



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

**Department Name:** Public Works  
**Department No.:** 054  
**For Agenda Of:** 3/19/2024  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Tme:**  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** 4/5

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Department Scott D. McGolpin, P.E., Director, (805) 568-3010  
Director(s)  
Contact Info: Martin Wilder, P.E., Interim Deputy Director, (805) 882-3605

**SUBJECT:** Budget Revision for Purchase of ReSource Center Equipment - Third  
Supervisorial District

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Other Concurrence:**

As to form: N/A

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence: CEO Budget**

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve Budget Revision Request No. 0009577 increasing appropriations in the amount of \$3,764,100.00 in Public Works Resource Recovery & Waste Management Enterprise Fund for the purchase of mobile equipment, which is funded by the release of Retained Earnings (Attachment A) (4/5 vote); and
- b) Determine that pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines Section 15162 no substantial changes are proposed, and no new information of substantial importance has come to light regarding environmental effects of the project or of the sufficiency or feasibility of mitigation measures, and therefore the purchase of replacement equipment for ongoing operation of the ReSource Center facilities is within the scope of the project covered by the prior environmental review, the Final Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (EIR) SCH #2012041068 and Subsequent EIR Revision Letter and Errata dated May 27, 2016 certified by the Board of Supervisors on July 12, 2016, Final Subsequent EIR Addendum dated August 11, 2017 (revised October 26, 2017) considered by the Board of Supervisors on November 14, 2017, and second Addendum dated July 11, 2023 considered by the Board on October 3, 2023 and November 7, 2023, therefore, no subsequent Environmental Impact Report or Negative Declaration shall be prepared for this action.

**Summary Text:**

This item is on the agenda to consider approval of a budget revision to procure replacement screens and loaders for processing compost at the Tajiguas ReSource Center.

**Background:**

The County of Santa Barbara owns and operates the Tajiguas municipal landfill. As a means to divert waste in order to preserve the life of the landfill as well as in consideration of other environmental factors such as compliance with SB 1383, the County contracted with a third party, MSB Investors, to construct several facilities including a materials recycling facility (MRF), a dry fermentation anaerobic digester facility (ADF), and a compost management unit (CMU) that produces compost from organics recovered from the region's municipal solid waste as well as source separated food waste. These facilities have been in service since fall of 2021, but are not yet fully commissioned. Due to inability to complete and successfully operate portions of the facility, the agreement with MSB Investors was terminated on December 12, 2023. The contract was subsequently fully terminated on January 3, 2024. Since then, the County has assumed contractual arrangements with MarBorg Recovery, LP for the operation of the MRF, and has assumed operation of the ADF and CMU until such time that an agreement with a separate operator can be implemented.

Part of the operation of the ReSource Center includes the processing of organic waste into compost at the ADF and CMU facilities. This involves the moving and screening of the organic material in its various forms. Loaders are required to move organic material into the digesters, mixing with digestate, and shaping the digestate into rows for further curing through the Sustainable Generations GORE® covered aerated static pile system, and moving the cured material to the screens. The screening equipment is used to separate inorganic matter from the cured digestate. The loaders are also used to move and load the final compost product.

The loaders and screening equipment used on site were financed by the private operator and cannot be easily acquired by the County and there are other logistical issues in addressing title. Due to the immediate need for replacement loaders and screening equipment to be onsite that are under the control of the County, staff set up temporary rental contracts for this equipment with the intent to follow up with purchase contracts. It is noted that rental costs are paid out of the operating budget while capital expenditures are paid for from the capital budget and is not feasible long-term. Further, the purchase of equipment not already budgeted in the current fiscal year requires a budget revision, the subject of this action, and included as Attachment A. Upon approval of the budget revision, staff will submit a requisition to the Purchasing Manager for a purchase order in the amount of the budget revision for the purchase of the various pieces of equipment (four loaders and three screens) through the pre-bid Sourcewell program. The pre-bid Sourcewell pricing and equipment descriptions are included as Attachment B.

Pursuant to CEQA, several environmental documents (01-EIR-05 and Addenda, 08-EIR-00000-00007, and 12-EIR-0000-00002 and Addenda) have been prepared and certified for the operation of the Tajiguas Landfill and the ReSource Center. The procurement and use of screening equipment associated with operating the Landfill and ReSource Center was analyzed in these environmental documents.

**Fiscal Analysis:**

Staff is recommending the release of \$3,764,100.00 in Retained Earnings from the Resource Recovery & Waste Management Division Enterprise Fund. There is no impact to the General Fund.

**Special Instructions:**

Return a certified minute order of this action to the Public Works Department office at 130 East Victoria Street, Suite 100, Santa Barbara, CA 93101; attention Dalia Khan.

**Attachments:**

Attachment A: Budget Revision No. 0009577

Attachment B: Sourcewell Quotes and Equipment Descriptions

**Authored by:**

Travis Spier, P.E., Operations Manager, (805) 681-5626

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