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BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING

AGENDA

APRIL 25, 2024 - 3:00 P.M.

Walnut Creek City Hall, 3rd Floor Conference Room
(Use elevator by City Council Chambers)
1666 North Main Street, Walnut Creek

Off-site Attendance

Board Member Renee Morgan
22960 Meadow Drive
Twain Harte CA 95383

- 1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THIS AGENDA**

If you would like to address the Board, please complete a speaker's card and submit it to Janna McKay, Secretary of the Board. When addressing the Board, please state your name and address for the record. There is a three-minute limit to present your information. (The Board Chair may direct questions to any member of the audience as appropriate at any time during the meeting.)

- 3. CONSENT ITEMS**

All items listed in the Consent Calendar may be acted upon in one motion. However, any item may be removed from the Consent Calendar by request by a member of the Board, public, or staff, and considered separately.

- Approve Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on March 28, 2024*
- Authorize positions on 2024 Recommended Legislation Bills*
- Authorize the CCCSWA Board Chair to sign the First Amendment to the Executive Director's Employment Agreement*

- 4. ACTION ITEMS**

- Proclamation for James (Jim) Nejedly*
Adopt Proclamation Recognizing Jim Nejedly for his years of service.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

These reports are provided for information only. No Board action is required.

- a. Introduction of Republic Services New General Manager, Vic Cabrera
- b. Post-Collection Facility Tours*
- c. Executive Director’s Monthly Report*
- d. Future Agenda Items*
- e. Articles and Communication to Authority*

6. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

7. CLOSED SESSION

- a. Public Employee Performance Evaluation
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957 Title: Executive Director

8. ADJOURNMENT

**Corresponding Agenda Report or Attachment is included in this Board packet.*

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>ADDRESSING THE BOARD ON AN ITEM ON THE AGENDA</u></p> <p>Persons wishing to speak on PUBLIC HEARINGS and OTHER MATTERS listed on the agenda will be heard when the Chair calls for comments from the audience, except on public hearing items previously heard and closed to public comment. The Chair may specify the number of minutes each person will be permitted to speak based on the number of persons wishing to speak and the time available. After the public has commented, the item is closed to further public comment and brought to the Board for discussion and action. There is no further comment permitted from the audience unless invited by the Board.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>ADDRESSING THE BOARD ON AN ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA</u></p> <p>In accordance with State law, the Board is prohibited from discussing items not calendared on the agenda. For that reason, members of the public wishing to discuss or present a matter to the Board other than a matter which is on the Agenda are requested to present the matter in writing to RecycleSmart Board Secretary at least one week prior to a regularly scheduled Board meeting date. If you are unable to do this, you may make an announcement to the Board of your concern under PUBLIC COMMENTS. Matters brought up which are not on the agenda may be referred to staff for action or calendared on a future agenda.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT</u></p> <p>In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act and California Law, it is the policy of the Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority dba RecycleSmart to offer its public meetings in a manner that is readily accessible to everyone, including those with disabilities. If you are disabled and require special accommodations to participate, please contact RecycleSmart Board Secretary at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting at (925) 906-1801.</p>

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE
CENTRAL CONTRA COSTA SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY
HELD ON MARCH 28, 2024**

The Regular Board Meeting of the Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority’s (CCCSWA’s) Board of Directors convened at Walnut Creek City Hall, 3rd Floor Conference Room, 1666 North Main Street, Walnut Creek, Contra Costa County, State of California, on March 28, 2024. Chair Inga Miller called the meeting to order at 3:05 P.M.

PRESENT: Board Members: Candace Andersen
Newell Arnerich*
Ken Carlson
Gina Dawson, Vice Chair
Matt Francois
Kerry Hillis
Inga Miller, Chair
Cindy Silva
*Arrived after Roll Call

ABSENT: Board Members: John McCormick
Renee Morgan
Janet Riley
Renata Sos

Staff members present: David Krueger, Executive Director; Janna McKay, Executive Assistant/Secretary to the Board; Judith Silver, Senior Program Manager; Ashley Louisiana, Program Manager; Jennifer Faught, Contract Compliance Specialist; and Deborah L. Miller, CCCSWA Counsel.

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Miller led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Due to the fact the existing quorum would last only for a short period of time, Chair Miller recommended the rearrangement of the agenda as follows: Items 4a, 4c, 4d, 4e, 3, 4b and 5, and then concluding with the rest of the posted agenda.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THIS AGENDA

DAVID RODRIGUEZ, Local 315, representing approximately 100 union members in the RecycleSmart service area, requested that before the issuance of the Request for Proposal (RFP) was distributed, the Board consider the retention language to ensure that those currently employed would be able to keep their jobs.

4. **ACTION ITEMS**

- a. Chair and Vice Chair Appointments
Elect CCCSWA Board Chair and Vice Chair for 2024-2025.

Chair Miller stated she had enjoyed serving as Chair and thanked the Board for that opportunity.

MOTION by Board Member Andersen to appoint Vice Chair ***Gina Dawson*** as Chair of the CCCSWA Board of Directors for 2024-2025. SECOND by Board Member Silva.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a voice vote.

Newly-appointed Chair Dawson chaired the meeting at this time.

MOTION by Board Member Carlson to appoint Board Member ***Candace Andersen*** as Vice Chair of the CCCSWA Board of Directors for 2024-2025. SECOND by Board Member Silva.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a voice vote.

- c. Conclude Sole Source and Concurrent Negotiations for Transfer and Disposal Services without Awarding a Service Agreement
The Franchise Vendor Selection Ad Hoc Committee recommends that the Board direct staff to conclude the sole source and concurrent negotiations for transfer and disposal services without awarding a service agreement.

Executive Director David Krueger referred to RecycleSmart's two Ad Hoc Committees and noted that the role of the Franchise Vendor Selection Ad Hoc Committee was to consider selection and determine whether or not to award agreements.

Board Member Miller, Chair of the Franchise Vendor Selection Ad Hoc Committee, offered a brief report given the need to retain a quorum and reported that the Ad Hoc Committee recommended proceeding with the RFP at this point without awarding a service agreement.

No written comments were submitted, or oral comments made, by any member of the public.

MOTION by Board Member Silva to direct staff to conclude the sole source and concurrent negotiations for transfer and disposal services without awarding a service agreement, as recommended by the Franchise Vendor Selection Ad Hoc Committee. SECOND by Board Member Hillis.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a voice vote.

- d. Issue RFP for Post-Collection Services and Begin Sole Source Negotiations for Reuse and Cleanup Day Services
The Franchise Design Ad Hoc Committee recommends that the Board direct staff to:

1. Release the post-collection RFP and draft agreement.
2. Begin sole source negotiations with Mt. Diablo Resource Recovery (MDRR) for Reuse and Cleanup Day Services.

Board Member Andersen reported out on behalf of Chair Sos for the Franchise Design Ad Hoc Committee and stated that committee had recommended that the Board direct staff to release the Post-Collection RFP and draft agreement, and to begin sole source negotiations with Mt. Diablo Resource Recovery (MDRR) for Reuse and Cleanup Days services. The Ad Hoc Committee believed that the Board should take the recommended action for a number of reasons that she identified at this time. The Ad Hoc Committee recommended some slight changes to the Board-adopted RFP business terms in response to some lessons learned in the most recent sole source negotiations where transfer and disposal agreements may be shorter than 20 years, mixed waste processors may propose to dispose of residue at their own landfill as opposed to the CCCSWA's designated landfill, and landfills, processors and compost facilities may propose dedicated transfer solutions that do not have to be made available to their competitors for post-collection services.

