



Lisa Watkins <ltw35@cornell.edu>

audit

Mann, Kendra <kendra.mann@sanjoseca.gov>
To: Lisa Watkins <ltw35@cornell.edu>

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 1:36 PM

Hi Lisa,

I've reached out to my contact once more, but she is currently holding multiple positions and has not had a chance to respond back about the site-specific data. I greatly appreciate your patience.

I do not have a complete insight of what motivated San José to complete this study, but I relayed this question to my contact to see if she can help answer. However, I will mention that reducing litter/trash is a Permit requirement for the City under the [Municipal Regional Stormwater NPDES Permit](#) (MRP 2.0) under Provision C.10 – Trash Load Reduction. The City conducts many activities to comply with Provision C.10, please check out the City's Stormwater Annual Reports on our [archive page](#) for an overview of these actions. To name a few, the City conducts street sweeping, installing public litter cans, and conducting on-land litter cleanups (through the City's Parks Recreation and Neighborhood Services [Anti-Litter Program](#) and #BeautifySJ program) to help reduce litter on streets.

Thank you,

Kendra

City of San José, ESD

Office Tel: (408) 793-4378

(working remotely)

From: Lisa Watkins <ltw35@cornell.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2020 6:36 AM
To: Mann, Kendra <kendra.mann@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Re: FW: FW: audit

[External Email]

Hi Kendra,

I hope you're doing well. I just wanted to check in to see if I should hold out hope for the site-specific totals from these street litter audits. I really appreciate you looking for them for me!

In the meantime, I'm wondering if you may have insights (or could point me to someone who may) on what motivated San Jose to measure its street litter (and its other litter reduction programs)?

Other cities have cited a desire to reduce trash in their stormwater (for environmental health reasons), to reduce litter on streets for aesthetic reasons (by identifying best locations for intervention or increasing community awareness to reduce littering), or to reduce maintenance costs by better targeting street sweeping.

Do you have a sense of whether one of these (or another reason) may fit San Jose's main goals for studying litter?

Thanks so much!

Lisa

On Tue, Jul 21, 2020 at 5:37 PM Lisa Watkins <ltw35@cornell.edu> wrote:

Hi Kendra,

Thanks so much for reaching out for me! Totally understand how unlikely it is to track down this kind of detail on a report from this long ago, but I really appreciate you trying. I'll have my fingers crossed!

Lisa

On Tue, Jul 21, 2020 at 5:26 PM Mann, Kendra <kendra.mann@sanjoseca.gov> wrote:

Hi Lisa,

Apologies for the delay. I wasn't at the City during the time of the report, so I forwarded your request to a couple people who were around and may have worked on it. Hopefully will have an update for you soon.

Thank you for your patience!

Best,

Kendra Mann, *Associate Environmental Services Specialist*

City of San José | Environmental Services Department

Watershed Protection Division | Stormwater Management

200 East Santa Clara Street – 7th Floor | San José, CA 95113

Tel: 408.793.4378 (*not currently in the office*)

sanjoseca.gov/esd | sjenvironment.org

From: Wong, Wanda <wanda.wong@sanjoseca.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 1:54 PM

To: Mann, Kendra <kendra.mann@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: Lisa Watkins <ltw35@cornell.edu>; ESD - Watershed Protection <WSPinbox@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: RE: FW: FW: audit

Hi Kendra,

Please see email below for you.

Thank you,

Wanda Wong

Acting Senior Environmental Inspector

City of San Jose

Environmental Services Department

Watershed Protection Division

200 East Santa Clara St - 7th Floor

San José, CA 95113

Phone: (408) 945-3000

Direct: (408)793-5334

wanda.wong@sanjoseca.gov

From: Lisa Watkins <ltw35@cornell.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 1:45 PM
To: ESD - Watershed Protection <WSPinbox@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Re: FW: FW: audit

[External Email]

Hi Kendra,

I just wanted to follow up with you about the request I made to Leslie. I'm a PhD student researching plastic pollution (and in this case, specifically street litter). I've relied on the 2008 audit of San Jose's streets (attached), and I am wondering if site-specific data behind this report may be available.

At it's very basic, I'm looking for total items found at each audited site, as is included in this [2014 audit report from San Francisco](#) (screenshot attached). Even a pdf or powerpoint slide containing total counts at each of a few select sites would be useful (though at its most ideal, it would be a csv containing total item count + counts of individual item types for each sampled site).

