

Policy Advisory Group (PAG) for Western Region Solid Waste Capacity

November 16, 2021

<https://nctcog.org/westernsolidwaste>



Welcome and Introductions

Thank you for attending today! Your time and input are appreciated.

NCTCOG Environment and Development Department
Staff Working on Western Region Study/Project

Elena Berg, Planner II

Cassidy Campbell, Program Supervisor

Edith Marvin, Director

Welcome and Introductions

Options:

- 1) Please type your name and the entity you represent into the chat box if joining by computer.
- 2) Please speak up and introduce yourself if joining by phone or if you just want to say hello!

Procedures for Meeting Today

- Please state your name and the entity you are representing before speaking.
- Please keep your microphone on mute when not speaking.
- Please feel free to input comments/questions in the chat box or raise your hand as we move along.

Procedures for Meeting Today

- ▶ We will take a few polls during the meeting. Your answers are completely anonymous.
- ▶ Participate via website or text:
 - ▶ Go to [PollEv.com](https://www.pollEv.com) and enter NCTCOGENV444
 - ▶ Text NCTCOGENV444 to 22333
- ▶ Let's practice!

What Thanksgiving food do you look forward to the most?

“ Dressing ”

“ Pie ”

“ Stuffing ”

“ bar b q ”

“ Hamburgers ”

“ Leftovers ”

“ Desert ”

“ cranberry sauce ”

“ mashed potatoes ”

“ Dessert ”

“ Dessert ”

“ carbs! ”

“ Dressing ”

“ Pie ”

“ Stuffing ”

“ bar b q ”

“ Hamburgers ”

“ Leftovers ”

“ Desert ”

“ cranberry sauce ”

“ mashed potatoes ”

“ Dessert ”

“ Dessert ”

“ carbs! ”

23 Responses

Is this the first time you have attended a meeting about solid waste disposal capacity in the Western Region?



Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Background and Overview

- Past Workshops
- Western Region Solid Waste Capacity Study
- Why Your Input is Valuable Today

3. Roundtable

- Solid Waste Capacity Challenges in Your Community
- How Best to Move Forward (A regional effort or local level? A formal PAG with by-laws or an informal group?)