Board Member Andersen added that the Ad Hoc Committee did not recommend changing the requirements that: 1) Post-collection service providers must agree to charge the same rates to accept any franchised materials from the service area regardless of which company or companies the CCCSWA selected to collect and/or transfer those materials during the term of the Post-Collection Agreement; and 2) Agreements for all post collection services must be signed and executed before the release of the Collection RFP. Board Member Andersen stated that these two non-negotiable business terms adopted by the Board on September 28 are vitally important to ensure competition for collection services.

Executive Director Krueger stated he had prepared a presentation on the post-collection RFP, but due to the time constraints at this meeting he responded to questions and recommended moving on to the recommendation. He stated that the presentation would be posted to the Authority's website after the meeting.

No written comments were submitted, or oral comments made, by any member of the public.

MOTION by Board Member Silva to direct staff to release the Post-Collection RFP and draft agreement, and to begin sole source negotiations with Mt. Diablo Resource Recovery (MDRR) for Reuse and Cleanup Day Services. SECOND by Board Member Francois.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a voice vote.

Staff and consultants were thanked for working tirelessly to analyze all the situations that might arise and for the advice and sound recommendations. Executive Director Krueger recognized Republic Services and MDRR for all of their efforts in the sole source process.

- e. Proposed Amendment to the Existing Agreement with Republic Services Regarding Service Quality Metrics
Authorize the Executive Director, in consultation with legal counsel, to prepare and the Board Chair to execute a Third Amendment to the existing Agreement for Franchised Materials Collection, Transfer, Transport, Processing, Diversion, and

Disposal Services with Republic Services in accordance with the negotiated terms presented in Attachment A (to the staff report dated March 28, 2024) regarding service quality metrics, special rate adjustments, customer credits, staffing requirements, reporting requirements, and approved composting facilities.

Executive Director Krueger referred to charts that the Board had requested that analyzed the service metrics over time. He stated there had been successful negotiations with Republic as to how to change the process and changes to how the credits worked for customers whose collection may have been missed.

Mr. Krueger referred to the open route reports that RecycleSmart had been getting from Republic Services every day and explained that instead of a metric based on the number of missed pick-up calls from single-family customers under the standard of no more than 1,500 calls per calendar month, that metric would be replaced with a new metric based on the number of containers located on the portion of any single-family route that was not completed on the scheduled collection day, with an agreed-upon standard of no more than 2,700 missed containers in any four-week period. Republic to be eligible for a special rate increase in the next rate year based upon the number of four-week periods in which they met the new standard. Mr. Krueger noted that the new metric was achievable and that Republic had agreed to that change.

Mr. Krueger responded to questions and clarified in response to the question as to whether the new metric could be gamed that the metric on the incomplete routes matched what RecycleSmart had been hearing from customers and field audits could always be done to help inspect.

Chair Dawson noted that there had been a high number of missed pickups in Lafayette given the complexities of pickups in that area.

Mr. Krueger clarified that both Lafayette and Moraga had the most missed pickups.

With respect to the change in credits, Mr. Krueger noted the concern that customers had to call to receive credits and RecycleSmart staff had agreed with Republic that in the future those customers on incomplete routes would automatically get the credit while customers on routes presumed to have been completed would have to call to get the credit. The new amount of credit for single-family customers would be \$5 per container per day late; for multi-family/commercial organics it would be the same; and for multi-family/commercial landfill containers, it would be the monthly rate for the container missed divided by 4.33 weeks per month divided by the number of collections per week to get to the proportional cost of what the ratepayer was paying.

In terms of the special rate increase that was now based on a 12-month average, it had been recommended to be earned in four-week increments. The desire was to change it from an “all or nothing” standard to the proposal that the increase could be a portion of the \$1.9 million per year, determined by the number of 4-week increments that the standard had been met. In addition, since the amount of the special rate increase under the existing agreement would not be known until January, the proposed agreement specifies that the amount of the special rate increase would be identified in October to match the rate-setting schedule. An additional change would be for the final year of the Franchise Agreement, where a portion of the special rate increase for the final year must be refunded if the standard had not been met during the final year, with the refund to be based on the number of 4-week increments that the standard had not been met. As such, a partial

refund was possible.

Other changes had to do with staffing requirements, where currently Republic was required to hire and retain specified numbers of staff by position, which had been proposed to be changed where Republic must maintain five Sustainability Advisors (Recycling Coordinators), with other staffing requirements to be replaced by reporting requirements.

Mr. Krueger also noted that at the beginning of the Franchise Agreement, all of the organics were going to the West County Composting Facility in Richmond. Given some past problems at that facility, the organics had then been re-directed to a composting facility in Manteca. He stated Republic would still send most organics to Manteca but might have a need for backups in other areas. While the Manteca facility would still be used, the West County Composting Facility, which had no problems since 2018, and the Newby Island Composting Facility in San Jose would both be used as backups.

In response to questions, Mr. Krueger stated that the metric of 2,700 missed containers in any four-week period was out of approximately 800,000 containers set out each month. He reported that since November the service had been much better, and that the new metric was achievable but consistent with good service quality.

As to why the Lamorinda area had taken the brunt of the service issues, Mr. Krueger noted that many of those routes were being serviced by the smaller trucks, there were not as many spares for the smaller trucks, Republic had ordered more smaller trucks, and with the supply chain issues that had taken longer than anticipated.

Mr. Krueger clarified that the 2,700 metrics had been derived through negotiations with Republic, which was expected to result in better service. In terms of credits, the credits were automatic for those on incomplete routes only and other missed pickups would require calls from the customer. As to whether or not there was a way to independently verify the 2,700 metrics, he advised there would be spot checks and the monthly report would identify where the credits had been applied.

In the discussion, members of the Board thanked Republic for working with staff in a fair and achievable process.

No written comments were submitted, or oral comments made, by any member of the public.

MOTION by Board Member Silva to authorize the Executive Director, in consultation with legal counsel, to prepare and the Board Chair to execute a Third Amendment to the existing Agreement for Franchised Materials Collection, Transfer, Transport, Processing, Diversion and Disposal Services with Republic Services in accordance with the negotiated terms presented in Attachment A (to the staff report dated March 28, 2024) regarding service quality metrics, special rate adjustments, customer credits, staffing requirements, reporting requirements, and approved composting facilities. SECOND by Board Member Arnerich.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a voice vote.

3. CONSENT ITEMS

- a. Approve Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on February 22, 2024

No written comments were submitted, or oral comments made, by any member of the public.

MOTION by Board Member Andersen to approve Consent Item a, as submitted. SECOND by Board Member Francois.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a voice vote.

4. ACTION ITEMS

- b. Resolution Recognizing Inga Miller as Chair of the CCCSWA Board of Directors
Adopt Resolution No. 2024-02, Recognizing Inga Miller for her leadership during her term as Chair of the CCCSWA Board of Directors.

Chair Dawson offered her thanks to former Chair Inga Miller for leading the CCCSWA Board through a very busy year and presented her with an award of thanks.

Members of the Board expressed their thanks to former Chair Miller in recognition of her leadership through a number of issues including reporting, compliance and public outreach with respect to SB 1383 regulations; waste reduction and recycling services and programs; and for her level of knowledge, service and accomplishments for a job exceedingly well done.

No written comments were submitted, or oral comments made, by any member of the public.

MOTION by Board Member Andersen to adopt Resolution No. 2024-02, Recognizing Inga Miller for her leadership during her term as Chair of the CCCSWA Board of Directors. SECOND by Board Member Carlson.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a voice vote.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

Judith Silver, Senior Program Manager, highlighted the East Bay Women's Conference at the Leshner Center and noted this was the first time that recycling and composting services had been promoted. She acknowledged the partnership with Republic Services and commended the first effort.

Reports provided for information only and no Board action required.

