



County of Los Alamos

1000 Central Avenue
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Agenda - Final Environmental Sustainability Board

Erik Loechell, Chair; Alesia Benson, Vice-Chair; Amanda MacDonald; Brendon Parsons; Dina Pesenson; Heidi Rogers; and Heather Ward Members

Thursday, July 15, 2021

5:30 PM

Zoom

Due to COVID-19 concerns, the meeting will be conducted remotely:

Please click this URL to join. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81836612698?pwd=SVI0bFpPU3J2cTIMUkVwZTdqL3hnQT09>

Passcode: Recycle

Or iPhone one-tap:

+16699006833,,81836612698#,,,,*8719285# US (San Jose)

+12532158782,,81836612698#,,,,*8719285# US (Tacoma)

Or join by phone:

Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 929 205 6099

or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799

Webinar ID: 818 3661 2698

Passcode: 8719285

International numbers available: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81836612698?pwd=SVI0bFpPU3J2cTIMUkVwZTdqL3hnQT09>

1. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

This section of the agenda is reserved for comments from the public on items that are not otherwise included in this agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[14538-21](#)

Approval of the May 20, 2021, Environmental Sustainability Board Minutes

Presenters: Erik Loechell

Attachments: [A - Drafted ESB Minutes May 20, 2021](#)

5. BOARD BUSINESS

[14541-21](#) Food Waste Composting Feasibility Project Update

Presenters: Erik Loechell

Attachments: [B - Los Alamos County Compost Feasibility Presentation](#)

[14573-21](#) Waste, Consumption, and Natural Resources Subcommittee Update

Presenters: Heidi Rogers

Attachments: [C- DRAFT WCNR Subcommittee Update to ESB](#)

[14542-21](#) Discussion and Consideration of Restarting In-Person Meetings

Presenters: Erik Loechell

6. REPORTS

A. Chair's Report - Erik Loechell

B. Board Member Reports

C. Los Alamos Resiliency Energy and Sustainability Task Force - Dina Pesenson

1). Board of Public Utilities - Erik Loechell

2). Planning and Zoning Commission - Brendon Parsons

3). Transportation Board - Heather Ward

4). Parks and Recreation Board - Dina Pesenson

5). Community Development Advisory Board - Carol Kay Carr

6). County Council Liaison - Sean Williams

D. Team Reports

1). Los Alamos Public Schools Team Subcommittee - Angelica Gurule

2). Zero Waste Los Alamos - Sara Martinez/Alesia Benson

7. STAFF REPORT

[14540-21](#) Environmental Services Business & Operation Updates

Presenters: Angelica Gurule

[14539-21](#) June 2021 Residential Sustainability Report

Presenters: Angelica Gurule

Attachments: [D - Residential Sustainability Report - June 2021](#)

8. PREVIEW OF UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

9. ADJOURNMENT

If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing or meeting, please contact the County Human Resources Division at 662-8040 at least one week prior to the meeting or as soon as possible. Public documents, including the agenda and minutes can be provided in various accessible formats. Please contact the personnel in the Community Services Administration Office at 662-8163 if a summary or other type of accessible format is needed.



County of Los Alamos

Staff Report

July 15, 2021

Los Alamos, NM 87544
www.losalamosnm.us

Agenda No.:

Index (Council Goals):

Presenters: Erik Loechell

Legislative File: 14538-21

Title

Approval of the May 20, 2021, Environmental Sustainability Board Minutes

Recommended Action Motion

I move that the Environmental Sustainability Board approve the May 20, 2021 minutes as presented.

Or

I move that the Environmental Sustainability Board approve the May 20, 2021, minutes as amended.

Body

The ESB will review and approve the May 20, 2021 Environmental Sustainability Board Minutes.

