

Organics Management Residential Advisory Committee

September 21, 2016 Meeting Summary

Submitted by Charlie Fleetham, Project Innovations

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 16, 2016 from 6 – 8 p.m. Location: Wheeler Center

Participants: See Page 2

Agenda: See Attachment #1

- 1. Welcome:** Christina Gomes, Ann Arbor Solid Waste and Recycling Coordinator welcomed the participants, introduced the City Staff and the Project Team, and reviewed the meeting objective to tour the Compost Center, 4150 Platt Road.

- 2. Tour Highlights:** Dan Butynski/Christina Gomes/Matt Naud/Christina Seibert explained various operational and process characteristics of the facility. Highlights included:
 - The City contracts WeCare Organics to operate the center.
 - Two WeCare team members run the facility.
 - WeCare manages marketing and sales of center products – recent efforts have brought in MDOT as a major customer.
 - The machinery to operate the facility includes a windrow turner, a grinder, and a screener.
 - Commercial landscapers drop off significant quantities of green waste.
 - All organic waste is eventually converted into saleable product – including untreated wood pallets and large branches.
 - It takes 6 to 8 months to produce saleable product.
 - Temperatures inside the composting rows are monitored and can reach 150 degrees or more.
 - The composting product is tested for a host of characteristics, including pH, metals, bacteria, and nutrients to meet regulatory and U.S. Composting Council standards.
 - MDEQ reviewed the center facility and indicated it was a model for superior operations.
 - Ann Arbor residents receive free compost in the spring (set quantity) and can purchase more as desired.

- 3. Project Update – Christina Seibert**
 - The consultant team continues to collect data on Ann Arbor’s organic waste stream.
 - Based on committee requests from the last meeting, Christina provided information about Seattle’s organic waste program. It is the largest urban mandatory organic waste collection in the U.S.
 - The residential survey will be administered after the November election.

Note: All meeting summaries, agendas, and presentations are available at:

<http://www.a2gov.org/departments/systems-planning/planning-areas/Pages/Organics-Management-Plan-.aspx>

092116 Residential Advisory Participant List		
Last	First	Organization
Butynski	Dan	We Care Organics
Fleetham	Charlie	Project Innovations
Gomes	Christina	A2 Systems Planning
Held	John	Brookside Subdivision
Larose	Caroline	Univ of Michigan
Naud	Matt	A2 Systems Planning
Nikolai	Judy	Resident
Seibert	Christina	CB&I Project Manager
Steele	Shelley	Sunset Hilltop Neighborhood Association
Wu	Ji	Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice