



**Environmental Advisory Committee**  
4:00 p.m., Thursday, January 12, 2023  
Council Chambers  
1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, SC 29451

**Agenda**

1. **Call to order** and acknowledgment that the press and the public have been duly notified of the meeting in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act
2. **Nomination and election of Chair and Vice Chair**
3. **Approval of previous meeting's minutes** – December 8, 2022
4. **Citizen's Comments-**  
Citizen's comments shall be limited to 3 minutes
5. **Presentation by Smart Recycling U.S.,**  
Meghan McGill and Kevin Outen, on food composting pilot program
6. **Old Business**
  - i. Wildlife- update on signs regarding beach rules
  - ii. Litter- update on Fisher Recycling
  - iii. Water Quality- update on water quality testing
7. **New Business**
  - i. Consider making a recommendation on food composting operation
8. **Miscellaneous Business** - Next meeting date: 4:00 p.m., Thursday, February 9, 2023
9. **Adjournment**



## ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

4:00pm, Thursday, December 8, 2022

1207 Palm Boulevard, Isle of Palms, SC

and broadcasted live on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/cityofisleofpalms>

### MINUTES

#### 1. Call to order

Present: Deb Faires, Linda Plunkett, Doug Hatler, Mary Pringle, Belvin Olasov, Sandra Brotherton (via Zoom)

Absent: Jonathan Knoche, Council Member Bogosian

Staff Present: Director Kerr, Zoning Administrator Simms

#### 2. Approval of previous meeting's minutes

**MOTION:** Dr. Plunkett made a motion to approve the amended minutes of the October 27, 2022 meeting, and Ms. Faires seconded the motion. The amended minutes passed unanimously.

Ms. Pringle clarified it is Robbie Berg who has been asked to write articles for *The Island Eye* and not herself.

#### 3. Citizens' Comments – none

#### 4. Old Business

##### A. Wildlife

Director Kerr said nearly all of the turtle signs have been delivered. He anticipates installation of all signs will be completed in the next 30-60 days. Ms. Pringle said she sent a picture of the signs to *The Island Eye* and has received a lot of positive feedback.

Ms. Pringle reported that a 10" green sea turtle was found dead recently from a boat strike. She also shared there have been 10 turtle strandings this year, which is much lower than the usual 30.

Director Kerr will ask the Police Department for information on recent coyote sightings.

##### B. Litter – update on Fisher Recycling

Director Kerr said that Ms. Fisher indicated the bins are fuller each week and she has been working on marketing the effort to the community. Dr. Brotherton said she would speak to Ms. Fisher about making the bins more visible as well as about writing a follow up article for *The Island Eye* about the recycling program.

Dr. Brotherton also reported that Palmetto Pride grants cannot be used for personnel support. Their grants only cover supplies and equipment.

**C. Water Quality – update on water quality testing**

Director Kerr said that he and Zoning Administrator Simms are waiting for rain to fall during working hours so they can collect water samples.

Director Kerr also reported that the completion of the drainage projects at 30<sup>th</sup> and 36<sup>th</sup> avenues will be delayed due to supply chain issues. He also shared that road closures will be necessary in order to complete the projects.

**5. New Business**

**A. Discussion about food composting**

Director Kerr said he spoke with Megan McGill of Smart Composting and gave her some specifications she could use to create a proposal for the Committee to review.

**B. Discuss and recommend student appointment to the Committee**

Director Kerr stated that Council Member Bogosian brought the issue of student appointments to this committee to City Council. They would like the Committee to send a recommendation to them to vote on.

Committee members then discussed some options with regards to student membership.

**MOTION: Dr. Plunkett made a motion that high school or college students appointed to the Environmental Advisory Committee be considered ex-officio (non-voting) members of the Committee. Ms. Faires seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

**6. Miscellaneous Business**

Ms. Pringle referenced a document created by Dr. Plunkett that summarized the activities and accomplishments of the Environmental Advisory Committee in 2022. She would like Committee members to review the document and provide feedback at the January meeting. Director Kerr said this document will be added to the City's annual list of accomplishments.