Attachments

A - Draft ESB Minutes May 20, 2021



County of Los Alamos

1000 Central Avenue
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Minutes

Environmental Sustainability Board

*Erik Loechell, Chair; Alesia Benson, Vice-Chair; Amanda MacDonald; Brendon Parsons;
Dina Pesenson; Heidi Rogers; and Heather Ward Members*

Thursday, May 20, 2021

5:30 PM

Zoom

Due to COVID-19 concerns, the meeting will be conducted remotely:

Please click this URL to join. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81836612698?pwd=SVI0bFpPU3J2cTIMUkVwZTdqL3hnQT09>

Passcode: Recycle

Or iPhone one-tap:

+16699006833,,81836612698#,,,,*8719285# US (San Jose)

+12532158782,,81836612698#,,,,*8719285# US (Tacoma)

Or join by phone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

**US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 929
205 6099 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799**

Webinar ID: 818 3661 2698

Passcode: 8719285

International numbers available: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81836612698>

1. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL

Chair, Erik Loechell, called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. The following members were in attendance:

Present: Chair Loechell, Vice-Chair Benson, Member MacDonald, Member Parson, Member Pesenson, and Member Ward.

Absent: Member Rogers

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Felicity Fonseca, Community Engagement Librarian for Los Alamos County Library System, commented that Laura Paskus will be presenting at the Library's evening lecture on July 8th at 7:00 pm. She asked that if either the Environmental Sustainability Board (ESB) or Los Alamos Resiliency, Energy, and Sustainability (LARES) Task Force would like to write a letter to an editor about climate change to be published in the local newspapers. She also asked if LARES or ESB would be interested in partnering on future sustainability discussions at one of the Library's evening lectures.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Member Pesenson, seconded by Member Ward, that the agenda be approved as presented.

The motion passed unanimously with Member Parson absent at the time.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[14289-21](#) Approval of the April 15, 2021, Environmental Sustainability Board Minutes

Presenters: Erik Loechell

Attachments: [A - Drafted ESB Minutes April 15, 2021](#)

A motion was made by Member Pesenson, seconded by Member MacDonald that the April 15, 2021 minutes be approved as presented.

The motion passed unanimously with Member Parson absent.

5. BOARD BUSINESS

[14292-21](#) Herbicides Use by Los Alamos County

Presenters: Dianne Marquez, Cory Styron and Juan Rael

Attachments: [B - 2021 Herbicides Used by the Los Alamos County CSD - PROS DivisionParks](#)

ESB received a presentation from Dianne Marquez of Community Services Department about herbicide usage within Los Alamos County Community Services Department. The County is willing to try alternative integrated pest management solutions. ESB members asked more questions and commented they want to continue the dialogue about herbicide usage in the County.

[14297-21](#) Review and Approve the FY22 ESB Work Plan

Presenters: Erik Loechell

Attachments: [C - DRAFT FY22 ESB Workplan](#)

A motion was made by Member MacDonald, seconded by Member Pesenson that the FY22 workplan be approved as presented.

The motion was approved unanimously.

[14290-21](#) Discuss the 2021 Zero Waste Champion of the Year Award

Presenters: Erik Loechell

The ESB discussed the 2021 Zero Waste Champion of the Year Award. The ESB choose to have several categories this year: Schools, Business, Non-Profit Organizations, Small Business, and Restaurants. Unfortunately, only one nomination was submitted for the Zero Waste Champion of the Year Award, the Children's Dentistry. After speaking with Ryn Hermann, in future years she is in favor of collaborating at the annual Chamber Awards and adding a category for Zero Waste Champions. The ESB will forego the Zero Waste Champion of the Year Award due to lack of nominee submissions.

6. REPORTS**A. Chair's Report - Erik Loechell**

Chair Loechell reported that he presented at the May 18, 2021 County Council work session. In the presentation he bragged about the ESB, the Zero Waste team and all the work they have been doing the past year. Several Council members asked about recycling plastic bags in Los Alamos County and if there were any plans to find a way to recycle plastic bags. They were also excited about the exciting things ESB have on deck.

Chair Loechell also had a chance to talk to Community Development Advisory Board Chair Aaron Walker and Parks and Recreation Board Chair Ramiro Pereyra about teaming up to create a pesticide task force.

B. Board Member Reports**C. Los Alamos Resiliency Energy and Sustainability Task Force - Dina Pesenson/Heidi Rogers**

Member Pesenson reported that the Los Alamos Resiliency, Energy, and Sustainability Task Force received more applications to join their subcommittees. They have approved and appointed all the applicants. In the next meeting they will receive a presentation from Waste, Consumption and Natural Resources subcommittee about their research. The Task Force is also hoping to have someone from the Los Alamos National Lab join the task force. They are also looking for data about local consumerism to calculate greenhouse gas emissions.

