



CITY AND
COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
COMMISSION ON THE ENVIRONMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORT
March 22, 2022

This report covers San Francisco Department of the Environment updates for the period of January 1, 2022 – February 28, 2022. Glossary of acronyms at bottom of report.

Residential Programs

- OUTREACH (ENVIRONMENTAL ED): Reached 708 students from grades K-5 with Zero Waste programming and SFPUC water programming. Hosted assemblies for 33 students on the Our Common Future program, targeted to grades 9-12. Reached out to a total of 31 teachers across eight districts in SFUSD.
- ZERO WASTE: Provided Memo and met with SFE's Director on our Zero Waste and Environmental Justice teams' work at affordable housing sites, provided recommendations for future work at these sites. Assessed and approved three residential compost removal requests. Conducted Zero Waste Facilitator Training attended by 38 zero waste facilitators. Addressed residential complaints from two apartment buildings who were not composting and resolved issue with property managers. Sent two RSO Notices of Non-Compliance to large refuse generators who failed refuse audit. Sent six RSO good job letters to large refuse generators that passed their refuse audits. Met with two zero waste facilitators to discuss their services at a large multifamily property. Met with two property managers to discuss their Refuse Separation Compliance plans and provided final deadlines.
- ENERGY/OUTREACH (ENVIRONMENT NOW): Environment Now conducted one virtual presentation on behalf of the Energy Access SF program. The presentation was conducted in Cantonese and included 10 community members affiliated with the organization Catholic Charities OMI Senior Center in District 4.

Commercial Programs

- TOXICS (GREEN BUSINESS): The Green Business Program is collaborating with two community-based organizations (En2Action and the Bay Area Organization of Black-Owned Businesses) to recruit businesses into the program. The program is offering pre-bates and rebates to help businesses pay for the cost of any products or services necessary to reach Green Business recognition. Since the beginning of this fiscal year, the team has recognized 48 businesses.

- ZERO WASTE: Provided direct technical assistance to five businesses around foodware compliance and adequate refuse service. Sent out 28 RSO notices and met with five of those businesses to review results and provide technical assistance. Met with two third-party delivery companies to discuss plans for AB 1276 implementation and education to restaurant partners. Sent 33 fail and 99 pass RSO notices. Submitted the 2021 Refuse Separation Compliance Ordinance Report to the Board of Supervisors. New C&D debris transporter permit program started January 1st. Processed and approved 41 C&D debris transporter applications accounting for 551 debris box permits, 24 Tier 1 vehicle permits, 164 Tier 2 vehicle permits, 19 Tier 3 vehicle permits, and 15 Tier 4 vehicle permits for combined revenue of \$630,814. Approved 155 MRRPS (75 initial plans and 80 final reports) for 1,881 tons at 75% recovery rate, and 13 DDRPs (nine initial plans and four final reports) for 404 tons at 90%.
- ZERO WASTE / OUTREACH (ENVIRONMENT NOW): Environment now worked with 11 small businesses to conduct waste assessments to determine eligibility for removal of recycling and/or compost service as part of the Compliance Verification Process.
- ZERO WASTE / OUTREACH (ENVIRONMENT NOW): Environment Now conducted outreach to 75 food and restaurant businesses on behalf of the Rethink Disposables project aimed at helping businesses transition from single-use foodware to reusables. During this reporting period, the team was successful in signing up three businesses for the program. Outreach during this time was conducted in Districts 9 and 3.

City Department Programs

- ZERO WASTE: Presented on zero waste to 188 city employees. Reviewed RSO plans for SFPUC, RED, and Juvenile Probation. Attended the Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council (SPLC) Office Suppliers Conference and the Packaging Action, Peer Learning Circle, and Circular Economy Procurement Learning Circle kickoff meetings.

Citywide/Cross-Sector Programs or Initiatives

- OUTREACH (TDM): The Essential Worker Ride Home closed on February 20, 2022. The Department initiated the process of sunsetting the program in December, providing multiple notices to users leading up to the program's closing date. SFE is wrapping final close-out processes and reporting to the SFCTA, as well as processing remaining reimbursement requests. In total, SFE received 964 applications, 382 of which were approved, and provided 6,136 taxi rides to essential workers.
- ZERO WASTE: San Francisco 2020 Generation Study report was completed that found generation was reduced by 45% and disposal reduced 12% compared to 2015.

