



CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
COMMISSION ON THE ENVIRONMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Tuesday, July 24, 2012

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1. ADMINISTRATION/GENERAL

NEW HIRES

- Donnie Oliveira, Outreach Program Manager, 5644
- Liore Elcott, Clean Air Transportation Demand Coordinator, 5638
- Jason Barbose, Renewables Program Coordinator, 5638
- Banaag Novicio, Environment Now, Public Service Associate, 9916
- DeWayne Scurry, Environment Now, Crew Leader, 9920
- James Slattery, Environment Now Assistant Coordinator, 5638
- Jennifer McPike, Environment Now, Crew Leader, 9920
- Kandace Davis, Environment Now, Public Service Associate, 9916
- Naime Abbushi, Environment Now, Public Service Associate, 9916
- Nancy Esteva, Environment Now, Public Service Associate, 9916
- Symone Watkins, Environment Now, Public Service Associate, 9916
- Stevie Norris, Environment Now, Public Service Associate, 9916
- Tina Addi, Environment Now, Public Service Associate, 9916
- Wendy Pryor, Environment Now, Public Service Associate, 9916

Administration

- Lease signed and executed June 27, 2012. Fundraising and build-out are the next steps in our move process
- Departmental budget was approved by the Budget and Finance Committee of the Board of Supervisors. Full approval of the City Budget is anticipated by the end of July

2. LEGISLATION/POLICY

GENERAL

- Board passed City's first Urban Agriculture ordinance – (Sponsored by Board President David Chiu) The Urban Agriculture Program will coordinate all of the urban agriculture efforts across seven City agencies and serve as a central location for the public to access information, programming and technical assistance. Requires Office of Administrator or Office of Mayor to coordinate strategic plan as first step, the plan will include specific responsibilities – still TBD. \$120,000 budget included in FY 2012-13 (initially approved last Tues).
- CA Superior Court rejected Save the Plastic Bag Coalition motions for checkout bag ordinance restraining order and injunction, boding well for future bag decisions statewide. Lawsuit to be heard 8/27. Submitted AB 298 (single-use plastic bag ban) support letter including opposition to any pre-emption of our bag ordinance. (ZW-JM)
- Submitted Resource Conservation Ordinance annual report to Board of Supervisors. Worked with our lobbyist and others to successfully amend SB 1118 (mattress recovery) into a producer responsibility bill. (ZW-JB)
- Met with Supervisors Olague and Elsbernd's offices to brief them for "pay per trash setout" test in their districts. Assisted with preparation of Olague's City Operations & Neighborhood Services Committee recycling hearing. (ZW-KD)
- Met with Port, Pier 39 and Crystal Geysers to discuss Port's event bottled water ban and SF's bag ordinance expansion. (ZW-AD)

- Refuse Rate Board denied appeals and continued DPW special reserve funding until next rate process. (ZW-RH)
- Green Building - The cities of Philadelphia, Boston, and Chicago each introduced or adopted legislation similar to San Francisco's Existing Commercial Buildings Energy Performance Ordinance. Philadelphia and Boston indicated that the conference SF Environment convened with grant support from the Urban Sustainability Director's Network was a major factor in the decision to move forward with the legislation.
- Non-Potable Ordinance - A number of large developments around the city (including the new SFPUC building at 525 Golden Gate) are collecting, treating and reusing water onsite for toilet flushing, irrigation, and other non-drinking purposes. Given the fact that 35% of a building's total water use is from toilet flushing with an additional 5% for irrigation, this can result in dramatic savings in a building's water and sewer bill and is a powerful strategy to promote water conservation. The proposed ordinance establishes a streamlined process for new large developments.
- Drink Tap Ordinance - The Drink Tap ordinance would require owners of new and renovated buildings with water fountains to install reusable bottle refilling tap stations ("tap stations"). The purpose of the ordinance is to expand access to high-quality, Hetch Hetchy tap water, conservation of our natural resources, and reduction of solid waste created from single-use plastic water bottles.
- Staff continues work with stakeholders to develop regulations and guidelines for implementation of the Tenant Bicycle Parking in Existing Commercial Buildings Ordinance.

