



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER**

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Submitted on:
(COB Stamp)

Department Name: General Services
Department No.: 063
For Agenda Of: 7/18/06
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time:
Continued Item: YES
If Yes, date from: 5/16/06
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Director: Bob Nisbet, Director, General Services Department, ext. 2626
William Gillette, Agricultural Commissioner, ext. 5600
Phillip Demery, Director, Public Works Department, ext. 3010
Jason Stilwell, Interim Director, Parks Department, ext. 2461

Contact Info: Paddy Langlands, Assistant Director, General Services Department, ext. 3096
Mark Schleich, Deputy Director, Public Works Department, ext. 3603
Jim Isaac, South County Deputy Director, Parks Department, ext. 5651

SUBJECT: 2005-06 Green Team Annual Update and Integrated Pest Management Strategy Annual Update

County Counsel Concurrence:

As to form/legality: Yes No N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence:

As to form: Yes No N/A

Recommended Action(s):

That the Board of Supervisors set a public hearing for July 25, 2006 for 20 minutes to:

- A) Accept the Green Team's 2005-06 Green Team Annual Update (see Attachment A); and
- B) Accept the Integrated Pest Management Strategy Annual Update from the Grounds Management Committee (see Attachment B).

Summary:

At the direction of your Board, staff has prepared the 2005-06 Green Team Annual Update (see Attachment A) and the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Strategy Annual Update (see Attachment B). The Green Team Annual Update reports on the County's efforts at protecting, preserving, and improving the environment in such areas as commingled recycling, hazardous waste recycling, energy conservation, use of hybrid and electric vehicles, protection of water quality, and water efficiency. Similarly, the IPM Strategy Annual Update describes the County's efforts to reduce the use of pesticides through the implementation of IPM practices.

Background:

On April 20, 1999, your Board accepted the project charter of the newly formed Green Team in honor of Earth Week. The Green Team's goal is to increase the efficient use of resources and to reduce the County's reliance on pesticides. Since that time, the Green Team has implemented a number of programs that promote environmental stewardship in County operations. Annually, the Green Team compiles information and provides your Board with an updated report.

In June 1999, the County Green Team was asked to initiate a process to enable the County to assess its pesticide use. As a result, representatives from the Public Works Department, General Services Department, Parks Department, and the

Agricultural Commissioner’s Office formed a Pesticide Committee. This Committee subsequently developed an Integrated Pest Management Strategy with the goal of reducing the potential impact of pesticide use on our community. On April 4, 2000, your Board adopted the IPM Strategy and directed County departments to implement procedures for pesticide use outlined in that document. The IPM Strategy promotes the design, construction, and maintenance of County landscapes and structures in a way that protects and enhances the region’s natural resources and public health. The main component of the IPM Strategy is to reduce the County’s reliance on the use of pesticides by formalizing and increasing the County’s application of IPM techniques. In 2003, the IPM Strategy was updated to include new tasks to be undertaken by the County.

Immediately following the Board’s adoption of the IPM Strategy in April 2000, a Grounds Management Committee (GMC)(renamed from the Pesticide Committee) was established, comprised of representatives from the General Services Department, Public Works Department, Parks Department, and Agricultural Commissioner’s Office. The GMC meets quarterly to coordinate activities, exchange information, review requests for new products, set goals, and evaluate progress. Each department has appointed a Coordinator to oversee pilot projects to implement IPM techniques. The IPM Strategy includes a summary of pesticide use and progress reports from County departments on their respective pilot projects, and this information is submitted to the Board of Supervisors as a component in the Green Team’s Annual Update.

Consistent with these programs and at the direction of the Board, staff has prepared the Green Team Annual Update (Attachment A) and the IPM Strategy Annual Update (Attachment B).

