



CITY AND  
COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO  
**COMMISSION ON THE ENVIRONMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORT**  
February 7, 2021

-----

***This report covers San Francisco Department of the Environment updates for the period of November 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021. Glossary of acronyms at bottom of report.***

**Residential Programs**

- ZERO WASTE: Collaborated with Outreach to mail "Letter to Property Managers on Composting requirements" to over 4,000 property managers. Coordinated recycling and composting rollout, door to door outreach, and kitchen pail distribution at Hunters Point East West, a 200+ unit affordable housing property (D10). Reviewed five RSO audits, sent 4 Notice of Violations, and 1 "good job" letter to large refuse generators; met with one LRG to discuss audit and RSCOP. Coordinated the Contamination Charge Removal Campaign and ensured Recology provided list of all customers with contamination charges and update team on their current contamination charges removed. Post updated Property Manager Tool Kit, Zero Waste Facilitator List, and Zero Waste Events Checklist on website. Addressed seven public inquiries; declined three and approved two compost removal requests and contacted two properties who were not providing composting access to their residents. Completed task order for consultants to complete a building supply reuse report looking at Building Resources. Met with head of sustainability for Gap Inc. with CPSC to educate them on producer responsibility and CA plans to develop textile EPR. Initiated relationship with Restaurant Depot and Daily Bowl for surplus food redistribution. Attending CA Product Stewardship Council (CPSC) board meeting and conducted racial equity scan on proposed CPSC 1 pound disposable propane cylinder ban.
- OUTREACH/ENERGY: EnergyAccess SF is a 3-year, local government partnership with PG&E. Its purpose is to raise awareness about energy efficiency, demand response, and affordable utility rates in San Francisco's Disadvantaged and underserved communities. The team completed Year 1 outreach in the Bayview-Hunters Point. In total, the team completed 89 audits in small businesses (mix of virtual and in-person), sent 3,228 mailers to single- and multi-family residents, and made 349 referrals to PG&E energy efficiency and affordable rates programs. Additionally, the Environment Now team completed calls to 2,100 residents in the Bayview to introduce a range of money- and energy-saving programs and conducted one in-person presentation to 36 people at the Bayview CYC.

- OUTREACH/ENERGY: The BayREN Home+ program continued a summer through winter campaign. The program offers rebates and the support needed to help homeowners make their homes healthier, more comfortable, and more energy efficient. Messaging and imagery leveraged home comfort, which has performed well previously, with the addition of new messaging added this year around energy bill cost savings, after a survey revealed that lowering energy bills is a high priority for homeowners. In November – December, ads ran on Facebook, Google, and SF Gate generating 2,909 clicks and 343,399 impressions. Emails were sent to approximately 31,000 SF homeowners in zip codes with a high percentage of single-family detached homes, resulting in 8,553 opens and 654 clicks.
- OUTREACH (ENVIRONMENTAL ED): Offered 39 presentations for grades K-5 on Zero Waste and Conserve Our Bay programs. Delivered 10 assemblies for Our Common Future program for grades 6-12. Our team reached 1422 community members across 7 districts.
- OUTREACH (ENVIRONMENTAL ED): SFE designed and launched a pilot program focused on teacher professional development and zero waste. SFE developed and ran training and planning sessions with four teachers who lead four separate Career Technical Education (CTE) Pathways for 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders at John O'Connell High School. An equitable pilot teacher training module will support teachers to learn Zero Waste principles and integrate them into their curriculum and school-based projects aimed at raising awareness about the school's waste stream and how to achieve zero waste. To support the implementation of the pilot, SFE is providing curriculum, materials, consultancy, and financial support to the SFUSD Career Readiness Office. With this support, teachers will build zero waste principles and practices into their career training programs, in turn training and promoting behavior change amongst the student population. School-based capstone projects led by student participants in each Pathway are aimed at increasing awareness and participation in the Three-bin system.
- OUTREACH (Environment Now): In collaboration with the Safe Routes to School partnership, the Environment Now team hosted a Cantonese language Walking School Bus webinar and tabled at Excelsior Playground to support students walking to Monroe Elementary.
- ENERGY: The BayREN Multifamily program is on track to exceed its goal of 1,216-units served. Activities during this reporting period include the closing out 2021 projects and initiating recruitment to fill 5640-vacancy.

