



Waste Management

June 8, 2022

10:00am-11:00am

Zoom

Notes

I. Welcome and Introductions

- a.** 16 attendees; 13 Camden residents/businesses

II. Hot Topics

a. Yaffa & Sons Property – Soil Pile

- Frank McLaughlin, NJDEP: Owner has been served, case will be heard in Burlington Co.
 - Legally, DEP and City of Camden are both taking action
 - Conversations are being initiated for identifying funds to take soil samples at the pile, and down the road, funding removal of the pile. Still preliminary, few details
 - Keep in mind the protracted nature of legal action, tangible results of action shouldn't be expected in the short term

b. Block 1 lot 1

- Owner out of compliance for 2+ years, from several NJDEP compliance programs
- Legal activity is in place against this landowner as well, but again results of legal action are likely slow to come about

c. 300 block of Atlantic Ave. tire stockpile and other public nuisance sites

- Site of a significant tire stockpile, nuisance and fire issue
- Orlando, DPW reports that Chief inspector Marvin Poveda from code enforcement had this landowner in court, made agreement to remove some amount of tires weekly until addressed. Owner follow-through on this commitment TBD.
- Missy, CCP asked whether any other attendees had new/updated nuisance sites to address. None reported.

d. DEP hotline (1-877-WARNDEP): want to energize efforts to make this more accessible

- Frank, DEP reports this line is very much still active and is the best first call when one has seen a violation – “if you're not sure, call”
- Missy, CCP suggested posting WARN DEP signs on telephone poles, as a more permanent installation. Especially at illegal dumping problem areas
- Orlando, DPW pointed to instances of even “No Dumping” signs being vandalized. Emphasized the need to stay vigilant and keep signs in good shape, because this sends negative messages
- Transitioned into later agenda item on current issues re: illegal dumping

III. Zero Waste

a. Current Issues:

- E-waste; need to call ahead and then are on the regular pick ups every other week or so- have a special vendor

b. Key Next Steps

- Monitoring plastic bag ban- where is help needed at this point
 - Distributing 10,000 bags+ flier about bag ban to distribute with bags
 - Redistributing bags
 - a. “donate bags here!” and “get bags here” signs
 - b. Make a brand for bag redistribution boxes to put in CBOs and corner stores/ groceries
 - c. collection sites at NPO/org partners or partner with grocery stores and corner stores (Healthy Corner Store Init.)
- Orlando and Missy have noted good success at all Camden businesses in adopting the ban
- The state has not passed an allowance that would allow thicker, but essentially still disposable/single use plastic bags

IV. Illegal Dumping

a. Current Issues

- DPW Update
 - Jim, Camden DPW: we’ve always had illegal dumping in Camden. But in the 80s/90s, the areas might have stayed clean for months – now it can happen immediately after a cleanup – more volume, more frequency now
 - Sulena, CRA noted that these persistent issues emphasize a need to focus on surveillance
 - a. Jim, DPW: There used to be a taskforce, with CCPD, DPW, others – disbanded for unremembered reasons. Told anecdote that Orlando caught an illegal dumper in action, called the police, but no one came
 - b. Frank, NJDEP: When we’ve had success with cameras, there is a \$500k grant to fund cameras, maybe CCI should be briefed on that plan/ provide feedback
 - Multiple attendees noted issue with buses and mobile homes as a rising trend in dumping
 - a. Sulena, CRA: given intertwined nature of this kind of dumping suggested simultaneous reporting to CCPD, NJDEP WARN hotline, DPW, Code Enforcement
 - b. Frank noted DEP hotline more oriented toward “environmental hazards
 - Missy, CCP and Sulena, CRA shared an idea to establish a mini-grant/some funding mechanism for business owners to obtain cameras pointed at illegal dumping sites

b. Key Next Steps

V. Waste Collection

a. Current Issues

- DPW trash collection down to once a week in the summer: is an informational brochure about reducing waste and good trash practices warranted?
 - Shift to once a week is indefinite, not likely to return to biweekly in the short term

- Jim and Orlando, DPW have found that adequate, non-litter inducing trash collection has more to do with appropriately putting out the trash for collection (not too early or late, not overflowing, etc.), rather than frequency. Said community education is an appropriate response.
 - a. Look into grants for “toters” or wheeled trash cans with lids

b. Key Next Steps

VI. Additional Information/Resources

- a. CCI Community Leadership Opportunities coming up
 - SJCS is putting out an environmental leadership program that will provide training for environmental leadership
- b. [PSEG neighborhood grant](#) relevant to CCI Waste initiatives?
 - \$500-\$1,500

DISCLAIMER: This is a summary of the meeting and is based upon the written notes and memory of individuals from Cooper’s Ferry Partnership and members of the CCI Core Team. The notes are intended to capture only the main points made in the meeting, and they reflect comments on work-in-progress. The notes do not imply a specific opinion or commitment on the part of any individual or organization represented at the meeting. Report any corrections to camdencollaborative@camdencpinc.com

Next Meeting: CCI Waste Management Working Group Meeting July 13th at 10 am