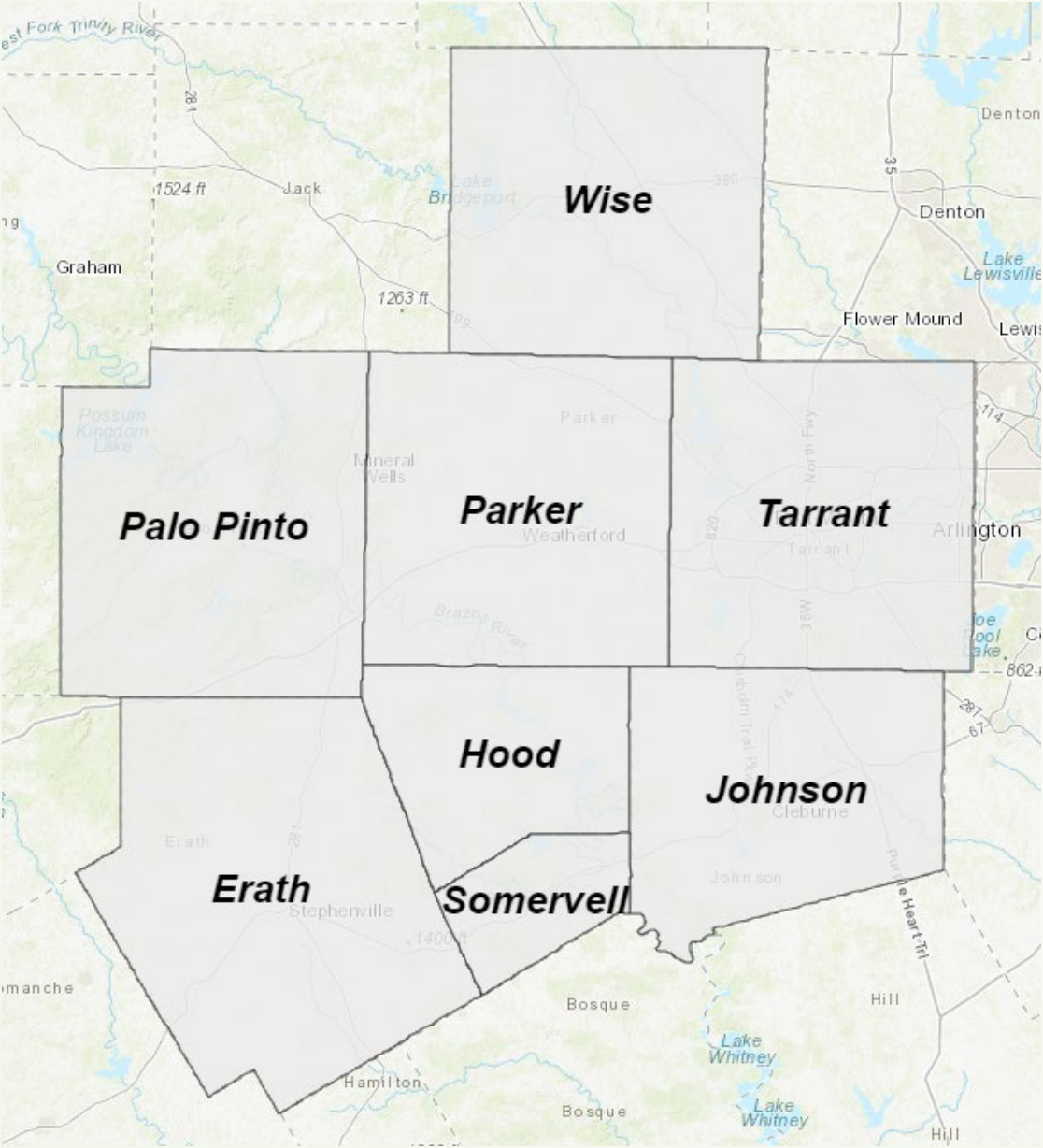
4. Defining the Next Step for the Policy Advisory Group

5. Review of the Discussion Outcomes and Action Steps

6. Adjournment



Background and Overview



8-County
Western Region



Background and Overview

The Solid Waste Capacity Problem in the Western Region

- ▶ 46% increase in waste generation is projected from 2020-2050 in the Western Region.
- ▶ Less infrastructure for managing the projected increase of solid waste in Western Region, compared to NCTCOG region.
- ▶ Remaining landfill capacity in the Western Region is low.

Area	Remaining Landfill Capacity, 2020 (in years)
State of Texas	54
NCTCOG 16-County Region	36
Western Region	15*

Sources for Data on Slide:

