



# Policy Committee Retreat

---

June 2, 2026 - 1 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

# Welcome & Introductions





**Randy Moorman**

Policy Committee Chair  
Eco-Cycle



**Brienna  
Kerr-Atkinson**

Policy Committee Vice-Chair  
OI Glass



**Emily Freeman**

Policy Committee Recorder  
City of Boulder



**Kim Palmer**

Policy Committee Event Planning  
Republic Services



**Celene  
Peck-Adreano**

Policy Committee Event Planning  
Glass to Glass



**Nina Waysdorf**

Policy Committee Board Liaison  
City & County of Denver - DOTI



**Ally Byzewski**

Director of Operations



**Brandy Moe**

Executive Director



**Cam Hodges**

Program Coordinator

# Agenda

---

- 1:05 PM Values Workshop
- 1:50 PM Updates on Supported Legislation
- 2:20 PM Lobby Day and Developing Legislative Champions
- 2:40 PM **BREAK**
- 2:50 PM Organics Policy Briefing
- 3:00 PM Updates from Lobbyist
- 3:20 PM Organics Discussion Groups
- 4:05 PM Group Report-Outs
- 4:25 PM Slido Polling
- 4:35 PM Next Steps
- 4:45 PM Policy Committee Leadership Elections Process
- 5:00 PM Adjourn



# Policy Values Workshop

---



# Updates on Supportive Legislation

---

1. Producer Responsibility for Packaging and Paper (EPR) HB22-1355
  - Producers: reporting concluded May 31
  - Recycling service implementation:
    - Excellent participation in local government, open market and processor request for reimbursement
    - Statewide education and outreach kicked off
    - Multiple trainings conducted and upcoming
  - Compost facility funding: last day to submit interest form

# Updates on Supportive Legislation

---

## 2. Battery Stewardship Program (small and medium format) SB25-163

- Stewardship plans due 2027, battery collection in 2028, prohibited from landfill disposal in 2030
- “Skip the Bin! Turn Your Batteries In!”



# Updates on Supportive Legislation

---

## 3. Electric Vehicle Battery Recycling SB26-003

- Prioritizes reuse/rebuilding of batteries
- Requires active capture of batteries from all sites within a 14-day window when abandoned
- Requires increased materials recapture where mass balance accounting is in alignment with Extended Producer Responsibility mass balance accounting standards (proportional/rolling average)

# Updates on Supportive Legislation

## 4. Skip the Stuff SB26-146

- Amendment to PPRA
- Utensils, chopsticks, napkins, condiment packets, straws, stirrer, lid, cup sleeve, spill plug, tray, cocktail stick
- Student-led Initiative - very beneficial
- Passed “kill committee” - Youth got 50+ restaurants to sign a petition & testify
- Exemption for schools and hospitals
- Gov. Polis must sign by June 12th or becomes law on June 13th



# Updates on Supportive Legislation

---

## 5. Right to Repair HB24-1121 (support) and SB26-090 (oppose)

- *HB24-1121*
  - Effective Jan 1, 2026, HB 24-1121 expanded right to repair in CO to cover most electronics used or sold after mid-2021; while maintaining several exemptions including some safety/security equipment, many medical devices, marine vessels, & aviation
- *SB26-090*
  - Attempted to exempt IT equipment (e.g. servers and routers) if manufacturers claim those products are intended to be used in critical infrastructure. Despite the proponents' claim that this is needed to protect national security, the bill gives a blanket exemption, limiting access to repair for any business or government that purchases IT equipment from a manufacturer.
  - RC's position following member voting was to oppose largely due to concern over vague language around definition of critical infrastructure
  - RC testified against, along with many others from the community who raised similar concerns.
  - Bill did not pass out of committee with a vote of 7-4 against.

# Updates on Supportive Legislation



## 6. Salvage Lumber

- C&D Council SL working group
- Outreach + Education
  - CO: Home Rule, no statewide building code
- Efforts:
  - Lobby Day Flyer
  - Building Code Official votes
- Waiting: 2027 ICC vote results
- Upcoming: educational video

# 2026 Lobby Day - March 12

---

- 43 attendees
- 55 meetings with legislators
- Lobbied on:
  - EV Battery bill
  - Salvage Lumber
  - Organics Diversion



# Developing New Legislative Champions - Targets

## Monica Duran (D)

- House Majority Leader
- Running for Senate District 22
- Wheat Ridge



## Sheila Lieder (D)

- House Representative
- Running for Senate District 20
- Morrison, Jeff Co.



