



Report of the Recycling AD-HOC Subcommittee

Curbside Recycling and Options

- Background
- Conditions
- AB939
- Options



Curbside Processing Center in Vallejo

Background

The subcommittee of Councilmembers Batchelor and Smith provided a report to the City Council on August 28, 2007. The City Council received the report and failed to pass a motion for approval of curbside recycling due to a two-two vote with the Councilmember Alexander being absent. Direction was provided to the subcommittee to continue to gather data on outstanding items and place the item back on the agenda.

Public Input

- Extend the recycling center's hours
- Offer curbside recycling as an voluntary / optional basis
- Offer "HazMat" pick-up/drop-off days for Dixon's seniors
- Offer a paper/cardboard point of collection near places people shop



Conditions

Diversion is the waste not going into the landfill; as defined by the State: "*Means activities which reduce or eliminate the amount of solid waste from solid waste disposal*". Question and concerns on diversion under AB939 and the future changes in statewide diversion rates and how diversion is calculated have been raised. The 2005 diversion rate for the community of Dixon was 70%. 2006 data will be available in January 2008. Dixon, as a community, is performing well using the current method of calculations and the 50% goal.

The one area of concern is that Dixon is meeting the diversion rate due in part to our commercial customers' recycling efforts. The intent is to divert waste from landfills. Therefore, how much household waste is being diverted and recycled? Thus, is the intent of AB939 being followed? If, or when, the California Intergrated Waste Management Board addresses the calculation and goals, it will affect Dixon homeowners.

The collection of residential waste in 2005 resulted in 7,229.17 tons of household and 4,331.68 tons of green waste. The last twelve months of collection at the recycle center was 501.66 tons. Applying the variable that all the recycle center's collections were from residential customers, 12,062.51 tons of waste was generated. This results in the following waste percentages, household 60%, green 36% and recycle 4%. Again 4% is based on the last twelve months, with higher rates of visits, higher CRVs and a higher population than in 2005, actual percentages are assumed to be lower.

In the last subcommittee report, Councilmember Smith provided, "*Looking at the reports from Dixon Sanitary Service and performing a rough guesstimation, about twenty percent are visiting the recycling center*". Based on the tonnages of household and green waste, the questimation is off. It is one thing to count the number of "customers" who recycle; another to count the "results" of the tons recycled – or diverted. Again 500 tons out of a minimum of 7,229 tons.

Results of curbside recycling programs in other communities show household waste being reduced by 50% or more with the addition of the curbside recycling program. Therefore, with the above ratio, Dixon households following the same results of reducing household waste by 50% or more should be diverting 3,600 tons, at a minimum, from the landfill. It appears this is not happening. High value materials are making their way to the recycle center while the bulk of the possible recyclable materials are not.

One could attempt to make the counter point the 7,229 tons are what remains after the 500 tons is collected at the recycling center. However, could this be realistic based on the customer counts "questimating" twenty percent are visiting the recycling center?

AB939

<http://www.recyclelaw.com/ab939.htm>

California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989

PRC §40001. (a) The Legislature declares that the responsibility for solid waste management is a shared responsibility between the state and local governments. The state shall exercise its legal authority in a manner that ensures an effective and coordinated approach to the safe management of all solid waste generated within the state and shall oversee the design and implementation of local integrated waste management plans. (b) The Legislature further declares that it is the policy of the state to assist local governments in minimizing duplication of effort, and in minimizing the costs incurred, in implementing this division through the development of regional cooperative efforts and other mechanisms which comply with this division. (c) The Legislature further declares that market development is the key to successful and cost-effective implementation of the 25-percent and 50-percent diversion requirements required pursuant to Section 41780, and that the state must take a leadership role, pursuant to Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 42000) of Part 3, in encouraging the expansion of markets for recycled products by working cooperatively with the public, private, and nonprofit sectors.

PRC §42900. This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the California Solid Waste Reuse and Recycling Access Act of 1991.

