

Washington Recycling Reform Act Advisory Council

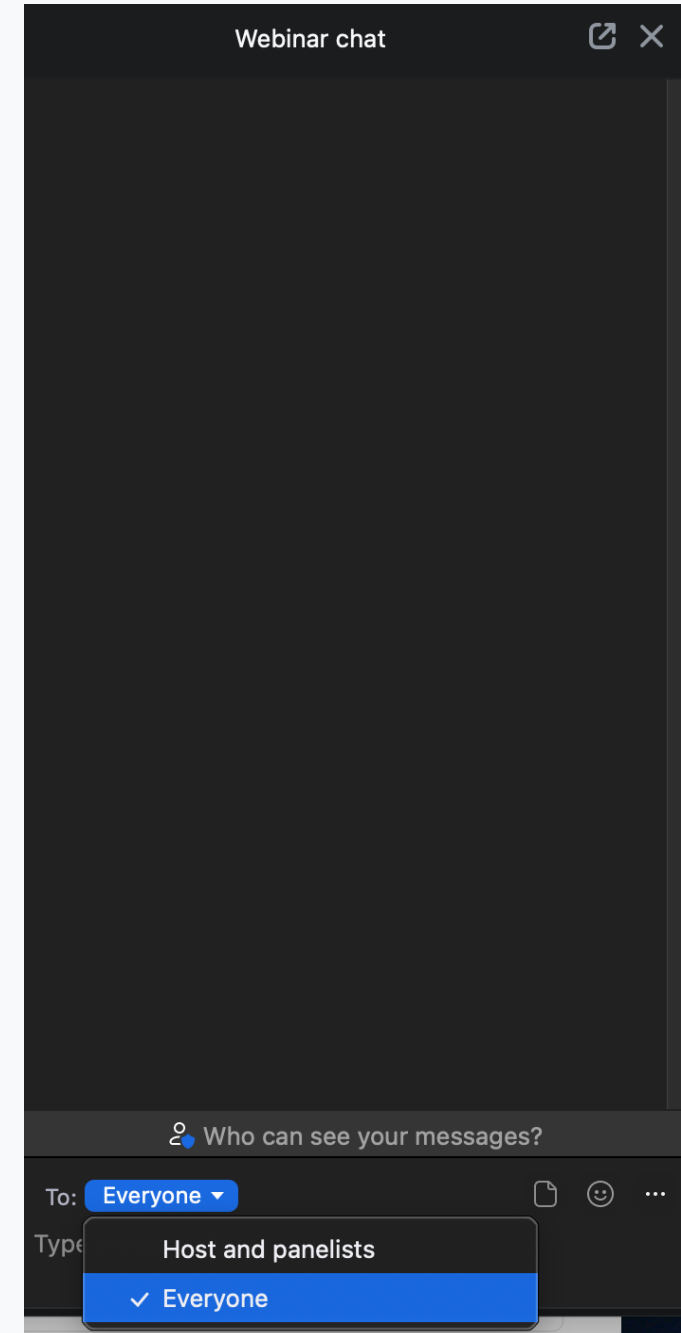
EQUITY SUBCOMMITTEE

May 4, 2026

10-11:00am PT

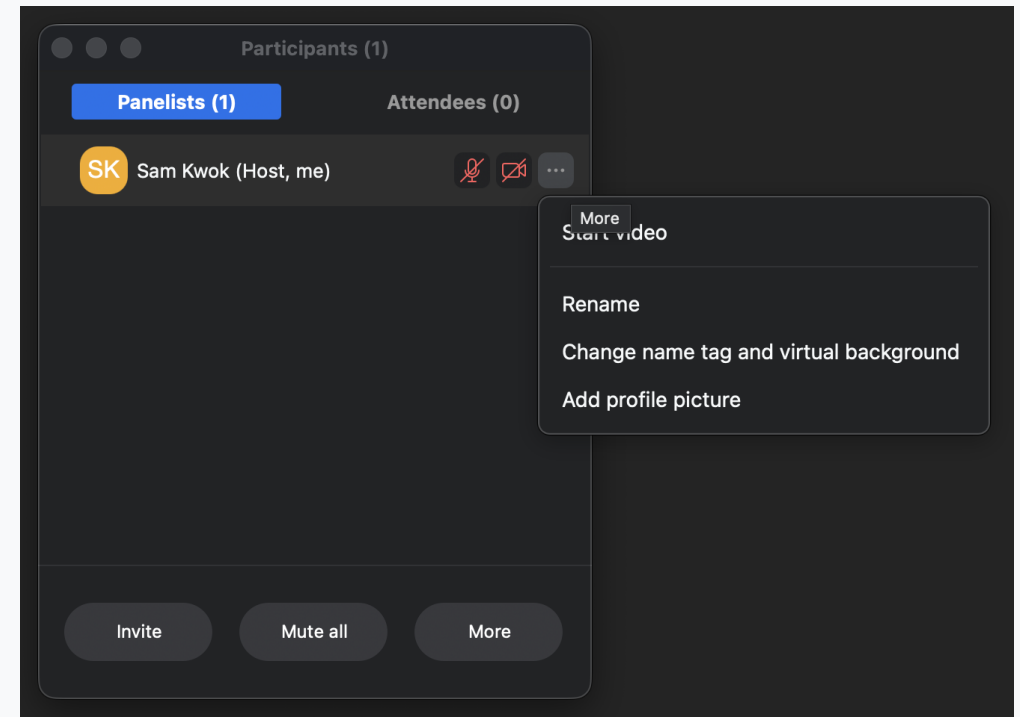
Housekeeping

- All public participants are observers and in listen-only mode. Microphones are muted. The chat is not available for public attendees to use, but they may still see the chat. **Public attendees should use Q&A function for any public comment.** The Q&A button can be opened at the bottom of your toolbar.
- Council members will be able to raise hands and come off mute to communicate. **If using chat, please make sure all messages are sent to "Everyone" (see right).**
 - All panelists should open the chat box now and ensure that "To" is to "Everyone" above the box to type.
- If council members experience any A/V issues throughout the webinar, Sam Kwok is available for technical support.



