

Washtenaw County Materials Management Planning Committee (MMPC)
Meeting Minutes
3/11/2026, 10:00 AM

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

Members Present: Seegert, Ukena, Ohren, Maciejewski, Reeve, Hwang, M. Williams, Mason, Drinan

Members Absent: Mazanec, C. Williams, Nicholson, Bukowski

Washtenaw County Staff Present: Eggermont, Wright

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

Call to order: Chair Ohren called the meeting to order at 10:02 am.

Roll Call

- a. David Seegert – present
- b. Paul Mazanec – absent
- c. Todd Bukowski (Vice Chair) - absent
- d. Bryan Ukena – present
- e. Joseph Ohren (Chair) - present
- f. Jason Maciejewski – present
- g. Bruce Reeve - present
- h. James Nicholson – absent
- i. Roland Hwang – present
- j. Marc Williams – present
- k. Chris Williams - absent
- l. Sarah Mason (ex-officio) – present
- m. David Drinan (ex-officio) – present

Land Acknowledgement (read by Wright)

Approval of Agenda

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

Last Meeting Minutes Approval

A motion to approve the 2/11/2026 Meeting Minutes moved by Williams (Marc), seconded by Hwang. All in favor. Motion carries.

Recycling Rate – What to Include?

Naud reviewed the recycling rate numerator and denominator and noted that Washtenaw should capture all of the recycling happening in the county. Naud noted that for much of the recycling we have very limited data but can substitute with estimates based on state or county level data, or projections. The Committee asked about construction and demolition (C&D) waste. Naud noted this is not considered Municipal Solid Waste and added that there should be a separate C&D goal. Ukena suggested that the county further define the tracking categories and gave the example of car parts ending up in scrap metal figures.

Review of Member Feedback Input Form

Naud read through comments from the Committee regarding the current goals. Eggermont shared County staff member feedback that the organics goal is currently focused on food waste and should consider other organics like wood waste.

The Committee discussed the need to back the percentages they decide on in the goals. Ukena asked if the county could include data from the impacts of bans and other policy actions in other cities and counties across the U.S. Eggermont said that Washtenaw's ability to pass bans is limited, but that they could look into data on impacts from CVT (county, village, township) level policies.

Funding Mechanisms

Naud shared a slide that summarized the anticipated costs for Washtenaw County to implement goals in the plan moving forward. Eggermont and Naud reviewed multiple different funding mechanisms the county or local municipalities could potentially utilize to sustainably fund their materials management goals.

County-Level Funding Mechanisms:

Public Act 185

The Committee discussed the current use of Public Act 185 but noted the limitations. Eggermont added that PA 185 has an upfront cost to implement.

Public Acts 69 and 138

Naud reviewed Acts 69 and 138 as tools that the county is currently not utilizing; that would collect fees per household.

Hauler Licensure

Eggermont explained that a hauler license resource recovery fee would require haulers to move materials to county designated facilities where they are charged a fee to unload their materials. Facilities receiving materials would report tonnages accepted to the county. With hauler licensure, the county would have a contract with both the facilities accepting materials generated in Washtenaw.

Landfill / Transfer Station Surcharge

This is the most common funding mechanism in Michigan – utilized by counties with publicly owned facilities that apply a fee to all incoming residential and commercial tons of waste.

Voter Approved County-wide Millage

This requires voter approval is used to fund capital or operating costs of resource recovery programs.

Supplemental Fees for Service

This is an additional charge for services that users of the service pay (e.g., pay to drop off electronic waste) that helps cover operating costs.

Local-Unit Funding Mechanisms:

Legislatively authorized millages

Naud gave the example of an “annual garbage tax.” Cities and villages can collect up to 3 mils for refuse and recycling programs. Charter Townships can collect up to 2 mils.

Municipal Utility/Service Fees

This mechanism allows the local unit to collect dollars through utility billing. This is the second most common mechanism for solid waste funding in Michigan. Large cities utilize this with large franchises they have service contracts with.

Hauler Franchise / Hauler Collected Fees

This can be applied when there is an exclusive hauler contract/franchise for waste collection and recycling service. The hauler is responsible for service provision and fee collection.

Voter Approved Program Millage

Iosco County Michigan is an example of voters approving the funding of recycling services through a millage.

General Fund

Local units cover resource recovery program costs out of their general fund.

Supplemental Fee for Service

Like at the county level, local units can charge supplemental fees for certain services to support the operating costs.

The Committee discussed the requirement of the law to identify funding mechanisms for new actions laid out in this Materials Management Plan. Eggermont noted that the current Host Community Agreement with the landfill will continue to be a funding mechanism for the ~next 5 years, which is the projected remaining capacity at the landfill.

The Committee discussed the goals of education as well as bettering their data capture and the potential to reach these goals through one of the funding mechanisms they are considering. The Committee also discussed the need to pull in funding to better recycling access across the county. Naud noted the county is already pursuing this through grant funding and supporting municipalities and businesses with diversion events.

Special Meeting: Goals Public Engagement Session

Motion to approve the public engagement session on April 28th at 7:00 pm made by Hwang, seconded by Reeve. All in favor. Motion carries.

Next Steps and Future Meetings Schedule

The next regular MMP Committee Meeting is scheduled for June 10th, 2026.

Public Comment

Carol Poenisch, Northville Township

Expressed concern about the air and water pollution coming from the landfill as an affected resident. She encouraged the Committee to advocate for an increase to the landfill tipping fees across the state.

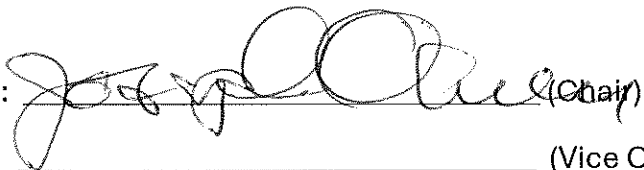
Jen Blaharski, Northville Township

Brought up the state level bills related to increasing landfill tipping fees. She noted that an increase in the tipping fee at the state level would undoubtedly support the goals of Washtenaw County's materials management plan. She encouraged the Committee to advocate for this through the planning process.

Meeting adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting moved by Hwang, seconded by Reeve. Meeting adjourned at 11:28 am.

Approved by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Jeffrey", written over a horizontal line.

(Vice Chair)