- a. Ridwell Recycling/ReUse Collection Service
b. Executive Director's Monthly Report
c. Future Agenda Items

6. **BOARD COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no Board communications or announcements.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

The Board adjourned at approximately 4:00 P.M. to the regular meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 25, 2024 at 3:00 P.M. in the Walnut Creek Offices at Walnut Creek City Hall.

Respectfully submitted by:

Janna McKay, Executive Assistant/
Secretary to the Board of the
Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority,
County of Contra Costa, State of California



Agenda Report

TO: CCCSWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE AND RECYCLESMAST STAFF
DATE: APRIL 25, 2024
SUBJECT: 2024 LEGISLATION RECOMMENDATIONS

SUMMARY

The Legislative Committee met on April 12 to discuss bills related to waste reduction and recycling. After discussion, the Committee decided which bills to support and which bills to watch, and directed Staff to bring these positions to the Board for approval. The Committee plans to meet again to discuss bills and measures as they evolve during the legislative process.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

1. Authorize positions on 2024 bills as recommended by the Legislative Committee, and Authorize the Executive Director to send support letters as appropriate.

DISCUSSION

On April 12, the Legislative Committee discussed a number of bills that are currently before the California State Legislature related to waste reduction and recycling. The Committee and staff were joined by Joanne Brasch, Director of Advocacy and Outreach from the California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC). The Committee recommends that the Board support twelve bills (including one set of companion bills), take a position of support in concept on four bills, and watch five bills. Sometime within the next month, the Committee plans to meet again to discuss bills identified as support in concept and watch to consider whether any changes in position would be appropriate. In addition, any newly relevant bills may be brought to the Committee at that time for discussion and direction.

RECOMMEND SUPPORT

<p>1.</p>	<p>SB 707 (Newman) – Responsible Textile Recovery Act of 2024 - Support SB 707 would enact the Responsible Textile Recovery Act of 2024, which would require producers, as defined, either individually or through the creation of one or more stewardship organizations, to establish a stewardship program for the collection and recycling of covered textiles. The bill would require a program operator to develop, and to submit to CalRecycle for review and approval, a stewardship plan. The plan would need to provide for the collection, transportation, repair, sorting, and recycling, and the safe and proper management of apparel and household textile articles, such as bedding and towels. The bill would require CalRecycle to adopt regulations to implement the act no earlier than January 1, 2028.</p> <p>Policy Platform: Extended Producer Responsibility; Waste Diversion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Cal Cities position: Support – California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC) position: Sponsor – Californians Against Waste (CAW) position: Support
<p>2.</p>	<p>SB 1280 (Laird) – Waste Management: propane cylinders: reusables or refillable - Support Would, on and after January 1, 2028, prohibit the sale or offer for sale of propane cylinders other than those propane cylinders that are reusable or refillable.</p> <p>Policy Platform: Extended Producer Responsibility; Toxics Reduction/HHW</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Cal Cities position: Support – CPSC position: Sponsor – Position on similar bill from last year: Support in Concept
<p>3.</p>	<p>SB 1384 (Dodd) – Powered wheelchairs: right to repair - Support Would require manufacturers of wheelchairs to provide parts and information to wheelchair owners and independent repair providers on the same terms as they provide them to authorized repair providers.</p> <p>Policy Platform: Waste Diversion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – CAW position: Support – Position on similar bill from last year: Support
<p>4.</p>	<p>SB 1053/AB 2236 – Solid Waste: reusable grocery bags: standards: plastic film prohibition - Support Would eliminate the provision that allows film plastic bags to be distributed as reusable bags. It would also revise the definition of “recycled paper bag” to require it to be made exclusively from postconsumer recycled content.</p> <p>Policy Platform: Waste Diversion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Cal Cities position: Watch – CPSC position: Support – CAW position: Support

5.	<p>AB 2346 (Lee) – Organic waste reduction regulations: procurement of recovered organic waste products - Support</p> <p>Would provide additional procurement options for local jurisdictions in meeting their SB 1383 requirements. As introduced, the bill will allow compost procured from community, on-farm, and backyard compost to count towards a jurisdiction's procurement requirement. It also allows investments in organics infrastructure to count towards procurement, and simplifies the use of direct service providers. This bill is sponsored by StopWaste.</p> <p>Policy Platform: Healthy Soils, Market and Economic Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Cal Cities position: Support
6.	<p>SB 972 (Min) – Methane emissions: organic waste: landfills - Support</p> <p>The bill would require CalRecycle, CARB, and the California Environmental Protection Agency to hold at least 2 joint meetings per calendar year to coordinate their implementation efforts to accomplish the goals within SB 1383 (Lara, 2016) and other climate goals, including zero-emission vehicles and water conservation goals, where organic waste could be re-used.</p> <p>Policy Platform: Waste Diversion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Cal Cities position: Sponsor
7.	<p>AB 2311 (Bennett) – Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: grant program: edible food - Support</p> <p>Would expand existing CalRecycle grants to include eligibility for transportation for edible food recovery projects. The bill builds on an existing grant program administered by CalRecycle to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the State by expanding or creating new projects to reduce, recycle, or reuse recyclable materials, including organic material. Specifically, it will make the transportation of recovered edible food and the purchase or subscription to technology or software that improves the efficiency and tracking of edible food recovery, eligible for grant funding.</p> <p>Policy Platform: Waste Diversion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Cal Cities position: Support
8.	<p>AB 863 (Aguilar-Curry) – Carpet recycling: carpet stewardship organizations: fines: succession: training - Support</p> <p>Would increase potential penalties on CARE from \$10,000 to \$50,000 per day, as well as stipulate that repeated violations render a stewardship organization ineligible to continue operating. The bill is sponsored by the National Stewardship Action Council.</p> <p>Policy Platform: Waste Diversion; Extended Producer Responsibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Cal Cities position: Support – CPSC position: Support – CAW position: Support
9.	<p>AB 817 (Pacheco) – Open meetings: teleconferencing: subsidiary body - Support</p> <p>This bill, until January 1, 2026, would authorize a subsidiary body, as defined, to use similar alternative teleconferencing provisions and would impose requirements for notice, agenda, and public participation, as prescribed. In order to use teleconferencing pursuant to this act, the bill would require the legislative body that established the subsidiary body by charter, ordinance,</p>

	<p>resolution, or other formal action to make specified findings by majority vote, before the subsidiary body uses teleconferencing for the first time and every 12 months thereafter.</p> <p>Policy Platform: Governance and Accountability – Cal Cities position: Sponsor</p>
10.	<p>SB 537 (Becker) – Open meetings: multijurisdictional, cross-county agencies: teleconferences - Support</p> <p>Current law, until January 1, 2026, authorizes the legislative body of a local agency to use alternative teleconferencing in certain circumstances related to the particular member if at least a quorum of its members participates from a singular physical location that is open to the public and situated within the agency’s jurisdiction and other requirements are met, including restrictions on remote participation by a member of the legislative body. These circumstances include if a member shows “just cause,” including for a childcare or caregiving need of a relative that requires the member to participate remotely. This bill would expand the circumstances of “just cause” to apply to the situation in which an immunocompromised child, parent, grandparent, or other specified relative requires the member to participate remotely. The bill would authorize the legislative body of a multijurisdictional, cross-county agency, as specified, to use alternate teleconferencing provisions if the eligible legislative body has adopted an authorizing resolution, as specified. The bill would also require the legislative body to provide a record of attendance of the members of the legislative body, the number of community members in attendance in the teleconference meeting, and the number of public comments on its internet website within 10 days after a teleconference meeting, as specified. The bill would require at least a quorum of members of the legislative body to participate from one or more physical locations that are open to the public and within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction.</p> <p>Policy Platform: Governance and Accountability – Cal Cities position: Support</p>
11.	<p>SB 1143 (Allen) – Household hazardous waste: producer responsibility - Support</p> <p>Would establish a producer responsibility organization for Household Hazardous Waste, which would be charged with financing, operations, and proper disposal. The bill is sponsored by the National Stewardship Action Council.</p> <p>Policy Platform: Extended Producer Responsibility; Waste Diversion; Toxics Reduction/Household Hazardous Waste – Cal Cities position: Support – CPSC position: Support in Concept</p>

