

To: CRC Government Affairs Subcommittee Members
From: Julie Cammarata, CRC Administrator
Da: August 10, 2018
Re: Formation of a Glass Working Group (GWG)

Background

[Public Act 18-181](#), Section 12 (see excerpt below) enacts a glass pilot program in which municipalities may participate in a two-year program to separate glass from curbside single stream recycling and designate special collection points for residents to drop off recyclable glass containers. Specifically, the Act says:

Sec. 12. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) Notwithstanding subsection (f) of section 22a-220 of the general statutes, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, upon the request of a municipality, shall authorize a two-year pilot program for the collection of glass, by one or more third parties, separate from the curbside recycling collection program, including prohibiting the collection of glass from the curbside recycling collection program in such municipality, provided such pilot program includes one or more locations where glass is collected at no charge to residents, information about such program for residents of such municipality, the collection of any data required by the department for the purpose of measuring program outcomes, and any other requirements as determined by the department. The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall submit a report, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the environment on such pilot program following such two-year period. Such report shall include, but not be limited to, any recommendations for legislation concerning such pilot program.

The overarching goal of the pilot is to reduce contamination among the current mandated recyclable materials – glass, paper, plastic, cardboard, aluminum. *Specifically, the pilot seeks to demonstrate whether separating glass out from the other recyclable materials will produce better quality recaptured glass, acknowledging that the quantity of recaptured materials may be reduced; and produce better quality of the recyclable materials left in the blue bin.*

Purpose

The Glass Working group (GWG) is intended: (1) assist and advise the municipalities on logistics, information sharing and advice that may improve the quality of recaptured materials; (2) provide a forum for businesses members/industry and participating municipalities to share and discuss data as it is collected and bring information as relevant to the parties; (3) provide recommendations to the CRC government affairs subcommittee on the effectiveness of the pilot programs to increase the quality of materials identified above.

Structure & Membership

The GWG is a subgroup under the the CRC Government Affairs Subcommittee.

The GWG should include at least one representative from the affected businesses/industries in the CRC community as well as participating municipal and regional entities.

Being a sub structure of the CRC Board, the GWG should have no more than six members of the CRC Board, unless we plan to keep minutes and post meetings, etc. – resource issue.

The GWG is not tasked with evaluating the bottle bill, which already produces high quality, reusable glass and has a well-documented history of data. Instead, we're focused on glass that is currently going into blue bin.

To date, the following parties have been identified for GWG participation:

1. Jen Heaton-Jones, CRC Board Member and HRRR Exec Director (11 participating municipalities) – Agreed to serve
2. John Pizzimenti, CRC Board Member, Murphy Road Recycling – agreed to serve
3. Tom Gaffey, MIRA, CRC Board Member and WG Chair – agreed to serve
4. Chuck Riegle, TOMRA, CRC Board Member
5. Andrew Crowley, Strategic Materials/Julie Cammarata, SMI alternate – agreed to serve
6. Designee, Winters Brothers
7. South Windsor – called for status on pilot participation, no response
8. Urban Miners/O&G - to be contacted
9. Willi waste – To be contacted
10. Pace in New Jersey – to be contacted

Outreach is ongoing.

Timeline

- The pilot is authorized for two years.
- GWG should convene every other month throughout the pilot period.
- Each GWG meeting will consist of two parts.
 - Update from municipalities on the status of their pilots, issues and data.
 - Deep dive into a particular issue related to improving glass quality and collection. This recognizes that we all need to be clear on what is doable, what isn't, and what the cost and quality expectations should be. Some potential meeting topics include: what MRF equipment is out there to improve sorting? What are the actual and potential glass recycling end markets? Are there better collection systems? Naturally, GWG members can suggest topics for examination and discussion.

The first GWG meeting will be held on Thursday, August 16th at 9 AM at the Trash Museum. focus on HRRR's participation in the pilot – overview of her strategy, questions and discussion.