### **Commercial Programs**

- ZERO WASTE: Worked with SFE's Data Coordinator to set up CRM for SB1383 reporting. Launched and promoted the Reusables Win in SF landing page, translated livestream/resources, and completed SB1383 webpage translations into Spanish and Chinese. Sent 12 notice of violations to commercial accounts that failed RSO audits between September 1, 2021, and December 9, 2021. Approved 93 final MRRP's with 4,579 tons at 74% and 6 final DDRP's with 3,806 tons at 94%, concluded customizations of Salesforce and initiated

beta testing for C&D data management migration. Processed and approved 41 C&D debris transporter applications accounting for 50 debris box permits, 54 Tier 2 vehicle permits, twelve Tier 3 vehicle permits, and four Tier 4 vehicle permits for combined revenue of \$131,750. Revamped the C&D Requirements and Resources webpages. Investigated potential violations of Environment Code Chapter 14 (Construction and Demolition Debris Recovery Ordinance) at 2700 Arelious Walker Drive in response to a dust complaint referral shared by SF DPH. Investigation resulted in SFE contacting a transporter about requirement to become a Registered Transporter and additional referrals to Public Works Bureau of Street Management, Public Works Outreach and Enforcement team, Department of Building Inspection, the Port, and SF DPH for investigation under their respective authorities. Distributed 533 official notices (multilingual) and fact sheets to C&D debris transporters, and 13 official notices to Registered Facility operators, informing them of the new transporter permit requirements effective January 1, 2022, and facilitated public hearing on December 30, 2021, for regulation being issued in support of updated C&D Debris Recovery Ordinance.

- ZERO WASTE/OUTREACH (ENVIRONMENT NOW): Worked with 12 small businesses to assess their waste streams as part of a Compliance Verification project.
- ZERO WASTE/OUTREACH (ENVIRONMENT NOW): Continued conducting outreach for the Rethink Disposables project aimed at helping small restaurant and food businesses transition their single use food ware items to reusables. During this reporting period the team visited 207 businesses and successfully helped 8 businesses transition to reusables.
- ENERGY: The BayREN Business program continues to struggle with acquiring projects. Activities completed in this reporting period include tracking progress of the implementer's performance improvement plan and temporarily increasing incentives to drive project acquisitions.

### **City Department Programs**

- ZERO WASTE: Set up centralized collection stations for a new Public Safety facility. Presented on zero waste to 91 city employees. Reviewed RSO audits: Laguna Honda Hospital passed, and 2 RED locations, HSA, and Juvenile Probation failed due to contamination in the trash exceeding the allowable threshold. Attended the second and third Public Refuse Bin Implementation Strategy Summit Meetings.
- ENERGY: The EV Team continued to collaborate with the SFMTA to expand EV charging infrastructure in municipally owned parking lots and garages. The SFMTA has received proposals from many EV-charging providers. EV Team member is assisting with the reviews.
- ENERGY: The EV Team continued to work with the Planning Department to advance adding EV charging as a primary use (instead of a conditional use) to the Planning Code. The EV team also continued to work with the SF Police Department to draft the rules and regulations

for EV Charging in Commercial Parking Garage and Lots Ordinance. The team also worked with the Department of Technologies to automate the compliance process.

- ENERGY: The Energy Team continues to work with the Department of Public Health and the Office of Economic Workforce and Development to design the Fix Lead SF program. During the reporting period, the team finished the solicitation for a program implementer, conducted respondent interviews, and scored evaluations.

### **Citywide/Cross-Sector Programs or Initiatives**

- ZERO WASTE: Reviewed and provided comments on the proposed draft Rules and Regulation for the Issuance of Refuse Collection Licenses and Permits for the City and County of San Francisco. Published the San Francisco Surplus Building Products Reduction and Redistribution Study.
- OUTREACH (TDM): The Essential Worker Ride Home (EWRH) program continues to provide reliable and safe taxi rides home from work for essential employees. In December 2021, SFE with its partner SFCTA determined the program would close on February 20, 2022. The EWRH program was a temporary response to an emergency situation—a targeted effort to help a subset of workers required to report to work in-person during the stay-at-home order, when transit options they relied upon were not available. Now, the most significant reductions in transit service have been restored, including restoration of evening BART service and several Muni lines, making very few workers eligible for the EWRH program given transit availability. In December, SFE initiated the process of sunseting the program by developing communications to notify users and alerting the Debit Card vendor, Transdev. To date, SFE has received 964 total applications, 382 of which were approved, and has provided 5,311 taxi rides to essential workers.
- OUTREACH/CLIMATE: The Department of the Environment hosted TEDxCityofSanFrancisco on December 8 to mark the launch of the City's 2021 Climate Action Plan. The virtual event was broadcast by SFGov TV in English, Spanish, and Cantonese, and aimed to raise awareness of the City's Climate Action Plan, inspire individual action, and showcase the successes of climate action in San Francisco to date. There were more than 400 live attendees on Zoom and YouTube streaming, and video replays have generated more than 1,400 views on [YouTube](#).
- ENERGY: The EV Team, in partnership with C40 and SFMTA, completed a curbside charging survey. The survey's purpose is to uncover the public's initial attitude towards a curbside charging program and if it would effectuate decisions to purchase EVs. During the reporting period, the teams compiled and analyzed data. The team will present the survey findings to the EV Working Group on 2/7/22.

