

# Recycling Reform Advisory Council

## Meeting Notes

March 13, 2026, 10-12pm PT

[Meeting Slide Deck Link](#)

- I. Welcome (10 min)
  - a. Attendance and review of meeting agenda

Name	Organization	Attendance
Alissa Campbell	Recology	Y
Amanda Dalton	Northwest Grocery Retail Association	Y
Becci Piepel	Douglas County Solid Waste	
Delegate: Kent Kovalenko	Okanogan County Solid Waste	Y
Casey Bouchard	Methow Recycles	Y
Danielle Waterfield	AMERIPEN	Y
Grant Williams	Tribal Solid Waste Advisory Network	Y
Jay Blazey	Cedar Grove	Y
Jeff Zillich	WM	Y
Jocelyn Quarrell	Bold Reuse	Y
Julie Gilbertson	Circular Action Alliance (Non-voting)	Y
Karen Hultgren	Pierce County	Y
McKenna Morrigan	Seattle Public Utilities	Y
Megan Daum	American Beverage Association	Y
Michael Liptack	Friday Harbor	Y
Ming-Ming Tung-Edelman	Refugee Artisan Initiative	Y (absent for voting)
Moji Igun	Zero Waste Washington	Y
Peter Lyon	Washington State Department of Ecology (Non-voting)	Y
Rick Vahl	Waste Connections	Y
Trace Bradburn	City of Spokane	Y

- i. Julie Gilbertson, CAA as PRO representative and new Council member introduced
    - b. Call for disclosure of conflicts of interest related to today's meeting agenda
- II. Advisory Council Operations (10 minutes)
  - a. Chair re-vote
    - i. Rick Vahl elected as Chair

Voting Results	
Rick Vahl	McKenna Morrigan
Trace Bradburn	Danielle Waterfield
Kent Kovalenko	Megan Daum

Rick Vahl	Michael Liptack
Casey Bouchard	Jocelyn Quarrel
Grant Williams	McKenna Morrigan
Jeff Zilich	Moji Igun
Alissa Campbell	
Jay Blazey	
<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent for Voting</b>
Karen Hultgren	Ming-Ming Tung-Edelman
Amanda Dalton	

- b. Review and approve revised Code of Ethics
  - i. Council approved Code of Ethics

<b>Voting Results</b>	
<b>Approved</b>	<b>Absent for Voting</b>
Danielle Waterfield	Ming-Ming Tung-Edelman
Grant Williams	
Amanda Dalton	
Karen Hultgren	
Michael Liptack	
Kent Kovalenko	
Megan Daum	
Rick Vahl	
Trave Bradburn	
Moji Igun	
Jay Blazey	
Alissa Campbell	
Jocelyn Quarrel	
Casey Bouchard	
Jeff Zilich	
McKenna Morrigan	

- c. Vice Chair re-vote
  - i. McKenna Morrigan approved as Vice Chair

<b>Voting Results</b>	
<b>Yay</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
Danielle Waterfield	Amanda Dalton
Grant Williams	
Karen Hultgren	<b>Absent for Voting</b>
Michael Liptack	Ming-Ming Tung-Edelman
Kent Kovalenko	

Megan Daum	
Rick Vahl	
Trave Bradburn	
Moji Igun	
Jay Blazey	
Alissa Campbell	
Jocelyn Quarrel	
Casey Bouchard	
Jeff Zillich	
McKenna Morrigan	

III. Ecology Updates & Discussion (75 minutes)

- a. OPMA training – Kara Steward, Ecology
  - i. Member discussion:
    - 1. Clarification on email and how that relates to action for the OPMA. Does that mean every email that we receive as Advisory Council members are also available to the public?
      - a. Ecology will follow up with Attorney General
- b. Overview of RRA rulemaking process – Kara Steward, Ecology
  - i. Ecology shared resources:
    - 1. Sign up for the Recycling Reform Act GovDelivery: <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WAECY/subscriber/new>
    - 2. Any follow-up rule or OPMA questions can be directed to the Ecology RRA team – [recyclingreform@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:recyclingreform@ecy.wa.gov)
  - ii. Member discussion:
    - 1. Is there a set number of people or a mix? Is Ecology appointing those people on the Board? Concerned about overlap with Advisory Council
      - a. At discretion of Ecology who can hold open public comments on draft language and will be selecting representatives without too much overlap with Council. Considered members from service provider industry, local government, producer side, and retail side
- c. Needs Assessment overview and scope – Emily Rhodes and Jessica Lally, HDR
  - i. Member discussion:
    - 1. Flags that there wasn't an inclusion of reuse (existing systems/capacity) included in the Needs Assessment. This is different from some other states' Needs Assessments
    - 2. If using data from other jurisdictions outside of WA and/or making assumptions for WA based on that data, will you be

sharing what those assumptions are and why they are justified?  
This was an issue with the MN preliminary assessment and the Advisory Board being left in the dark on these decisions