1). Board of Public Utilities - Erik Loechell

None

2). Planning and Zoning Commission - Brendon Parsons

None

3). Transportation Board - Heather Ward

Member Ward reported that the Transportation Board went over their FY22 work plan. May is National Bike Month and Friday, May 21st was bike to work day. The way finding signs will be installed in September. There will be a new walking tour in the historic district. They have some ruin improvements going on in White Rock.

4). Parks and Recreation Board - Dina Pesenson

Member Pesenson reported that the Parks and Recreation Board also received the Herbicides Use by Los Alamos County presentation as well as a golf course presentation. Chair Loechell asked if the graywater system would be updated at the golf course. Member Pesenson recalled that the graywater system was not presented in that presentation.

5). Community Development Advisory Board - Carol Kay Carr

None

6). County Council Liaison - Sean Williams

Councilor Williams was not present but sent an email to the ESB with the following updates: "\$2.4M was approved by Council for the bear-resistant roll carts - which includes enough to replace all the dumpsters and roll carts for the entire community. One of the big issues with that is outreach and education: Environmental Services offers support for people who need help with their roll carts, and switching to heavier and more complicated carts could present a challenge for many residents. But people will need to be made aware of the support the County offers.

A smaller budget item was passed to expand the County's Office365 subscription, to allow boards and commissions members to have a county (@lacnm.us) email address. I don't have a timeline, but I think this is a great change: B&C members can potentially be subject to Inspection of Public Records requests, so it's easier for everyone if B&C business is conducted through county email.

Another smaller budget item will set aside \$50k per year for canyon and mesa restoration, to build on the success of the Graduation Canyon rehabilitation. Work in FY2022 (which starts this July) will focus on Upper Pueblo Canyon."

D. Team Reports

1). Los Alamos Public Schools Team Subcommittee - Angelica Gurule

Staff Liaison Angelica Gurule reported that Susan Hettinga is planning to re-launch the Green Schools Task Force starting next school year in hopes that things will be back to normal and have more participation from all schools. The Los Alamos Public Schools Team Subcommittee has also continued to expand their distribution of compost tumblers to some of the schools, Aspen, Chamisa and the Middle School each have two compost tumblers. The Middle School has also been requesting mulch for food waste composting pilot project that they're doing. Environmental Services has delivered a total of 36 yards of mulch to the Middle School to help with that pilot project.

2). Zero Waste Los Alamos - Sara Martinez/Alesia Benson

Office Specialist, Sara Martinez, reported that the Zero Waste team had to reschedule their meeting for the following Wednesday, May 26, 2021. She also reported that the team will receive an update on the Backyard Composting Kit Distribution, Food Waste Prevention and Sciencefest Kits, and discuss the future Fix It event.

7. STAFF REPORT

[14300-21](#)

Environmental Services Business & Operation Updates

Presenters: Angelica Gurule

The ESB received their routine update regarding business and operations, as well as future outreach opportunities that Environmental Services is doing.

[14298-21](#)

April 2021 Residential Sustainability Report

Presenters: Angelica Gurule

Attachments: [D - Residential Sustainability Report - April 2021](#)

The ESB reviewed and discussed the April 2021 Residential Sustainability Report. The data now includes more data and graphs that will demonstrate overall diversion as a result of the new yard trimming program which began July 9, 2018.

8. PREVIEW OF UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

1. Set a schedule for FY22 work plan
2. Bee City Presentation by Alesia Benson
3. SCS - Methane Extraction System and GHG Emissions Overview
4. Discussion about Pesticide Task Force

9. ADJOURNMENT

With no objections, the ESB meeting was adjourned at 6:56 pm.

If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing or meeting, please contact the County Human Resources Division at 662-8040 at least one week prior to the meeting or as soon as possible. Public documents, including the agenda and minutes can be provided in various accessible formats. Please contact the personnel in the Community Services Administration Office at 662-8163 if a summary or other type of accessible format is needed.



County of Los Alamos

Staff Report

July 15, 2021

Los Alamos, NM 87544
www.losalamosnm.us

Agenda No.:

Index (Council Goals):

Presenters: Erik Loechell

Legislative File: 14541-21

Title

Food Waste Composting Feasibility Project Update

Recommended Action Motion

N/A

Body

The Food Waste Composting Feasibility Study and Design contract agreement was approved by County Council on April 6, 2021. The County had a kick-off meeting with SCS Engineers on May 25, 2021 to discuss project scope, background, data needs and desired outcomes. Part of the scope of the work is to gather public comment and will engage ESB as part of the process.

