

CONNECT Economic and Environmental Development
Working Group: Materials Management
Subcommittee meeting
Thursday | June 3, 2021 | 1:00pm
Via Zoom



Municipal Attendees: Mark Sampogna, Green Tree; Ben Estell, Dormont; Deneen Underwood, Carnegie; Diane Law, Churchill; Andrew Flynn, Mt. Lebanon; Tara Yaney, Edgewood; Brittany Prischak, Allegheny County; Mandy Steele, Fox Chapel; Heather Wechter, Mt. Lebanon; Patty DeMarco, Forest Hills

Other Attendees: Ashley DiGregorio, PRC; Jim Price, Sustainable Pittsburgh; Joy Smallwood, ACHD

CONNECT Staff: Lydia Morin, Tess De Jong, Sarah Downing, Eric Raabe, Ally Walker, Ashley Priore

Introductions

Background of the formation of this committee

- Many different solutions and minimal coordination
- Roles governments have in managing these streams and pieces of them
- How do we take next step in shared language/dialogue?

Review the Regional Recycling Report

- Read the [report](#)
- The bulk of the report was an audit of waste
- For the report, we looked at ordinances, what is required by law, and contracts
- The general picture was that we as a region have 45 diff ways of working on this issue that we ALL are impacted by
- The report considers what structures we need in place in order to have regional solutions, speak the same language, and educate our communities
- So then we made a [15 outreach/educational video](#). We showed that in March E&E meeting and people said we needed to make [1-min teaser](#). So I did make that!
- The meeting attendees gave approval to get the recycling 1-minute teaser out and shared
- Comments about existing guidelines and what good ideas others have had
- Discussion around building codes – but even with good codes, code enforcement is low priority

Capacity of this subcommittee and potential alignment with Climate Action Planning Process

- There is clearly an alignment. It might be less tangible because CAP looks at direct impacts of CO2 emissions, and materials management is secondary impact area
- A Regional CAP can help build momentum in shared understanding/shared verbiage and embed thinking organizationally across all municipalities at the same time.
- Considerations RE: including state-level changes or omitting them. Decided to air on the side of over-including ideas and information, because individual municipalities can always trim down what they want to implement
- Comment: It is important to recognize that there is an embedded carbon impact in materials. So avoided new material production can be an important aspect of climate action. Re-using construction materials rather than relying on new materials can have a huge impact on avoided carbon emissions.
- Comment: CONNECT can help us have a body of policies that we can choose from to adopt. If Pittsburgh already has a policy, it's easy to just adapt it for smaller municipalities, and share
- "Strategic demolition"
- Comment: most of our communities are built out, so large construction projects are less common in the inner ring suburbs. The City of Pittsburgh and outer, growing communities would see a greater impact from legislation to regulate construction waste.

Discussion around a Materials Management Summit and other partner initiatives

- Partners share their capacity, how they could contribute and how we could mutually reinforce each other's work
- Potential topics so far for the summit: contracts, deconstruction, economic development opportunities through glass

Stakeholder mapping process

- If materials management is nut to crack, there's a whole series of organizations around the nut that make it complicated
- Share a visual of a web. It's good to get a handle on/sense of who is in the space. You can filter by different qualities:
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/19kSL0BDI4JZd0A1yhgJ39eMQZJoceBUkYaHPKkQ06E/edit?usp=sharing>
- Explain types of "people" and types of "relationships" for organizing the data
- Comment: the waste management businesses, the haulers, the owners of landfills, and the recycling sorting facilities, should be part of the solution
- Comment: Referral to Resource X and how they might be a perfect partner for this. They help you find opportunities for synthesis and find easy ways to deliver services more

efficiently across municipal boundaries. In fact, they could be great to talk to all of CONNECT, not just this subcommittee.

- “Program mapping”
- [Examples of past projects](#)
- Closing thoughts on recommendations for who to reach out to for more information or just to connect

Adjourn 2:05pm