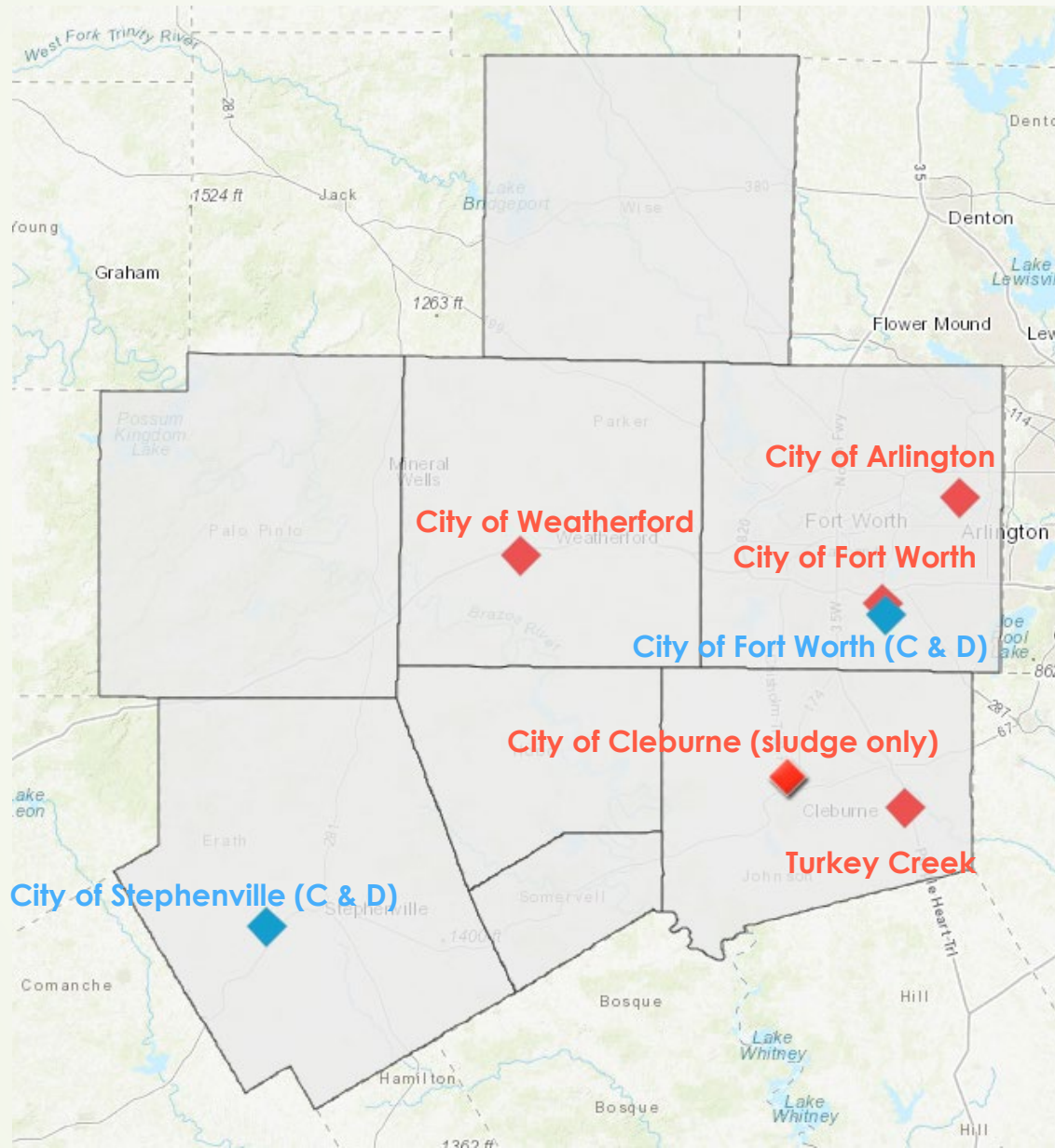
Municipal Solid Waste in Texas: A Year in Review, 2020 Data Summary and Analysis. p. 19. TCEQ. September 2020.

Needs Assessment Technical Report (from the Western Region Solid Waste Capacity Study). Prepared for NCTCOG. p. ii & 19. Prepared by Arredondo, Zepeda, and Brunz, LLC, and Keep Texas Recycling. July 2021.

*Estimated time to site and construct a landfill = 15 years.



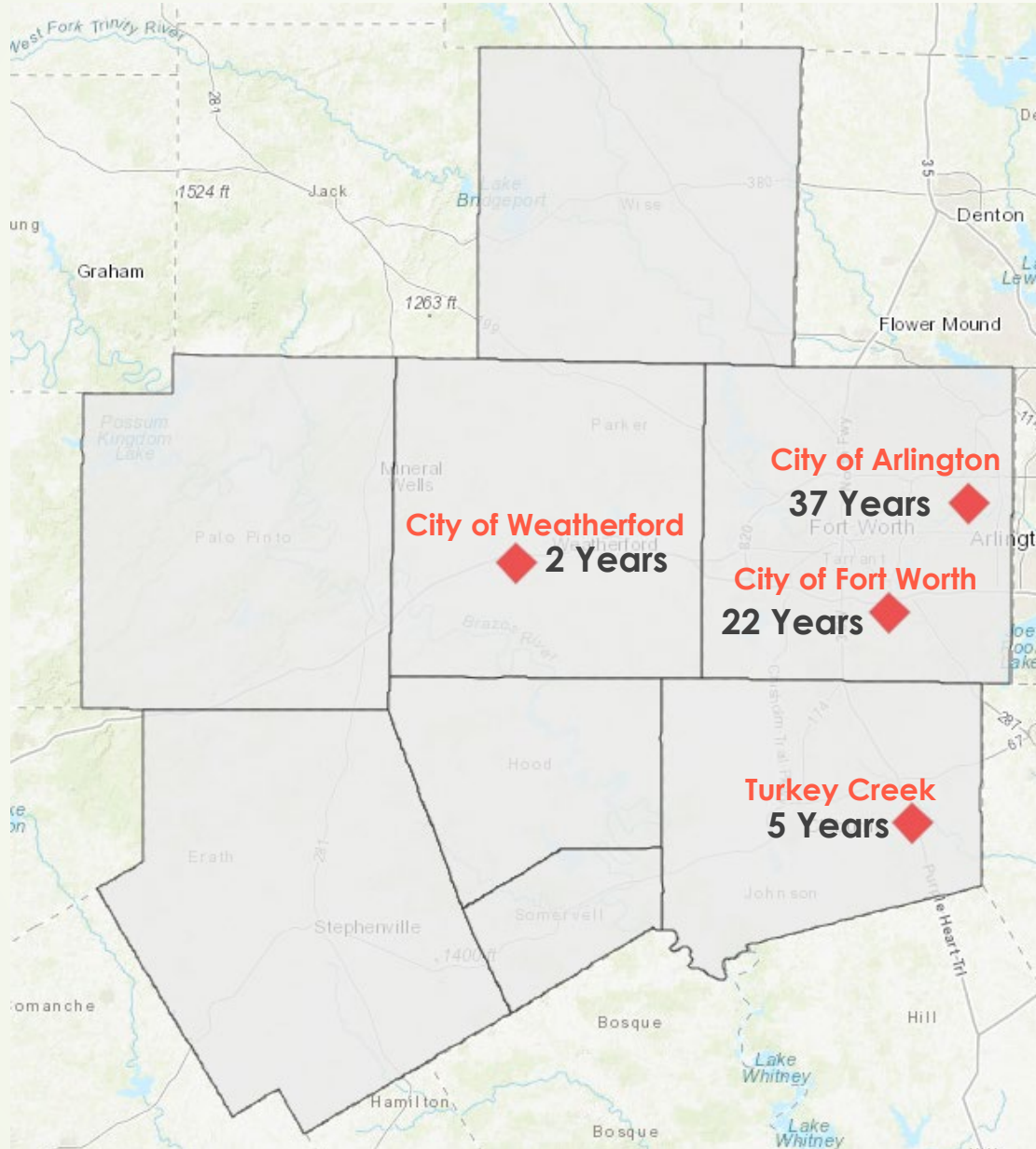
Background and Overview



7 Landfills in Western Region

- ◆ Municipal Solid Waste Landfills (5)
- ◆ Construction and Demolition Landfills (2)

Background and Overview



◆ **Available** Municipal Solid Waste Landfills in Western Region

X Years = Remaining Life of Landfill

(Source: *Municipal Solid Waste in Texas: A Year in Review, 2020 Data Summary and Analysis*. TCEQ. September 2021.)

- ✓ Most of the the Western Region's waste is disposed at one of four landfills.
- ✓ After Weatherford reaches capacity, the 3 remaining landfills will be located on the extreme eastern side of the Western Region.

Background and Overview

- ▶ **Past Workshops on Western Waste Capacity**
 - ▶ Held from 2018-2019 at NCTCOG, Weatherford, and Arlington
- ▶ **Western Region Solid Waste Capacity Study**
 - ▶ July 2020 – July 2021, NCTCOG hired contractor to evaluate needs and provide recommendations
 - ▶ Resulted in 2 Technical Reports: 1) Needs Assessment and 2) Alternatives Analysis, which can be found here:
<https://nctcog.org/westernsolidwaste>

Background and Overview

► Ten Alternatives (2 will be discussed today)

Ten Alternatives Analyzed in Waste Capacity Study

Formalize the Policy Advisory Group

Establish a Solid Waste Management Agency

Public Information Programs

Regional Recycling Programs

More Convenience Stations and Recycling Centers

Enhance Brush and Sludge Disposal (Organics)

Multi-City, Cooperative Waste Collection

Cooperative Management of Disaster Debris

Increase Landfill Capacity



Background and Overview

► Why formalize the PAG?