## **Press and Media Highlights**

- TOXICS REDUCTION: First-of-Its-Kind Certification Eliminates Harmful PFAS in Foodware and Shifts Market to Preferred Alternatives (Yahoo! Finance)
- PUBLIC AFFAIRS: What does climate change sound like? San Francisco group puts crisis to music (SF Examiner)
- ZERO WASTE: Composting sequesters carbon and reduces emissions. Is it enough to fight climate change (SF Examiner). CBS New Radio piece on SB 1383 and composting in San Francisco. BottleBank CRV Mobile Redemption pilot program (KTVU, SF Chronicle, KPIX, SF Examiner, ABC 7).
- CLIMATE: San Francisco's latest climate action plan sets path for a zero-emissions future (SF Examiner, KRON 4, SF Standard, The Bold Italic)
- ENERGY: The American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE) released its City Clean Energy Scorecard, with San Francisco for the first time claiming the top spot. (RTO Insider)
- MGBTF: Organizations constructing reuse infrastructure for the built environment (GreenBiz)

## **Proposals submitted and grants and contracts awarded TO the Department**

- ZERO WASTE/CLIMATE: Was part of collaboration that was awarded \$500,000 from the US Economic Development Agency's Build Back Better Regional Challenge. The collaborative project is led by StopWaste to create a Bay Area construction innovation cluster. This is Phase 1 funding to be used for planning, with the opportunity to apply for an additional grant of up to \$100M over 5 years for implementation. SFE's part of the project is to build out the Building Resources Innovation Center and on-line materials exchange. Other partners include Rocky Mountain Inst, LBNL, Concrete Association, and CA Straw Building Association.
- CLIMATE: Was awarded \$50,000 from the CNCA to work with the Booker T. Washington Community Center and BAYCAT to deepen the City Racial and Social Equity Assessment Tool, which is used to evaluate equity and inclusion considerations of climate policy and programs.
- CLIMATE/ENERGY: Submitted a proposal to the ACEEE to provide technical assistance on policy and program recommendations to ensure San Francisco renters may participate in and reap the benefits of energy efficiency programs. This was a highly competitive nation-wide RFP and while the city was not awarded technical support, BayREN did receive the award, which will also benefit SFEs work.

## **Requests for Proposals released, and grants and contracts awarded FROM the Department**

- TOXICS/ZERO WASTE: Issued a joint RFP seeking community organizations to provide outreach, education, and project implementation for two types of projects: 1) Zero Waste in San Francisco's District 5, and 2) Toxics Reduction work in any neighborhood(s) in the City. Funds for the D5 project are provided through a district ad-back. Funds from the Toxics Program is part of its work to include the community and support SFEs equity commitments.

## **Public Events/Conferences (e.g., conferences attended, speaking engagements, travel for work, etc)**

- ZERO WASTE: Spoke on a panel about compostable products at the Bioresources Alliance Symposium. Presented to SFSU's Geography of Garbage students on SF Zero Waste Policies and shared personal career story. Spoke as panelist on Navigating San Francisco's Event Permitting Requirements with other City Departments hosted by the African American Arts and Culture Complex. Presented at the Students for Zero Waste Conference at the Policy in Zero Waste Panel. Presented to Santa Clara County's (SCC) Recycling and Waste Reduction Commission's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC); In response to request to help SCC develop and implement 3rd-party verification requirement for mixed C&D debris processing facilities and presented as a guest lecturer to UC Berkeley's Sustainable Construction course for third consecutive year.
- COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS: Presented on the City's new Climate Action Plan to the US Department of State 's Humphries Fellows program, which brings mid-level professionals from around the world to the US to share information and best practices on a range of pressing issues. This was the 8th annual presentation to this group.
- COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS: Was the keynote at the TeenTechSF Global Summit and presented on equity in climate work, careers in climate, and how young people can get involved in city policy.
- COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS: Was the MC for an international concert with long-time partner, the Climate Music Project. The program was a joint production between San Francisco (live) and Vienna (streamed). It featured a range of compositions (hip hop, jazz, classical, electronic, etc) that bring climate scientists and musicians together to create works that engage audiences on climate change. San Francisco's portion included outreach on the City's Climate Action Plan and a call to action. The entire concert was streamed with audience members tuning in from 45 different countries.

