ZERO WASTE MARIN

MARIN COUNTY HAZARDOUS AND SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY

Belvedere Corte Madera County of Marin Fairfax Larkspur Mill Valley
Novato Ross San Anselmo San Rafael Sausalito Tiburon

AGENDA: TECHNICAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

DATE Tuesday, October 27th, 2026

TIME 9:00am – 10:00am

LOCATION 1600 Los Gamos Drive, Suite 210b, San Rafael CA 94903

Technical Advisory Council Members Present

Kaylyn Turnil, City of San Rafael
Catie Thow Garcia, City of Sausalito
Sarah Thacher, County of Marin Sustainability
Julie Bryant, County of Marin Waste Management Division
Bridget Wipfler, Town of Fairfax & Town of San Anselmo
Gretchen Schubeck, City of Novato
Grace Ledwith, City of Mill Valley & Town of Tiburon
Casey Poldino, Novato Sanitary District
Phoebe Goulden, Town of Corte Madera

Staff Present

Amy Kolnes (Staff)
Casey Fritz (Staff)
Ellie Vendegna (Staff)

CALL TO ORDER

Regular session was called to order at 9:04 a.m.

1. Open Time for Public Comment (Items not on the agenda)

No public comments.

2. Race to Zero Waste Support Update

Staff member Casey Fritz provided an update on the contract with Race to Zero Waste. This contract was renewed after its first year during FY 2025/26. The purpose of the contract is to provide member agencies with waste separation and management support at an event of their choosing. Staff Fritz recapped the events that were supported in FY 2025/26, and reminded member agencies to consider which event they may like to request support for during FY 2026/27. Staff Fritz let attendees know that the new contract also allows for pre-event vendor education by Race to Zero Waste.

Kaylyn Turnil asked for guidance on which events may be best to choose for support. Staff Fritz mentioned that events where food is served are a high-value opportunity to keep food out of landfills, and that events do not necessarily need to be sustainability-focused.

Catie Thow Garcia mentioned that Sausalito may be interested in support for the Souper Bowl event in February. Gretchen Schubeck thought supporting the first Farmer's Market in Novato would be her preference.

Staff Fritz also let member agencies know that ZWM has approximately $450 available per jurisdiction to support event greening, including purchase of fiber compostables for use at events.

3. Update on Most Likely To contracts

Staff Fritz provided an update on the two contracts that Zero Waste Marin has with contractor Most Likely To for the 2026/27 Fiscal Year. The first contract is for County-wide marketing and communications support, which continues the partnership with Most Likely To from FY 2024/25 and 2025/26. This contract focuses primarily on the implementation of an annual County-wide education campaign. For spring 2027, ZWM staff plan to work with Most Likely To to implement in-person education at multi-family apartment complexes which will complement the messaging of the campaign.

The second contract is dedicated to the implementation of focus groups and surveys to gather data that will help inform messaging and program offerings.

Gretchen Schubeck suggested utilizing existing community-based organizations to assist with the in-person education aspect of the annual campaign. Grace Ledwith and Kaylyn Turnil supported this suggestion.

Julie Bryant mentioned that her team will also be conducting focus groups and surveys in Unincorporated County focused on franchised waste services, and will share any applicable learnings.

Gretchen Schubeck commented that in addition to messaging on compost, residents may benefit from education on waste reduction and reuse.

4. Review Draft SB 54 CMC Exemption Justifications

As a follow-up to the September 23rd workshop on SB 54, Staff Fritz shared the draft exemption justifications for SB 54 Covered Material Categories (CMCs). These justifications were written based on opinions from the jurisdictions and waste haulers on whether CMCs should be added to collections or exempted. Staff noted that some waste haulers wanted to exempt more materials than the jurisdictions did.

Julie Bryant commented that there are some categories where some common materials are accepted, but we are exempting the whole category. Julie wants to make it clear to CalRecycle that some materials are being successfully captured.

Phoebe Goulden asked about fiber products that are lined with a compostable or bioplastic lining. Do these products fall under the paper and fiber categories, or under the "polymers designed for compostability" category? Staff stated that they will try to get clarity.

Gretchen Schubeck asked about the process for submittal of these exemption justifications. Staff Fritz stated that exemption requests are due no later than December 28, 2026. Currently Staff Fritz has requested feedback from all jurisdictions and waste haulers. After this she will bring the exemptions to the Local Task Force meeting on November 5th, 2026 for their review and approval. After this Staff Fritz will bring the exemptions to the November 17th, 2026 JPA Board meeting for their review and approval.

Staff Fritz will confirm whether an official Resolution will also go to the Board at this time.

5. Scheduling of Future TAC Meetings

Staff Fritz explained that for public, agendized meetings members need to either attend in person, or include their remote-joining location in the agenda packet and make that location accessible to the public to join as well. Staff Fritz asked TAC members what meeting schedule they would prefer.

Phoebe Goulden asked whether the Technical Advisory Council should be recognized before the JPA Board. Staff Fritz will confirm.

Motion to align the meetings of the Technical Advisory Council with the schedule of the JPA Board meetings.
First Gretchen Schubeck, City of Novato
Second Bridget Wipfler, Town of Fairfax & Town of San Anselmo

Vote Count

Kaylyn Turnil: Aye
Catie Thow Garcia: Aye
Sarah Thacher: Aye
Julie Bryant: Aye
Bridget Wipfler: Aye
Gretchen Schubeck: Aye
Grace Ledwith: Aye
Casey Poldino: Aye
Phoebe Goulden: Aye
Shannon O'Hare: Absent

Ayes: 9 Noes: 0 Absent: 1 Abstain: 0

6. Suggested Agenda Items

No items reported.

7. Adjournment

Staff Fritz adjourned the meeting at 9:59 a.m.

Board Chair: Please confirm the vote on this item by reading the following items out aloud after the vote.

Motion: _____ Second: _____

Ayes: _____

_____

Noes: _____

_____

Abstentions: _____