- CLIMATE: Staff started the year focused on Climate Action Plan implementation, convening multiple meetings with key departments and internal SFE staff to begin developing a shared accountability and reporting framework for ongoing implementation of the CAP. Climate staff are also coordinating with SFE Outreach to develop a CAP outreach and key messaging campaign to build upon prior efforts, now focused on expanding our audience and highlighting what residents can do to stay engaged and to take action.

Press and Media Highlights

- SFE: San Francisco's under-resourced environmental department seeks funding (SF Examiner)
- ZERO WASTE: California is sitting on \$350 million in unclaimed bottle deposit funds, thanks to 'recycling deserts' (SF Examiner)
- ZERO WASTE: San Francisco launches new recycling program making it easier to get cash for cans (KTVU)
- ENERGY: Electric Shocks: The U.S. Cities Where People Are Spending the Most—and the Least—on Energy Bills (Realtor)

Proposals submitted and grants and contracts awarded TO the Department

- TOXICS (GREEN BUSINESS): The Green Business Program has been awarded a two-year grant of \$90,000 from the California Green Business Program. These funds will go toward Green Business recruitment, recognition, and financial incentives.
- CLIMATE (ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE): Received a \$40,000 grant from the Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance (CNCA) to work with Booker T. Washington Community Services Center and BAYCAT to conduct a community engagement process to revise the Department's Racial and Social Equity Assessment Tool and develop a racial equity training video with community storytelling.

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

- TOXICS (GREEN BUSINESS): SFE has awarded two grants to community-based organizations that will help recruit businesses into the Green Business Program. The Bay Area Organization of Black-Owned Businesses and En2Action will each receive \$10,000 over the course of one year.
- OUTREACH (TDM): Issued an RFP for a third-party commuter benefits administrator to continue administration of the City's Employee Pre-Tax Commuter Benefits Program (current administrator is HealthEquity/WageWorks). The solicitation period closed on February 15, 2022, and the awarded contractor will be selected in early April.
- OUTREACH: Issued an RFP for Online and Mobile Communications services to aid in the design, development, and administration of the Department's online outreach platforms (current

contract is with CivicActions). A contract awarded pursuant to this Solicitation shall have a not to exceed ("NTE") amount of \$1,500,000 for an initial four-year term. Should the contract be extended, the NTE may proportionally increase as well.

- ZERO WASTE: Issued RFP for zero waste consulting amount of up to \$4,500,000 to begin July 1, 2022, for up to six years.

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

- OUTREACH (ENVIRONMENTAL ED): Esther Tang, SF Environment's Environmental Education Coordinator, represented the Department at the Science of Teaching Conference on February 18th, hosted by Learning and the Brain.
- ZERO WASTE: Met with legislative aide from Washington, D.C., on San Francisco's 10% reusable cup legislation and implementation. Delivered the following presentations: January 2022 Municipal Green Building Task Force meeting; New Law Updating San Francisco's Construction and Demolition (C&D) Debris Recovery Ordinance, C40 Clean Construction Forum, C40 Waste to Resources Network; Surplus Materials in the Building Sector: Learnings from San Francisco's Reduction and Redistribution Study, Santa Clara County TAC Operations Subcommittee Meeting; C&D Ordinance Discussion: San Francisco's Third-Party Verification Model. Presented virtually on San Francisco's zero waste program as a keynote speaker at the 4th Annual Waste Strategy Summit, Australia.

New Staff and Staff Changes

- ZERO WASTE: Robert Haley, Zero Waste Program Manager, retired. Soko Made, Alexa Kielty and Jack Macy are sharing interim program manager duties until permanent new program manager is hired. Anne Wong joined January 10 through February 14, 2022, as a temporary 5638 Commercial Zero Waste Assistant Coordinator. Completed panel interviews for 5638 C&D ZW Asst. Coordinator.
- OUTREACH (ENVIRONMENTAL ED): 12th grade student Damani Cunningham of John O'Connell High School joined as an intern supporting the Environmental Education program, as part of the Department's Career Technical Education pathway program.
- OUTREACH (ENVIRONMENT NOW): Environment now hired three new Environmental Outreach Aide staff who started on February 22, 2022: Catrice Washington, Tania Ramirez, and Eileen Huang.

Other Noteworthy Items (e.g., awards, milestones)

- ZERO WASTE: Elected to the Board of Directors of the Northern California Recycling Association.

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