- Forum for continued communication on solid waste capacity with counties and communities in the Western Region.
- Interim step towards the development of a voluntary Western Region solid waste management agency, which in turn, could implement more recommendations of Study, such as infrastructure.
- Implement regional public information programs on solid waste in Western Region.
- Investigate potential of developing a continuing education training program for solid waste professionals in Western Region. (Work with TCEQ to determine feasibility.)

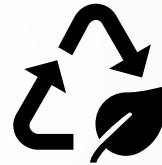
Background and Overview

➤ Services a Solid Waste Agency* Could Provide:

- Collection of residential municipal solid waste and recyclable materials
- Construct and operate solid waste infrastructure



Transfer stations



Compost & Mulch Facilities



Landfills



Citizen Drop-Off Centers

*The solid waste management agency as recommended in the Study is a non-profit local government corporation. Membership would be voluntary.



Background and Overview

- **Regional approach wouldn't be a new concept**
 - Other examples to learn from, such as the Brazos Valley Solid Waste Management Agency, which was created in 2010 by the Cities of Bryan and College Station. The agency developed the Twin Oaks Landfill.
 - Meeting infrastructure needs through a regional approach has been done in our region already. (North Texas Municipal Water District)

Background and Overview

- **Rome wasn't built in a day!**
- PAG can make specific goals, with timelines



Background and Overview

► Why Your Input is Valuable Today

Lingering concerns from past PAG meeting in July:

- Participation among broad portion of Western Region
- Equitability of all participants (small city vs. large city vs. county)
- Meaningful commitment, buy-in from Western Region communities
- Finding focus, specific goals
- Maintaining progress

Background and Overview

Informal PAG | Formal PAG

Maintain communication in Western Region

No bureaucracy (no requirements for membership, funding, etc.)

No commitment

Easy to set-up

Less likely to implement actions to increase waste capacity

Others?

Maintain communication in Western Region

Structured set-up with representation

Commitment

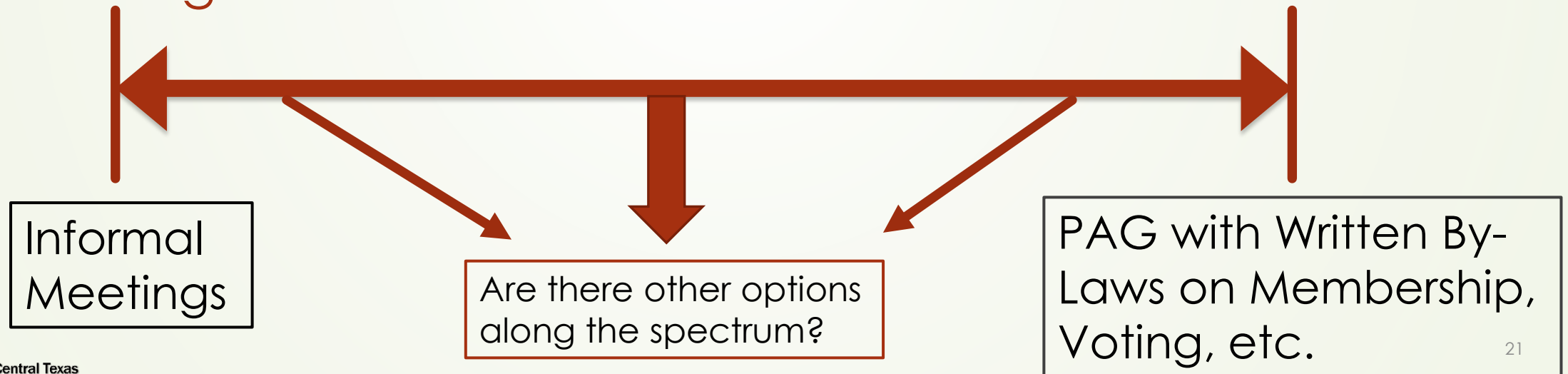
Requires sign-off by communities to set-up

More likely to implement actions to increase waste capacity

Others?

