Subcommittee Updates, 8/30/19

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

Recycling Systems Framework Subcommittee — Loretta Pickerell and Kristan Mitchell

- On July 25th, the Recycling System Frameworks selection committee selected Resource Recycling Systems (RRS) as the contractor to undertake research associated with the frameworks project. Subcontractors and advisors will also assist RRS with that work.
- DEQ presented to the subcommittee on 7/30 RRS’s model of evaluation tool (used to score frameworks against one another), plus all frameworks proposed by both proposers associated with the Recycling Systems Frameworks RFP.
- DEQ took feedback from the 7/30 subcommittee meeting and lessened the combined list of frameworks to 13 frameworks, which were presented to the subcommittee on 8/13. At that meeting, committee members agreed to eliminate three frameworks from the discussion, but include two new ones: Framework of a statewide recycling system and a framework where neighboring states partner to improve and strengthen recycling. Those 12 frameworks will be carried into the contract phase of the project.
- DEQ has scheduled its initial contract discussion with RRS, which is slated for Thursday, August 29th.

Infrastructure Research Subcommittee — Brian Stafki

Cascadia Consulting Group will be sharing the results of materials research soon. After an initial draft was shared, it was realized that national trends with some specific materials such as aseptics, cartons and specific plastics were likely significantly different than the realities with Oregon and our Bottle Bill.

DEQ will be scheduling a subcommittee meeting once the revised report has been delivered and posted on the main webpage for the project. The subcommittee will be identifying focus materials for the phase 2 research, discussing a plan for researching collection and processing technology alternatives as well as begin scoping research for phase 3.

Stakeholder Engagement Subcommittee — Amy Roth

- 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.

Contamination Subcommittee —

No update.

Regional state and national coordination updates
- DEQ talks with Washington State Department of Ecology, CalRecycle and EPA Region 10 staff about related market efforts.
- CalRecycle is beginning to work with stakeholders on extended producer responsibility legislation for their recycling systems — Assembly Bill 1080 / Senate Bill 54. They are also in process to review proposals to conduct research on education and outreach methods and then conducting a multi-year education effort.
- EPA Region 10 staff didn’t have an update to share.
- Washington State was not on the last call.