RECOMMEND SUPPORT IN CONCEPT

12.	<p>AB 2 (Ward) – Recycling: solar photovoltaic modules - Support in Concept</p> <p>Would expand the definition of “covered electronic device” to include a “customer-owned solar PV module,” as defined, thereby expanding the scope of the act to include covered solar photovoltaic (PV) module products, for limited purposes, as provided. The bill would also require CalRecycle to establish a covered solar PV recycling fee based on the reasonable regulatory costs to administer covered electronic waste recycling. Non-customer-owned panels</p>
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	<p>would need to be included in a plan that describes how they will be managed at the end of their useful life, who is responsible for managing them, and how they will be recycled, refurbished, or reused.</p> <p>Policy Platform: Extended Producer Responsibility; Waste Diversion; Toxics Reduction/Household Hazardous Waste</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cal Cities position: Support - CPSC position: Sponsor
13.	<p>SB 615 (Allen) – Electric vehicle traction batteries - <i>Support in Concept</i></p> <p>Would require all electric vehicle traction batteries, as defined, sold with motor vehicles in the state to be recovered and reused, repurposed, remanufactured, or recycled at the end of their useful life in a motor vehicle or any other application. The bill would also require a vehicle manufacturer, dealer, automobile dismantler, automotive repair dealer, and nonvehicle secondary user to be responsible for ensuring the responsible end-of-life management of an electric vehicle traction battery once it is removed from a vehicle or other application to which the electric vehicle traction battery has been used.</p> <p>Policy Platform: Extended Producer Responsibility; Waste Diversion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cal Cities position: Support in Concept
14.	<p>AB 1238 (Ward) – Hazardous Waste: solar panels - <i>Support in Concept</i></p> <p>This bill would require CalRecycle to develop alternative management standards for managing photovoltaic modules (similar to how treated wood waste is managed). The bill would specify parameters for the standards, including, but not limited to, that they promote the safe collection, reuse, and recycling of photovoltaic modules.</p> <p>Policy Platform: Waste Diversion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cal Cities position: Watch
15.	<p>AB 2762 (Friedman) -- Plastic waste: California Reusable Beverage Container Act - <i>Support in Concept</i></p> <p>Would establish the California Reusable Beverage Container Act to encourage manufacturers and distributors of beverages sold in California to reduce the sale of beverages in single-use beverage containers while concurrently increasing the sale of beverages in reusable beverage containers, as provided, as well as stipulate the creation of a Reusable Beverage Container Managed System to oversee, govern, and facilitate reuse across industry stakeholders.</p> <p>Policy Platform: Waste Diversion; Packaging Reduction/Plastic Pollution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cal Cities position: Watch - CPSC: Support - CAW position: Support

RECOMMEND WATCH

<p>16.</p>	<p>AB 660 (Irwin) – Food labeling: quality dates, safety dates, and sell by dates - Watch</p> <p>Would require the Department of Food and Agriculture to, in consultation with the State Department of Public Health, before January 1, 2025, publish information to assist food manufacturers, processors, and retailers responsible for the labeling of food products to use specified terms on food product labels to communicate quality dates and safety dates, as provided. The bill would, on and after January 1, 2025, prohibit a person from selling or offering for sale in the state a food item that is not labeled in accordance with these terms. The bill would, on and after January 1, 2025, prohibit a person from selling or offering for sale in the state a food item that is labeled with the phrase “sell by,” as specified. The bill would also require the State Department of Public Health to make certain updates to its regulations involving the California Retail Food Code, as provided.</p> <p>Policy Platform: Waste Diversion, Food Waste Reduction and Recovery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – CPSC position: Support – CAW position: Support – Last year RecycleSmart position: Support
<p>17.</p>	<p>SB 1167 (Blakespear) – Solid waste: single-use drinking vessels - Watch</p> <p>Would prohibit chain restaurants from providing single-use drinkware to customers who are consuming their beverage on the premises.</p> <p>Policy Platform: Waste Diversion, Packaging Reduction/Plastic Pollution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Cal Cities position: Watch – CPSC position: Support – CAW position: Co-Sponsor with 5 Gyres, Heal the Bay, and Surfrider Foundation
<p>18.</p>	<p>AB 2577 (Irwin) – Organic waste: reduction regulations - Watch</p> <p>Would require CalRecycle to include product labeling requirements that reduce food waste in existing edible food recovery efforts.</p> <p>Policy Platform: Food Waste Reduction and Recovery, Waste Diversion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Cal Cities position: Watch – CPSC position: Support – CAW position: Sponsor
<p>19.</p>	<p>AB 1426 (Blakespear) -- Waste reduction: undiverted materials - Watch</p> <p>Would make a change in the Public Resources Code to provide that if certain organic waste services are not offered through local ordinance or franchise, organics may be collected and processed by others; and that exclusivity in a franchise or permit cannot “exceed” the services required to be performed and actually performed.</p> <p>Policy Platform: Waste Diversion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Cal Cities position: Concerns

20.	<p>AB 2632 (Wilson) – Planning and zoning: thrift retail stores - <i>Watch</i></p> <p>Would add an article to the Government Code providing that cities may not treat a thrift retail store differently from a nonthrift retail store for purposes of zoning, development standards, including, but not limited to, height, size, parking requirements, or setbacks from adjacent uses, or permitting.</p> <p>Policy Platform: Governance and Accountability</p>
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Agenda Report

TO: CCCSWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

DATE: APRIL 25, 2024

SUBJECT: FIRST AMENDMENT TO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

SUMMARY

The CCCSWA Personnel Committee met with Executive Director David Krueger and is recommending to the full Board a change in his employment agreement allowing him to work remotely, on a limited basis, effective 04/26/2024.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

1. Authorize the CCCSWA Board Chair to sign the First Amendment to the Executive Director Employment Agreement with David Krueger, allowing remote work up to two days per week, every other week.

DISCUSSION

The Executive Director's Employment Agreement states that "Employee shall generally be present on a regular basis at the offices of CCCSWA during regular office hours from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 pm. Monday through Friday in order to supervise and perform administrative services." The proposed First Amendment would add that "Notwithstanding the foregoing, Employee may work remotely during regular office hours up to two days per week every other week; such remote work may not be possible when CCCSWA business requires Employee's physical presence at the office or at off-site locations." The Executive Director requested this change, and the Personnel Committee agrees that it is reasonable.

ATTACHMENT

- A. First Amendment to Employment Agreement between the CCCSWA and David Krueger

FIRST AMENDMENT TO EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

This First Amendment to Employment Agreement (“First Amendment”) is entered into by and between the CENTRAL CONTRA COSTA SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY (“CCCSWA”) and DAVID KRUEGER (“Employee”), collectively referred to as the “Parties.”