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

None

Budgeted: Yes No

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized Cost:</u>	<u>Total Project Cost</u>
General Fund			
State			
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Narrative:

Staffing Impact(s):

Legal Positions:

FTEs:

None

Special Instructions:

Attachments: (list all)

- Attachment A: 2005-06 Green Team Annual Update and
- Attachment B: IPM Strategy Annual Update

Authored by:

Alan Nakashima, Program Specialist, Resource Recovery & Waste Management Division of the Public Works Department, 882-3616

cc:

Attachment A

2005-06 Green Team Annual Update

On April 20, 1999, your Board accepted the project charter of the newly formed Green Team in honor of Earth Week. In the past seven years, the Green Team has made great strides in implementing a number of ongoing programs that promote environmental stewardship in County operations. The Green Team has compiled the following annual update for your review:

Commingled Recycling Program

In 1999, the County Green Team began expanding the County's recycling program to include commingled recycling in facilities where commingled service was available. Presently, most County facilities (over 150 buildings) have commingled recycling services, however, limited access and leasing situations make it difficult to implement commingled recycling in the remaining buildings. The Green Team and the Resource Recovery & Waste Management Division of the Public Works Department will continue their efforts to implement recycling at these remaining facilities in order to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfills each year and to increase the overall diversion rate for the County of Santa Barbara.

From April 2005 through April 2006, 21 sites for 11 County departments received various types of recycling containers to enable them to expand their participation in the County's commingled recycling program. The Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division worked with each department to provide the requested number of recycling containers, such as dumpsters, carts, cardboard boxes, and crates. Also, if needed, the Division provided instruction to personnel in the requesting Department on the proper use of the containers.

In addition, the Green Team continues to analyze the trash and recycling service levels at many County facilities in order to ensure that the service levels are both adequate and cost effective. For example, in February 2006, the Parks Department began requiring large groups that use the Courthouse Sunken Gardens for various events to provide recycling containers in addition to trash containers for use by the attendees.

Hazardous Waste Recycling

County employees utilize hundreds of batteries each year for pagers, cameras, calculators, palm pilots, and other electronic equipment. These batteries are hazardous waste and need to be disposed of properly. To address this situation, the County Green Team initiated the County Battery Recycling Program on April 1, 2001. The Battery Recycling Program focuses on diverting dry cell batteries (e.g. 12 volt, 6 volt, and "D" sized batteries and smaller), including alkaline, nickel-cadmium, and lithium batteries from our landfills.

County employees are encouraged to recycle their used batteries from work by sending them through inter-departmental mail to the Mail Services Division. Mailroom staff members then sort the batteries by category and take them to the Community Hazardous Waste Collection Center, located at the University of California at Santa Barbara. During the 2005 – 2006 reporting period, approximately 600 pounds of batteries were collected and diverted from our landfills in this manner.

Energy Conservation

In July 2001, the Board of Supervisors directed the General Services Department to take steps to reduce energy consumption in County facilities. The County spends over \$3.1 million a year for energy at all County facilities, and each year, energy costs increase. The Green Team and the General Services Department have been working throughout the County to reduce energy usage to the most efficient possible level without affecting the ability of employees to work productively. The following efforts have been undertaken to conserve energy:

New Sensor Controlled Light Switches

The General Services Department, in conjunction with the Sheriff's and Social Services Departments, has continued to test and evaluate new sensor controlled light switches. The light switches have a wide variety of motion sensors that use passive infrared, ultrasonic or a combined multi-sensing technology. The light switches provide automatic ON/OFF switching of lighting loads for enhanced convenience, security, and long-term energy savings. The switches turn the lights ON when employees enter an office and OFF when the office is unoccupied. The Departments will use the sensors in their offices and will evaluate their effectiveness and how the employees respond to them.

Facility Retrofits

In September 2005, the General Services Department oversaw the replacement of the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system for the third and fourth floors in the Santa Barbara Administration Building. This project involved the replacement of four air handlers, the conversion from steam to a hot water system, the installation of four high efficiency "Munchkin" boilers and associated pumps, plumbing, and controls. The air handlers have variable speed drives for further energy efficiency.