3. COMMUNITY EVENTS/OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

OUTREACH

- Presented at Rio+20 on our zero waste programs and at side conference (Plasticity) on compostable plastics. (ZW-AK)
- Presented on benefits and challenges of compostable plastics at international conference assessing organic resources and waste, and toured mixed material processing and anaerobic digestion facility in Rennes, France. Presented on food recovery panel at Cooking for Solutions Conference by the Sustainable Food Institute and Monterey Bay Aquarium. Attended CalRecycles forum on Digesting Urban Organic Residuals in Sacramento. (ZW-JM)
- Hosted 5 Vendor Fairs to promote Checkout Bag Ordinance. The events allowed local businesses to meet bag manufacturers and distributors who carry ordinance compliant bags. Location of the events were; Chinatown YMCA, The Women's Building (Mission), Bayview Opera House, Minnie and Lovie Ward Rec Center and The County Fair Building (Outreach, EN)
- In support of the Checkout Bag Ordinance, Environment Now staff have visited over 3,500 businesses to offer information and educational materials (EN)
- Launched Richmond District Composting Awareness Campaign. To date, over 2500 homes have been visited promoting better composting practices. (Outreach)
- SFE and EcoCenter artists will be featured in VIP areas of the Outside Lands Festival
- Partnering with Wildlife Equity Institute on August 16th film screening of the birding film "The Big Year" to promote their challenge to spot SF endangered species.
- New installation in EcoCenter from 7/15-10/15, featuring work by artists from the African American Cultural Center.
- Provided school composting program guidance to sustainability staff at Clark County, WA's Environmental Services Department to support their current implementation of school composting at 100 county schools. (SE)
- Awarded poster contest winners at Argonne Elementary School for the Richmond District Compost Campaign. Reached 406 students. (SE)
- Presented about School Ed programming and *Food to Flowers!* program offerings at SFUSD Teacher Professional Development Institute. Reached 40 people. (SE)
- Attended monthly Bangalore Sister City meeting. (SE)
- Attended Treasure Island Family Science Night tabling event. Reached 50 people. (SE)
- Gave *Food To Flowers!* Lunchroom Composting and Recycling Assemblies at 1 School. Reached 65 students. (SE)

- Gave *Recycling and Composting Presentations* to 4 Child Development Centers. Reached 260 students. (SE)
- Gave Composting and Recycling trainings to staff at SFUSD Schools and Community Centers. Reached 55 people. (SE)

4. PROGRAM MILESTONES/ACHIEVEMENTS

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

- Partnering with BC3, Wells Fargo, PG&E, and the San Francisco Public Libraries on program to lend "Kill-a-Watt" meters to residents to monitor their energy usage and make behavior changes based on the information.

CLEAN AIR/CLEAN TRANSPORTATION

- Commuter Benefits Ordinance - The 2011 compliance cycle (which ended October 2011) showed that the Commuter Benefits Ordinance resulted in the adoption of benefits programs by nearly 40 percent of businesses that reported during the 2011 compliance cycle. Of these companies, more than one-third offer a benefit at all company locations nationwide, highlighting the strength of the Ordinance beyond the City of San Francisco. The 2012 compliance cycle will close October 2012 and has received close to 3,000 at last count.
- Transportation Biofuels Planning Study - On 7/9/12 staff presented a summary of a Transportation Biofuels Planning Study to Commission on the Environment, Policy Committee. This study identified significant cost effective GHG emission reduction strategies that have the potential of reducing transportation related GHG emissions from the City's fleet by two thirds.

CLIMATE

- UN Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro – SFE represented at ICLEI (Local Government for Sustainability) conference and C40 symposium. Shared results of SF's progress to date in reducing emissions while growing economy.
- Renewable Energy Task Force – Report with recommendations now complete. Ready to present to Mayor, meeting TBD.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- San Francisco Healthy Homes Project –more than 50 service providers, community groups and local residents to participated in action planning meetings held on July 9th and July 12th. Meetings groups identified several goals and actions to address health disparities in Southeast communities. These will be described in a Community Action Plan, which will be disseminated in September 2012. Additionally, IPM contractor continues to conduct pests control services at Alice Griffith and Sunnydale.

ENVIRONMENT NOW

- Environment Now has hired 1 new Assistant Coordinator, 2 Field Coordinators and 8 new Public Service Trainees (names above)

GREEN BUILDING

- 52% of affected commercial square footage has been benchmarked in compliance with the Existing Commercial Buildings Energy Performance Ordinance.
- Updates to Green Building Regulations (DBI Administrative Bulletin 93) were approved by the Building Inspection Commission. San Francisco's green building requirements integrate San Francisco's strict local standards with new state requirements that extended CALGreen to apply to additions and alterations to existing non-residential buildings, effective July 1, 2012.
- GreenFinanceSF: application for \$1.4M allocation of Qualified energy Conservation Bonds (QECB's) was awarded by State to enhance financing for first commercial PACE project under GreenFinanceSF.

GREEN BUILDING AND ENERGY (COLLABORATION)

- Economists Nils Kok (UC Berkeley) and Matthew Kahn (UCLA) delivered a study demonstrating that green-certified single-family homes in California sold for an average of 9% more (+/-4%) than normal homes to SF Environment and Stopwaste.org (Alameda County). The study examined all sales transactions statewide between 2007-2012, and accounted for other factors that affect value, including the size, location, age, and amenities of each home sold. The added value of green certification was strongest in communities with hotter climates (where an inefficient home would cost much more to keep cool) and in communities where environmental ideology is more prominent – measured by registrations of hybrid vehicles.