WHEREAS, CCCSWA and Employee entered that certain Employment Agreement dated as of October ____, 2022 (“Employment Agreement”); and

WHEREAS, consistent with the Employment Agreement at Section Q(1), CCCSWA and Employee wish to modify the Employment Agreement to reflect their agreement related to Employee’s request to work remotely on a limited basis;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties do hereby agree as follows:

1. Effective April 25, 2024, the first paragraph of Section H of the Employment Agreement is amended as follows, with additions shown in underline and deletions shown in ~~striketrough~~ text:

H. Office and Work Hours. The CCCSWA Board and Employee agree that Employee shall generally be present on a regular basis at the offices of CCCSWA during regular office hours from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 pm. Monday through Friday in order to supervise and perform administrative services. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Employee may work remotely during regular office hours up to two days per week every other week; such remote work may not be possible when CCCSWA business requires Employee’s physical presence at the office or at off-site locations. It is also recognized that Employee will attend meetings as needed with member agency staff, and/or their legislative bodies; contractors, franchisees, and vendors; and CCCSWA constituents outside of the office during these office hours and outside of these office hours at other times as needed.

2. This First Amendment and all its terms, conditions, and provisions shall be deemed to be part of the Employment Agreement. Except as expressly modified herein, the Employment Agreement remains unchanged and in full force and effect. Should there be conflicts or inconsistencies between this First Amendment and the Employment Agreement, the provisions of this First Amendment shall prevail to the extent necessary to resolve such conflicts or inconsistencies.

3. This First Amendment may be executed in several counterparts, each one of which shall constitute an original and all collectively shall constitute but one instrument. This First Amendment may be executed by electronic signature. Each counterpart signature may be delivered by electronic mail transmission.

IN WITNESS HEREOF, CCCSWA and Employee have duly executed this First Amendment as of the date indicated by the Parties’ signatures below.

CENTRAL CONTRA COSTA SOLID WASTE
AUTHORITY

Dated: _____

By: _____
GINA DAWSON, BOARD CHAIR

EMPLOYEE

Dated: _____

By: _____
DAVID KRUEGER

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Deborah Miller, Counsel for CCCSWA

**PROCLAMATION OF
THE CENTRAL CONTRA COSTA SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY
(RECYCLESMART) RECOGNIZING
JAMES A. NEJEDLY**

WHEREAS, James A. Nejedly (Jim) began his career in the waste industry three decades ago, first in trucking and parts allocation, and working his way up to the position of General Operations Manager at Mt. Diablo Resource Recovery (“MDRR”); and

WHEREAS, Jim has been serving the RecycleSmart ratepayers since 2015, managing MDRR’s Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) which sorts 40,000 tons per year of our recyclables; implementing the successful and popular Reuse program, which handles over 2.6 million pounds of reusable items per year; and running the retail battery recycling program, which collects over 31,000 pounds of batteries per year, and

WHEREAS, Jim helped and enriched the lives of thousands of people through the Reuse program by making needed items, such as furniture, clothes, books, household goods, school supplies, bicycles, and more, available to them at no cost; and

WHEREAS, Jim ensured that MDRR’s MRF was always exceptionally well-run, and oversaw a multimillion-dollar MRF modernization project, finalized in 2022; and

WHEREAS, over many years, Jim has built positive relationships with people in all facets of the industry, including sorters, drivers, equipment operators, mechanics, customer service agents, union representatives, supervisors, outreach coordinators, vendors, office staff, local agency officials and staff, regulators, code enforcement officials, and customers; and

WHEREAS, Jim has continued his family legacy of dedicated public service, having served on the Central San Board of Directors for 24 years, and volunteering since childhood at Camp Nejedly, an outdoor camp in Sierra County for children and youth with disabilities that has enriched the lives of countless youth since 1963; and

WHEREAS, Jim interacted with the public frequently, happily giving tours of the MRF and of the Reuse warehouse, which under his management were possibly the cleanest MRF and the most organized Reuse warehouse in the State of California; and

WHEREAS, Jim has always, without fail, immediately responded to every customer request for service to get the job done and done well, no matter what the job or the conditions; and

WHEREAS, Jim always demonstrated great pride in his team and their work, genuinely cared about his employees, and was available to his staff anytime they needed him, 24 hours a day, every day of the year; and

WHEREAS, RecycleSmart has benefited greatly from Jim’s leadership in its recycling and reuse programs and efforts;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority hereby recognizes Jim Nejedly for his many years of service to our communities, his tireless work ethic, and his leadership in recycling and reuse programs.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority Board of Directors on April 25, 2024, by the following vote:

AYES: Members: _____

NOES: Members: _____

ABSENT: Members: _____

Chair
Central Contra Costa Solid Waste
Authority, County of Contra Costa, State
of California

COUNTER-SIGNED:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Janna McKay, Secretary of the Board,
Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority,
County of Contra Costa, State of California

Deborah L. Miller, Counsel for the
Central Contra Costa Solid Waste
Authority, County of Contra Costa, State
of California



Agenda Report

Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority

TO: CCCSWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: DAVID KRUEGER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
JANNA MCKAY, BOARD SECRETARY
DATE: APRIL 25, 2024

SUBJECT: TOURS OF POST-COLLECTION FACILITIES

RECOMMENDED ACTION

1. This report is provided for information only. No Board action is required.

DISCUSSION

At the March 28, 2024 Board meeting, the Board approved a recommendation from the Franchise Design Ad Hoc Committee to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for post-collection services. On March 29, 2024, the Authority released an RFP for post-collection services, including:

- Transfer and Transport
- Solid Waste Disposal
- Recyclable Materials Processing
- Commingled Organics Composting
- Mixed Waste Processing

The RFP can be found on this webpage: [Request for Proposals Post-Collection Services - RecycleSmart](#)

Potential proposers have offered to provide tours of their post-collection facilities to Board members. Staff agrees that such tours would be beneficial to the RFP process, and is organizing tours in a manner that will comply with the Brown Act and with the Board-adopted Franchise Procurement Process Integrity Policy. To comply with the Brown Act, no more than six Board Members can attend the same tour. To comply with the Franchise Procurement Process Integrity Policy, staff will organize the tours in a public, transparent manner instead of having potential proposers contact individual Board members directly to schedule tours. Potential proposers cannot provide any gifts or meals to Board members, staff or consultants, including during the tours.

Post-collection services are scheduled to be awarded at the October 24, 2024 Board meeting. Facility tours can take place any time between May 1 and September 30.

Board Secretary Janna McKay will contact Board members to determine which facilities they would like to tour and when they are available. She will organize the tours and transportation. Some tours may include more than one facility on the same day.

ATTACHMENT A: Post-Collection Facility Tour List

POST-COLLECTION FACILITY TOURS

Company	Facility and Location	Facility Type	Time Needed for Touring*	Days/Times Available
GreenWaste Recovery	San Jose Material Recovery Facility – San Jose https://www.greenwaste.com/about-us/processing-facility/	Recyclables Processing, Mixed Waste Processing	1 hour	Monday-Friday Anytime except for 7:30am, 8:30am & 2pm
	Zanker Resource Recovery Facility – San Jose https://www.greenwaste.com/facilities/san-jose-c-and-d-recycling/	C&D Processing**	1.5 hours	Anytime Thursday or Friday
	Renewable Energy Digestion Facility – San Jose https://www.greenwaste.com/facilities/anaerobic-digester/	Anerobic Digestion	1.5 hours	Anytime Thursday or Friday
	Z-Best Composting Facility – Gilroy https://www.greenwaste.com/facilities/composting-facility/	Composting	45 minutes	Monday or Friday 9am – 3pm
MDRR	Mt. Diablo Resource Recovery Park – Pittsburg Processing Facility - Mt. Diablo Resource Recovery (mdrr.com)	Transfer Station, Recyclables Processing, C&D Processing**	1 hours	Any day starting in August
	Mt. Diablo Resource Recovery Warehouse – Pittsburg	Reusables collected from the Reuse Program	30 minutes	Any day starting in August
Recology	Hay Road – Vacaville https://www.recology.com/recology-vacaville-solano/hay-road-landfill/	Landfill	1 hour	Anytime 8am – 4pm
	Blossom Valley Organics North – Vernalis https://www.recology.com/blossom-valley-organics-north/	Composting	1 hour	Anytime 7am – 4pm

