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Waste Dive: WASTECON 2019 Coverage

1 message

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WASTECON 2019

Conference Edition | Nov. 1, 2019

EDITOR'S NOTE

It's been a busy week since WASTECON in Phoenix and we'd like to close it out with a recap of our coverage from this year's event. Transformation came across as a key theme – embodied by the conference itself, fresh voices on display and emerging issues for the industry to reckon with.

One new feature in this special newsletter takes a look at Phoenix's own transformation into a circular economy leader, with ideas on how other cities can follow. The other highlights the growing trend of using closed landfills for solar projects. You can also catch up on our prior coverage of Republic Services President Jon Vander Ark's views on the evolving business model of recycling and thoughts from public sector leaders on adaptation.

These, of course, weren't the only stories we came away with. Stay tuned for a story from me next week about the EPA's America Recycles Day plans and multiple stories from reporter E.A. Crunden to follow. For a hint at what they'll be digging into, check out our parting thought at the end of this newsletter.



Cole Rosengren
Senior Editor, Waste Dive
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OVERHEARD AT THE SHOW

“SWANA successfully pushed back on the 'recycling is failing narrative' that took hold in the media ... Our cautious optimism about the future of recycling in the U.S. and Canada appears to be coming true.”

– SWANA CEO David Biderman

EVENT COVERAGE

What cities can learn from Phoenix's circular economy experiments

Home to a unique incubator, the fast-growing Arizona city has embarked on multiple new ventures in recent years. WASTECON panelists shared economic, logistical and political advice.

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Tetra Tech pushes solar power on closed landfills as a clear winner for operators and owners

The firm argues that installing solar panels on inactive sites can help operators financially, in addition to garnering community support.

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Republic's Vander Ark: Recycling challenges structural, not cyclical

The company's new president touched on Trump, trade flows, shareholder profits, disposal trends, municipal relations, climate policy and much more during his WASTECON keynote.

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Faced with market turmoil, public sector leaders seek new approaches for waste and recycling

At this year's WASTECON, officials from around the country laid out their vision for working through market challenges, collaborating with others and addressing climate change.

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PARTING THOUGHT

Conversations throughout the event revealed persistent anxiety from landfill operators about regulatory uncertainty and the looming threat of PFAS. Stay tuned for a closer look in the months ahead.

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Waste Dive provides in-depth journalism and insight into the most impactful news and trends shaping waste & recycling. The newsletters and website cover topics such as collections and transfer, recycling, organics, zero waste, landfills, policy, and more.

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