## Matt Ball (D)

- Senate District 31
- Battery Bill Sponsor
- Denver



## Cathy Kipp (D)

- Senate District 14
- President Pro Tempore
- Finance Chair
- Fort Collins



# Developing New Legislative Champions - Targets

## William Lindstedt (D)

- Senate District 25
- Appointed to Faith Winter's seat
- Broomfield



## Marc Snyder (D)

- Senate District 12
- Manitou Springs, Teller and El Paso Counties



## Dylan Roberts (D)

- Senate District 8
- Ag and Nat. Res. Chair
- Frisco, Mountain Counties



## Katie Wallace (D)

- Senate District 17
- State Affairs Chair
- Co-Sponsor EV bill
- Longmont, Lafayette, Erie



# Developing New Legislative Champions - Targets

## Mike Weissman (D)

- Senate District 28
- Judiciary Chair
- Aurora, Adams and Arapahoe Counties



## Andrew Boesenecker (D)

- House District 53
- Speaker Pro Tem
- Fort Collins



## Jennifer Bacon (D)

- House District 7
- Asst. Majority Leader
- Denver



## Kyle Brown (D)

- House District 12
- Joint Budget
- Co-sponsor battery bill
- Louisville, Lafayette, Boulder County



# Developing New Legislative Champions - Targets

---

## **Lisa Feret (D)**

- House District 24
- Arvada, Jeff Co., Adams Co.



## **Lindsay Gilchrist (D)**

- House District 8
- Health and Human Services Chair
- Denver



## **Lorena Garcia (D)**

- House District 35
- Commerce City, Jeff Co., Adams Co.



## **Lori Goldstein (D)**

- House District 29
- Westminster, Jeff Co., Adams Co.



# Developing New Legislative Champions - Targets

## Matthew Martinez (D)

- House District 62
- San Luis Valley



## Amy Paschal (D)

- House District 18
- Energy & Environment
- Manitou and Colorado Springs



## Karen McCormick (D)

- House District 11
- Ag, Nat. Res. Chair
- Longmont



## Chris Richardson (R)

- House District 56
- Elbert Co, Eastern Plains



# Developing New Legislative Champions - Targets

## Leslie Smith (D)

- House District 49
- Energy & Environment
- Boulder, Larimer, Clear Creek, Gilpin



## Jenny Willford (D)

- House District 34
- State Affairs Chair
- Northglenn, Thornton, Adams Co



## Rebekah Stewart (D)

- House District 30
- Co-sponsor battery bills
- Lakewood



## Yara Zokaie (D)

- House District 52
- Appropriations
- Fort Collins



# Developing New Champions - the Next Governor

---

- Meet with the candidates
- Develop a platform to ask the next governor to prioritize
- Influence choices in CDPHE and Agriculture Directors

# Developing New Champions - Outreach

---

- Letter/email of introduction
- Call to set up meeting
- In-person meeting/coffee
- Briefing packet on Recycle Colorado issues, members
- Tours
- Other ideas?

# Developing New Champions - Who wants to help?

---

- Set up meetings
- Pull together materials
- Attend meetings

# 10 Minute Break





# Colorado Composting Context

- Increased attention to drought resilience, soil health, and need for climate solutions
- Higher food costs, more need for food assistance, growth in food rescue groups
- Increased demand for organics diversion
- Expansion of composting businesses and mulching programs

## Legislative Victories:

- SB23-191 - Organics Diversion Study
- SB23-253 - Compostables Labeling Act
- HB24-1449 - Enviro. Sustainability Circular Economy (C3 fund)
- HB24-1249 & SB25-026 - provide tax benefits for using compost
- HB25-1166 - Efforts to Reduce Food Waste

## State-level Drivers:

- Greenhouse Gas Pollution Reduction Roadmap 2.0
- Organics Management Plan (OMP) & SB-191 Organics Diversion Study (OMP 2.0)
- Update to Solid Waste Regs Section 14 to ease compost facility permitting
- Regulation 31 - Landfill methane monitoring & remediation
- Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Building Code → increase in slash
- Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan (and update)

# OMP 2.0 Policy Recommendations

(paraphrased from table 34)

---

Update waste diversion goals, include separate goals for organics diversion

Sales tax exemption for compost purchases by agricultural operations in CO

Statewide, phased organics diversion requirement for food scraps and/or yard trimmings from one or more of: commercial, residential, industrial generators