Do you think this data still exists? And if so, do you know the best way for me to go about accessing it?

(And if you know of additional audits that have been performed in addition to the 2008 survey, I'd be excited to learn of those, as well!)

Thanks so much,

Lisa

On Fri, Jul 10, 2020 at 3:43 PM ESD - Watershed Protection <WSPinbox@sanjoseca.gov> wrote:

Hi Kendall, Please see request below.

:)

Leslie

408-975-2589

From: Lisa Watkins <ltw35@cornell.edu>
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 11:48 AM
To: ESD - Watershed Protection <WSPinbox@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Re: FW: audit

[External Email]

Hi Leslie,

Thank you again for tracking down that street litter audit report for me. I have one follow up question that I have now that I've dug deeper into my research.

I'm wondering whether you have suggestions on who I might reach out to to get access to the data used to write this report. This report is a nice synthesis of city-wide trends, but I'm wondering if the site-specific data that was used to create this report may also be accessible. For my research I'm wondering how the litter items included in this report's totals may have been distributed spatially across the city (for example: site id or coordinate | litter type or category | count or percentage).

Do you think the raw audit data used to create this report would be on file somewhere in the city's databases or would I need to reach out to the consultant groups who delivered the report (and would I need city permission to access finer-scale data in this way)?

Thank you for any insights (or hunches or best guesses) you're able to share!

Lisa

On Thu, Mar 5, 2020 at 12:00 PM Lisa Watkins <ltw35@cornell.edu> wrote:

Leslie,

Incredible! Thanks so so much for tracking that down for me!

All the best,

Lisa

On Thu, Mar 5, 2020 at 11:43 AM ESD - Watershed Protection <WSPinbox@sanjoseca.gov> wrote:

Lisa,

Attached is the report you requested. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Leslie

408-975-2589

From: Mann, Kendra <kendra.mann@sanjoseca.gov>

Sent: Thursday, March 5, 2020 8:41 AM

To: ESD - Watershed Protection <WSPinbox@sanjoseca.gov>

Cc: Arellano, Jessica <Jessica.Arellano@sanjoseca.gov>; Neves, Liz <liz.neves@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: RE: audit

Hi Leslie,

Please find attached the PDF of the report that Lisa requested.

Best,

Kendra Mann, Associate ESS

City of San José | Environmental Services Department

Watershed Protection Division | Stormwater Management

200 East Santa Clara Street – 7th Floor | San José, CA 95113

Tel: 408.793.4378

sanjoseca.gov/esd | sjenvironment.org

From: ESD - Watershed Protection <WSPinbox@sanjoseca.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 5, 2020 8:34 AM
To: Hunt, Brad <brad.hunt@sanjoseca.gov>
Cc: Mann, Kendra <kendra.mann@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: FW: audit

Leslie

408-975-2589

From: Lisa Watkins <ltw35@cornell.edu>
Sent: Thursday, March 5, 2020 8:15 AM
To: ESD - Watershed Protection <WSPinbox@sanjoseca.gov>
Cc: San Jose Environment <sjenvironment@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Re: audit

[External Email]

Leslie,

Thanks for getting back to me!

I've seen mention of it in several locations, most clearly cited on page 6 of this report:

https://www.erplanning.com/uploads/Contribution_of_Polystyrene_Foam_Food_Service_Products_to_Litter.pdf, done by ERPlanning. In this document, it summarizes just a piece of the full report (the polystyrene results), but it acknowledges Emy Mendoza and indicates that San Jose's ESD was the underwriter for the 2009 study.

The citation is: *SAIC & MGM Management. The City of San Jose 2008 Street Litter Audit Report. Prepared for City of San Jose Environmental Services Department. February 2009.*

Thanks so much for looking for it for me! Let me know how else I can help.

Best,

Lisa

On Thu, Mar 5, 2020 at 10:55 AM ESD - Watershed Protection <WSPinbox@sanjoseca.gov> wrote:

Lisa, can you please provide where you saw this information. I am not finding an audit and need more information.

Thank you!

Leslie Martin

ESD, WSP

408-975-2589

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Lisa Watkins

Soil and Water Lab

Biological & Environmental Engineering

Cornell University

404-805-7790 | ltw35@cornell.edu

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