Demand Bid Program

The General Services Department has signed up for the "demand bid" program offered by Southern California Edison (SCE) and Pacific Gas & Electric (PG & E). Under this program, customers that consume large amounts of electricity may receive a credit on their bill by voluntarily reducing power.

Southern California Edison Workshops

On July 14, 2005, the General Services Department arranged to have SCE conduct a half-day workshop to provide information on ways to reduce costs associated with lighting and the HVAC systems, to describe the steps involved in an energy audit, to explain the components of the electricity bill and the available rate options, and to develop a work plan to implement recommendations based on the results of an energy audit. As a follow-up to that workshop, SCE is currently conducting an energy audit of several County buildings, and the General Services Department is expecting to receive the written results within the next few months.

Water Conservation

In February 2003, the Green Team began planning efforts to purchase and install waterless urinals in County facilities as a pilot project that would save water in County facilities and serve as a demonstration project for developers who are planning to build commercial facilities within the County. After receiving notification in July 2003 that it had received a grant from the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR), the Green Team began identifying the facilities that would receive the waterless urinals, installing a meter on the urinals on the first floor of the Administration Building to determine water usage, and conducting a demonstration of the maintenance of the urinals with Facilities and Parks maintenance staff in September 2003.

During 2005, the County began to implement the pilot project to retrofit existing urinals in County facilities to convert them to waterless urinals. Over the past year, the Water Agency has revised the protocol to allow each County department to select from one of two manufacturers to supply and potentially, to install and/or maintain the waterless urinals. The two manufacturers offer a distinctly different mix of product and service for their urinals so each County department may select either manufacturer, depending on a department's needs and preferences.

The Parks Department became the first County department to participate in the program by purchasing two waterless urinals, which were installed at Arroyo Burro Park in 2006. The Department has now invoiced the Water Agency to receive reimbursement for up to \$608 per urinal, which may be used to cover costs of purchase, installation, maintenance, and permitting fees. Further, during the past year, the Water Agency has successfully negotiated with the USBR to allow any County department to participate in this program. Previously, only the General Services and Parks Departments were eligible to participate.

Water Pollution Prevention

Project Clean Water is an urban runoff program managed within the Water Resources Division of the Public Works Department and includes staff members from the Environmental Health Services Division of the Public Health Department. Through Project Clean Water, the County has prepared a Storm Water Management Program in compliance with the federal National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)

municipal storm water permit. The Storm Water Management Program addresses several areas of water quality protection, including the following:

- Public Education/Outreach
- Public Involvement/Participation
- Illicit Discharges Detection and Elimination
- Construction Runoff Controls
- Post Construction (or New Development) Runoff Controls
- Good Housekeeping Practices at Municipal Operations

Of particular relevance to the Green Team is the Good Housekeeping Practices at Municipal Operations, which includes pesticide use, vehicle operations, facilities maintenance, road repairs, creek and channel maintenance, and education/training of County employees. The Green Team has already addressed and accomplished much in this area, putting the County at the forefront in meeting storm water quality mandates. Protection of water quality, like other environmental areas, is a responsibility of every County employee and shall continue to be promoted by the Green Team.

Current and future Project Clean Water activities related to the Green Team are summarized in the County's Storm Water Management Program, which is posted at: http://www.countyofsb.org/project_cleanwater/documents.htm#SWMP

Hybrid Vehicles and Electric Carts

The County's vehicle fleet includes three Toyota Prius and ten Honda Civic hybrid cars: there are six hybrid cars at the downtown Santa Barbara Administration Building, four hybrid cars at the Calle Real Center in Goleta, and three hybrid vehicles at the Betteravia Government Center in Santa Maria. The 10 Honda Civic hybrid cars were purchased with grant funds through the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments.

