



Reusing Resources to Better Our Future Since 2004

4th Quarter 2020 Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 3, 2020 - 10:00 am – 12:00 noon
Online meeting using Google Meet

Member City	Representative	Email	Present/ Absent
Artesia	Karen Lee	klee@cityofartesia.us	present
Beverly Hills	James Burnley, Vice Chair	jburnley@beverlyhills.org	present
Bradbury	Mina N Kasama	mkasama@cityofbradbury.org	absent
Downey	Carol Rowland, Treasurer	crowland@downeyca.org	present
Duarte	Victoria Rocha	vrocha@accessduarte.com	excused
Hermosa Beach	Doug Krauss	dkrauss@hermosabch.org	present
Hidden Hills	Connie Read	connieread@caaprofessionals.com	present
Los Angeles	Nuna Tersibashian	nuna.tersibashian@lacity.org	present
Lynwood	Lorry Hempe, Chair	lhemp@lynwood.ca.us	present
Manhattan Beach	Anna Luke-Jones	aluke@citymb.info	excused
Palos Verdes Estates	Sean McGovern	smcgovern@hrgreen.com	present
Pomona	Shandy Dittman, Secretary	shandy_dittman@ci.pomona.ca.us	present
Rancho Palos Verdes	Lauren Ramezani	lauren@rpvca.gov	present
Redondo Beach	Jesse Reyes	jesse.reyes@redondo.org	present
Rosemead	Danielle Garcia	dgarcia@cityofrosemead.org	absent
Sierra Madre	James Carlson	jcarlson@cityofsierramadre.com	present
South Gate	Sharon Shapiro-Fox	sshapir1@wm.com	present
Torrance	Jim Keezell	jkeezell@torranceca.gov	present

LARA Staff present

Executive Director	Alex Helou	alex.helou@lacity.org
SRCD Division Manager	Marisela Reyes	marisela.reyes@lacity.org
Administrator	Alexander Brideau III	alexander.brideau@lacity.org
Notetaking / Logistics	Roobina Sinany	roobina.sinany@lacity.org

Also present

CalRecycle	Nicole Macatrao	nicole.macatrao@calrecycle.ca.gov
CalRecycle	Primitivo Nunez	primitivo.nunez@calrecycle.ca.gov
CalRecycle	Mia Hunt	mia.hunt@calrecycle.ca.gov
Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts	Nick Morell	nmorell@lacsds.org
Lynwood	Jennifer Hernandez	jhernandez@lynwood.ca.us
Burbank	Amy Hammes	
Pomona	Irene Madrid	irene_madrid@ci.pomona.ca.us



Artesia Beverly Hills Bradbury Downey Duarte Hermosa Beach Hidden Hills Los Angeles Lynwood Manhattan Beach
 Palos Verdes Estates Pomona Rancho Palos Verdes Redondo Beach Rosemead Sierra Madre South Gate Torrance

