

**Washtenaw County Materials Management Planning Committee (MMPC)
Meeting Minutes**

8/13/2025, 10:00 AM

**Washtenaw County Learning Resource Center
4135 Washtenaw Ave., Ann Arbor, 48108**

Members Present: Seegert, Mazanec, Bukowski, Ukena, Kerkez, Ohren, Reeve, Nicholson, Hwang, Kofflin, Mason (ex-officio), Drinan (ex-officio)

Members Absent: Maciejewski, Williams

Washtenaw County Staff Present: Wright, Morris

Resource Recycling Staff Present: Heflin, Oulton, Wouters (virtual)

Call to order: Chair Ohren called the meeting to order at 10a.m.

Roll Call

- a. David Seegert – present
- b. Paul Mazanec – present
- c. Todd Bukowski (Vice Chair) - present
- d. Bryan Ukena – present
- e. Lindsey Kerkez – present
- f. Joseph Ohren (Chair) - present
- g. Jason Maciejewski – absent
- h. Bruce Reeve - present
- i. James Nicholson – present
- j. Roland Hwang – present
- k. Marc Williams – absent
- l. Josh Kofflin – present, arrived late at 10:10a.m.
- m. Sarah Mason (ex-officio) – present
- n. David Drinan (ex-officio) – present

Land Acknowledgement (read by Wright)

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda moved by Hwang, seconded by Nicholson. All in favor.
Motion carries.

Last Meeting Minutes Approval

A motion to approve the 7/9/2025 Meeting Minutes moved by Bukowski, seconded by Hwang. All in favor. Motion carries.

Feedback from MMPC Input Form

Heflin reviewed the new feedback from Committee members, including a suggestion to exclude C&D waste from the county's waste measurement, converting tons of waste to volume, and tackling hard to recycle materials.

Tours

Ohren reminded the Committee about the opportunities for tours that start next week.

Recycling Chapter Review and Discussion

Goal 1

- The Committee discussed the impact that C&D waste and contaminated soils have on the amount of waste sent to landfill and discussed options of creating goals that include versus exclude C&D and contaminated soil in total waste sent to landfill.
- The Committee discussed how to measure a decrease in single use disposable items. And how this is a separate but related goal to increasing reuse and refill programs. Discussed potentially adding a measurable based on waste audits, tracking single-use items discarded.
- Bukowski suggested identifying best practices from other counties across the U.S. in setting rates and dates. The Committee noted that Washtenaw County is a leader in materials management and should go after aggressive goals.
- The Committee discussed the formation of data tracking for goals and the need to track goals over the long term as the planning process repeats every six years.
- Ohren noted that draft chapters should be sent sooner than one week before the MMP Committee meetings. The Committee requested the ability to comment directly in the draft plan.

Goal 2

- The Committee discussed ways of tracking participation in recycling – by measuring recyclables diverted from landfill or understanding percentages of people participating in subscription services.
- Discussed the need to clarify terms “access”, “participation”, and “set out rates”.
- The Committee discussed additional ways to track participation via RFID tracking and arm lifts but noted that this is technically a set out rate. Ukena noted that if we do make requirements, equity should be involved and consider that haulers in rural areas may not have the ability to track lifts and or RFID tags.

Goal 3

- The Committee discussed aligning education efforts and messaging with How2Recycle and other national standards to communicate what can and cannot be recycled, to make recyclability messaging more consistent.
- Oulton gave an example of how an Ohio County handles messaging across four different MRF sheds in their county with a standardized flyer.

Goal 4

- The Committee discussed the need for better access to data to inform decision making.
- The Committee identified the potential of haulers being asked to report data using different methods and formats across multiple counties.
- Bukowski asked if the state is setting a standard about information tracking. The Committee noted that the state is using ReTRAC and discussed the potential for using this to standardize across the state. Oulton noted that there is still no

requirement to track recycling movement through transfer stations and MRFs as well as the movement of compostable material.

- Committee requested that Goals and methods to measure success toward that goal be stated more explicitly in the plan draft.

Organics Introduction and Discussion

Morris covered a definition of organics. Morris gave a high-level overview of what categories and materials the County is considering as organic material. Morris covered a review of all registered compost/organics processing sites in the county and the materials they are and aren't accepting. Morris reviewed challenges of contamination as well as definitions of Class 1 and Class 2 compostable materials. Morris reviewed compost site data and data gaps from sites and operations across Washtenaw County and noted that there is a huge need to increase organic waste capture.

Future Meetings Schedule

Next meeting September 10th

Public Comment

Jill Hollister, Freedom Township

Hollister noted that she toured Michigan State's anerobic digester facility and highlighted that they do not currently have technology to take PFAs out of the digestate. Noted that the beef farm in Freedom Township had to be shut down due to PFAS contamination from biosolids spread on the farm. EGLE ran the tests on this facility and shut this down, but with this information EGLE decided to not continue testing for PFAS in order to avoid a widespread shutdown of the agriculture industry.

Leah Michels, Northville Township

Concerned about the establishment of a new landfill or expansion of Arbor Hills landfill. She noted that PFAs from the landfill are contaminating the creek. Asked about garbage Michigan is taking, notably the Arbor Hills landfill, from Canada. She expressed concern that residents are not able to join these meetings to advocate on behalf of the community.

David Seegert, Northville Township

Noted that the landfill does not produce PFAs and that the PFAs came from firefighting foam. Noted that the landfill passed their threshold tests for PFAs. Added that this is a misconception.

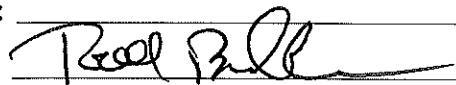
David Drinan, Conservancy Initiative

Added that we should hire a third party to sample discharge from the landfill to test PFAs and clarify this question.

Meeting adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting moved by Hwang, seconded by Nicholson. Meeting adjourned at 11:44 a.m.

Approved by: _____ (Chair)

 _____ (Vice Chair)