CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
COMMISSION ON THE ENVIRONMENT
*POLICY COMMITTEE

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES APPROVED
MONDAY, JULY 10, 2017

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Commissioners Johanna Wald (Chair), Elmy Bermejo, Lisa Hoyos.

10:00 A.M. MEETING IN SAN FRANCISCO CITY HALL TO TAKE PUBLIC COMMENT
Location: City Hall, Room 421, One Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Jr. Place, San Francisco, CA 94102

10:30 A.M. TOUR OF RECOLOGY RECYCLE CENTRAL/PIER 96
Location: Recology Recycle Central/Pier 96, 1000 Amador Street, San Francisco, CA 94124

11:30 A.M. TOUR OF RECOLOGY TRANSFER STATION
Location: Recology Transfer Station, 501 Tunnel Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94134

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Public comment will be taken before the Committee takes action on any item.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call.

The special meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

Present: Commissioners Wald and Bermejo. Excused: Commissioner Hoyos. Commissioner Stephenson was also present at the meeting.


Upon a motion by Commissioner Bermejo, second by Commissioner Wald, the June 19, 2017 Commission on the Environment Policy Committee meeting minutes were approved without objection. (Ayes: Commissioner Bermejo and Wald. Noes: None. Excused: Commissioner Hoyos.)
3. **Public Comment.** Members of the public may address the Committee on matters that are within the Committee’s jurisdiction and are not on today’s agenda.

There was no public comment.

4. **Discussion and tour of Recology Recycle Central/Pier 96 and Recology Transfer Station.** (Discussion)

Guillermo Rodriguez, Policy and Communications Director, San Francisco Department of the Environment, discussed the site visit in July 2016, the Recology Pier 96 and Transfer Station facilities and San Francisco’s Zero Waste policies and goals as it relates to the facilities.

Commissioner Wald asked if the Commission will view the Artist in Residence program and asked about the capacity of the facilities on the site visit.

Anthony Valdez, Commissioner Affairs Manager, discussed the logistics of the meeting.

Commissioner Bermejo asked if members of the public were aware of the meet up times.

Commissioner Wald asked if public comment can be taken at the site and about briefing members of the Policy Committee before the next Commission meeting.

There was no public comment.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Bermejo, second by Commissioner Wald, the meeting was continued to the Recology Pier 96 facilities without objection. (Ayes: Commissioner Bermejo and Wald. Noes: None. Excused: Commissioner Hoyos.)

The meeting reconvened at the Recology Pier 96 facilities at 10:50 a.m.

Paul Giusti, Government Affairs, Recology, introduced Recology staff Robert Reed, Communications Manager, and Maurice Quillen, San Francisco Transfer Station General Manager, and discussed the location of the facilities and a remodel of the facilities.

Paul Giusti discussed the tipping floor and sorting lines.

Commissioner Wald asked which materials were brought to the tipping floor.

Maurice Quillen discussed the sorting table and cargo restraint.

Commissioner Wald asked if the sorting table replaced the conveyer belt, the number of people that are employed using the new equipment.

Maurice Quillen discussed the cardboard stream.

Commissioner Stephenson asked how many sorting stations existed.
Commissioner Wald asked about the materials that made it past the sorting stations.

Commissioner Stephenson asked about the timeline of construction of the new equipment.

Maurice Quillen discussed the polishing system.

Commissioner Wald asked if there was separation of the various paper products.

Commissioner Stephenson asked what was manually removed at the sorting station.

Maurice Quillen discussed quality control for paper, the container line and the removal of mixed plastic.

Commissioner Wald asked how the various types of containers are separated from each other and the recovery rate.

Maurice Quillen discussed the fourth optical sorter and materials that are sent to the landfill.

Commissioner Wald asked about the number of female employees.

Maurice Quillen discussed the bailer.

Paul Giusti discussed Recology’s employment practices.

Commissioner Wald thanked Recology and the members of the public for attending and requested Maurice Quillen to repeat details about the recovery rates.

Commissioner Stephenson asked about air filtration in the facilities.

Commissioner Bermejo thanked Recology for the tour and for their employment practices particularly the hiring of women.

Public Comment:

Unidentified speaker discussed the San Francisco Department of the Environment producing a video about the facilities.

David Pilpel discussed concerns about the way the meeting was planned and scheduled, the importance of the tour, the use of ratepayer dollars, diversion rates and the next portion of the tour.

Unidentified speaker commended Recology on their facilities.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Bermejo, and a second by Commissioner Wald, the meeting was continued to the Recology Transfer Station facilities without objection. (Ayes: Commissioner Bermejo and Wald. Noes: None. Excused: Commissioner Hoyos.)

The meeting reconvened at the Recology Transfer Station facilities at 11:59 a.m.

Chair Wald noted that there would be public comment at the end of the tour of the site.
Paul Giusti introduced Sharon Spain, Curator of the Recology Artist in Residence program.

Cathy Lu discussed the Artist in Residence program.

Sharon Spain discussed the Artist in Residence application process.

Erik Scollon discussed the Artist in Residence program.

Maurice Quillen discussed the buyback center, the fueling system for vehicles, the organics annex and transfer trailers.

Commissioner Wald asked about the percentage of materials going to landfill.

Guillemo Rodriguez, Policy and Communications Director, asked about the pilot programs to process black bin materials.

Commissioner Wald asked about vector management.

Paul Giusti discussed odor management.

Maurice Quillen discussed the recycling of construction and demolition debris.

Commissioner Wald asked if debris from the construction of roads are deposited in the facilities.

Paul Giusti discussed the history of the Transfer Station.

Maurice Quillen discussed a waste pilot program.

Commissioner Wald thanked the Recology staff for the tour and the public for joining the meeting.

Unidentified speaker requested that photos of the facilities be posted on the website.

Unidentified speaker asked the presenter to repeat what was said in the facilities.

David Pilpel discussed the tour visiting facilities other than 501 Tunnel Avenue, the rate application process and San Francisco’s diversion rate.

Commissioner Stephenson thanked the Recology staff.

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:51 p.m.

The next meeting of the Commission on the Environment Policy Committee is scheduled for Monday, August 14, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. in City Hall, Room 421.

Copies of explanatory documents are available at (1) the Commission’s office, 1455 Market Street, Suite 1200, San Francisco, California, 94103 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Photo
identification is required for entry to the building. (2) on the Commission’s website http://www.sfenvironment.org/commission; (3) upon request to the Commission Affairs Manager, at telephone number 415-355-3709, or via e-mail at Anthony.E.Valdez@sfgov.org. If any materials related to an item on this agenda have been distributed to the Committee after distribution of the agenda packet, those materials are available for public inspection at the Department of the Environment, 1455 Market Street, Suite 1200, San Francisco, CA 94103 during normal office hours or will be made available on the Commission’s website http://www.sfenvironment.org/commission as attachments to the agenda or meeting minutes.

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