

Food Collection and Conversion

Subject Matter Expert Group Meeting

Notes for January 30, 2020

In Attendance:

- Mike Meyers – Retired wastewater treatment facility operator and host of the “Trash Talk” radio show out of Aberdeen ((1450 on the AM dial and 100.5 on the FM dial) currently focused on food waste issues.
- Jade Monroe – Washington State Department of Ecology
- Mary Harrington – Washington State Department of Ecology
- Shirup Kumar – Impact Bioenergy
- Kamal Patel – Area designer with a focus on the circular economy
- Troy Lautenbach – Lautenbach Recycling

Discussion

1. Introductions
2. The group went over the recommendation worksheets and discussed how to link additional content.
 - Content can be linked on the Sharepoint page or within the worksheet.
3. Is there a timeline for these recommendations?
 - We are trying to reduce food waste by 50% by 2030.
 - Worksheets are due by the end of February.
4. A brainstorm was conducted for recommendations:
 - A comment was made about the benefits of co-products and how systems can interplay with each other to move towards progress. The example was provided where King County is paying about \$250/ton to export from Vashon today, and tomorrow they can avoid that ton and share half of that with the project maybe \$125 goes to an anaerobic digester (AD) facility.
 - The City of Tacoma is currently mapping this type of system.
 - How do we have a more networked system?
 - There is a need for animal feed understanding within this group
 - Worth mentioning: Tacoma has an Orca and one of the stadiums up in Seattle has one too. This would be worth a recommendation.
 - The question was posed if we can make a recommendation for a circular economy and bigger systemic principles of sustainability.

- There is a basic graphic called the butterfly diagram that the EU and China are using to collaborate with. Larger corporations and some countries use this model for sustainability efforts.
 - A public outreach campaign needs to be made, and the decision was to take this recommendation to the Cross Sector Advisory working group.
 - A recommendation needs to be made on the opportunity for energy conservation.
 - A discussion was had on hydropower and the existing systems in Washington.
 - There is an opportunity to take pressure of hydroelectricity and create more energy with AD processing food residuals.
5. Assignments were made for recommendations and goals were set for next meeting.