Agenda Item No. 5b
Attachment A

Republic Services	Keller Canyon – Pittsburg	Landfill	45 minutes	8am – 10am Dates available upon request
	Contra Costa Transfer Station – Martinez	Transfer Station	45 minutes	8am – 10am Dates available upon request
	Forward Landfill Resource & Recovery – Manteca	Composting	1 hour	Monday-Friday 8am – 2pm
	West Contra Costa Organic Materials Processing Facility – Richmond	Composting	1 hour	Tues-Thurs 8am-1 pm
	Newby Island Recyclery – Milpitas	Recyclables Processing	1 hour	Monday-Friday 8am – 2pm
	West County Resource Recovery – Richmond	Recyclables Processing	1 hour	Monday-Friday 8am – 2pm
Waste Management	Davis Street Resource Recovery Complex and Transfer Station – San Leandro Davis Street Transfer Station - Oakland / San Leandro, CA - WM (wmnorcalnev.com)	Transfer Station, Mixed Waste Processing, Composting, Recyclables Processing (future), C&D Processing**	1 hour	Every Monday 9 – 11:00am

*Does not include travel time

**C&D (Construction and Demolition Debris) processing is not franchised by the Authority and is not one of the services requested in the post-collection RFP

Additional facilities may become available to tour in the future if offered by a potential proposer.



Agenda Report

TO: CCCSWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: DAVID KRUEGER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
DATE: APRIL 25, 2024
SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT

SUMMARY

Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority (Authority) staff performs high-level programmatic and administrative tasks each month to provide outreach and education to residents, businesses, and schools to increase diversion and instill waste prevention practices. Staff manages the franchise agreements and customer service in addition to monitoring monthly reporting by our service providers. Staff also actively engages with Member Agency staff, community groups, and regional partners on a variety of topics including SB 1383, legislation, and industry best practices.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

1. This report is provided for information only. No Board action is required.

DISCUSSION

Completed and Ongoing Activities in April

- On March 29 staff issued an RFP for post-collection services. On April 9, staff hosted a pre-proposal meeting. There were 18 attendees representing 7 different firms. Staff gave a PowerPoint presentation on the post-collection RFP and the various cost forms. Attendees were invited to ask questions. An Addendum including questions and responses and a list of attendees was posted on the Authority's post collection RFP web page: <https://www.recyclesmart.org/rfp-post-collection-services/>.

Dates related to the proposal process:

April 16: Questions related to the RFP due
 April 26: Answers posted to the RFP website
 May 31: Proposals due

- On March 1 the Authority released a survey to obtain input from customers about our services. The customer feedback will be used throughout the RFP evaluation process and to help develop the 2027 Franchise. This online survey is the first step in a stakeholder engagement process that

will utilize a variety of methods to obtain input from residential and commercial customers. Staff provided promotional information with a QR code to Member Agency staff. The survey was featured in the Spring RecycleSmart newsletter which was delivered to residents the first week of April, local newspapers, social media, and was sent to local community organizations. The survey will be live from March 1–July 31. As of 4/17/2024, there are 1,434 responses. **The promotional graphic and QR code are provided below.**

Staff is developing a plan to engage with HOAs, property owners/managers and commercial businesses for direct feedback.



- Staff meets with Republic Services every other week and works collaboratively with Republic’s management team, Sustainability Advisors, and finance department to discuss franchise requirements, customer feedback, service issues, Member Agency requests, rates, ongoing commercial site visits, and outreach.
- The April Member Agency liaison meeting was cancelled as there were not enough pressing matters to justify the time. Two CalRecycle representatives will be attending the upcoming May 9th meeting to conduct one of the agency’s two annual evaluations of our jurisdictions. The focus of the May meeting will be to review capacity planning responsibilities for both edible food and organic waste as defined in Article 11 of the SB 1383 regulations and the Authority’s SB 1383 Implementation Record as defined in Section 18995.2 of the SB 1383 regulations.

Member Agency Liaisons				
Member Agency	Name	Title	Email	Phone
County	David Brockbank	Conservation Programs Manager	David.Brockbank@dcd.cccounty.us	(925) 655-2911

Danville	Cat Bravo	Management Analyst	cbravo@danville.ca.gov	(925) 314-3377
Lafayette	Anna Tolle	Planning Technician	ATolle@ci.lafayette.ca.us	(925) 299-3205
Orinda	Darin Hughes	Assistant Planner	dhughes@cityoforinda.org	(925)253- 4269
Moraga	Brian Horn	Senior Planner	bhorn@moraga.ca.us	(925) 888-7044
Walnut Creek	Candice Rankin Mumby	Sustainability Manager	rankinmumby@walnut-creek.org	(925) 943-5899 x2304

- The annual compost giveaway events in coordination with Republic Services are scheduled on April 27 for Walnut Creek, Danville, and County residents, and on May 4 for Lafayette, Orinda and Moraga residents. The events are scheduled in conjunction with International Compost Awareness Week, May 5-11, 2024. To learn more about this initiative visit, www.CompostFoundation.org/ICAW. The compost provided counts towards SB 1383 procurement requirements. **The photos below are from the 2023 events.**

Registration for both events is full. Staff started a waitlist with over 100 residents to date. Republic Services will provide a self-serve pile somewhere in the service area for residents on the waitlist. Authority staff is looking into a permanent compost hub in coordination with Republic Services.



- Authority staff and Republic Services participated at the following community events with a shared outreach booth and provided recycling, organics, and landfill service with waste station monitors:
 - Walnut Creek Earth Day, April 20
 - Danville EarthFest, April 21
 - Lafayette Earth Day, April 21

- On April 8, staff trained the volunteers who serve lunch to seniors at the Danville Veteran’s Hall each Monday on how to properly sort the lunch discards to maximize use of the three-stream waste system in use at the Hall.
- On April 19th, Rossmoor hosted its first Repair Café! Staff coordinated with Pam Giarizzo from Sustainable Rossmoor, Laura Wehrley from Sustainable Contra Costa, and Santina Gallegos-Asimos from Republic Services to put on the event as part of Rossmoor Earth Day. Residents were able to meet with repair coaches to repair various household items, clothing, and jewelry. It was a huge success; 77 items brought in for repair and the majority repaired on the spot!



- The Authority continues to work with ReThink Disposable and FoodWare To Go to help businesses transition from single-use to reusable for dine-in and takeout. Through the partnership with FoodWare To Go, **The Rising Loafer Café & Bakery in Lafayette** was awarded Activist of the Year 2024 by Upstream Solutions, a nonprofit promoting reuse in the United States and Canada. (See Reusies Awards: www.thereusies.org/2024-activist-awards.) The Reusies Activist of the Year award recognizes individual changemakers and heroes who are championing reduce, refill and reuse solutions in their communities. A livestream event was hosted on April 23 to celebrate the winners and allow community members to learn about these inspiring activists. **The Upstream webpage is provided in this Board packet as an informational article.**



SB 1383 Completed and Ongoing Activities in April

The SB 1383 budget and activities are currently funded by CalRecycle SB 1383 local assistance grant funds.

- The Authority contracted with Environmental Science Associates (ESA) to complete the required SB 1383 edible food recovery capacity planning study due to CalRecycle August 1, 2024. The capacity planning study covers the period of January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2034. The purpose of the study is to determine how much edible food is currently being disposed of by Tier One and Tier Two generators in our service area, how much edible food is being collected by edible food recovery organizations that serve our area, and how much more edible food could be recovered if the food recovery organizations had additional resources such as storage (including refrigeration/freezer), technology, staff and volunteers.
- Staff is developing a large-format educational poster on best practices for optimal edible food recovery for Tier One grocery stores. While participating in recent trainings, staff noticed this was a need for grocery store staff.