Director Kerr shared that Council Member Bogosian will be reappointed as the Council liaison to this Committee. He also said that Committee leadership will need to be voted on at the January meeting. The next meeting will also include a presentation on Charleston County's Greenhouse Gas report.

The next meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee will be Thursday, January 12, 2023 at 4pm.

7. **Adjournment**

Dr. Plunkett made a motion to adjourn, and Mr. Olasov seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 4:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeNeane  
City Clerk



**SMART Recycling US**

3973 Ashley Phosphate Rd.  
Suite 430  
North Charleston, SC 29418  
(888) 304-6912

December 8, 2021

*City of Isle of Palms*  
*C/O Douglas Kerr, Deputy City Administrator*  
PO Drawer 508  
Isle of Palms, SC 29451

**Re: Proposal for Organic Waste Management for City of IOP's Pilot Program 2023**

*Overview:*

SMART Recycling has a proven track record of helping our partner facilities achieve greater than 60% diversion rates following our SMART Organics Recycling Program which converts the material to Compost. SMART has established a positive reputation in Charleston as well as Myrtle Beach, and Columbia, as being a successful food waste hauling company with the expertise and equipment necessary to deliver the highest level of service to all our sustainable partners.

SMART Recycling specializes in food waste hauling for school districts and large facilities. SMART has demonstrated the ability to successfully increase diversion rates and environmental literacy rates at participating school locations. SMART has a dedicated team of customer service professionals who work diligently to oversee the successful implementation and continued growth of food waste and organics diversion programs at all our locations. We recognize that education and logistics are the two key components of a successful composting program and are dedicated to continuously improving upon the service we provide to our clients. SMART Recycling has multiple route drivers dedicated to serving our clients.

**Benefits of SMART Program**

The SMART Program is unique in the market because we offer every client continued training, quality control measures, and top of the line equipment and customer service. We will walk each of our partners through the process of identifying how best to collect organic materials, train their staff, and ensure proper collection and documentation of materials collected.

SMART PROGRAM- SMART will work with the City of Charleston's regional pilot program to divert residence's organic materials from the landfill waste streams. This program will include the following:

- 64-gallon SMART carts for each location with a lockable lid.
- Collection up to three times weekly if needed (starting at twice a week)
- Support for training materials

- Quality control and feedback on participation to all locations
- Monthly data reports measuring how much material each location diverted

Our business model at SMART goes beyond hauling; it is deeply rooted in making our world a more sustainable place. We tailor each program to meet the flow of the facility and work habits of the staff. We will work with each location outlined in this bid to ensure they accomplish maximum waste diversion. SMART Recycling will haul to the local compost facility in Charleston County.

## **SMART Organics Recycling Proposal**

1.

SMART Recycling has a proven track record of helping our sustainable partners reach ambitious landfill diversion goals. We see a wonderful opportunity to work with the City of Charleston to achieve maximum landfill diversion for the community and thereby increase environmental literacy for all involved in the program directly or indirectly.

SMART is a data driven company and we collect many data points that help us manage each participating location. Data determines the efforts that guide quality control and continued implementation of the SMART program. SMART Recycling also provides shareables for internal and/or external communications. (Appendix 1, a.)

2.

Each location will be sized by SMART Recycling as such to best accommodate the daily operations and enhance the handling of the organic materials for that specific location. SMART will provide each location with their determined number of SMART carts; our 64-gallon custom designed medical grade bins on 4 easy to roll caster wheels with lockable lids. These carts are custom designed to specifically handle food waste. They resist cracking, corrosion, and bending. The SMART carts will be clearly labeled "Food Waste Only" on both the lid and two sides. (Appendix 1, b.) Included in our service, SMART will provide compostable liners with each bin which is included in the price of this quote.

SMART can provide service up to 5 times per week. SMART makes a commitment to all our clients to continually observe and adjust bins based on the needs of the individual client. We are happy to adjust the servicing of any site if the need arises for a more frequent service schedule. All Charleston Regional Residential Program carts need to be emptied at least twice a week to ensure the best results.

3.

