

Update on July-August Save-As-You-Throw Research Subcommittee progress

- Staff has completed preliminary rate calculations, these are under review.
 - Rate calculations are complex, and require assumptions about amounts of waste reduction, recycling increase, implementation costs, etc.
 - Need to calculate under various scenarios, to provide low and high estimates
 - We want to be sure we have the best estimates possible before proceeding
- Open Forum poll was scheduled to start at the end of August. We have decided to postpone the poll (perhaps indefinitely) due to:
 - Need for finalized rate estimates
 - Questions from the public that suggest that there is still much confusion about the basics of SAYT.
 - Julie Habiger (LAC Public Relations Administrator) suggested that Open Forum poll may not be the best way to query public on complex topics. Not a good venue for informing/educating. People don't take the time to evaluate the information presented and give thoughtful responses.
- The SAYT Subcommittee also met with acting Public Works Director Jon Bulthuis, Councilor Antonio Maggiore and Julie Habiger to ask how to proceed with the change of schedule. They agreed that it would be appropriate and acceptable to postpone or cancel the poll and take whatever time we need to make recommendations to the ESB.
 - We do not need to formally present to Council on our change in schedule. We will consider sending them an update memo after September ESB meeting.
 - We also had a more general discussion about alternate paths forward to reduce waste, including food waste composting and other strategies. The community seems interested in this; perhaps it could be implemented before, with or instead of SAYT.
- We plan to present rate estimates and possible paths forward at ESB meeting on Sept. 19, and ask for your input on how to proceed.