Staff participated in or attended the following meetings in April

- International Compost Awareness Week planning webinar, April 3
- Post Collection RFP Pre-Proposal meeting, April 9
- California Product Stewardship Council Policy and Education Advisory meeting, April 11
- AB 2346 (SB 1383 Procurement modifications) stakeholder meeting, April 15
- California Product Stewardship Council Associates meeting, April 17
- Alameda County Recycling Markets Network quarterly meeting, April 18
- Zero Waste Now bi-monthly meeting, April 22
- Contra Costa County Sustainability Exchange event, April 24



Future Agenda Items

TYPE	BOARD MEETING: 5/23/2024
C	Approve 04/25/2024 Minutes
A	2024-25 Operations and Reuse Budgets
I	Executive Director's Monthly Report
I	Republic's Collection Service Quality Metrics
P	Schools Program Scholarship Award

TYPE	BOARD MEETING: 06/27/2024
C	Approve 05/23/2024 Minutes
I	Executive Director's Monthly Report
I	Republic's Collection Service Quality Metrics

TYPE

- C – Consent Item
- A – Action Item
- I – Information Item
- P – Presentation

RecycleSmart Helps Us Sort Our Trash

BY JANET FAZIO · PHOTOS PROVIDED

RecycleSmart is a government office that manages the recycling, organics and garbage services for Orinda, Lafayette, Moraga, Walnut Creek, Danville and adjacent unincorporated county areas such as Alamo, Blackhawk and Diablo. The 12-member RecycleSmart Board of Directors is made up of two city/town council members or the County Board of Supervisors for each member community.

Recycling, organics and garbage services are provided through contracts with Republic Services and Mt. Diablo Resource Recovery. RecycleSmart is in the process of soliciting bids for services beginning in 2027. As part of this process, RecycleSmart is seeking input from the community: RecycleSmart.org/Survey.

Households and businesses want to recycle properly but it can be confusing. Blue, green or black? Your blue recycling cart is for clean glass, metal, paper and some plastics. Many plastic products and packaging we think are recyclable often aren't. As we commemorate the 54th anniversary of Earth Day, Ashley Louisiana, who is a program manager at RecycleSmart, Lafayette resident, and a member of the City of Lafayette Environmental Task Force, reminds us that just because an item is plastic that does not always mean the item can be placed in the recycling cart.

RecycleSmart accepts #1 – #7 empty, clean and dry plastic containers and bundled plastic film bags. Most plastic packaging, such as plastic mailing envelopes and chip/snack bags, for example, is not accepted in the blue recycling cart and should be placed in the black landfill cart. California is changing the way products are designed by passing SB 54, a landmark Producer Responsibility law with plastic pollution reduction requirements on single-use packaging and plastic food service ware by 2032.



Ashley Louisiana, program manager at RecycleSmart, Lafayette resident and member of the City of Lafayette Environmental Task Force



In addition to yard trimmings and food, any uncoated, food-soiled paper should be discarded in the green organics cart. This includes paper towels, napkins, greasy pizza boxes and uncoated paper food containers. Unfortunately, most paper cups (including to-go cups), plates and cartons are coated with a thin layer of plastic (PE and PLA) and are not accepted in the green organics cart. These products do not break down fast enough in the commercial composting process and should be placed in the black landfill cart. Not sure if your to-go food container is coated or not? “The rule of thumb,” Ashley says, “is if it appears shiny, then it is coated.” The best use for clean office paper, mailers and cardboard boxes is the blue recycling cart, and don't worry about removing tape and labels.

RecycleSmart has been a leading agency in California in implementing programs and services to comply with SB1383, the 2016 bill that created the statewide effort to reduce emissions of short-lived climate pollutants (SLCP). Organics decomposing in a landfill create methane, a climate super pollutant. Reducing SLCPs like methane will help the climate crisis. Composting organics is now the law for everyone in California.

Ashley says, “If you have questions about recycling and composting, reach out! You can email or call our local RecycleSmart team in Walnut Creek.”

RecycleSmart also launched a text messaging tool for proper sorting! Text “Hello Recycling Bin” to 925-940-5795 to ask if an item should go in recycling, organics or landfill, and save this phone number in your contacts for on-demand sorting questions!

FOLLOW RECYCLESMAST
Instagram: @recyclesmartorg
Facebook: @CCCSWA
authority@recyclesmart.org
RecycleSmart.org



In addition to yard trimmings and food, any uncoated, food-soiled paper such as paper towels and pizza boxes should be discarded in the green organics cart.



ROSSMOOR NEWS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2024

WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA

VOLUME 58, NO. 5 • 75 CENTS

Planning Committee recommends abandoning land-use study

Insurance crisis cited as the top priority right now

By Sam Richards
Staff writer

The proposed GRF study of a possible future sale of the Garden Club property off Tice Valley Boulevard and/or the east side of Terra Granada Drive at Grey Eagle Drive soon may be off the table for at least the near future, as the GRF Planning Committee voted unanimously Thursday for the GRF Board to remove the plan from “immediate consideration.”

The planned study of whether selling either or both of those parcels to raise money for GRF capital projects is workable had generated widespread criticism from Rossmoor residents, especially members of the Garden Club and residents living near Terra Granada and Grey Eagle drives.

GRF General Manager Jeff Matheson said

public opinion of the study “certainly spun far beyond what the intent of the study was” – to gauge the parcels’ development potential as part of future financial planning. Rossmoor, Matheson added, has other higher-priority issues that demand GRF’s attention, including the pressing insurance/mortgage problems and negotiations to renew the GRF Trust Agreement governing ownership, maintenance and operations of Rossmoor’s shared amenities for the benefit of the Mutuals.

“There are certainly higher priorities in the community,” Matheson told the Planning Committee.

The Planning Committee voted unanimously, 4-0, to recommend that the GRF Board remove the “yield study” from immediate consideration. The Board is expected to make a final

Continued on page 5A



News photo by Dan Rosenstrach

GRF General Manager Jeff Matheson, surrounded by a standing-room-only group of residents attending Thursday’s Planning Committee meeting at Gateway, asks the committee to abandon the land use study at this time..

As Good As New

Repair Café making a Rossmoor stop on April 19

By Mike Wood
Staff writer

The Repair Café, a worldwide phenomenon in sustainability efforts, is coming to Rossmoor this Friday, April 19, at Dollar Clubhouse.

That’s where residents can bring one household item, ranging from an appliance, electronics, sew-able items, and more, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. At Dollar, residents who have a background in fixing items, known in the Repair Café realm as repair coaches, will work to repair or mend items. Rapid Recycle of Pacheco will be on hand to take away items that repair



News photo by Dan Rosenstrach

Resident Ardean Lehnus works on her sewing machine making table mats inside her home last week. Lehnus will be one of a group of residents repairing broken or torn item during the Repair Café at Dollar Clubhouse on April 19.

coaches are unable to fix.

Pam Giarrizzo, vice president of Sustainable Rossmoor, chair of its legislative committee and writer

of its weekly newsletter, is the catalyst in bringing a Repair Café to Rossmoor, where residents can discover that an

Continued on page 9A

GRF Board election



News photo by Dan Rosenstrach

Residents participating in the GRF Board candidates forum are, from left, challengers for District A Melanie Rose, Diane St. James and Roy Young, and unopposed incumbents Leanne Hamaji, Ted Bentley and Cheryl Hines.

