



Climate Action Plan Working Groups

Waste Working Group Meeting Notes #1 – November 19, 2019

Priorities at the table:

- Composting – see options, drops spots, explain collection, education
- Department of Health – compost through winter, workshops on recycling + compost
- Wastewater – cogeneration, waste of energy, alternate energy for pumping stations (community solar), green infrastructure for combined source overflow to reduce energy down the line
- Cost Saving from recycling properly
- Network of companies working together on waste prevention + reduction
- Educating businesses on green purchasing
- More education on disposable plastic items, and proper ways to dispose of them
- School education and implementation of waste prevention in school
- Introduce sustainable packaging to businesses
- Better recycle – door to door (initiate block captains)
- Host workshops for clothes swap, clothing collection, cloth recycling
- City contact for green purchasing, events held by the with a focus on reuse + prevention
- Education on link between climate + waste (fossil fuels + plastics)

Setbacks / Barriers:

- Legal restrictions in NJ on composting permitting - costly due to the fact the composting machinery is so expensive
- Law from the city that schools cannot have community gardens due to contamination.
- How to reach people to give them info on recycling?
- Pay as you throw for municipal solid waste
- More info about where waste goes (Ohio?). Give informational presentations
- Sustainable procurement. Life Cycle assessment- locate and improve emission sources from waste before and after materials are within the city itself
- Which agencies are responsible for what and how much cooperation and transparency is there?
- Compared to other cities Climate Action Plan what can we do to improve on waste? Ex:
 - 1. Oakland, CA
 - 2. Portland, OR
 - 3. New York City, NY
- Amend plastic bag ordinances- enforce a penalty for not complying with plastic bag ban
- Material resource recovery facility suing towns for contamination that violates contracts
- Medical Waste?