



Recycling Steering Committee

Modernizing Oregon's recycling system with support from Oregon Consensus

Subcommittee Updates, 7/3/19

The following are updates on relevant work supporting the Recycling Steering Committee:

Recycling Systems Framework Subcommittee — Loretta Pickerell and Kristan Mitchell

- At its June 4 meeting, the Recycling System Framework Subcommittee agreed to move forward with the proposed process and timeline for using the framework research DEQ is commissioning to build legal and relational framework scenarios, analyze them and evolve them into a preferred framework(s) for Oregon's recycling system. That process and timeline are summarized in the Framework Research Workplan, 6/3/19, included in [the June 4 subcommittee meeting summary](#). The process will include public comment on proposed framework alternatives.
- The RFP for the recycling system frameworks research was posted mid-June on [ORPIN](#), Oregon's Procurement Information Network. The RFP closes July 17. Anyone can access the RFP by registering in [ORPIN](#).
- DEQ is finalizing the selection committee to evaluate and score responses to the RFP to select a contractor.
- The next Framework Subcommittee meeting is currently scheduled for July 30.

Infrastructure Research Subcommittee — Brian Stafki

The subcommittee will meet again the afternoon of July 10. The agenda is posted under Infrastructure subcommittee meeting on the [Steering Committee page](#). Cascadia will be sharing the results of materials research. We will also discuss some top collection alternatives and processing technology to research in the next step.

DEQ has also approved an amendment to the research contract with Cascadia to include the next steps of research including investigating collection alternatives and processing technology. The full statement of work is posted on the SC page. The subcommittee is anticipating one more amendment to include a workshop with OC, Cascadia and the Steering Committee to discuss what infrastructure to pursue late this winter, once some preliminary frameworks discussions have occurred.

The next steps for the subcommittee are to approve a list of materials to focus on when conducting infrastructure research, at the July 10 meeting. Following that will be to finalize the research plan for the next steps in collection and processing research — meeting TBD.

Stakeholder Engagement Subcommittee — Pam Peck and Amy Roth

- The subcommittee met on May 23, 2019, to discuss the SC's feedback on the draft stakeholder engagement plan and determine next steps for incorporating that feedback into the plan document.
- The group agreed that the plan should include separate sections for stakeholder and public engagement and discussed how to begin building resources to support these efforts.

- The group identified questions to include and answer in FAQ documents or fact sheets aimed at various audiences, as well as next steps for developing a PowerPoint presentation for SC members' use.
- The subcommittee co-chairs met with Wendy Willis from Oregon's Kitchen Table to learn more about the organization's capacity and experience with statewide public engagement efforts, and will share that information with the subcommittee at their next meeting which will be scheduled for late July/early August.

Monthly Recycling Stakeholder Meeting, June 12 — Kristan Mitchell

- Dylan de Thomas, The Recycling Partnership, gave a presentation on its work in Atlanta, Denver, Chicago and Massachusetts on anti-contamination campaigns.
- Oregon recycling processors reported that markets are worsening, as markets for cardboard and high value paper are at a record low. Indonesia is the latest Asian country to take a zero tolerance policy for any inbound contamination.
- The DEQ reported that no new concurrences for disposal have been issued.
- The next meeting was set for July 10, but will either be cancelled or moved due to schedule conflict..

Contamination Subcommittee — No update

Regional state and national coordination — Brian Stafki

DEQ talks with Washington State Department of Ecology, CalRecycle and EPA Region 10 staff about related market efforts.

On the last call, June 10, CalRecycle indicated they will be [conducting research](#) on education and outreach methods and then conducting a multi-year education effort. They were soliciting researchers at that point.

EPA Region 10 staff have told us they may have some funding to support stakeholder discussion around improving markets next winter or early spring. They were crafting an RFP for contractors at that time. It is possible this would benefit the region when we are closer to implementation.

Washington State is working on hiring staff for the new [Recycling Development Center](#) and preparing for mandated research on [responsible plastic packaging](#). Ecology has also been promoting their [Recycle Right campaign](#).

Oregon legislative update — Brian Stafki

Here are some of the bills that have passed and are signed that are somewhat relevant:

- [Plastic bag ban](#)
- Styrofoam ban failed