Attachments

B - Food Waste Composting Feasibility Study Project Update

County of Los Alamos

Food Waste Composting Feasibility Project

July 15, 2021



Agenda

1. Project Process
2. Project Overview
3. Project Outcome
4. Discussion/Q&A



Project Process

- Competitive bid process; SCS selected to conduct food waste composting feasibility study.
- Purpose:
 - ✓ Identify cost-effective collection, technology and location for food waste composting in the County
 - ✓ Identify necessary resources to implement project
 - ✓ Select and develop food composting collection plan and processing facility

Project Overview

- Phase 1 – Food Waste Composting Study
- Phase 2 – Composting System Design Services



Phase 1: Food Waste Composting Study

1. Quantify Food Waste by Sector
2. Prepare Compost Technology Matrix
3. Recommend Feedstock's
4. Develop Cost Model Matrix
5. Evaluate Site Location Options
6. Compare and Analyze Collection Options
7. Compare and Analyze Technologies
8. Identify Regulatory Requirements

Phase 1: Food Waste Composting Study

9. Conduct Environmental Impact Assessment and Utility Usage Carbon Footprint
10. Assess Similar Food Waste Composting Programs
11. Assess Regional Partnership Opportunities
12. Identify Best Management Practices
13. Prepare Draft and Final Reports
14. Conduct Stakeholder Meetings

Project Objectives

- Guidance for next year's budget
- Comparison of technologies
- Benefits and impacts of food waste composting
- Most beneficial method(s) for community
- Financially, what is the best site, technology, collection methods
- Need a Quality product, useable within the Community

Discussion on Project Outcome: What Do You Hope to Achieve?





Questions?

Michelle Leonard
Tracie Onstad Bills
SCS Engineers

SCS ENGINEERS



County of Los Alamos

Staff Report

July 15, 2021

Los Alamos, NM 87544
www.losalamosnm.us

Agenda No.:

Index (Council Goals):

Presenters: Heidi Rogers

Legislative File: 14573-21

Title

Waste, Consumption, and Natural Resources Subcommittee Update

..Suggested Motion

N/A

Body

The Los Alamos Resiliency, Energy and Sustainability Task Force has been chartered for the purpose of recommending ways for the County as a whole, including government, businesses, and residents, to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions and advance other sustainable practices in the face of climate change. Heidi Rogers and Oral Saulters, members of the Waste, Consumption, and Natural Resources Subcommittee will provide an update to the Environmental Sustainability Board on their current work and hopes to gather feedback.

Attachments

C - Draft WCNR Subcommittee Update to ESB

DRAFT

**Los Alamos Resiliency, Energy and Sustainability Task Force
Waste Consumption and Natural Resources Subcommittee
Waste Management, Recycling and Composting Update**

Introduction

Solid waste in Los Alamos is managed by the Los Alamos County Environmental Services Department (ESD). The ESD provides trash, recycling and yard trimming collection services to all residents and trash and recycling collection for commercial entities in the county. This includes 7,200 households, 333 commercial dumpsters in service and a 7 day per week transfer station operation. In 2019, annual residential waste collected represented 4,889 tons, commercial waste was 2,890 tons. The diverted waste (recycled, reclaimed, or composted) is approximately 21,194 tons/annually or 56% of all waste generated. In addition, the municipal solid waste, which includes all commercial, residential and transfer stations is 16,509 tons and is shipped to the Rio Rancho landfill at a cost to the county of approximately \$1,000,000 in 2019, which includes transportation and disposal. In addition, the Rio Rancho is estimated to close in the next 5-7 years and the next landfill will be a further distance and may increase the cost of hauling and disposal.

The Environmental Services Department submits a monthly report on waste diversion and GHGe benefits and costs of these activities in their monthly sustainability report [HERE](#). You can also read the 2017 Environmental Sustainability Plan [HERE](#).

