

## SWAC Summary

September 13, 2007

Present: Mary Jean Hrbacek, Chair, Elrey Simon, Vice Chair, Rik Fredrickson, Janet O'Connor, Kim Klint, Mason Matters, Tracy Farrell, City of Shelton, Rose Swier, MCHD, David Baker, staff

**Updates:** The bluebox recycling program suffered another setback, as the cardboard box at Taylor Town was set ablaze this week. The fire marshal was investigating, and is hoping to find evidence to link this fire to the one in Bucks Prairie earlier in the year. Taylor town may wish to remove the boxes from their site, and staff will be looking for new host sites if this is the case.

Fall clean up will be the entire month of October, with yard debris and scrap metal accepted for free in Shelton and Belfair.

The proposed tip fee increase that went before the Board this week was approved. The per ton rate for 2008 will be 5.25% above the current rate. The hauler will be notified in writing immediately to allow for adequate time to change their rate structure.

The City's new recycling program is underway. Most customers have the new bins, and the dual stream approach seems favorable to the public. Participation has outstripped the supply of carts, and additional carts have been ordered, and will be distributed immediately to customers wishing to take advantage of the new program.

Out in the county, the new single stream (no glass) curbside collection program should be out in the four pilot areas by the end of 2007. Expansion in 2008 is supported by the committee.

**Membership:** Applications received should go before the Board prior to the next SWAC meeting, with the Board (likely) to approve and re-appoint members.

**Vouchers:** Kim Klint with Mason Matters spoke to the committee about their program. They provide several significant services to the community. She explained some of the things they do to help families, such as evaluate, coordinate, and connect them to support, address issues in the home that can limit the potential for the children, and screen families for eligibility of other services. This creates an accurate picture of the family, their needs and their ability to benefit from help. It is this intimate relationship with families that makes Mason Matters the ideal screening tool for the voucher program.

It was identified that Veterans would also be a worthwhile group to offer additional support to, as well as senior citizens. Ms. Klint was willing to contact a few candidates who could assist in screening and distributing to these groups.

Motion was made to print the vouchers, good for all of 2008, for free disposal in January, and donate 50 to Mason Matters. The expectation would be a full accounting of how these vouchers would be distributed and the loads brought in would be tracked to help evaluate the success of this strategy. The motion was amended to 100 vouchers, with 100 vouchers to be held back by the County for the possibility that Mason Matters and the other identified groups would be able to utilize another batch. Motion carried.

Mason Matters will bring updates to the SWAC to report on the challenges and triumphs of this attempt to put the vouchers into the hands of those who can truly use the help such a coupon can provide.

**Next meeting will be October 11, 2007 in the Public Works Conference Room,  
6 PM**