

Summit County Zero Waste Task Force

DATE: October 19, 2017

TIME: 3pm – 5pm

LOCATION: Frisco Community Center

Attendee	Organization
Aaron Byrne	Summit County
David Askeland	Colorado Mountain College
David Scheuermann	Talking Trash
Jen Barchers	Town of Dillon
Jen Cawley	Storm Enterprises/Breckenridge Restaurant Association
Jen Schenk	HC3
Jessie Burley	HC3
Juri Freeman	RRS
Kat Slaughter	Breckenridge Grand Vacations
Larry Romine	Timberline Disposal
Lina Lesmes	Town of Silverthorne
Mark Johnston	Town of Breckenridge
Randy Ready	Town of Frisco
Thad Noll	Summit County
Thomas Davidson	Summit County
Tom Gosiorowski	Summit County

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 3:08 pm

3:08-3:15- Introductions

An introduction of attendees.

3:15-3:20- Project Review

Schenk re-iterated the project goals and Freeman reviewed the project progress to date as well as the materials covered at the last meetings. Schenk said that the public forum was scheduled for November 17 at 8am and that she will be asking several stakeholders to join in on the panel. All stakeholders are encouraged to attend.

3:20-3:40- SCRAP Economic Model

Freeman reviewed the assumptions included in the SCRAP budget model. Freeman also shared the projected budget shortfalls for the SCRAP based on the chosen assumptions and the model outputs. With the current assumptions in place, the model predicts that over the next 15 years the SCRAP will have a deficit of \$18M. The deficit includes approximately \$11.7M of 'new program' funding and the assumption that the Safety 1st Fund is not renewed.

3:40-4:00- Funding Options

Freeman reviewed alternative recycling funding types available for use in the county including Mill Levy / Property Tax, Sales and Use Tax, and a surcharge or tip fee on disposal. Freeman shared the model outputs showing that if the full funding amount (\$18M) was through a Mill Levy it would be .51 mills, a Sales and Use tax

would be a .06% tax, and a surcharge would be \$25.65 / ton. The group discussed that it could be a mix of two or even all three funding sources.

4:00-4:45-Discussion

Bob Gedert (RRS) led a group discussion around five questions on funding options and needs.

Question 1: Does SCRAP need additional funding sources?

Thad and Tom both thought that SCRAP does need to find another funding source. Dave S asked if there was something the County could do that does not require a new funding source such as a policy or ordinance? Lina asked why the tip fees in the model were decreasing, Aaron responded that the model assumed that if a new funding source was ID'd than the landfill could reduce the disposal tip fees for MSW as they wouldn't need the landfill tip fees to cover the cost of recycling operations. Dave asked about landfill debt, Tom reported that the debt would be paid of this year (2017). Overall, the majority of the group agreed that the SCRAP does need new funding.

Question 2: Should Summit County expand recycling services, quality, and programs to increase diversion?

Tom explained that the model included the new funding because in reality, for the County to reach zero waste, or even to reach a 40% diversion rate, new programs will be needed. Kat asked what the new programs or services would be. Aaron reported that he and Tom had reviewed them for the County and Freeman referred the group to Slide 11 in the presentation for the programs included so far. The question that was debated was what would the programs actually be and the County reported that they have some ideas, but the programs are still open for discussion. Overall, the majority of the group agreed that that County does need to fund new programs.

Question 3: Mill Levy

The group discussed whether a mill levy would be a good potential source of funding for the County? It seemed to be the most palatable for the county, Dave reported that towns are very protective of sales tax and that it would be hard to pass. Thad shared that the property taxes in the County are relatively low, also the property tax revenue is less volatile. Lina noted that a property tax is not tied to use or garbage disposal and does not create an incentive for waste reduction. Dave thought that a mill levy makes it more affordable for families living in the County. Overall, the group was mostly in favor of the mill level and no one was totally opposed.

Question 4: Sales and Use Tax

Dave thought that the County could not impose a sales and use tax on municipalities without each of the municipalities also voting for the tax, thus there would be two levels of votes, County and Muni, and all would need to approve to adopt. Thad noted that sales and use tax is less attractive to city managers and elected officials. The positive about a sales and use tax is that 80% of the tax is paid by visitors, thus it is less expensive for residents. Overall, the majority thought that sales and use tax was not a good option.

Question 5: Surcharge at the Landfill

It was reported that everyone would pay the surcharge in some fashion. Larry reported that the challenge is that the tip fees are already really high in the County, and the surcharge would increase the prices charged to customers, Dave agreed. Thad said that the County would like to keep the tip fees down, not

bring them up, it was noted that lowering MSW tip fees reduces the economic incentive to recycle in the County. Overall, the group *did not* support the use of a landfill tip fee surcharge to fund recycling.

4:45-5:00 Thad Presentation

Thad Noll from the County presented his vision for funding. See attached PowerPoint.

5:05 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.