1. **Call to Order / Housekeeping (Item I on Agenda):** Meeting was called to order by Chair Lorry Hempe at 10:05 AM. LARA Administrator Alexander Brideau III discussed some housekeeping items.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance (Item II on Agenda):** Vice Chair James Burnley led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum (Item III on Agenda):** Roll call was taken by Secretary Shandy Dittman. Downey had an excused absence; South Gate was also absent. 14 out of 18 cities were present at the time of Roll Call. Quorum declared. A total of 29 people were in attendance at this time.
4. **Adoption of Meeting Agenda (Item IV on Agenda):** Approved with correction made to the quarter of the meeting. Jesse Reyes of Redondo Beach moved to adopt the Agenda as corrected; James Burnley of Beverly Hills seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
5. **Opening Remarks (Item V on Agenda):** Chair Lorry Hempe started the meeting welcoming all attendees.
6. **Public Comment and Announcements (Item VI on Agenda):** None
7. **Approval of 3rd Quarter 2020 Meeting Minutes (Item VII on Agenda):** The 4th-Q 2020 minutes were amended with a correction to item #9 (Executive Director Report). Marisela Reyes requested the last sentence be revised to read: "Based on the success of the pilot program, it will be considered as a permanent program in the future." Jesse Reyes of Redondo Beach moved the adoption of the minutes as amended. James Burnley of Beverly Hills seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
8. **Approval of Budget and Financial Reports (Item VIII on Agenda):** Alex Brideau presented in lieu of Carol Rowland:
 - **FY 20/21 Correct Version of "Closeout" Financial Report dated "as of 08/30/2020":** No changes on the budget from the last time, only a correction to the attachment was done (correct attachment emailed to all members). Total FY 20/21 Budget of \$185,311.82 (of which a \$43,382.45 was the Projected Balance carryover from FY 19/20 and \$141,929.37 was the Projected Revenue/Dues for FY 20/21). A motion to accept the corrected August 30th financial report; Sean McGovern of Palos Verdes Estates moved the approval of the Financial Report; James Burnley of Beverly Hills seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
 - **FY 20/21 Financial Report dated "as of 10/31/2020":** No changes from last financial report. James Burnley of Beverly Hills moved the approval of the Budget; Jesse Reyes of Redondo Beach seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
9. **Executive Director Report (Item IX on Agenda):** Alex Helou: City of LA is working on the following items...
 - Refuse collection vehicles: Goal is to electrify the 744 vehicles that are operating in the city of LA. We are in discussion with South Coast AQMD and a private company about testing 2 electric vehicles and we hope we can bring them online sometime in second half of 2021. We will be testing them in different terrains of the city to make sure they will function properly. Hopefully we will be able to do a demo after COVID for those who are interested to see them.
 - Question from Lorry Hempe of Lynwood: Why electric and not bio-gas which comes from composted materials which can help meet the SB 1383 requirements on procurement?
 - Answer from Alex H.: Several years ago, we started buying bio-gas coming from several sources, mainly from digestive facilities that were taking food waste and from landfills, so that helped us comply with SB 1383. SB 1383 puts some restrictions on the gas coming from California, and before we were getting some of our gas from Texas, so now we are in touch with our vendors to make sure all the sources come from the state of California.
 - Regarding recycling markets, we've seen a slight improvement in commodity pricing; OCC market is going up, slight increase in plastics. There was an announcement from China that they would not take certain products starting in January 2021; we are monitoring situation and meeting with our MRF and some recycling vendors to see what our options are. LA City business

has been hit hard as well and we have been asked to look at different ways to cut costs. COVID has hit us very hard. But there is some hope Congress may be able to do something for the cities funding-wise.

- Question from Jesse Reyes of Redondo Beach: What companies are making electric refuse vehicles?
 - Answer from Alex H.: 1) Lions from Canada offering left-side driving vehicles, but LA uses right-side driving trucks. 2) BYD makes some trucks, but they don't meet all our specs. We have met with them several times trying to work something out. Third company is called Transpower. There are 2 more companies out there, but their vehicles are not ready for California.

10. 2020 SCWMF Annual Conference Takeaways (Item X on Agenda):

- Alex Brideau shares: One item that was noted by Cara Morgan: There are free workshops available to us through HF&H after they have developed their model tools; regional meetings might be of interest to LARA.
- Nick Morell shares: I urge everyone in LARA to become a member of the SCWMF. LARA could reimburse you on the membership fee and it will certainly help us too. In addition, you will also benefit from the future scheduled meetings/discussions with HF&H, Oceanside, and CalRecycle in regards to SB 1383.