Candidates discuss Membership Transfer Fee, top goal, more

By Sam Richards
Staff writer

One challenger may disagree, but the other five GRF Board candidates, including the three who are running unopposed, say the Membership Transfer Fee

paid by all first-time homebuyers into Rossmoor is absolutely vital for funding new capital projects and for paying for necessary maintenance to community facilities.

While all six candidates at an April 10 candidates’ forum supported the fee, they have different views on how to implement it. **Continued on page 32A**

Proposed changes to demonstrations policy heads to Board for consideration

By Mike Wood
Staff writer

Proposed changes to policy regarding demonstrations on GRF property are heading to the GRF Board for a first reading, pending legal review.

The Policy Committee voted 4 to 0 at its April 8 meeting to recommend changes to Policy 103.5, which has been in place since December 2020. A few more revisions were made during the meeting to the proposal. **Continued on page 7A**



News photo by Dan Rosenstrach

Policy Committee member Carol Meehan speaks during the monthly meeting at Gateway.

INSIDE THE NEWS

Section A

Bridge & Games.....	22-24A
Health.....	27-28A
Main News.....	1-20A
Op/Ed Columns.....	25-26A
Residents Forum.....	25-26A
Rossmoor TV Guide.....	30A
Sports.....	21A, 24A

Section B

Arts and Leisure.....	1-16B
Classified.....	17-26B
Fitness Center Schedule.....	9B
Food & Drink.....	14B
Movies.....	5B
Obituaries.....	13B
Religion.....	12-13B
The Travel Pages.....	7-8B



Next Red Cross blood drive planned for April 30. See page 2A.

www.rossmoornews.com

REPAIR: Sustainable Rossmoor's Pam Giarrizzo works to bring café to Rossmoor

Continued from page 1A
out-of-commission household item's lifespan is not over.

It fits right into Sustainable Rossmoor's ideals.

"We're all about sustainability, and that means not throwing out things," she said. "They can still be made useful again. Landfills are filling up and lots of things get thrown out, even if they can be recycled."

The Repair Café is among several Sustainable Rossmoor activities Friday around Dollar Park and its parking lot. There will be EV test drives, tree tours, a book giveaway, free plant-based baked goods, and tables with members of Sustainable Rossmoor committees, such as Legislative, Planet Friendly Eating, Election and Trash Talk.

Residents bringing items to the Repair Café will register and fill out a repair ticket at the desk that's just inside the Dollar House front door.

They will be called when a repair coach is free to help them, either in the Solarium, where appliance, electrical and electronic work will be done, or the Churchill Room, for sewing and jewelry. Bronwen Mauch, a bike mechanic, will be stationed outside to help with two-wheeler issues.

"I think it'll be easier for the sewing and jewelry people because those fixes are obvious: A torn seam needs to be re-sewn or a clasp needs to be replaced on a necklace," Giarrizzo said.

For appliances and electronics, those might take longer to diagnose. "Maybe it's just not cleaned. And that's an easy fix. We'll have cleaning stuff so that they can go through and



News photo by Dan Rosenstrauch

Repair Café organizer Pam Giarrizzo explains the layout for the first Repair Café, which will be held inside Dollar Clubhouse on Friday April 19.

do cleaning."

Ardean Lehnus couldn't wait to sign up to be a repair coach after reading Giarrizzo's article in the News. A member of the Sewing Arts Club for 18 years, Lehnus said, "I always have a toolbox and a sewing box with me."

"I read that article and said 'Wow, they are looking for people like me,'" Lehnus said. "Just the idea of a repair clinic had my name on it!"

Her knack for fixing things began growing up around her father, an engineer, and her grandfather, a master carpenter.

"You'd see a lot of things getting fixed," Lehnus said. "I took to it like a duck to water; I love helping people."

So much so that a friend once dubbed her "Mrs. Fix-it" and "Handy Ma'am," she said. Years ago, when word got out that she was laying down linoleum, she was told "Girls don't do that!" Her reply? "This one does!"

Another repair coach, Paul Ridgway, began working with electronics in his youth, using

a Heathkit, and was comfortable taking things apart and putting them back together in working order.

"I just enjoy electronics," said Ridgway, who worked as a staff research associate at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

"I'm good with my hands, and like to repair things," he added, describing how he can build and repair homemade e-bikes.

"I don't want to throw things away because it doesn't go with who I am," he said. "I am a tightwad."

As a public school teacher in Brooklyn, Mauch ran a bicycle-recycling center in a junior high school, noting, "it was like having woodshop, but it was 'bikeshop.'" Mauch also spent four years as head mechanic for nonprofit Bikes Concord.

Mauch is looking forward to the café also as a means of community-building: "I'm all for that. ... It's wonderful having people come together and talk to each other, even if it is 'My bike isn't working.'"

As of last week, Giarrizzo had 17 repair coaches signed up, but she could use more. Those interested can email giarrizzo@aol.com to reach her.

There are Repair Cafés in Berkeley, Palo Alto and Mountain View. Millbrae has a Fit-It Clinic, which differs in that an item's owner and a coach work together on a repair.

The Repair Café website at www.repaircafe.org/en has links to cafes around the world – there are over 2,500 of them – how to volunteer, start a repair café, plus resources for fixing items.

Martine Postma organized the first Repair Café in 2009

in Amsterdam. The first one in the U.S. opened in 2012 in Palo Alto.

"The idea was that if you can put together people who need something fixed with people who like to fix things, then you have fewer things that end up in the landfill," Giarrizzo said.

Giarrizzo read about the concept in a newsletter and thought it was a brilliant idea.

"I couldn't figure out why no one had thought about that in this area," she said.

She contacted Laura Wehrley, Sustainable Contra Costa's outreach director, who agreed this would be a great idea and encouraged her to go for it. Wehrley thought Rossmoor would be a good test site, given it's a private community. The timing aligned nicely with Rossmoor Earth Day festivities.

Wehrley brought in Santina Gallegos-Asimos, Republic Services sustainability adviser, and Jen Faught from RecycleSmart to help with planning. They will be volunteering at the Repair Café, along with a few other volunteers.

Fixing your own household items might be easier once again, and not just due to Repair Cafes. California's Right to Repair Act goes into effect this July, requiring manufac-

turers of appliances and electronics to provide documentation and other means to make it easier for consumers to repair things for themselves.

Giarrizzo is encouraged by that new law. It's become an increasing frustration for consumers because of the practice of planned obsolescence, products designed to have short lifespans and are difficult to repair. Giarrizzo experienced that going to the Palo Alto Repair Café with a not-that-old wine bottle opener in hand.

"It couldn't be fixed, but it was still a valuable experience for me," she said, describing how a repair coach discovered that a battery inside needed replacement, but there was no way to open the device.

Lehnus has one word for planned obsolescence: "disgusting."

"It bothers me when some useable item gets discarded," she added. "It doesn't need to go into the landfill."

"One of my loves in life is how to fix things and how to find how it can be repurposed."

The Repair Café is just the place for that.

"I have all my tools with me, and I am ready to go," Mauch said.

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Janna McKay

To: Janna McKay
Subject: FW: Feedback

From: Judy White <jwhite181920@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 13, 2024 5:18 PM
To: Authority <authority@recyclesmart.org>
Subject: Feedback

My favorite service is the Recycle Smart Newsletter that you send several times a year. When I read it, I always learn something new about sorting and feel that little by little this newsletter is helping me to make the planet a better place to live. It's written in a way that would appeal to all ages with wonderful charts and a good use of bullet marks that make things clearer. The kids corner section is fabulous and I only wish that my grandchildren lived closer to me so we could do these projects together. So kudos to Janna McKay, the editor, and to Recycle Smart for making informing the public an important part of what they do! Sincerely, Judy White, age 84