

Subcommittee name	Food & Organics Subcommittee
Meeting date/time	3/3/2025 10:30AM
Meeting link used	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81881477289?pwd=UMZkuybqJpWnWhcOdJ5sbQrTB5sFU7.1&from=addon
Attendees	
Subcommittee Members	Elaine Blatt, Oregon DEQ Maya Buelow Jeanette Hardison Sydney Tamplin, OSU Student Holly Stirnkorb, Metro
Staff	Pea Bryce Allegra
Guests	
Members Absent	Elizabeth Cole, City of Beaverton Sydney, OSU Student (for 1st half) Elaine Blatt, Oregon DEQ (for 2nd half)
Notes	
General Notes	<p>Send recording for first half to Sydney; and second half to Elaine.</p>
Ideas	Composting Culture Initiative; Food Rescue/Gleaning; Community Composting/Digestion; Sustainable Production; Large Scale Organic Infrastructure Policy: Food Recovery Mandate/Landfill Ban; Labeling Laws Elaine: should add source reduction (missing), more than just rescue Elaine: Sustainable Production & Source Reduction can be combined as one focus area Maya: Compost procurement policy -- giving preference to local sources of compost, not just the cheapest available -- getting residents to use does not move in bulk like government contracting does
Considerations	Elaine: 30% of food discarded non-edible according to recent DEQ study, like to think of the 70% as what's preventable/to be targetted Elaine: DEQ going to be doing research into which facilities have the potential to expand what is being accepted -- timing will not be compatible with this taskforce's timeline unfortunately Elaine: significant food waste reduction at the consumer level in OR, can bring in data on where we are getting the most food collection - its metro at top Holly: a lot of the focus areas are dependant on one another, Maya: its about what levers we feel we can be most effective in using maybe, Bryce: just cause we don't choose something doesn't mean nothing is being done Holly: Policy is one of the major tools we have in government, Elaine: there is a misconception that it is not feasible in the upstream space, but it is, Bryce: is the regional aspect not an issue when it comes to policy's role? Maya: end markets are the limiting factor -- in Lane County, in CA Elaine: there are diff kinds of end markets with diff quality use -- should be ensuring best and highest use
Questions	Maya: what data is out there on food collection efforts? Maya: how much traction is current legislation on this getting Elaine: not DEQ sponsored, unsure What is the deliverable? Elaine: Audience is the subcommittee itself as reps of their local jurisdictions Maya: guiding document? set of recommendations? white paper? presentation? Update on Bad Apple? Elaine: done the ad buys, lots of material available now for partners
Action: Research and analysis	Fill in blanks in the Organics Processing Facilities Tables as to what materials accepted -- Maya, Elaine may have info Focus Areas will still need to be narrowed A lot to explore in end market development -- so much is happening with food waste rn in general work with dept. of ag to figure out what they are doing and how that can fit with our direction Ask Elaine if she knows what Dept of AG is working on regarding F/O