11. Discussion: Potential Topics for CalRecycle SB 1383 Workshop for LARA (Item XII on the Agenda):

The Board discussed various SB 1383 topics that might be good to focus on, including:

- Procurement
 - ◆ Reply from Primitivo Nunez of CalRecycle: There are plans to revamp the SB 1383 website; regional workshop date probably in early 2021; joint workshop is an option; in discussion with the County regarding capacity-planning training.
- Virtual tour of LA County Sanitation Districts' organics facility; worth a look.
- COVID recovery overlaps SB 1383 implementation.
- Financing: State loans possible?
 - ◆ Reply from P. Nunez: No loans available from CalRecycle; perhaps other funding options.
- Contingency plans for labor force re: COVID number spikes
 - ◆ Reply from P. Nunez: No guidance yet on how to proceed.
 - ◆ Reply from Jim Keezell of Torrance: Torrance does its own hauling; contingency is to stopping recycling for a day or two and use Friday for recycling catch-up.
- Determine good method to share ideas between cities

12. Presentation by Amy Hammes, Recycling Specialist, City of Burbank (Item XI on the Agenda):

Reuse is an untapped government diversion tool. As the state mandates on recycling goes up we all need to find different ways to reduce our waste and turn it into a resource instead. Resale and sharing economy has been huge in the last two decades. In many cases we have skipped reuse and focused only on recycling. Reuse is also a type of diversion. More disposable products more convenience and more waste, so the use of natural resources has been tripled and wasted very quickly on a short period of time. So eventually we are going to run into some limits and more state mandates. So can we look at waste as an inefficiency in the system and make it a resource? Last two decades there has been a huge surge in resale and reuse (Goodwill, OfferUp, Habitat for Humanity, Pinterest, eBay and etc.). Virtual efforts are not enough. Only 30% of stuff that Goodwill receives make it to their store! What happens to the rest? That's where government steps in where public sectors can't or won't fill in the gap. So reuse is a diversion, but are we getting tonnage credit for reuse? Reuse is one of the quickest, fastest, and cleanest way of diversion. The challenge is to find locations to house reuse items between when they

are offered up and when they are claimed. Caltrans overpass lands can be great spots or sub-leasing sections of huge properties that are available out there. This is a diversion revolution opportunity.

13. **Administrator Report (Item XIII on Agenda):** Administrator Alex Brideau shared:

- 2019 EAR submitted on Thu, Oct 8, 2020, and the PDF copy of the report was sent out to all LARA cities.
- Annual dues have been received from all LARA cities except one.
- Update on promotional items:
 - ◆ 2019-2020 promo items have now been delivered to all cities except 3.
 - ◆ If any interest on ordering 2020-2021 promo items, we can have discussion offline.
- Adoption of an organics Enforcement Ordinance (Palos Verdes Estates in 2018).
- Next election of Officers of the Board is set for the 2021 Q1 meeting.
- Re: scheduling of the 2021 LARA Quarterly meetings: Sent out save-the-date calendar invites. The 2021 Q4 meeting save-the-date invite will be sent out after this meeting. Advanced scheduling will help to catch conflicts before they occur.

14. **CalRecycle Update (Item XIV on Agenda):** Nicole Macatrao reported the following:

- On Nov 3, 2020, CalRecycle received the Notice of Approval of the Regulatory Action from the OAL on SB 1383, so the regulations are final and set to go into effect January 1, 2022. All info will be posted on the CalRecycle website; email will be sent out once they are posted.
- We are having a new SB 1383 home page debuting in the next coming week; message will be sent out once that's available.
- Still completing our review of the electronic annual reports, in lieu of in-person site visits, Mia and I requested LARA cities submit a virtual site visit; either live videos or provide pictures and videos of the items we wish to verify and then present them or email them to CalRecycle. We received the majority of them just a few cities left.
- Info on the grants, notice of funds available for the beverage container recycling, city/county payment program: funding request dates and application due dates were reviewed.

15. **Upcoming meetings (online until further notice) (Item XV on Agenda):**

- 1st Quarter 2021 Meeting: Thursday, March 18, 2021, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon
- 2nd Quarter 2021 Meeting: Thursday, June 17, 2021, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon
- 3rd Quarter 2021 Meeting: Thursday, September 16, 2021, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon
- 4th Quarter 2021 Meeting: Thursday, December 2, 2021, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon

16. **Adjournment (Item XVI on Agenda):** Meeting was adjourned at 11:55 am.