**Zero Waste Sustainability Working Advisory Team**

Date: March 31, 2022

Time: 2-3 pm

*Attendees: Alexa Smith (student), Sydney Trimble (student), Aaron Finder (staff), Jenna Schaefer (student), Tim Knox (staff), Avery Maloto (staff), Meredith Moore (Sustainability Programs Coordinator)*

*Absentees: Jennifer Fraterrigo (Interim Director), Tim Stark (faculty), Clara Bosak-Schroeder (faculty), Shawn Patterson (staff), Sarah Shoaff (student), Mike Olinger (staff), Yuanhui Zhang (faculty)*

Agenda:

1. **Administrative**
   1. Reminder that recommendations are due April 8th!
2. **Plastics Reduction Debrief**
3. **Adopt-a-Highway Update**
4. **PWR009: Paper Policy Update:** [**https://icap.sustainability.illinois.edu/project-update/pwr009-paper-policy-recommendation-transmittal**](https://icap.sustainability.illinois.edu/project-update/pwr009-paper-policy-recommendation-transmittal)
   1. [**https://cam.illinois.edu/policies/bf-11/**](https://cam.illinois.edu/policies/bf-11/)
5. **Composting Committee Update**
6. **Food Literacy Project**
7. **Sustainable Receipt Options**
8. **Sustainability Sub-Council Update**

Meeting Notes:

* **Adopt-a-Highway Update**
  + Syd created a map comparing the potential areas for Adopt a Highway vs Drains \*specifically with student’s limited transportation in mind\*
    - Champaign Adopt-a-Highway vs Champaign Adopt-a-Drain vs Urbana Street program
    - Map: <https://uofi.box.com/s/2raxgyp68dlghw1m4zu27ndusktr6df7>
  + Main findings: <https://uofi.box.com/s/44k1xhduqwaeeazy4j0oh6gdf1ldqktg>
    - Adopt-a-Drain appears to be most feasible (for students)
    - Adopt-a-Highway requires 1 mile long of roadway within Champaign limits
    - Only 4 existing roads could satiate these demands, and for Kirby and Wright St this would need to extend off campus
    - Urbana Street Program requires a minimum 2 year contract (could be a challenge if RSO disbands or if senior/junior student-led project)
    - Urbana Street does not include mileage restrictions
  + *Recommendation 1*: Students (RSOs/Greek Houses) could participate in Adopt-a-Drain program on campus
    - Main goal of adopting a drain: clear leaves out of drain; all you really need is good gloves and a bag
    - Program is very informal—no specialized supplies involved
    - Drains are also clustered around intersections, so groups could adopt multiple drains
    - Potential sponsors for supplies/funding/awareness:
      * ISEE hosting certification and engagement materials
      * Small SSC grants
      * F&S donations
    - Main challenges:
      * Time durations and RSO turnover
      * Students may find it “gross” to clean out drains
  + *Recommendation 2*: Administration could have some kind of incentive for highway programs
    - Ideation:
      * Competition between departments: “who can clean up the most?”
      * ST: Is there paid volunteer time for faculty/staff to participate?
      * AS: College-level incentives rather than departmental? (I.e. College of ACES rather than Department of NRES)
        + ST: Carpooling/transportation could be an issue
        + AF: Also, if there are too many people this could disrupt traffic
        + AS: Perhaps, notifications for events could be sent out in college newsletters and the first 25 people to sign up can attend clean-up
    - Main challenges:
      * Time commitment, especially for departments who need to be very responsive/on-site
      * Colleges would need to absorb transportation costs for this—unless carpooling
  + *Next Steps: Start drafting recommendations for this two-pronged approach*
* **PWR009: Paper Policy Update**
  + Campus Administrative Manual: Recycling, Recycled Products Procurement and Waste Reduction: <https://cam.illinois.edu/policies/bf-11/>
  + Here is the purchase of paper reams at F&S Stores from FY21 (in tons):
    - F&S
      * Virgin – 177
      * Recycled – 1,206
    - Campus
      * Virgin – 7,131
      * Recycled – 5,350
  + History of recommendation:
    - The PWR Team (predecessor to Zero Waste Team) submitted recommendation in 2017 to update the Campus Administrative Manual’s Paper Policy, but due to changes in leadership the recommendation was never pursued
      * SWATeam Recommendation: <https://icap.sustainability.illinois.edu/files/projectupdate/4348/PWR009_Submitted_Paper-Policy.pdf>
      * IWG Response: <https://icap.sustainability.illinois.edu/files/projectupdate/4349/PWR009_Assessment_Paper-Policy.pdf>
      * Link to SWATeam’s suggested revisions: <https://uofi.app.box.com/file/938872270011?s=wee6bgvgycswzcz8h32gh6mqn46rkil0>
  + Initial Feedback to Official CAM (2011):
    - The order of operations within the Manual does not necessarily make sense: “Recycling > Procurement > Waste Reduction”
    - ST: Vague language (from 2011 version) makes it very confusing, in addition to the fact that it is an administrative manual (inherently confusing)
    - The manual seems to focus very heavily on paper. Food waste and plastic waste should also be considered’
  + Initial Feedback to Proposed Revisions to CAM (2017):
    - Waste monitoring was not included in this version
    - The recycling guidelines are outdated (I.e. lids should no longer be removed
  + *Next steps: Provide feedback on revised CAM (2017 version)*
* **Composting Committee Update**
  + Composting Project in conjunction with ACES was discussed at Sustainability Sub-Council
    - Adam Davis should be added to the committee (on behalf of Crop Sciences)
    - Windrow composting for manure
    - Issue: this form of composting couldn’t break down compostable plastics
  + MM: For this recommendation, we would need a chair if this were to be an official committee
    - Typically a faculty member
  + *Next steps: Update recommendation with list of names and email draft—to submit before April 8th!*
* **Sustainability Sub-Council Meeting**
  + Minutes: <https://icap.sustainability.illinois.edu/project-update/sustainability-sub-council-meeting-minutes-3-30-22>
  + Overall, went really well! Plastics reduction and increased use of local water (I.e. more filter stations) identified as top 2 priorities!

Action Items:

* Fill out [when2meet](https://www.when2meet.com/?15184803-A6Y5h) to schedule next meeting
* Provide comments on Composting Committee Recommendation
* Provide comments on Campus Administrative Manual’s Paper Policy