Background and Overview

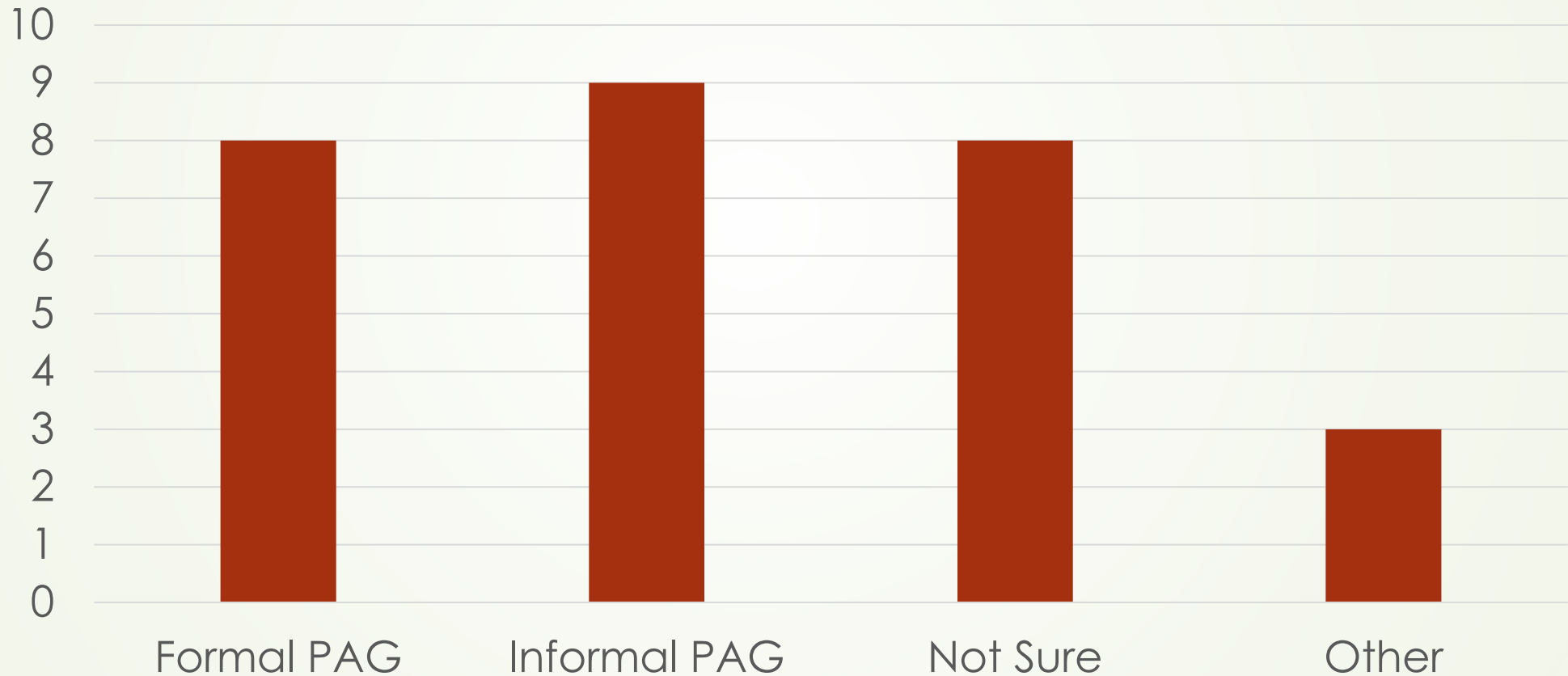
- ➔ **What does a formal Policy Advisory Group look like to you?**
 - Informal meetings over lunch for information sharing?
 - A formal group with a designated mission, roster, regularly scheduled meetings, by-laws, leadership, and potential funding?



One-Question Survey Results

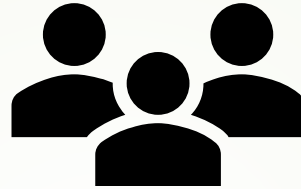
Do you prefer to develop a formal PAG with by-laws or a more informal PAG?

