

Zero Waste iCAP Meeting 11/7/2022

Attendees: Shreya Mahajan, Nikki Palella, Tim Knox, Nishant Garg, Joy Scrogum, Daphne Hulse, Dominika Szal, Jenna Schaefer, Jennifer Fraterrigo, Thurman Etchison

DIA Discussion with Tim Knox - Assistant Director of Athletics, Capital Projects and Facilities

- Tim is interested in tailgating initiatives: each car could receive a blue bag at check in, they can also be given a sheet that contains recycling rules and guidelines
 - Emphasis on keeping it as convenient as possible
- Tim recalls that in the stadium, for every 100 trash cans, there are 50 recycling containers, so we need to move closer to a 1:1
 - There are plans to increase bins next year for the west side
- Challenges: Limited control over the vending agreement with Oak View
 - Although Oak View is moving toward more easily recyclable containers for alcohol sold at games
- Athletics acknowledge that it is on them to let their partners know that sustainability initiatives are important to them
 - Athletics is willing to communicate these intended changes to their vendor, such as changes to more sustainable packaging
- At Memorial Stadium, they are interested in a reusable water bottle system
 - They noticed that dasani bottles were bought once and refilled the rest of the game
 - This would likely allow personal reusable tumblers and the replacement of water fountains with bottle fillers
- There may be rules similar to this in place already but it's clearly not well communicated across the board or enforced consistently
- If the Zero Waste Team has a list of things we'd like to see, we can share them with Tim and he'll show the external group
- We need to focus on things that they can do independently of their third party, which means things will get tricky when it comes to the actual products Oak View/Coke are selling

Associated action items: Create a concrete list of sustainability initiatives to send back to Tim; do some research to see if the reusable water bottle rule is already in place; talk to folks at F&S about more detailed plans for tailgating recycling

Overview of Project 4 Less Recommendation

- P4L is established at LAR and they'd like to expand the Ikenberry Commons, ISR, and PAR
- They already have 2 cold carts so they are assuming they need 2 more
- The next steps are to look more into the specifics of the budget (cold carts, boxes, organizing transportation)
 - Right now, Dining does all the transportation for them
- Something to keep in mind: Their SSC grant of 5K expires at the end of the semester

- Thurman mentions that Dining has trucks run a route twice a day everyday, and that we should look into the option of bringing the food to one centralized location for packaging
- Wesley can only take so much food; P4L is looking into other food assistance programs in town like Salvation Army, Uniplace, Jubilee cafe, Grow2give
- They currently pack on Wednesdays and Wesley distributes Thursdays, which amounts to 200 pounds of waste diverted each week as it is
- Jen mentions that some sort of a notification system would be useful for both students and community members to collect with their own containers
- Based on box prices and what the pantries prefer, we need to decide on a box vendor for the new year and sizes needed
- Gloves for now are free because it is only about 4 people packaging

Associated action items: Have a conversation with Alma Sealine about the feasibility of the bus routes and assess how much Dining can commit; finalize a vendor for the boxes; reach out to pantries and ask what size boxes they prefer