Designate a portion of C3 tip fees for organics diversion infrastructure

Require compost for all landscaping with preference for locally generated compost to meet water efficiency standards or compost/topsoil ratios (could focus on just state/local projects or all projects)

Municipal Solid Waste haulers use volume-based-pricing to encourage diversion over landfilling

# Recap of Yard Trimmings Ban Research

---

- Roughly 20 states have a yard trimmings landfill ban
  - Most were passed in the 1990's, leading to huge increase in # of compost facilities in the 90's and 00's
  - As of 2024, 2,700 U.S. composting facilities process yard trimmings only, compared to only just over 200 composting facilities that take food scraps
- 10 states currently have organics diversion requirements
  - CA, WA, VT, NY, ME all had organics landfill bans without first having a yard trimmings ban
- Most states with yard trimmings bans still do not have a food scraps ban
- Often they are state-level policy that's further customized by municipalities

# The Landscape of Organics Policies Today

---

- Motivators are different now than they were- closure of substandard (e.g. unlined) landfills, conserving landfill space, and banning burning in 90s vs. climate and air quality goals today
- Getting ahead of methane capture requirements
  - FL's yard waste ban was repealed to make it legal to send yard trippings to Class I landfills where they can capture methane
- Enforcement varies across states
  - Most policies are loosely enforced, with a few exceptions- very little tonnage data exists
  - Enforcement tends to happen at the county level or at the state level depending on how waste policy is structured
  - Regulation varies from landfills operators, generators large and small, individual households

# Example Approaches

## New York:

- January 1, 2022: all entities that generate at least 2 tons/week of food scraps
- January 1, 2027: all entities that generate at least 1 ton/week of food scraps
- January 1, 2029: all entities that generate at least .5 tons/week of food scraps
- Businesses must prioritize donation of edible food before recycling anything by arranging contracts with food donation organizations
- Distance Exemption:
  - January 1, 2022: within 25 miles of an organics recycler
  - January 1, 2027: within 50 miles of an organics recycler
- Enforcement: The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation identifies regulated entities annually, issues regulations and guidance, publishes compliance lists. DEC does periodic inspections and has operational oversight
- Businesses must submit annual reports documenting compliance
- Businesses may apply for temporary waivers if no nearby recycling infrastructure exists or compliance is not feasible



## Universal Recycling Law TIMELINE

- JULY 1 2014**
  - Transfer stations must accept recyclables
  - Food scrap generators of 104 tons/year (2 tons/week) must divert material to any certified facility within 20 miles
- JULY 1 2015**
  - Statewide unit based pricing takes effect, requiring residential trash charges be based on volume or weight
  - Recyclables are banned from the landfill
  - Transfer stations/Bag drop Haulers must accept leaf and yard debris seasonally (April 1 - December 15)
  - Haulers must offer residential recycling collection at no separate charge
  - Public buildings must provide recycling containers alongside all trash containers in public spaces (exception for restrooms)
  - Food scrap generators of 52 tons/year (1 ton/week) must divert material to any certified facility within 20 miles
- JULY 1 2016**
  - Leaf, yard, and clean wood debris are banned from the landfill
  - Food scrap generators of 26 tons/year (1/2 ton/week) must divert material to any certified facility within 20 miles
- JULY 1 2017**
  - Transfer stations/Bag drop Haulers must accept food scraps
  - Food scrap generators of 19 tons/year (1/3 ton/week) must divert material to any certified facility within 20 miles
- JULY 1 2020**
  - Food scraps are banned from the landfill
  - Haulers must offer food scrap collection to nonresidential customers and apartment buildings with four or more residential units unless another hauler will provide that service

For more information, visit [VTrecycles.com](http://VTrecycles.com).  
July 2019

# Key Takeaways/Considerations for Colorado

---

- We have support to build new infrastructure that is working (C3)
- Strong stepping stone policies
- Small counties exempt rather than distance exemptions would capture most material in the the state
- Having a multi-year phase-in for food and yard could send correct market signal to build out infrastructure
- Do we include procurement requirements in diversion bill?
- How can CO structure regulation and enforcement?
- What else?