3. Thoughts about the service provider and MRF registration and reporting that's occurring right now and whether that's supplemental data collection
    - a. What entities are required to provide supplemental data
      - i. Language in statute that says a service provider or other person with data or information necessary to complete a needs assessment must provide the data or information upon request
  4. Thinking through how to derive tonnage numbers when collectors aren't measuring things by the RRA-covered materials categories (since they don't exist yet)
  5. Beyond the survey of what currently exists, how will ERG be evaluating and benchmarks and thresholds they are looking for
    - a. The preliminary needs assessment is focused on assessment of existing programs and evaluation hasn't been dug into yet
  6. Whether reuse facilities also be considered in this work
  7. If the assessment doesn't collect data on all jurisdictions, it should collect and report it for a representative sample. The draft MN Preliminary Assessment only reported on something like two jurisdictions and that led to very skewed numbers
  8. Gathering data for the preliminary needs and comprehensive needs assessment at the same time
  9. Drafts for preliminary needs assessment will go to Ecology for review first before becoming available for Advisory Council review
  10. Advisory Council received an outline for the preliminary needs assessment and ERG encourages referencing that along with slides to understand how criteria is mapped with tech memos
  11. Perimeters of refill/reuse infrastructure
  12. Regional designations
  13. Connections to major hauling companies
- d. Statewide Recycling Lists overview – Jessica Branom-Zwick and Julie Cerenzia, Cascadia Consulting Group; Joel Schoening, RRS
    - i. RCW 70A.208.090: Statewide collection lists  
<https://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=70A.208.090>
    - ii. Member discussion:

1. Can an entity collect materials above and beyond the list, if not reimbursed? For example, some municipalities collect plastic grocery bags and related plastic film. If this is not included on the list, can we still collect these if funded by residents?
  - a. Ecology will follow up with answer to this question
2. Will each list include *only* covered materials, or will it also include other materials that Ecology identifies as suitable for each type of collection? E.g. for residential composting collection, what about yard waste and food waste?
  - a. It would be weird (for lack of a better term) to have a statewide list for residential composting that does not include yard debris, for example
  - b. Flag that in statute the terminology is sometimes “covered materials” and other times “materials” – those have different meanings. Some “materials” that are widely understood to be suitable for residential recycling collection (e.g. newspaper) are not “covered materials” but seem like they can/should still be included on the list.
3. Standards used for health and safety criteria: ERG's EHS and LCA experts aren't on the meeting today but this information will be included in the evaluation criteria definitions and scope that will be shared with the council for input and could be discussed in a subcommittee meeting
4. Lists and whether public place and alternative collection lists include composting
5. Initial candidate material list
  - a. Factors to consider when splitting or consolidating covered material categories on the candidate list
6. Evaluation criteria to be considered
7. Evaluation process for a qualitative evaluation rating and a phased approach

#### IV. Subcommittee Updates (10 minutes)

- a. Confirm subcommittee assignments and expectations
  - i. Discussion included:
    1. Members were made aware that the turnaround to receive items to discuss during subcommittees is shorter than for Advisory Council meetings.
    2. Facilitators, Ecology, and Chairs will confirm scheduling and share with the group within the next week.

3. Facilitators and Ecology also to confirm whether subcommittees will require delegates in the event a member is unable to attend and whether any voting will take place during subcommittees.
  - ii. Subcommittee interest

Statewide List	Needs Assessment	Equity
Alissa Campbell	Alissa Campbell	Grant Williams
Becci Piepel	Casey Bouchard	Julie Gilbertson
Danielle Waterfield	Danielle Waterfield	Ming-Ming Tung-Edelman
Jay Blazey	Grant Williams	
Jeff Zillich	Jocelyn Quarrell	
Julie Gilbertson	Julie Gilbertson	
Karen Hultgren	McKenna Morigan	
McKenna Morigan	Megan Daum	
Megan Daum	Rick Vahl	
Michael Liptack		
Moji Igun		
Rick Vahl		

V. Public Comment (10 minutes)

- i. Heather Trim requested any specific discussion items for future meetings be noted in the agenda or potentially agenda slides for attendees working with committee members to prepare in advance. Heather also flagged that there were difficulties raising hands to indicate interest in public comment for those joining by phone.

VI. Preview of Next Meeting Content (5 minutes)

- a. Meeting materials will be published on [RRAAdvisoryCouncil.org](http://RRAAdvisoryCouncil.org) in 10 days and Council will receive an email when materials are published
- b. Upcoming meeting on April 29, 10-1:30pm
  - i. Hybrid meeting
  - ii. Folks in-person will meet at Seattle Municipal Tower and members are encouraged to arrive at location in advance
  - iii. Members should confirm with Sam/Julie on the Facilitation team if they plan to attend in person

VII. Adjourn