## **New Staff and Staff Changes**

- OUTREACH: 9922 Transportation Outreach Associate, Minho Park, left SFE on December 10, 2021 at the end of his two-year term. Anna Dagum was hired as the new Transportation Outreach Associate and started on December 7, 2021. 9922 Environmental Outreach Associate Lorena Varkonyi left SFE on December 10, 2021. 5640 Engagement Coordinator Miguel Guerrero left SFE on November 27, 2021. 9920 Environmental Outreach Aide Winnie Liu left SFE on November 24, 2021.
- ENERGY: BayREN Multifamily Project Manager, Claudia Espino, left the Department to pursue other opportunities.
- ZERO WASTE: Posted C&D ZW Sr. Coordinator and C&D ZW Asst. Coordinator positions. Hired temporary commercial zero waste assistant coordinator to begin January 10, 2022, until Steven Chiv's return on February 14, 2022. Residential Zero Waste Associate, Briana Zhen's last day was on December 10, 2021. Concluded six-month contract with Kelaia Cruz to support Green Halo administration.

## **GLOSSARY**

ABAG: Association of Bay Area Governments  
 ACCO: Association of Climate Change Officers  
 AOA: Apartment Owners Association  
 BAAQMD: Bay Area Air Quality Management District  
 BOMA: Building Owners and Managers Association  
 BayREN: Bay Area Regional Energy Network  
 BC3: Business Council on Climate Change  
 C40: C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group  
 CAEECC: California Energy Efficiency Coordinating Committee  
 CAISO: California Independent Systems Operator  
 CalGreen: California State Green Building Code  
 CARB: California Air Resources Board  
 CEC: California Energy Commission  
 COIT: Committee on Information Technology  
 CNCA: Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance  
 CPSC: California Product Stewardship Council  
 CPUC: California Public Utilities Commission  
 DBI: SF Department of Building Inspection  
 DER: Distributed Energy Resources  
 DOE: U.S. Department of Energy  
 DPH: SF Public Health  
 DOT: U.S. Department of Transportation  
 ECBO: Existing Commercial Building (energy benchmarking) Ordinance  
 EJ: Environmental Justice  
 EPA: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

EV: Electric Vehicle  
EVWG: Electric Vehicle Working Group  
FAA: Federal Aviation Administration  
FCEV: Fuel Cell Electric Vehicles  
FUF: Friends of the Urban Forest  
GARE: Government Alliance on Race and Equity  
GHG: Green House Gas  
HERO: Home Energy Renovation Opportunity HOPE SF: Housing Opportunities for People Everywhere, San Francisco  
HHW: Household Hazardous Waste  
ILG: Institute for Local Governments  
IOU: Investor Owned Utility  
IPM: Integrated Pest Management  
kW: Kilowatt  
kWh: Kilowatt hour  
LBNL: Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory  
LEED: Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Green Building Rating System  
LGC: Local Government Commission  
LGSEC: Local Government Sustainable Energy Coalition  
NCRA: Northern California Recycling Association  
NREL: National Renewable Energy Laboratory  
PACE: Property Assessed Clean Energy  
PEV: Plug-in Electric Vehicle  
PV: Photovoltaic  
RAD: Rental Assistance Demonstration  
SFE: San Francisco Department of the Environment  
SFECC: SF Energy Efficiency Coordinating Committee  
SFEW: SF Energy Watch  
SFO: SF International Airport  
SFMTA: SF Municipal Transportation Agency  
SFPL: San Francisco Public Library  
SFPUC: SF Public Utilities Commission  
SFPW: SF Public Works  
SFUSD: San Francisco Unified School District  
Title-24 2016: California Energy Code 2016 version  
UCSF: University of California, San Francisco  
UFC: Urban Forestry Council  
USDN: Urban Sustainability Directors Network  
USDOE: United States Department of Energy  
USDOT: United States Department of Transportation  
U.S. EPA: US Environmental Protection Agency  
USF: University of San Francisco



USGBC: United States Green Building Council

ZNE: Zero net energy

ZW: Zero Waste