

NOTICE OF MEETING
RECYCLING AD HOC COMMITTEE
TUESDAY - JUNE 8, 2021 - 1:00 P.M.
CITY HALL - ROOM 204
823 ROSENBERG
GALVESTON, TX 77550
409-797-3510

One or more members of the Recycling Ad Hoc Committee may attend the meeting by video-conference. Members of the public may participate in the meeting in the following ways: (1) Attend the meeting in person at the above address; or (2) Attend the Zoom meeting - Meeting ID: 838 4476 1818 - Passcode: Vw\$7+

AGENDA

1. Declaration Of A Quorum And Call Meeting To Order
2. Roll Call
3. Consider For Approval Minutes Of The April 13, 2021 And May 25, 2021 Meetings

Documents:

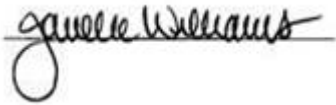
[RECYCLING COMMITTEE MINUTES - AUGUST 13 2021.PDF](#)
[RECYCLING COMMITTEE MINUTES - MAY 25 2021.PDF](#)

4. Public Comments (Limited To Three Minutes Each)
5. Presentation From City Staff Member On:
 1. Update on city-wide plan for access to recycling
 2. Pilot program
 3. Tri-fold
 4. Additional videos/outreach planned
(15-20 minutes and questions)
6. Measurement Tool (Develop) To Track How The Center Is Functioning, Efficiency, Budget, Less Waste To Landfill, Final Disposition, Citizen Input.
This tool would be used to draft report and explain the worth of the recycling center.
7. Begin Outline For Committee Final Report (Last Meeting In August)
 - Issues and accomplishments
 - Engage citizens
 - Reduction of waste to transfer center
 - Benchmarks
 - Why are people not recycling
 - Track put or pay
 - Scott will share list of locations where information is available on city website
8. Next Steps/Goals For Committee Discussion
9. Request Agenda Items For Future Meetings
10. Guidelines In City Council Resolution
 - How to effectively create an environment where residents and visitors have citywide access to recycling

- How does the City effectively market and advertise its recycling facility?
- What can the City do to make the facility more user friendly?
- Understanding the facility will operate 5-6 days a week during daylight hours, are some days and times better
- The City Council desires to establish an ad hoc committee in order to consider the City' s role in an Island- Wide Recycling Program, to include market trends, best practices, and streamlining and efficiency

11. Adjournment

I certify that the above Notice of Meeting was posted in a place convenient to the public in compliance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code on June 4, 2021 at 11:00 A.M.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gwendolyn Williams", written over a horizontal line.

In accordance with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), persons in need of a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding shall, within three (3) days prior to any proceeding, contact the City Secretary's Office, Suite 201, 823 Rosenberg, Galveston, Texas 77550, (409-797-3510).

Members of the City Council may be attending and participating in this meeting

DRAFT
RECYCLING AD HOC COMMITTEE
APRIL 13, 2021

4/13/2021 - Minutes

1. Declaration Of A Quorum And Call Meeting To Order
Chair Joanie Steinhaus declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.
2. Roll Call

Present (via videoconference): Board Members Joanie Steinhaus, Cody Wright, Susan Syler, Dorothy Trevino, Dr. Jackie Cole, and David Fortenberry; Ex Officio Member William Schuster, City Council; Cindy Dewitt, Director of Administration and Sanitation; Scott Van Slyke, Recycling Department; Dan Buckley, Deputy City Manager; and Janelle Williams, City Secretary.

Absent: Stephanie Vasut.

3. Consider Approval Of The December 8, 2020 Meeting Minutes.
Susan Syler made a motion to approve the December 8, 2020 Meeting Minutes, with Cody Wright seconding the motion. Unanimously approved.
4. Public Comments (Limited To Three Minutes Each)
None.
5. Discussion And Possible Consideration Of The Following Items:

A. How to effectively create an environment where residents and visitors have citywide access to recycling. **City staff and committee members discussed the following items: What do we mean by citywide recycling? Would that include extending it to commercial businesses?; Cindy Dewitt reported on a previously discussed idea of a pilot program for bars and restaurants in the downtown area; Scott Van Slyke reported that big box stores have their own sustainability programs so smaller retailers would be the target for a pilot program; and one company on the island currently provides residential curbside recycling for approximately \$16.00 per month.**

B. How does the City effectively market and advertise its recycling facility? **Staff reported on the following marketing efforts: the City is hosting some citywide cleanup events; staff is working on some educational videos for "Recycling - Did you know?" and on commodities and how they are stored; the first video will include the subject "How to recycle at the Recycling Center"; all will be posted on the city's social media pages and the website; final disposition notices and a chart of successes and/or opportunities will be posted on the website in their near future. The committee recommended sharing videos with the Park Board and www.galveston.com, possibly making some brochures for short term rental agencies to share with renters, and sharing recycling information with community groups and HOA's on the island.**

C. What can the City do to make the facility more user friendly? **The committee commented that city staff has already made some changes to make the current facility more user friendly. City staff reported on a possible new recycling center, contingent on the sale of some city owned land. If a new center is built, it would be nothing like the current facility. It would be on the same property but in a different location. Staff will share plans for the new site with the committee for their review.**

D. Understanding the facility will operate 5- 6 days a week during daylight hours, are some days and times better? **Staff reported that the center is currently open 7 days a week to the public but the city would like to alter hours and possibly close at 7:00 PM. They are working on charting activity at the Recycling Center for the committee to review.**

E. Curbside recycling would add \$10 to people's utility bills, is this figure still correct? Was it for single stream? Dual stream? **Staff reported that the previous figure was \$10.00 per utility bill, and this figure has not been updated. Staff has not received any additional mandate from Council to do so.**

6. Request Agenda Items For Future Meetings

Future agenda items: (1) adding an item to the list under Agenda Item #5 to make a decision on extra drop off locations; (2) touring the current recycling center on April 27th; (3) a Park Board presentation at the May 11th meeting; (4) the possibility of meeting in-person; (5) what is the committee's deliverable?; and (6) an update from Cindy and Scott at the next meeting on long and short term goals.