PRC §42901. The Legislature finds and declares as follows: (a) Cities and counties must divert 50 percent of all solid waste by January 1, 2000, through source reduction, recycling, and composting activities. (b) Diverting 50 percent of all solid waste requires the participation of the residential, commercial, industrial, and public sectors. (c) The lack of adequate areas for collecting and loading recyclable materials that are compatible with surrounding land uses is a significant impediment to diverting solid waste and constitutes an urgent need for state and local agencies, to address access to solid waste for source reduction, recycling, and composting activities.

40124. "Diversion" means activities which reduce or eliminate the amount of solid waste from solid waste disposal for purposes of this division, including Article 1 (commencing with Section 41780) of Chapter 6. Additional information at: <http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/lgcentral/Rates/>

Integrated Waste Management Board

<http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/BoardInfo/StrategicPlan/2007/SD03.htm>

Strategic Directives

As a result, the Board unanimously adopted the following strategic directives (purpose, vision, and core values) at its February 13, 2007 meeting. These strategic directives serve as a tool that will allow the CIWMB to continue to provide outstanding service to the State of California and reduce the amount of resources being wasted.

- Provide vigorous oversight of local jurisdictions to ensure that 50 percent diversion is maintained among those that have already attained it
- Continually increase the statewide annual diversion rate beyond 50 percent
- The overall target will be a statewide diversion rate of 75 percent by fiscal year 2020. Staff will monitor progress towards that level on a yearly basis. Current legislation could change the goals, while legislative proposals to switch to county-level measurement could simplify the system.



COMMODITY TOTALS
7/2006 - 6/2007

DIXON RECYCLING CENTER

COMMODITY	TOTAL (LBS)	PAID	(TONS)
ALUMINUM	154,227.50	\$219,182.53	77.11
"CA" GLASS	349,516.07	\$31,544.68	174.76
PLASTIC	114,533.30	\$90,452.25	57.27
BI-METAL	116.80	\$43.69	0.06
CLEAR SCRAP GLASS	3,508.00		1.75
COLORED SCRAP GLASS	4,326.10		2.16
NEWSPAPER	377,100.00		188.55
TOTAL		\$341,223.15	501.66

Provided by Dixon Sanitary Service; Consolidated for this report



Thanks to "Dixon San" for the photos of the facility in Vallejo that provides sorting of the curbside toters.

The Options

What the subcommittee presents to the council for consideration below is a list of desires from the Dixon community. All of which come with a cost.

The following have been explored. The dollar amounts shown are the per month increases to all rate payers in Dixon.

- Implement curbside recycling city-wide, mandatory on all customers, via the council's action - \$1.81
 - Current rate is \$17.82
 - Alternative to city council action; city council could be placed on the February ballot
- Offering curbside recycling as "voluntary" or "optional" is not viable
 - History show this does not work
 - Will result in high rates causing increased drop-outs
 - See the rate increases below for the low income example
- Senior "HazMat" curbside collection once per year
 - For all 1200 seniors - \$2.61
 - For 600 seniors - \$1.30
- Extend hours of existing recycling center - \$.39
- Four "Drop-off Points" for paper and cardboard - \$.37

Some asked Dixon Sanitary Service to offer a plan to allow low income households a method to not accept a curbside recycle toter and not be required to pay the \$1.81 increase. Using round numbers for the rate, and not percentages or number of customers, the balance of the households would incur the following rate increase per month for curbside recycling:

○ Rate increase	percent of customers	number of customers:
○ \$2.00	6%	305
○ \$2.25	13%	665
○ \$2.50	19%	980

The qualification/model for low income would be the same as those PG&E and AT&T apply to their customers.

In Closing

We appreciate the time, input and patience of the community and the council in presenting you this detail report on the current conditions and requested options. With this report we would like to officially end this subcommittee.

Councilmembers Batchelor and Smith