Recommendations

For the Los Alamos County waste recommendations, the LARES Task Force is recommending a Zero Waste approach, which was adopted by the US conference of Mayors in 2015. Zero waste is a philosophical and programmatic strategy to minimize the environmental impact of materials disposal. Ideally, all materials and products would be reduced, or re-used, re-purposed, recycled or composted. This strategy prioritizes care of hazardous materials, so that disposal or recycling of these is done to have a minimal (ideally zero) impact on the natural and human environments. Los Alamos County has the opportunity to be a leader in the work of Zero Waste through community commitment to reducing materials that end up in the waste stream, reusing or re-purposing materials, and recycling. This is an innovative, socially connected community of scientists, nature enthusiasts, educators and people dedicated to service and innovation. We are also the healthiest county in the United States. With these attributes, we are well-poised to tackle the complexities and challenges of shifting toward a future that embraces Zero Waste practices. It is currently estimated that 21,194 tons of material which include concrete and asphalt, recycle, yard trimmings, batteries, electronics, tires, pallets, metal, cardboard, mixed recycle, oil and antifreeze diverted from the landfill in 2019. While 17% of waste represents food waste, 491 tons (37%) comes from commercial enterprises and 831 tons (63%) comes from residential homes.

Time frame/Smart Goals:

1. Decrease (over time to 100%) the amount of municipal solid waste (MSW) that is deposited in a landfill
 - a. Increase diversion rate of materials to 90% of waste is diverted from landfill by ? Year? (example from LA : 90 % by 2025, 95% by 2030 and 100% by 2050)

- b. Reduce Municipal Solid Waste Generation per capita by 15% by 2030, including phase out of single use plastics by 2028 (LA example)
- c. Eliminate organic waste going to landfill (by 2028?)
- d. Increase proportion of waste products and recyclables productively used or repurposed by ?% in 2025 and ??% by 2035
- e. Increase commercial and industry participation in county goals by ??% per year - to 100% by 2030

Planning

- **Strategy – 1 Integrate concepts of Zero Waste into all aspects of LAC. This includes education, programs and practices as well as supported outreach on Zero Waste goals, strategies and benefits.**
 - Tactic 1: with resource allocation (staffing/consultants) Implement policies to support reduction of single use materials, waste produced and support repurposing and recycling where indicated.
 - Considerations
 - Responsible waste management systems (trash, compost, recycling)
 - Improve county recycling and compost operations - to increase capacity
 - Hazardous waste reduction best practices
 - Disaster planning to include waste reduction strategies
 - Tactic 2: Implement waste reduction, composting and recycling at all county facilities, programs and household services.
 - Considerations
 - Policies and codes need to be reviewed for opportunities to support Zero Waste goals.
 - Tactic 3: Conduct waste education and outreach on Zero Waste and programs, practices and recommendations for individual, commercial and county/public entities to adopt this framework.
 - Considerations:
 - Support/incentivize local commerce innovations
 - Green business awards
 - Promote Zero Waste Outreach at Events (support needed)
 - Tactic 4: Improve recycling practices - through 100% recycling and at the same time, decreasing reliance on single use materials.
 - Considerations
 - Use apps and programs like the recycle coach
 - Improve on recycling education to include environmental footprint, so people understand the % of materials that are actually transitioned to usable products.
 - Look for ways to reuse materials that are generated in Los Alamos county
 - Support commercial recycling through policies, codes and services that improve recycling practices.
 - Tactic 5 Improve refrigerant management policies and recycling