The vehicle fleet at the downtown Santa Barbara Administration Building also includes a Ford Think electric cart available for use by all employees and seven other electric carts purchased through the General Motors Electric Vehicle Program. Five of these carts were purchased by the Parks Department and two were purchased by the Public Works Department for use by their respective employees. The electric carts are very suitable for short downtown trips and are approved to operate on public roadways where the speed limit is less than 35 miles per hour. In addition, the County's vehicle fleet includes 26 fuel efficient Saturn compact cars. In short, Santa Barbara County's fleet of vehicles is becoming cleaner and more fuel efficient.

Playgrounds

The Parks Department has continued to upgrade the playground areas at County parks by using recycled tires for "fall zone" surfaces. Wood chips are also used as a surface material, although they have to be sifted periodically to detect glass and do not hold up as well during inclement weather. Regarding playground equipment, in the last four years,

the Parks Department has installed two playground structures made primarily of recycled plastic (plastic lumber) and three structures made of components containing varying amounts of recycled or reclaimed materials depending on the individual components.

When purchasing playground equipment, the Parks Department will continue to consider the amount of recycled or reclaimed materials used in the manufacture of the equipment, as well as the durability, ease of maintenance, cost, and neighborhood preferences.

Green Buildings

Santa Barbara County is committed to introducing Green buildings to our community. Sustainable design or Building Green is an opportunity to use our resources efficiently while creating healthier buildings. Environmentally friendly, conservation-minded approaches to promote resource efficiency, enhance indoor air quality, maximize energy efficiency, and reduce water consumption are considerations in Green Building construction. Santa Barbara County visualizes the significance of cutting its energy costs and the savings potential. The buildings in the County of Santa Barbara that were constructed with the concept and strategies of building Green include The Lompoc Health Clinic; Casa Nueva office building in Santa Barbara and the new Public Works building in Santa Maria.

The Public Works building in Santa Maria, completed in January 2006, makes a considerable leap forward in green construction with the use of photovoltaic panels that convert sunlight (photons) into electricity (voltage). It is the first building in the County of Santa Barbara to have solar panels as well as numerous other Green building components in its construction. The use of the photovoltaic panels is intended to reduce peaks and spikes in electrical energy usage, creating a significant cost savings. It is anticipated that at full capacity, energy will be sent back to the power grid to further increase savings through credits received from the utility company.

The Lompoc Health Clinic, completed in July 2004, utilizes a thermal loop to control heating and cooling of air and water in the building. Rather than the thermodynamic energy found in a gas fired furnace, the system works by moving heat through a fluid distribution system that reduces electrical costs and eliminates natural gas consumption.

Casa Nueva, completed March 2004, was constructed with the sustainable building concept, a subtle conservation conscience approach. The southwest-facing design allows complete utilization of the sun in addition to windows that open to allow individual temperature adjustments. The overall size of the structure enhances the energy efficiency for systems designed to save energy. Recycled materials were used in various areas and the wireless network allows occupants to work outside in the court yard.

Attachment B

Integrated Pest Management Strategy Annual Update

On April 4, 2000, the County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors adopted the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Strategy and directed County departments to implement procedures for pesticide use reduction outlined in that document. The IPM Strategy includes a summary of pesticide use and progress reports from County departments on the use of IPM practices.

The Grounds Management Committee (GMC), charged with implementing the IPM Strategy, conducts an ongoing review and assessment of the pesticides used by County departments. County departments are using the least hazardous alternatives available. Procurement procedures for acquiring pesticides have also been amended to allow for the requirements of the IPM Strategy.

The GMC has also established and utilized a process for reviewing requests for the use of new products by each department. In addition, the GMC has considered language for issuing a Request for Qualifications that will incorporate the requirements of the IPM Strategy in order to hire a Pest Control Advisor (PCA) with IPM experience. Finally, the development of the GMC has facilitated the sharing of equipment and funding used in IPM techniques.

Below are the updates to the County's Integrated Pest Management Strategy from the Parks Department, General Services Department, Flood Control Division of the Public Works Department, and the Roads Division of the Public Works Department: