



TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY
Sustainability Committee Meeting
Thursday, July 21
7:00 PM

Scott Elrod, Chair
Stefan Unnasch, Vice Chair
Rebecca Flynn, Secretary
Walter Hays, Member
Jason Saleh, Member
Loverine Taylor, Member

VIRTUAL MEETING

REMOTE MEETING COVID-19 MEETING ADVISORY: On September 16, 2021, the Governor signed AB 361, amending the Ralph M. Brown Act (Brown Act) to allow legislative bodies to continue to meet virtually during the present public health emergency. AB 361 is an urgency bill which goes into effect on October 1, 2021. The bill extends the teleconference procedures authorized in Executive Order N-29-20, which expired on September 30, 2021, during the current COVID-19 pandemic and allows future teleconference procedures under limited circumstances defined in the bill. Portola Valley Town Council and commission and committee public meetings are being conducted electronically to prevent imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees. COVID-19 is still a major health concern and virtual attendance to the Town Council meeting is encouraged, particularly during case increases.

ASSISTANCE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Town Clerk at (650) 851-1700 or by email at mthurman@portolavalley.net 48 hours prior to the meeting start time. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the Town to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

VIRTUAL PARTICIPATION VIA ZOOM

To access the meeting by computer:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85124746962?pwd=OTYxMXJ2UW9Ea1dkZIRIYU9GOFR2dz09>

Webinar ID: 851 2474 6962

Passcode: 633335

To access the meeting by phone:

1-669-900-6833 or

1-888-788-0099 (toll-free)

*Mute/Unmute – Press *6 / Raise Hand – Press *9*

- 1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL**
- 2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**
Speakers' time is limited to two minutes.
- 3. INTRODUCTIONS**
- 4. PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:**
 - a. Update on smart water meter implementation, Dawn Smithson of CalWater
- 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
 - a. June 16, 2022
- 6. OLD BUSINESS:**
 - a. Updates from Maryann
 - b. Updates from Brandi
 - c. WELO (Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance)
 - d. Outreach to Potential New Members
 - e. Planning for Public Service Announcements
- 7. NEXT MEETING AND PROPOSED AGENDA TOPICS**
 - a. August 18, 2022 – Report from Judy Murphy on induction cooktops
- 8. ADJOURNMENT -** The next regularly scheduled meeting date is August 18, 2022 at 7:00 PM.



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Sustainability Committee Meeting
Thursday, June 16, 2022 7:00 PM
Special Videoconference Meeting

1. Call to Order

7:02 am

Attendance: Members: Scott Elrod (Chair), Rebecca Flynn (Secy), Stefan Unnasch, Loverine Taylor, Walt Hays, Maryann Moise Derwin (Town Council Member)

Absent: Jason Salah

Community: Viviana Balleza (Green Waste), Ereida Atayde (Green Waste), Chris Creed, Susan Walz, Mike Mokolke, 650-380-9504, Kormanak, Emily & Mrs. ?, Brook Coffee, Ronny Krashinsky, Bonnie Crater, Kristi Corley.

2. Oral Communications

- a. LT: Ran into Cal water installer installing a new smart meter on Mapache.
- b. Susan W (in westridge): Excited about Green Waste. Replacing water meter with Smart meter.
- c. LT: reading Zero Waste Living; The 80/20 way by Stephanie J. Miller
- d. SC: Back up battery loaner has had 5 loans of the system so far and 1 feedback.
- e. LT: Signed up for Loaner induction 2-burner cooktop from Valley Pres Earth Fair. Will be trying it out.

3. Introductions

- a. Viviana Balleza (Green Waste)- outreach coordinator
- b. Ereida Atayde (Green Waste) – office manager, customer service and outreach team

4. Presentation by Viviana Balleza and Ereida Atayde of GreenWaste Recovery “What Goes Where?”, an emphasis on keeping the recyclable material clean and dry. 15-20 minutes, plus 10 minutes of questions

- a. A recording and slide deck of the presentation is available at [Sustainability Committee | Portola Valley, CA \(https://www.portolavalley.net/government/town-committees/sustainability-committee\)](https://www.portolavalley.net/government/town-committees/sustainability-committee), by navigating down toward the bottom under "Meeting Resources".
- b. Gray cart: Mixed compostables : food waste, scraps, egg shells, bones, soiled paper, disposable plates, dirty milk cartons, juice boxes, wax paper, garbage, diapers, Styrofoam, peanuts, hose, little bit of outdoor waste such as potted plant, wood, rocks (but not big projects)
 - i. (Limited accessibility customers are allowed to put landscape waste as they don't have a green waste
- c. Green waste: plant trimmings, lawn, NO FOOD WASTE
- d. Blue cart: recyclable material: metal, paper, plastic jars. : Need to be CLEAN AND DRY. Remove as much food as possible. Metal: toaster, aluminum cans, aseptic containers, small electronic waste items (phones, claculators, keyboards).
- e. Where does it go: MC MRF (90 tons/hr); 75 % recovery.
- f. Yard waste; yard trimming 98% recovery
- g. Recyclable: Facility 45 tons/hr; 85 % recovery
- h. Gray waste gets sent to Z-Best to remove non organic waste and then turned into landscape compost
- i. Green cart: goes to MRF goes to Z-Best to be processed into OMRI listed compost for farms
- j. Tips: only recyclables in Blue cart. NO soiled paper (no greasy pizza boxes), no liquids left in the bottles or cans, no sticky food left in the jar (no peanut butter left in the jar – use a napkin to clean out). Cleaner the material, the better it can be recycled. Scrape/wipe first. Use second hand water to clean, dry it, then recycle.
- k. FAQ: better to have loose recycling except for film plastics and shredded paper (should be bagged in a clear bag.
- l. Small plastics (<2.5 inches) cannot be recycled at our processing facilities. Leave lids on if same material type
- m. Multi layered materials: Go to Gray cart
- n. Batteries go on top of the blue card in a clear zip lock bag.
- o. Motor oil and filters (in a capped jug and in a clear bag), place next to Blue cart
- p. Household hazardous waste (cleaners, garden chemicals, paint, auto fluids, fluorescent lights, large batteries, spa chemicals) call SMC Health to dispose. Do Not put in carts.
- q. Medicines and sharps are not accepted in any carts.
- r. Information and videos are available at www.greenwaste.com/portola-valley/ for more information. A What Goes Where is available on the website.

- s. Questions: aseptic containers go in recyclable Blue cart (easier to pull out, but not actually recycled. Easier to remove from the recyclable instead of the mixed compostable)
 - t. Issue of green waste and mixed compost collected into same bin in truck (check with Greenwaste directly)
 - u. Any plan to offer more presorted recycling (separating paper and other materials, eg) ? May not be feasible with their trucks and GHG emissions from multiple trucks.
 - v. What to do with something that has mixed materials (rubber and metal)? - gets landfilled
 - w. Glass with plastic tops : (prefer to have glass by itself)
 - x. Different plastics: are they being separated? optical sorters look at the different type.
 - y. Do certain plastics get recycled? Where do they go after being sorted out? If there is a market for it, the MRF manager looks for markets but if no market, then gets landfilled. Because their materials are very clean, they increase their market. What percent is actually purchased?
 - z. GW recovers 75% of the gray cart contents. The landfill is in Monterey and Newbie island.
 - aa. Recycling plastic numbers: GW does examine the different types of plastics and separates it out.
 - bb. Yard waste becomes vegetable gardens. Concern about pesticides used in yard waste. OMRI institute provides independent review of the products. They test the compost to make sure it is for organic use only. Analysis of the compost can be requested.
 - cc. Is it possible to get bulk form of compost instead of plastic bags? It is possible if the Town is interested.
 - dd. Tour of facility: currently due to covid, no tours. But will resume soon. Small groups.
 - ee. Corn husks (shucked from corn on the cob), trimmings when preparing to cook a head of cauliflower, orange peels go in mixed compostable bin (gray cart)
5. Approval of 5-19-2022 Minutes – typos corrected. Motion to approve, seconded by LT, approved by Committee.
6. Old Business (Committee moved to consider the Old Business before New Business).
- a. Compost Day planning, Nature and Science Committee, Bonnie Crater and Brook Coffee
 - i. Presentation: Composting Day – Event in October or November on a Saturday or Sunday, 4-5 hours.
 - ii. Organic waste produces 8-10% of all GHGs
 - iii. Growing interest in compost
 - iv. New law SB1383 requires organic waste collection with 75% waste reduction
 - v. 60 million tons ends up in landfill on an annual basis.
 - vi. Aerobic composting avoids generation of methane
 - vii. Unclear if GW is capturing methane during the anaerobic composting of compost waste.
 - viii. Hands on activities proposed, watching videos, experts, exhibits, do it yourself. Audience: adults and kids. Schools do a good job in teaching about composting. Need to education adults. Different types of composting options. Hungry Bins (worm composting system) – fastest, largest way to get rid of food waste. Regular worm bin (need to sift and mix, needs more maintenance). Tumbler (rotating system without worms, uses heat, takes longer to break down compost); Methane station; kids stations; Lomi product, Greenwaste (question about organic and anerobic composting), Videos, SB1383; get more bulk compost; save leaves on site. free deer fencing to save leaves composting ; Collaboration with Sustainability Committee to plan the event and volunteer, Lyngso, Webb Ranch (question about manure composting). Scott available to volunteer with planning and available for the day. RF available to staff the day. LT : education to stay away peat moss. Zero waste, Food waste vs yard waste. Idea of renting out equipment. MD: Also talk to Conservation Committee.
 - ix. Sustainability approved the proposal to cosponsor Compost day with Nature Committee.
 - b. Updates from Maryann
 - i. Cal Water meeting with Dawn Smithson and Martin Gonzales. Trouble hiring people. Put in a few new meters. Starting at Westridge and Alpine and going eastward. They have to replace the whole thing. Get your real live water consumption through eyeonwater.com. Took an entire day to install on Mapache. 5/8 in meter.
 - ii. What should we be doing to reduce water use? There will be mandatory water restrictions from SFPUC with 25% cut back, based on per capita use.
 - iii. CalWater can handle increased housing, in good shape for fire, and have wildfire prep plans.
 - iv. Cal Water supposed to come next month.
 - b. Updates from Brandi
 - i. Climate Action Plan – working with county to get GHG emission inventory then will reach out to SC to work on the plan.
 - ii. Disposable food ware ordinance – July 13 council meeting informational
 - iii. Greenbuilding ordinance – Aug council study session
 - b. Outreach to potential new members
 - i. Lost an official member. Need more members. Need Climate Action Plan to maximize impact.

2. New Business

a. Review of published Housing Element, 30 minutes

<https://www.portolavalley.net/departments/planning-building-department/housing-element-update-for-2023-2031/public-review-draft-housing-element>

Input from SC: checklists as part of ministerial review (all electric).

Feedback from SC: Smaller is better. No lawns. EVs, Ebikes, Marguerite, shuttles to limit transportation.

Feedback from Kristi Corley: Marguerites for town residents and wedge residents, ABAG 3 has financing for bikes for transit (application due early July) – MTC meeting. Provide Hungry bins (\$370) at the stores and restaurants throughout the Town- apply for grants (Alpine Inn, Roberts, Town Center, restaurants).

3. Next Meeting and Proposed Agenda Topics for July 21, 2022 7 pm

a. CalWater on the AMI Pilot Project and conservation programs.

b. WELO (water efficient landscape ordinance) – LT and AI Sill – because of housing issues, welo has been pushed back but due to the drought and new housing coming up so we need to start formulating new ideas for water efficiency for new and old buildings.

c. Safety element – Talk with Melvin about next steps.

d. PSA – schedule and plan for public service announcement.

4. Adjournment at 8:52 pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting is July 21, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.