



East Valley Recycling Alliance

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On July 27, 2021, the City of Tempe’s Municipal Utilities Department hosted the first East Valley Recycling Alliance (EVRA) meeting since the Covid-19 pandemic began. Representatives from the Cities of Tempe, Mesa, Phoenix, Scottsdale and Town of Queen Creek were in attendance. Staff from the City of Chandler and Town of Gilbert were invited but unable to attend.

EVRA was formed in 2012 to address recycling industry changes and create a platform for recycling staff to share best practices and solutions to challenges. The founding municipalities are Tempe, Gilbert, Queen Creek, Chandler, Scottsdale, Mesa and Casa Grande. The City of Phoenix joined the organization a few years later. Casa Grande has been inactive since they suspended their residential recycling program in 2019.



General discussion topics at the quarterly meeting included deconstruction efforts, online outreach and household hazardous waste programs. City of Phoenix staff also discussed a request for proposal (RFP) they are issuing to redesign and rebuild their material recovery facility (MRF), which is one of the oldest in the country. A MRF receives, separates and bales commingled recyclable items. Tempe discussed the “Repurposing, Reuse and Recycling of Select Materials” RFP currently open for bid, which seeks to establish partnerships with suitable firms to divert reusable and recyclable materials from the landfill stream.

The next EVRA meeting is planned for October 2021.