SMART will provide services for events upon request by the partnering locations. SMART will provide the delivery and collection of carts for the event as well as hauling the compostable material to the Bee's Ferry facility. SMART will collect the carts the same day as regular service. (Additional charges apply)

4.

SMART is happy to provide customized educational training sessions for all customers. At the beginning of the contract and once a year to renew the contract, a dedicated trainer and education specialist from SMART will provide an education on the composting program that includes reasons why you should compost, an explanation of items that are and are not compostable, directions on how to use and fill the SMART carts, help determine and instruct where and how the containers should be placed for collection, as well as cleanliness and related safety issues. In addition, SMART will happily attend company events upon request to educate staff.

5.

SMART drivers are trained to follow customer service protocols which include emptying and returning containers to their original positions with the lids closed. SMART drivers and staff take responsibility for any spills or leaks that may occur during the performance of the contract by ensuring they are properly cleaned to standards of applicable State, Federal, and local laws at no additional cost to each agency.

6.

If contamination occurs at a location that is high enough to prevent servicing of a container or multiple containers, SMART will notify the designated contact personnel in writing and with pictures immediately or within the same business day. In this event, contaminated carts will be emptied and disposed of by each agency's personnel and SMART will charge a contamination fee of \$25.00/cart only after three warnings with pictures are provided to the customer.

7.

SMART will work with each customer to adjust the number and/or location of collection points and the number of collection containers as may be deemed necessary during the contract period.

8.

Representatives of SMART Recycling will become familiar with the contract manager designated for each customer and correspond with them on a regular and consistent basis concerning issues, news, and updates with the SMART program.

9.

SMART can track details of the food waste collected at each site through customized route sheets generated from our client database server. SMART trucks are equipped with GPS trackers which provides us with exact times of service and length of service at each location. Our drivers are trained to be thorough in recording amounts of food waste that is collected per cart per site per service day. SMART customer service representatives are consistent with monthly data reporting using this information to give insight to each location on their success with the program.

10.

All vehicles in the SMART Recycling fleet are up to date with SCDOT guidelines. All vehicles are equipped with an audible warning device which sounds when the vehicle is in reverse gear. All vehicles can carry food waste from the agencies to the composting facility without leaking fluids or spilling waste from the vehicle. SMART drivers are trained to report any circumstances of leaking fluids or spills on customer properties. The SMART driver will report these instances immediately to the SMART representative who will be in contact with the customer directly following the incident.

11.

Collection by SMART for the City of Charleston pilot program will take place 2 days per week to start at the following locations:

1. IOP Front Beach
2. IOP Marina

We will work with you to ensure the program is sized according to your needs. We can re-evaluate your service needs at the end of the first month and going forward throughout the pilot program. This will be

a 1 year contract and either party can cancel service at the end of that contract period with a 30-day notice. However, we charge a \$25 fee, per bin for removal.

12. Pricing:

Locations	# Carts	Days/Week	\$/Month
<b>2 locations in the IOP area</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>\$480.00/Month</b>

SMART provides flat rate billing for our customers which makes it easy for you to know what your bill will be each month. If adjustments need to be made to the program throughout the year, the flat rate will change to reflect that. All changes will be discussed, and pricing changes would be provided up-front.

***Certified compostable liners for the bins are included in this quote. Compostable bags are provided at SMART Recycling's wholesale cost and are put in the bins by our drivers at the time of service. Additionally, the bins will be rinsed inside and out as needed.***

REFERENCES:

- 1.) Natalie McKnight (College of Charleston), [mcknightn@cofc.edu](mailto:mcknightn@cofc.edu)
- 2.) Derek Renckert (Bohemian Bull) [derek@bohemianbull.com](mailto:derek@bohemianbull.com), (315) 879-2077
- 3.) Heyward Davis (Francis Marion) [heyward.davis@thefrancismarion.com](mailto:heyward.davis@thefrancismarion.com), 864-908-9420

Appendix 1:

a.



b.



Instead of SMART's traditional sealing lid, SMART will provide a lockable lid such as what is pictured below. SMART will be purchasing these specifically for the City's pilot program. Note: It takes time to get these special lids in, so a temporary locking solution may be used in the interim while we wait on a shipment of lids.