Number of Responses (28)



Roundtable

It's your turn to talk!



1) What are your main solid waste capacity concerns or challenges?

2) Do you support a regional effort on this issue that would include the continuation of some form of a Policy Advisory Group? Or would you rather solve this at the local level?

Those who would like to speak up first, please go ahead now! Then, we will do a roll call to be sure that everyone has had a chance to speak.

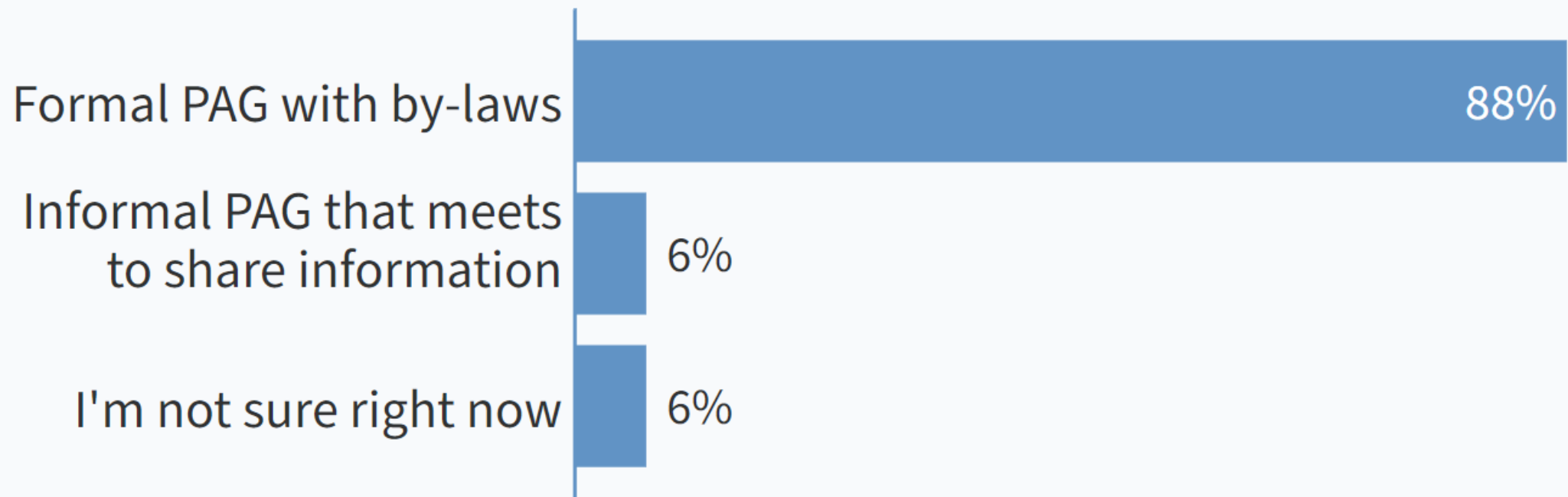
14 Responses

Would you or a representative attend additional meetings of the Western PAG that are focused on ways to increase capacity, whether it be a formal or informal PAG?



16 Responses

Do you prefer to develop a formal PAG with by-laws or a more informal PAG that meets to share information?



Defining the Next Step for the PAG

- **Identifying 1-2 specific next steps based on discussion**
 - Draft by-laws?
 - Identify leadership?
 - Divvy up tasks?
 - Identify a timeline for the next steps?
 - How can NCTCOG assist you toward this next step?

Defining the Next Step - Resources

► Examples of by-laws

- NCTCOG's Resource Conservation Council By-Laws
 - Purpose, Responsibilities
 - Membership – include private sector?
 - Officers
 - Meetings
 - Quorum
 - Open Meetings
 - Conflict of Interest
 - Subcommittees

Review of Discussion Outcomes

- By-laws by Feb/March – reach out to volunteers
- Mayor's Council Meetings (Tarrant County) – maybe more? Parker County?
- Email Elena Berg, eberg@nctcog.org if you are interested in leadership in some fashion
- Next meeting – March – discuss by-laws and changes needed
- By-laws group meets in January

Contact

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