

**Pomona Waste and Recycling Task Force
February 19 Public Meeting
Break-out session worksheets**

Living in Pomona & Family / Community Health

- Air quality could be better & waste transfer won't help
- Hard for people w/ asthma, like my mom (Ben)
- I didn't have asthma till I worked in SW Industrial District (Damiana)
- Bigger than Pomona – LA County is polluted. So what's a realistic expectation for air quality? (Sal)
- Some businesses came in in 40's & 50's when there were few environmental standards. Easier to set standards for new permits than change these old ones. (Meg)
- Not just reducing # - - also enforcing standards that already exist. (Tim)
- I can feel the difference in air when I ride in on my bike from Claremont. (Ely)
- We lost 1/3 of already short staff in recession - - it's tough to keep any industry in compliance. But what else can we do? "Tax" businesses to fund enforcement? (Tim + Meg)
- Can't take money from other tax funds (general) to fund safety. Only 10% of city taxes funds safety, the rest goes to other important programs. A new tax/charge could fund a new industrial code enforcement person. (Meg)

(How) can waste & recycling play a part in Pomona's becoming "Vibrant, Safe & Beautiful"?

- Under AB-939, we'll need more recycling statewide. But do they all have to be in Pomona?? (Damiana)
- Many Recyclers, Poor service for residents! (Ely) – Why aren't we benefiting?
- With the # of recyclers, we are not the main client (they're a business, so city doesn't monitor where the trucks come from). (Meg)
- Trucks bring their own pollution (smog, oil drip) in addition to centers (Tim).
- Use districting to limit # of trucks in the city → exclusive franchise (Sal)
- Cost of wear & tear on roads to heavy trucks. (Damiana)

What improvements, policies, & procedures should the task force take forward?

- Limit & heavily regulate "Waste-to-Energy" Businesses.
 - (They're Bad news – things burned that shouldn't be!) (Roberto)
 - Beware of "Green-Washing" Proposal Language for new businesses
- Better regulation of closed doors, bad smells. They should follow their own rules! (Tori)
- Make conditional-use permits time-bound! (20 years & renew!)
- Better enforcement, even if it requires a fee. Put money where it belongs! (Damiana)
- More trucks in school zones = kids getting squished! (Damiana)

- Keep 'em out of school zones - - especially during “while children are present” hours
 - Fees for businesses only (not residents).
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- Ash Smell
- “What’s Happening?”
- *Asthma ✓ + cough + unexplainable + headache + skin
- Truck Traffic
- “What’s being done?” Goals? Practices? Programs?
- Air Quality “one of the worst” 5% most pol. In state.
- Capture Methane
- Reforms

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- “Is there a way to filter the smog?”
- Good to process trash +
- Over 30 in City Schools?
- *More education on topic!!! ✓✓✓
- “Can we set a limit on # of businesses?”
- +REGULATIONS + ENFORCEMENT!
- We need to set a standard!
- “The less you know, the better”
- “Is this what the City wants?”
- ✓”We can only control what we accept.”
- *Regional transfer stations are placed in strategic places – location.

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- “Environmental Racism”
- Officials allowance
- Strict Research and enforced education
- More community knowledge
- Proper Leadership – Set Limits
- Information

Key Idea

*More information + Education + Awareness

*Monitoring

*Leadership + Ownership of the problem + Enforcement

Health Impacts

- *Unknown impacts from pollution
 - Magnification of impacts
 - Negative Associations w/ that
 - Inadequate Code Enforcement for the # of businesses in city (lack of monitoring) more trash than can be processed
 - More flu/asthma
 - Infestations of vermin (carry disease)
 - Truck Traffic – traffic flow, safety
 - Who is monitoring?
 - Water Safety – rain run off from waste facilities into ground water wells
 - Number of facilities make it Impossible to align w/ goals of city
 - Cease and desist from allowing any new facility AND any expansion.
 - Regulating existing facilities: tailor ordinances for specific industries.
 - Amortizing changes for businesses so they are brought to new standard by a specified time.
 - *Watchdog organization that keeps an eye on these facilities (collection of data, etc. fines)
 - Incredibly punitive fines
 - Rezone and/or enforce area to provide buffer zone from residential
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Maria, Pablo, Ana, Pablo Jr., Pedro, Lily

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Pablo – It does affect our health. Could become chronic
Stricter regulations

Pedro – Suffering from asthma
Fiberglass particles
Hadn't suffered until moving to Pomona

Ana – Grandson has asthma / irritated eyes
How much \$\$ will the center bring to the city?

Pablo – Particles may move debris to other areas of the city/ bacterias in the area from the hospitals
Special regulations by schedule.

Pablo Jr. – Rides bike, energy levels vary, after rainy days I have more energy.

Pedro – Hospital regulations are higher than the recyclers.

Adriana – Traffic will increase

Lily – Recyclers are near schools

Maria – Shut down one who are not following law and have one who do do business

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Pablo – Better facilities and higher regulations on waste + recycling businesses

Pedro – Stay updated on current air conditions.

Regulate existing businesses

Lily – Pomona vision is not being perfected with current status.

Pablo Jr. – Not worth the investment

There will be more negative impact the monetary benefit.

More structural damages streets

③ Regulations

- Look at alternate recycling/waste business better companies
 - Truck maintenance Natural gas alternatives.
 - Invest in native plants for better environments.
 - Buffer zones in the areas where recyclers are.
 - Maintenance of site floors.
 - How flexible are existing contracts.
 - Why are we not enforcing current regulations?
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- Bad quality of air – can't work outside w/o risk
- Fires
- Water quality impacts
- Use of inhalers from pollution
- Freeway pollution – dirty cars

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- Possibly – if more cutting edge, cleaner facilities
- How did Pomona get bad rep – image
- Don't mind having, but need to be clean
- Images of existing facilities, can we change?

- Trucks going to new facility still causing pollution
- *Why so many recycling facilities here and are they serving community?

③ Regulations – Higher standards

- Make people accountable
- Need more people to regulate
- Businesses fees provide code enforcement
- More efforts to keep clean
- More guidance to employees on how to keep clean, safety for employees
- Pollution offset
- See moved to another location to not harm people
- More education to residents
- Too many commercial haulers to reduce traffic (one hauler)
- Was new Transfer facility required to pay towards street repairs
- Will they be required to hire Pomona residents first?
- Are they adding to bad image?
- Do we need more