- Every refrigerator and air conditioner contains chemical refrigerants that absorb and release heat to enable chilling. Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), the primary replacement for ozone depleting substances, spare the ozone layer, but have 1,000 to 9,000 times greater capacity to warm the atmosphere than carbon dioxide. In May 2021, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed its first rule under the American Innovation and Manufacturing (AIM) Act of 2020 to phase down the production and consumption of HFCs.
- Consequently, adopt policies and practices as outlined in Project Drawdown to:
 - avoid leaks from refrigerants
 - destroy refrigerants at end of life, both after the adoption of alternatives to HFC refrigerants such as propane, isobutene, ammonium, etc.
- Tactic 6 Improve household hazardous waste reduction and safe deposit.
 - Household hazardous waste (HHW) includes cleaners, solvents, automotive fluids, batteries, garden chemicals, and other materials that pose hazards to solid waste workers and the public. Proper disposal is necessary to prevent injury, illness, or environmental contamination. Although HHW is excluded from Subtitle C of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, it is regulated under Subtitle D of this law as a solid waste. In other words, household hazardous waste is regulated on the state and local level.
 - Considerations:
 - Reduce purchases of products that contain hazardous ingredients for viable alternatives. Advance collection programs, events, and opportunities. Utilize information resources from the EPA, NMED, and NM Recycling Coalition.
 - Battery use, recycling and disposal
 - Pesticide sale, use and safe disposal
- Tactic 7 Encourage recycling and repurposing of construction materials for construction projects in Los Alamos.
 - Considerations:
 - Construction material re-purposing, for example the Habitat for Humanity Re-Store.
 - Sustainable Materials Management approaches for C&D materials should be considered. These include best practices for Reducing, Reusing, and Recycling Construction and Demolition Materials: <https://www.epa.gov/smm/best-practices-reducing-reusing-and-recycling-construction-and-demolition-materials#buytake>, Design for Disassembly https://kingcounty.gov/~media/depts/dnrp/solid-waste/green-building/documents/Design_for_Disassembly-guide.ashx?la=en, and NM Construction & Demolition Recycling Guide, https://www.recyclenewmexico.com/pdf/C&D_Guide_2010_FINAL.pdf.
 - Use asphalt and concrete in projects in Los Alamos. Sustainable materials management (SMM) is a systemic approach to using and reusing materials more productively over their entire life cycles. Technical guidance, tools, and models such as: EPA SMM Strategic Plan Examples:

- <https://www.epa.gov/smm/epa-sustainable-materials-management-program-strategic-plan-fiscal-years-2017-2022>, Road Ahead report <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-09/documents/vision2.pdf>, Waste Reduction Model (WARM) <https://www.epa.gov/warm/basic-information-about-waste-reduction-model-warm> should be explored for applicability. Feasibility of materials and waste exchanges through Reuse Centers, which are markets for buying and selling reusable and recyclable commodities, should be investigated.
- Tactic 8: Reduce Organic Waste diversion
 - Goals: 0% of compostable materials will be sent to landfill
 - Increase composting of Yard trimmings to 100% currently, 70% of households have yard trimming carts
 - Implement food waste composting – community compost pick up for food waste, policies for public, county and commercial food waste reduction and composting
 - Examples:
 - Restaurants: compostable to go containers and utensils
 - Households, apartments, schools and businesses will have compost pick up
 - More backyard composting kits
 - Partner with schools, churches, extracurricular activities and nutrition services to reduce food waste through left over challenges
 - Guerilla food app – for fruit trees and Gaia’s pantry project
- Tactic 9: reduce reliance on single use items
 - Implement best practices that support reusable materials
 - Integrate water filling stations through downtown
 - Conduct a community campaign to bring own cups everywhere
 - Work with grocery and food vendors to reduce impact of “to go”
- Tactic 10: support reusing, repurposing and repair
 - Exchange center for sharing of reusable household items
 - create a re-maker space with community to fix and repair and trade
- Tactic 11: Incentivize, fund/support “Waste to Energy Solutions”
 - Considerations:
 - LA county could look into the use of anaerobic digestors for methane recovery - refinement and pipe into other processes. Organic wastes can emit fugitive methane gases as they decompose. Methane creates a greenhouse warming effect 34 times stronger than carbon dioxide over a century. One option to control decomposition of organic waste is in tanks called anaerobic digesters. They harness the power of microbes to transform scraps and sludge and produce two main products: biogas, an energy source, and solids called digestate, a nutrient-rich fertilizer. A potential source would be the closed landfill. Overall, landfills can be a top source of methane emissions, releasing 12 percent of the world’s total. Landfill methane can be tapped, captured, and used as a fairly clean energy source for

generating electricity or heat, rather than leaking into the air or being dispersed as waste. The climate benefit is twofold: prevent landfill emissions and displace coal, oil, or natural gas that might otherwise be used.

DRAFT



County of Los Alamos

Staff Report

July 15, 2021

Los Alamos, NM 87544
www.losalamosnm.us

Agenda No.:

Index (Council Goals):

Presenters: Erik Loechell

Legislative File: 14542-21

Title

Discussion and Consideration of Restarting In-Person Meetings

.Recommended Action

Members are comfortable meeting in person, I move that the Environmental Sustainability Board resume in person meetings on [date] _____.