7. Schedule Future Meetings

April 27th meeting will be a tour of the current recycling center.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

DRAFT

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RECYCLING AD HOC COMMITTEE
MINUTES - MAY 25, 2021

5/25/2021 - Minutes

1. Declaration Of A Quorum And Call Meeting To Order
Chair Joanie Steinhaus declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.
2. Roll Call

Present (via videoconference): Board Members Joanie Steinhaus, Cody Wright, Susan Syler, David Fortenberry, Dorothy Trevino, and Dr. Jackie Cole; William Schuster, Ex Officio Council Member; Cindy DeWitt, Director of Administration and Sanitation; Scott Van Slyke, Recycling Department; Dan Buckley, Deputy City Manager; and Janelle Williams, City Secretary.

Absent: Stephanie Vasut.

3. Consider For Approval Minutes Of The May 11, 2021 Meeting
David Fortenberry made a motion to approve the May 11, 2021 meeting minutes, seconded by Cody Wright. Unanimously approved.
4. Public Comments (Limited To Three Minutes Each)
None.
5. Presentation Of The Staff Member From Federal International (15-20 Minutes And Questions)

Federal International representative Ashley Accord discussed with the committee an overview of operations at their Houston facility and provided answers to the questions below from committee members.

Questions for staff member:

Brief description of their business and how it works. **Federal, International has been in business for 100+ years. They use an MRF (material recovery facility) and a single sort line for sorting the different recyclable materials.**

How is your plastic recycling sorted? **Plastics go through a second sort at their facility. She commended the City of Galveston for the bail loads being so clean.**

What do the triangles mean? **The triangle is an identifier for the different types of plastic.**

How do the different triangles affect recycling? **It is simply the identifier for sorting purposes.**

What about plastic bags? Are they recycled? How can you recycle plastic bags mixed in with other plastic when most other recycling vendors can't? **Plastic bags are pulled out during a sort at their facility and are bailed separately.**

If have a mixed plastic recycling process why separate any type? Why not have all together? **Galveston does an amazing job and has a lot of buy in from the public so bails are cleaner. This allows for a larger rebate to the city and it reduces contaminants. They mainly see from Galveston the higher grade plastics which they can rebate - number 1 (water bottles) and number 2 (HDPE color detergent bottles and HDPE natural milk jugs). Recycling Center staff has simplified the sorting process for plastics to make it more user friendly and easy for everyone.**

What is the contamination rate for material from Galveston? **Federal, International sees very little contamination from Galveston. Scott has not received any feedback or reports from the vendor about contamination. The materials coming from Galveston are fantastic and Federal is completely happy.**

Any additional questions from the conversation/presentation? **Scott reported that Federal is very supportive and staff appreciates it. Committee members commended Scott and the staff on recent improvements made at the Recycling Center. Federal picks up recyclable materials from Galveston including plastics, cardboard, and paper. Ashley reported that tours of their facility can be coordinated. Scott recently completed a final disposition audit at Federal and will share the report and photos with the committee.**

6. Meeting In Person, Discussion On June 8, 2021 Meeting

The committee's next meeting on June 8, 2021 will be in-person in Room 204 and will also offer a Zoom option.

7. Next Steps/Goals For Committee Discussion

Joanie Steinhaus reported that the charge in the first Resolution applies to the committee's goals. It will be added to the bottom of the next agenda under Guidelines in the City Council Resolution. Cindy and Scott are working on some pilot programs and would like to run them by the committee at the next meeting. Scott has also been working on some additional educational videos. Cindy reported that staff is still collecting data for possibly changing operating hours at the recycling center. They would like to coordinate changing hours when the new center is open. Scott provided information on current video monitoring at the center. Cindy reported on a recent educational effort sponsored by the Municipal Utilities Department on keeping fats, oil, and grease (FOG) out of the drains that had a positive outcome with residents recycling these items. Committee members suggested that recycling staff should toot their own horn about accomplishments.

8. Request Agenda Items For Future Meetings

Items for the next agenda should be sent to the Chair by Friday, June 4th at Noon.

Discussion was held regarding setting up a measuring tool or report to periodically look at statistics of the recycling center to see that it is operating efficiently. Scott reported that a lot of information is already provided in the City Manager's Report and will be placed on the city's website. The committee will begin drafting an outline for the final report. Partnering with other organizations such as Rotary, the Chamber, and Homeowners Associations could help to get the word out about recycling.

9. Guidelines In City Council Resolution

- How to effectively create an environment where residents and visitors have citywide access to recycling
- How does the City effectively market and advertise its recycling facility
- What can the City do to make the facility more user friendly
- Understanding the facility will operate 5-6 days a week during daylight hours, are some days and times better

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:13 p.m.