# Lobbyist Update with Eliza Schultz

---



Summit for Recycling | Westminster, Colorado | June 1st-3rd-, 2026

# Discussion Groups Goals

---

1. Discuss ideas for state policies for organics diversion and procurement:
  - Education and outreach, local efforts, etc. are vital, but this time and space is for state-level policy approaches
2. Our overall aim is to:
  - Make organics diversion as easy as trash (parallel with EPR)
  - Build soil health through the use of compost & mulch



# Discussion Group Topics

---

1. Organics diversion requirement
2. Organics processing infrastructure
3. Compost procurement and use (end markets)



# Discussion Groups (45 minutes)

---

1. What does a policy look like?
2. What are the benefits?
3. What are the challenges and their solutions?
4. What is your/your organization's role in driving this approach forward?
5. Who else should be in the room?
6. Are there any policy parallels?



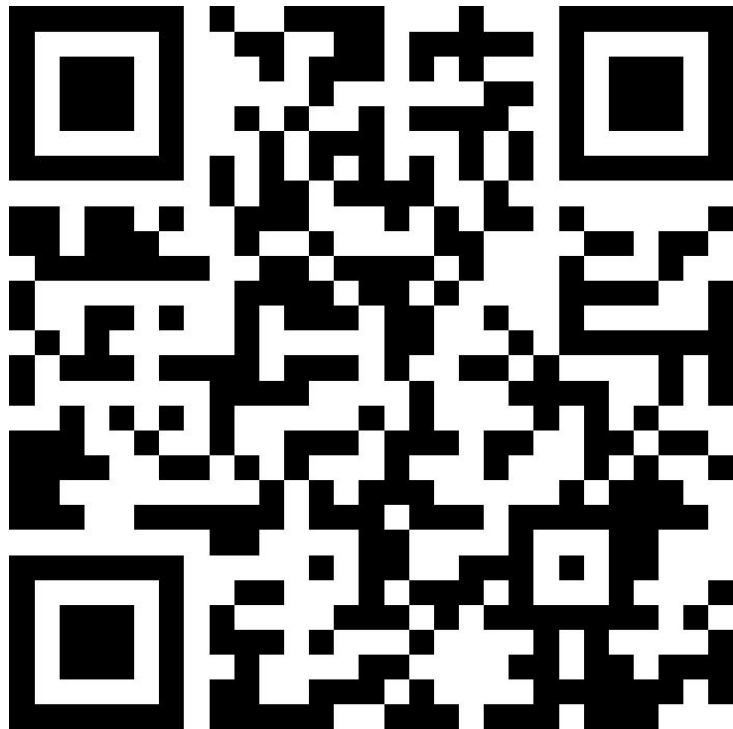
# Discussion Groups Report Out

---



# Slido Polling on Organics Diversion Policies

---



# Next Steps/Assignments

---

Interested in joining a working group?

*Fill out this google form!*

Which policies should recycle Colorado continue to explore for potential support in the next legislative session



# 2026 Policy Retreat - Members Survey

---

*In case you missed it!*

Recycle Colorado and the Colorado Composting Council (COCC) wants your input



# Working Group → Board

Working Group  
Research

Policy  
Committee  
Vote

Leadership  
Presents to  
Board

Board Votes

Develop Action  
Plan

Think big!

\*Working group  
leader will get  
more information

\*Need  
help/guidance?  
Talk to me!

All working groups  
present in the fall

BOD may ask for  
more information,  
consult with  
lobbyist

Depending on  
outcome of the  
vote, develop  
action plan with  
policy committee  
leadership and  
lobbyist

# Policy Committee Leadership Nominations: Next Steps

---

- Nomination email will be sent - please ask before nominating someone
- **Nominations will close June 22.**
- Email will be sent with bios of all nominees for voting. **Voting ends July 1.**



# Chair

- Meets regularly with leadership to coordinate Policy Committee meetings & activities
- Provide policy and bill updates to committee members, including relevant legislation
- Monitors and supports bills through legislative process, including working with staff and lobbyist on action items
- Leads Lobby Day and Policy Retreat planning; recruit planning committee members
- Supports council members and working group projects

# Vice Chair

- Meets regularly with leadership to coordinate Policy Committee meetings & activities
- Assists the Policy Chair with managing the policy committee meetings
- Reviews relevant bills during legislative session
- Assists with Lobby Day and Policy Retreat planning
- Supports council members and working group projects

# Recorder

- Meets regularly with leadership to coordinate Policy Committee meetings & activities
- Helps organize ideas from planning meetings into an agenda
- Records notes and questions from policy committee meetings
- Reviews relevant bills during legislative session
- Support Lobby Day and Policy Retreat planning
- Supports council members and working group projects

# Event Planning

- Meets regularly with leadership to coordinate Policy Committee meetings & activities
- Assists with Lobby Day and Policy Retreat planning

# Announcements & Adjournment

