analysis:

The Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) hosted a Truck Road-E-O recently in Bend Oregon at the Deschutes County Landfill and accepted participants from Oregon and Washington, calling it the 2019 Northwest Road-E-O. The conference included driver training classes; written driver exams; federal Department of Transportation (DOT) pre/post trip inspection training and testing; and a driver competition in three divisions including roll-off, front load, and automated side load waste collection trucks.

The City of Olympia represented the conference with Robert Landis testing in automated side load, Mark Clawson in roll-off, Kris Carpenter in front load, and Donald Ragsdale as a volunteer judge for the course competition and DOT inspections.

After determining each division's top drivers, they then combine all divisions together to crown the overall top driver in the whole conference. The overall winner received a Road-E-O champion's trophy with the driver's name, and respective organization's name engraved on it. The winner recieved tuition to compete in the annual national SWANA Conference.

Division Results:

- Robert Landis, 1st place, automated side load division
- Mark Clawson, 1st place, roll-off division
- Kris Carpenter, 1st place, front load division

Overall Top Drivers at conference:

- 1st place- Kris Carpenter
- 2nd place- Mark Clawson
- 3rd place- Robert Landis

City of Olympia swept the whole event in all divisions, and finished 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in overall Top Driver.

It was a great opportunity for staff to learn more about their jobs, make connections with others in the industry, and find new ways to enhance safety and improve operational efficiencies. These kind of trainings bolsters team comradery, creates a sense of ownership, and promotes safety in an entertaining way. It also validates the importance we (the City) place on our Driver Safety Training Program to reduce accidents/incidents (i.e. International Academy of Professional Drivers).

Congratulations to Kris, Mark, and Robert.

Neighborhood/Community Interests (if known):

N/A

Options:

No action required - Special Recognition

Financial Impact:

N/A

Attachments:

Photograph of Staff





City Council

Waste ReSources Update: Briefing on the City's Residential Recycling Program

Agenda Date: 9/17/2019
Agenda Item Number: 2.B
File Number: 19-0587

Type: study session **Version:** 1 **Status:** Study Session

Title

Waste ReSources Update: Briefing on the City's Residential Recycling Program

Recommended Action

Committee Recommendation:

Not referred to a committee.

City Manager Recommendation:

Receive a briefing from Waste ReSources staff on the City's recycling program and potential changes to the list of accepted materials. Briefing only; No action requested.

Report

Issue:

Whether to receive a briefing from Waste ReSources staff on the City's recycling program and provide input.

Staff Contact:

Gary Franks, Director, Public Works Waste ReSources, 360.753.8780

Presenter(s):

Gary Franks, Director, Public Works Waste ReSources, 360.753.8780

Ron Jones, Senior Planner, Public Works Waste ReSources, 360.753.8509

Background and Analysis:

Briefing on Recycling

In October 2018, staff gave a briefing to City Council during a Council study session about the state of Olympia's recycling program. Staff presented the impacts related to China's recycling import restrictions, which, at that time, had been in place for 10 months. Recycle revenues were down sharply due to a lack of markets resulting in a large supply of material. Given the challenging market conditions, the City's recyclables were still moving to markets, and the City's recycle processor and industry were optimistic about the future outlook. The expectation was an 18 to 36 month downturn while domestic capacity increased.

During the briefing, staff did not recommend any changes to its system or the accepted material list. Staff committed to monitoring the situation and to evaluate options based on market conditions, and social, financial and environmental impacts.

Since the October study session, the value of material has continued to decline in the past year, and the City is experiencing its lowest value for recyclables ever. Previously, the majority of processing and hauling costs were offset by the revenue generated from sale of recyclable material. Two years ago, the average commodity value received by the city was over \$120 per ton. Today, market value is hovering in the \$8 to \$11 range. The decline in revenue has created a significant budgetary impact. Because of the declining revenue from sale of recyclables, the City's Waste ReSources Utility increased residential rates in 2019 by 5.5 percent. In addition, the City has received both verbal and written recommendations from its recycle processor, Pioneer Recycling Services, to remove glass and poly-coated paper packaging (e.g., milk cartons, juice boxes, frozen food boxes) from its commingled recycle stream. Both glass and poly-coated paper create challenges for recycling in a commingled system.

Staff will brief Council on the status of current recycling markets, the City's response to date, and whether to remove glass and poly-coated paper from the list of accepted materials. In particular, staff will discuss the ongoing challenges associated with glass when it's commingled with other recyclables, and the options for collecting it differently. The briefing will include steps taken to learn more about recycling behaviors and our efforts to reduce contamination.

Neighborhood/Community Interests (if known):

Olympia residential recycling customers will be interested in how the impacts to recycling may affect customer rates and the City's recycle acceptance list.

Since October 2018, staff have provided recycling information via direct mail and the Five-Things utility insert. Staff also met with neighborhood associations, the Council of Neighborhood Associations (CNA), presented at the Olympia Rotary, and heard from residents who are concerned and/or confused about recycling.

Staff briefed the Utility Advisory Committee (UAC) on market challenges and overall impacts to the utility back in April. Staff plans to have future conversations with the UAC on potential changes to the acceptable materials list pending input from City Council.

Options:

Briefing only, no action requested at this time.

Financial Impact:

Recycling Commodity Revenues impact the Waste ReSources budget, ultimately affecting customer utility rates for garbage and recycling. Declining recycle revenue continues to be the biggest driver for 2020 utility budgeting.

Attachments:

None



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Executive Session Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i); Litigation and Potential Litigation

Agenda Date: 9/17/2019
Agenda Item Number: 3.A
File Number: 19-0837

Type: executive session **Version:** 1 **Status:** Executive Session

Title

Executive Session Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i); Litigation and Potential Litigation