Members are divided in their opinions about resumption of in-person meetings; therefore, I move that the Environmental Sustainability Board utilize a hybrid approach to meetings with public, staff and/or Board members in person and Zoom meeting link for those public and Board members that choose to remain remote.

Members are not comfortable meeting in person, I move that the Environmental Sustainability Board continue meetings via Zoom and revisit the topic on [date] _____.

August 19, 2021

September 16, 2021

October 21, 2021

November 18, 2021

December 16, 2021

Body

The Environmental Sustainability Board will discuss and consider a date to resume in-person meetings.

Attachments

N/A



County of Los Alamos

Staff Report

July 15, 2021

Los Alamos, NM 87544
www.losalamosnm.us

Agenda No.:

Index (Council Goals):

Presenters: Angelica Gurule

Legislative File: 14540-21

Title

Environmental Services Business & Operation Updates

...Suggested Motion

N/A

Body

Environmental Services operates as an enterprise fund which provides solid waste services to businesses and residents of the community. The ESB receives routine updates regarding business and operations, as well as future outreach opportunities.

1. The yard trimming program began again on March 15 and will go through December 10th. The County purchased a new grinder to transform brush into mulch for landscaping and composting. It was delivered on June 1, 2021.
2. Environmental Services Division collaborated with NM Department of Game and Fish to procure 300 bear tough carts and 7 bear resistant dumpsters. The carts and dumpsters have been ordered and the estimated delivery date is mid-August 2021. Priority will be given to residents already on the registration list.
3. Environmental Services submitted a grant application to the Recycling and Illegal Dumping Grant for a recycling baler and received unofficial notice that the project has been awarded for FY22.
4. Los Alamos County Environmental Services in partnership with PEEC and LAC Parks and Recreation Division received a partial award for the NM Clean and Beautiful Grant to purchase and install water refill stations, which is \$16,418 and \$15,705.00 for backyard composting. Based on our estimates we have enough funding to purchase and install 3 water bottle refill stations. Parks recommend the first three Ashley Pond, Overlook, and Nature Center due to their high use for the public and visitors, plus access to current and future trails.
5. Environmental Services provided a backyard compost demonstration at Science Fest.
6. The ESB and Zero Waste Team have been providing outreach and education at Farmer's Market. Please contact me if you are interested in volunteering.
7. Possible outreach at Los Alamos Summer Concert Series.
8. PEEC invited ESB and Zero Waste to participate in Bear Festival on August 28, 2021.
9. ESB will have three vacancies starting August 1, 2021 and we are currently recruiting on LA Daily Post and Facebook.

Attachments

N/A



County of Los Alamos

Staff Report

July 15, 2021

Los Alamos, NM 87544
www.losalamosnm.us

Agenda No.:

Index (Council Goals):

Presenters: Angelica Gurule

Legislative File: 14539-21

Title

June 2021 Residential Sustainability Report

Recommended Action Motion

N/A

Body

The ESB will review and discuss the June 2021 Residential Sustainability Report. The data now includes more data and graphs that will demonstrate overall diversion as a result of the new yard trimming program which began July 9, 2018.

Most recent additions to the report include greenhouse gas emissions reduced by recycling and composting.

Attachments

B - Residential Sustainability Report - June 2021



Residential Sustainability Report

Service Period: June 2021

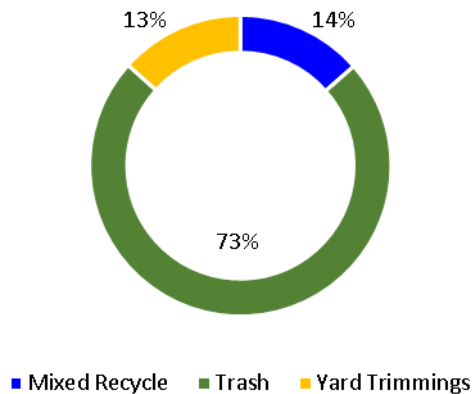


LOS ALAMOS

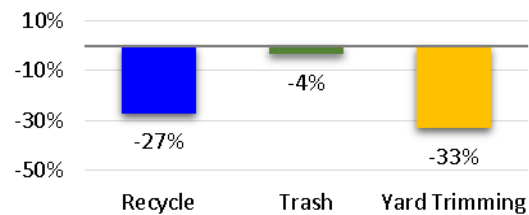
June Diversion Rate: **27%**

The *diversion rate* is the percent of recyclable and compostable material diverted from the landfill.

