

Meeting: April 6, 2010
Board of Supervisors
Agenda Item: **2**

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Re: Solid Waste Handling in the City of Santa Barbara by Allied Waste and Marborg

Currently the city of Santa Barbara has two companies providing the service: Allied Waste Services (Republic Services) and Marborg. It appears that both companies are doing a good job, so keeping both and keeping the open market competition appears to be a good approach.

Two companies competing with each other, in essence, are keeping themselves in check. Competition offers better service and better price for all the clients using the service.

Once a company becomes the only game in town, this check will be gone and the incentive to perform will be reduced. With no competition, services could deteriorate as there is no fear of replacement.

Both companies have local ties and local workers, so both companies should be kept.

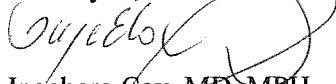
Automatization should be considered if it will reduce the service rates.


In the case of a natural disaster (massive earthquake or tsunami) the debris that accumulates would overpower only one waste handling server. With two servers the service would likely resume more quickly. Hiring a brand new company from the outside, because of the emergency, would bring with it higher costs.

In our area of Goleta, Allied has provided us with fine service, the drivers are very courteous and always ready to go beyond the line of service.

Please do not take away their livelihood.

Thank you,


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