



**WATER AND WASTEWATER COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION  
20161012-E1**

Date: October 12, 2016

Subject: Policy Recommendations on Biosolids Management

Motioned By: Commissioner Michel

Seconded By: Commissioner Castleberry

**Recommendation**

Joint Working Group Policy Recommendations approved on Commissioner Michel's motion and Commissioner Castleberry's second on a 9-1 vote.

**Description of Recommendation to Council**

*See Attached Policy Recommendation by the Joint Working Group (Water & Wastewater Commission & Zero Waste Advisory Commission)*

**Rationale:**

Policy Recommendations on Biosolids Management by the Joint Working Group (Water and Wastewater Commission & Zero Waste Advisory Commission) approved by the WWW Commission

**Vote** 9-1

For: Castleberry, Michel, Maia, Penn, Lee, Ho, Turrieta, Blanding & Parker

Against: Kellough

Abstain: 0

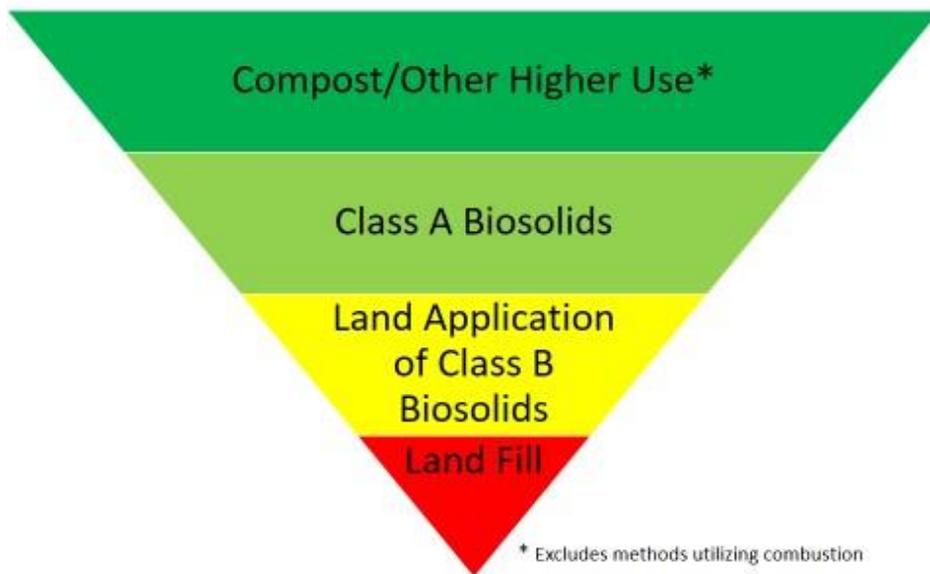
Absent: Moriarty

Attest: Liaison

Staff Liaison, Felicia Cancino

**WWW/ZWAC Joint Working Group  
Biosolids Management Policy Recommendations**

1. Biosolids management should honor the highest and best use hierarchy. The City will strive to treat all wastewater sludge to Class A designation prior to final distribution.



2. Require production of compost that meets or exceeds United States Compost Council Seal of Test Assurance standards.
3. Plastics shall be predominately removed from all final products.
4. Under emergency conditions, land application of unscreened compost, Class A biosolids, or Class B biosolids may be made on a temporary basis.
  - a. Emergency conditions are defined as severe fire risk, other imminent threats to health and safety, or imminent risk of regulatory non-compliance that could not have reasonably been foreseen.
  - b. If time permits, plastics should still be predominately removed before land application.
  - c. Emergency application of these lower quality products shall extend only as long as necessary to alleviate emergency conditions.
5. Austin Water staff shall inform the City Council via a Corrective Action Memo within five business days of declaration of emergency conditions.

6. Austin Water Operations will be conducted in a manner that will keep odors and pests to a minimum.
7. All products produced using biosolids will be clearly labeled to inform the end user of that fact.
8. The Dillo Dirt trademark name and compost quality will remain in City of Austin control, regardless of who produces the product.
9. Austin Water and Austin Resource Recovery should continue to vet and pilot new technologies and management strategies in line with active policies that will improve biosolids handling.
10. Austin Water and Austin Resource Recovery will continue to communicate with other city departments when contracts are being renewed or solicited to ensure any partnering opportunities are explored.
11. Bulking agents should be limited to by-products of other known activities.