



TO: Elizabeth A. Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Michael P. Slevin III, P.E., Environmental Services Director *M.P.S.C.*
COPY: Economic Development Committee; Jeff Robinson, CED; Lynda Foster
PRESENTER: Lewis T. Griffith, P.E, Environmental Services Division Manager
SUBJECT: Waste Stream Mapping Update
DATE: February 25, 2020

PRESENTATION TYPE:

Informational Briefing

SUMMARY:

This is an informational briefing to provide an update on the work done to date on the Waste Stream Mapping project to identify opportunities to connect businesses that can utilize waste materials as resources. Recommended next steps for how to continue this work will be presented for feedback from the committee.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Tacoma formed an Industrial Symbiosis working group, which includes representatives from local industry, Environmental Services, Community and Economic Development, and the Manufacturing Industrial Council. One objective the working group identified is to identify opportunities to create a more robust reuse economy for Tacoma-based businesses. In 2019, the City contracted with Sustainable Business Consulting to facilitate this project, and the first phase was completed in December.

ISSUE:

This project is seeking to identify and develop local markets for recyclable and reusable commodities, particularly where global markets have been impacted by the changes in the recycling industry. Additionally, there is opportunity to promote and attract economic development in Tacoma by creating an industrial reuse economy that is economically and environmentally beneficial.

ALTERNATIVES:

This is an information briefing only. There are no alternatives presented.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This is an information briefing only. There is no fiscal impact.

RECOMMENDATION:

Environmental Services and Community and Economic Development and the Industrial Symbiosis working group are planning to continue working to engage with local industries and develop opportunities for reuse and recycling of commodities in the local economy.