

Public Works Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)

*Tuesday, June 20, 2006
Public Works Department*

CAC Representatives Present

Dr. Arnold Abrams
Mr. Phil Bomersheim
Ms. Lois Custer
Ms. Sandra Davis
Ms. Sharyn Fox
Mr. Thomas Herbert
Ms. Crystal Hill

CAC Representatives Absent

Dr. Harold Cones
Ms. Sharron Kitchen Miller
Ms. Artistine Reid
Ms. Elsy Henriquez (youth representative)

Public Works Representatives

Ms. Dori Brown, Solid Waste Division
Mr. Roy Chesson, Administration Division
Mr. H. Reed Fowler, Jr., Administration Division
Mr. Michael Mee, Solid Waste Division Administrator
Mr. Tim Shockley, Solid Waste Division Assistant Administrator

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. by Chairperson Sharyn Fox.

Approve Meeting Minutes

A motion made by Arnold Abrams and seconded by Phil Bomersheim passed to approve the May 16, 2006 meeting minutes as submitted.

Bulk Waste Collection Discussion

Chairperson Fox redistributed the Public Works Citizens Advisory Committee Mission Statement to the CAC members as a reminder of their strictly advisory role in assisting the Department. Staff distributed a bulk waste report and a PowerPoint presentation to the CAC highlighting cost analysis information, the bulk waste collection programs of other Hampton Roads communities, and the alternative bulk waste collection methods for consideration.

Much discussion centered on whether the goal was to increase bulk waste collection efficiency or to limit the volumes of bulk waste generated by the resident. Impacts of limiting bulk waste (i.e., brush/tree debris) include lowering the City's recycling rate and the compost site's revenue. Staff explained the benefits of volume restrictions include reduced overtime. Both staff and CAC agreed that the primary focus should be to cut overall bulk waste costs while providing the most efficient collection method.

The bulk waste collection call-in pilot program conducted in 2003 has since been determined to be flawed in the data collected and that the analysis and recommendations from that pilot could not be

statistically verified/defended. CAC discussion centered on the pros/cons of implementing a citywide call-in bulk waste program as well as whether or not volume restrictions will solve the problem.

Staff stated that they believe a call-in program for all bulk waste with size limitations and an increased 5-day per week collection schedule is the direction the Department should pursue. This yielded further discussion about which sections of the City would receive Monday vs. Friday collection and whether or not an offering a collection services “menu option” wherein residents are charged for the services they need would be an effective approach.

CAC members requested that staff bring to the next meeting at least one alternative bulk waste collection method including cost/benefit analysis for the CAC to review/discuss. Staff and CAC agreed that the end result of the bulk waste recommendation would be centered on the statement *“We’re not providing less service, we’re providing better service because we’re saving taxpayer dollars.”*

Other Issues

- Staff distributed (for informational purposes only) an email prior to the June meeting an article about electronic waste landfill bans in Minnesota. This promoted a CAC request that an analysis report be prepared by staff highlighting the issue of electronic waste (CRTs, TVs, Cell phones, etc) across the country to include disposal regulations/policies, volumes generated, and recycling programs in place to handle these materials. They also requested that staff provide a listing of local outlets for electronic wastes.
- CAC requested that the September meeting agenda include the bulk waste staff recommendation report, the electronic waste report, and leaf collection practices for discussion.
- CAC requested that at a future meeting, a representative from Codes/Compliance should be invited to discuss the challenges they face and answer CAC questions.

CAC Meeting Schedule for 2006

The CAC agreed to the following meeting schedule for the remainder of the calendar year:

- September 19, 2006
- October 17, 2006
- November 14, 2006 (this meeting is tentatively moved up a week to avoid Thanksgiving vacations)
- December 2006 – Holiday Hiatus (no CAC meeting scheduled)

Unless advertised otherwise, all meetings will begin at 5:30 p.m. in the Public Works Department Conference Room.

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairperson at 6:55 p.m.