Housekeeping

- Live captioning is enabled for meetings. Participants have the option to toggle it on and off at the bottom of their toolbar.
- Council members should rename themselves to include: **name, organization, seat represented (e.g., Rick Vahl, Waste Connections, Solid Waste)**.
 - Public attendees are welcome to do the same.



Subcommittee Members

Member	Affiliation
Julie Gilbertson	Circular Action Alliance
Rick Vahl	Waste Connections
Ming-Ming Tung-Edelman	CareMakers Collective
Becci Piepel	Douglas County Solid Waste
Grant Williams	Tribal Solid Waste Advisory Network
Miriam Mendoza	Yakima Eco Solutions
Leah Simeon	Feed Seven Generations

Meeting Agenda

I. Welcome

- a. Attendance & Introductions
- b. Review of meeting agenda

II. Ecology Updates – Lauren DiRe, Ecology

- a. Recycling Reform Act overview

III. Subcommittee Discussion

- a. Subcommittee Chair
- b. Needs assessment support and subcommittee
- c. Involving external voices

IV. Next Steps

- a. Needs Assessment Subcommittee: May 20, 10-11:30am
- b. Scheduling upcoming meetings

V. Adjourn

RRA Advisory Council Purpose & Objectives

Purpose

The purpose of the Recycling Reform Act Advisory Council (council) and its subcommittees is to advise the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) and the Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO) on implementation of the Recycling Reform Act (RRA). The council offers diverse perspectives and practical insights to help inform policy decisions related to recycling system design, performance, and equity.

Objectives

The objective of the council is to give advice and recommendations to Ecology and the PRO to support effective implementation of the RRA, including:

- a. Identifying system gaps, needs, and implementation challenges
- b. Elevating equity and environmental justice considerations
- c. Ensuring representation of diverse perspectives across Washington's recycling system
- d. Balancing the needs and interests of the groups each council member represents with the best interest of the program overall

Council input is intended to help Ecology and the PRO carry out the law effectively, equitably, and in alignment with legislative intent.

Equity Subcommittee Purpose & Objectives

Purpose

The purpose of the Equity Subcommittee is to make recommendations to the Advisory Council, Ecology, and the PRO on equity and environmental justice considerations related to the implementation of the Recycling Reform Act.

Objectives

The objective of the subcommittee is to give advice and recommendations to Ecology and the PRO to support effective implementation of the RRA, including:

- Identifying barriers and impacts affecting overburdened and underserved communities
- Informing system design to ensure equitable access to services
- Making recommendations for community engagement and education

Subcommittee input is intended to help Ecology and the PRO carry out the law effectively, equitably, and in alignment with legislative intent.

Open Public Meetings Act

RCW 42.56: Public records act

RCW 42.30: Open public meetings act

- RRA advisory council must comply with OPMA (RCW 70A.208.050(8)(b))
- Meetings are open to the public for all deliberations and discussions
- Post agenda, meeting schedule, and minutes (notes)
- Actions and votes must be public
- All conversations and comments in the virtual chat must be viewable by all attendees and must be directed to "Everyone"
- Official business may only be conducted in meetings open to the public (e.g., no council or subcommittee discussions via email)
- Any documents shared for committee comments/edits must also be available and accessible to the public

Conflicts of Interest

- Members must disclose any actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest as soon as it arises and before participating in discussion of the relevant topic. Disclosures will be made verbally at the onset of meetings and/or in writing to the facilitation team prior to meetings.
- In most cases, disclosure alone is sufficient, and a council member can still participate in discussion after the disclosure is made.
- In the case of a conflict-of-interest disclosure where the member or their organization stands to receive a direct financial or regulatory benefit from a specific recommendation, the member will self-identify the conflict of interest and recuse themselves from participating in the discussion and from any vote related to that agenda item.
- In general, members should self-identify conflicts of interest and recuse themselves from discussion when appropriate. However, the council chair can also determine that a member has a conflict of interest and ask them to officially disclose the conflict, and if needed, recuse themselves from discussion. The vice chair may step into this role if the chair is the person with a conflict and they opt not to self-disclose or recuse themselves from discussion.

ECOLOGY UPDATES

- [RECYCLING REFORM ACT OVERVIEW](#) – LAUREN DIRE, ECOLOGY

SUBCOMMITTEE DISCUSSION

- SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIR
- NEEDS ASSESSMENT SUPPORT AND SUBCOMMITTEE
- INVOLVING EXTERNAL VOICES

Role of Subcommittee Chair

- Help develop/review agendas
- Run meetings (with facilitation support)
- Review and approve notes before we post to website
- Bring recommendations to full Council

NEXT STEPS

- NEEDS ASSESSMENT SUBCOMMITTEE: MAY 20, 10-11:30AM
- SCHEDULE UPCOMING MEETINGS

Next Steps

- Meeting materials, including meeting notes and copies of the presentations today will be published on RRAAdvisoryCouncil.org in 10 days
 - Subcommittee will receive an email when it's up
- First Needs Assessment Subcommittee meeting on May 20, 10-11:30am; Meeting is virtual
- Members will receive an email to schedule future meetings

ADJOURN

- NEXT MEETING: TBD