Monthly Collection Report

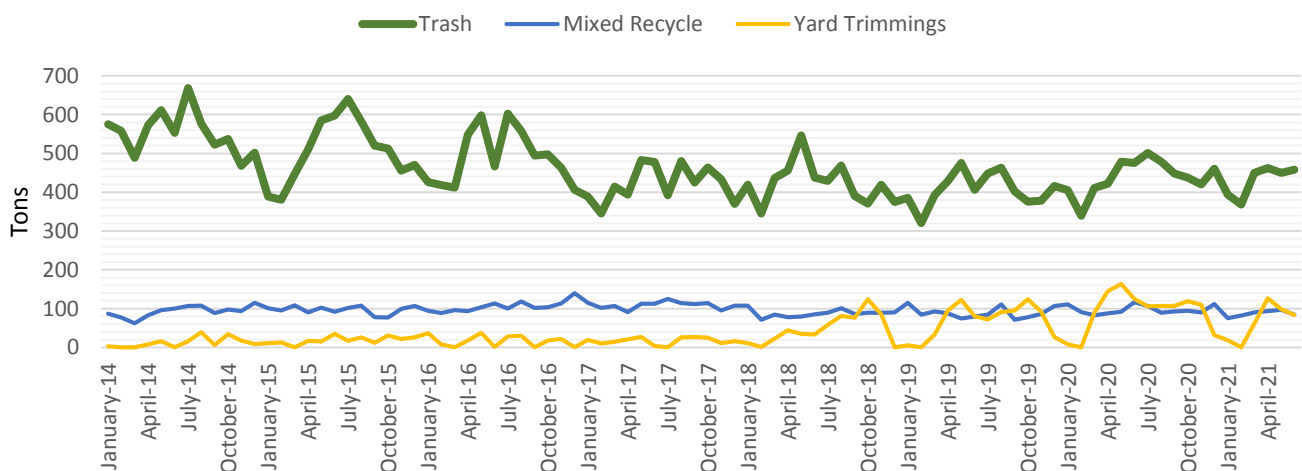


% Change Previous Year

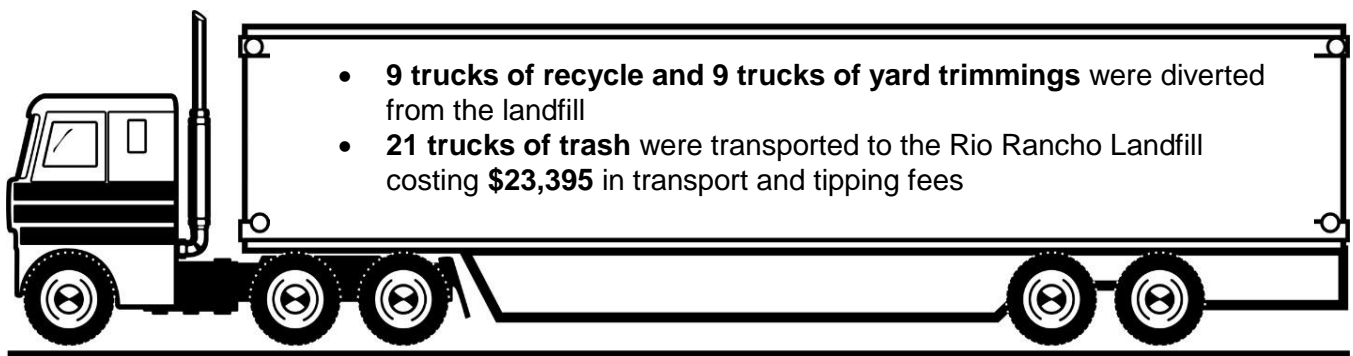


	Jun-20	Jun-21
Yard Trimming	125.22	83.76
Recycle	116.40	84.81
Trash	475.02	458.14

In June by recycling and composting Los Alamos County reduced GHG emissions by ~455 tons



In 2021 by recycling and composting Los Alamos County reduced GHG emissions by ~2553 tons



For more information contact Environmental Services Division at 505.662.8163 or email solidwaste@lacnm.us