TOXICS REDUCTION/GREEN BUSINESS

- Healthy Nail Salon Project: reached 250 nail salons in SF which included, through door to door outreach, phone calling and mailers to all salons. 16 nail salons have registered. Additional 40 are strongly interested.
- Conducted 1st healthy nail salon training on 7/16, training was conducted in English and Vietnamese and reviewed what safer products, practices and safety precautions nail salons can implement. 2nd training will be held on 7/30
- Green Custodial Project: held stakeholder meeting with municipal custodial staff, supervisors and managers on 7/11. Reviewed green cleaning curriculum and proposed video outline. The goal of the meeting was to see if the video script/curriculum needed any changes.
- SFE's role in Apple Computer rejoining EPEAT environmental labeling program: SFE clarified last week that if Apple withdrew its computers from the EPEAT program, they would no longer qualify for City purchases under the existing 2009 Green Purchasing requirements (and COIT policy), which require EPEAT-Gold registration for all desktops, laptops and monitors. Facing major press coverage on its withdrawal, Apple reversed its decision last Fri. and promised to work with the EPEAT program.
- New Integrated Pest Management Contract for City properties awarded: Toxics staff worked closely with Office of Contract Administration to develop an exceptionally rigorous contract process. IPM contracting is required under Env. Code Chapt. 3 (IPM Ordinance). Awarded to previous contractor, Pestec.
- Safe Medicine Disposal Program: In the first three months of the pilot program we have collected 3,213 pounds of unwanted and expired medications at the twelve (12) participating pharmacies and ten (10) SF police stations. We have also added a 13th pharmacy, Los Portales Pharmacy in the Mission District, to the program.
- Paint Product Stewardship: Toxics staff is beginning the contract negotiation process with PaintCare, the non-profit organization selected to implement California's Paint Product Stewardship program by the Architectural Paint Manufacturers trade association. PaintCare's Stewardship Program Plan was approved by CalRecycle on July 17. A key element of the Plan is to utilize the existing Household Hazardous Waste Facility infrastructure and contract with Facility permit-holders to reimburse waste paint management costs. SF Environment is the permit-holder for the San Francisco Household Hazardous Waste Facility.

ZERO WASTE

- Exceeded AB 341 compliance (all large businesses and apartment buildings needed to arrange for recycling service by 7/1). We're also ensuring smaller businesses and residences have recycling (including 318 businesses in the last 6 weeks), not to mention composting (154 apartment buildings totaling 2,014 units in the last 2 months). (ZW-RH)
- Diverted 5,481 demolition tons at 2121 Evans, 3020 Laguna, 1455 Irving, 604 Broderick and 1461-1465 Pine. (ZW-MW)
- Redistributed 1,680 items through Virtual Warehouse worth \$124,000 and 9 tons. (ZW-JL)
- Rolled-out composting and improved recycling at SF General Hospital buildings 80 & 90, Housing Authority Egbert facility, Hall of Justice trial court offices and Washington Square Park. (ZW-JB)
- Completed Recology public reuse & recycling area study to identify additional reuse opportunities. (ZW-AK)

5. GRANTS/FUNDRAISING

- Received 17 proposals to zero waste grant program and selected 6 for \$150,000 in awards for FY 13. (ZW-KD)
- Sydney Frank Foundation approved a \$250,000 grant for 2012/13 to begin implementation of some of the projects recommended in the Renewable Energy Task Force Report.
- Implementing intensive development campaign to secure sponsors for SF Environment new EcoCenter and offices at 1455 Market.
- BC3 received \$20K grant to partner with SFE on outreach and promotion of the Kill-A-Watt program.
- SFE awarded \$49,000 grant from the Urban Sustainability Directors Network for EcoDistrict planning
- Wells Fargo/Natl Wildlife Federation preproposal for Bay Friendly certified landscapes at Marina Green: Worked with Rec Park, PUC, and Bay Friendly Coalition to develop language. \$250,000 request would include volunteer program, Bay Friendly training for City staff, BF certification of Marina Green landscape, new irrigation system.
- The EJ program continues to administer a grant program. Grants awards that are currently active include: Asian Neighborhood Design for green pre-construction job training, Urban Sprouts for garden projects at International High in Potrero and Log Cabin Ranch, and Literacy for Environmental Justice for native plant nursery.
- Clean Air – Commute Smart program has secured Prop K and TFCA funding for fiscal year 2012-2013 (Prop K Total - \$ 271,061; TFCA Total - \$124.533).
- EJ Brownfields Project – SFE received a new brownfields assessment grant award from EPA, to identify and assess up to 10 sites in Bayview Hunters Point, in support of Blue Greenway project.
- Board set to approve \$1MM in continuing ARRA funding to support GreenFinanceSF investment (commercial PACE).

6. UPCOMING EVENTS

PRESS

- SFE will host a joint press conference with EPA and non-profit groups, on Thursday, July 26, 2012, at 10:00am, at India Basin Shoreline Park. This event is to announce EPA's award of a \$400,000 grant to SFE, to identify and assess up to 10 brownfield sites in Bayview and surrounding neighborhoods, in support of development of the Blue Greenway. SFE is working with Bayview Hunters Point YMCA to guide a group walk and biking event immediately before the press event, to promote support for the Blue Greenway. Event will feature poets from Youth Speaks.

COMMUNITY

- The next Director's Open House and Artists reception will be held on Thurs, 9/13 from 5:30-7:30

LEGISLATIVE HEARINGS

- On Monday July 30th the Board of Supervisors Land Use Committee will consider both the Non-Potable and Drink Tap ordinances, Director Nutter plans to testify in support of these ordinances during the public comment period at 1 pm at the meeting in the Board Chamber, 2nd floor of City Hall