



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: 02/27/07
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Phillip M. Demery, ext. 3010
Director
Contact Info: Mark Schleich, ext. 3603
**SUBJECT: Project Manager for Developing Solid Waste Conversion Facility on the South Coast
First, Second, and Third Supervisorial Districts**

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Other Concurrence: N/A

As to form:

Recommended Actions:

- A. Authorize the Public Works Director to Solicit Proposals for an Expert Project Manager to Assist with the Evaluation and Selection of a Municipal Solid Waste Conversion Technology to be Located on the South Coast, in Cooperation with the City of Santa Barbara; and
- B. Authorize the Public Works Director to draft a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the County and the City of Santa Barbara to Structure Oversight and Determine Responsibilities Between the Jurisdictions for the Project.

Summary Text:

Recently, County of Santa Barbara Supervisors Carbajal and Firestone hosted a meeting to discuss solid waste conversion technology (CT). Councilmembers Barnwell, Falcone and Williams were in attendance along with County and City staff. At the meeting, the elected officials expressed concern over the quickly diminishing space at the Tajiguas Landfill and were interested in stepping up evaluating the possibility of constructing a CT facility to better utilize resources currently being disposed and conserve valuable landfill space. Staff was directed to come back quickly with recommendations on how to develop a CT facility at the county-owned and operated Tajiguas Landfill (Tajiguas). The elected officials suggested that hiring a project manager to evaluate and assist with CT vendor selection could move this effort forward more expeditiously.

Since then, City and County staff have been working together to develop a conceptual process for evaluating and, ultimately, constructing and putting into operation a CT facility at Tajiguas. We recommend that the first step in the process is the selection of an expert project manager/consultant (project manager) to coordinate the development of evaluation criteria and a Request for Proposals (RFP) to select a CT vendor. Other aspects of the project include the development of an agreement among the County, City and other participants in all aspects of further development and operation of the CT facility including a guarantee of waste to the facility. Additionally, an extensive public outreach campaign during the facility procurement and implementation phase must be conducted.

With Board approval of the above recommendations, staff will return to your Board at a later date to request authorization to enter into an agreement with the selected project manager. At that time, we expect to also be requesting your Board's approval of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to oversee the CT project manager effort. Our recommendation is that, at a minimum, the County and City will equally fund the project manager and jointly administer this contract.

Background:

For some time, the Multi-Jurisdictional Solid Waste Task Group (MJSWTG), working through the Conversion Technology Subgroup, has been investigating the feasibility of conversion technologies to provide alternatives to landfilling of solid waste in Santa Barbara County. Conversion technologies (CT) are defined as the processing through non-combustion thermal means, chemical means, or biological means, of mixed municipal solid waste from which recyclable materials have been substantially diverted and/or removed to produce electricity, alternative fuels, chemicals, or other products that meet quality standards for use in the marketplace, with a minimum amount of residuals remaining after processing.

The MJSWTG CT Subgroup spent a significant amount of time and effort to identify and evaluate waste CT vendors that would be capable of handling the municipal solid waste disposed on the South Coast. That effort resulted in a short-list of seven vendors. Since that time, two vendors have withdrawn from the process and the short list now includes five vendors. The results of that study are available in the Alternatives to Disposal Final Report, completed September 22, 2003. Building on the work of the CT Subgroup is a good point to restart the effort to acquire a CT facility for Tajiguas. Similar evaluation work has been recently done by the cities of New York and Los Angeles. Those and any efforts by other jurisdictions that have recently gone through an RFP process to evaluate and select a CT vendor will also be used to assist in this effort.

We see the role of the project manager as follows:

- Refine Project Objectives/Alternatives
- Develop Evaluation Criteria
- Develop RFP
- Assist City & County in selection of CT vendor

Other components of the project include developing and conducting a public outreach program to educate the public on the proposed project as well as develop a MOU between County, City and other participants for overall project development and guarantee of flow to the facility. We expect the project manager to come from a nationwide search for a solid waste consulting firm with expertise in this emerging field.

Staff will return to your Board at a later date to request authorization to enter into an agreement with the successful project manager and to request approval of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) which delineates the roles and responsibilities of the County and City. If successful, this groundbreaking project would significantly decrease the County’s environmental impacts of waste generation and disposal and potentially produce a new source of green energy for the local community.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

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

Narrative:

The amount of funds necessary to fund this effort will be known after responses to the RFP are received. The contract and cost to perform the proposed work will be brought back to your Board for approval. The County and the City of Santa Barbara will be funding this effort jointly and the funds contributed by the County will come from the Resource Recovery & Waste Management Division Enterprise Fund.

An approximate cost for a conversion technology facility will be \$25,000,000 or more depending on the technology chosen. Specific costs will be identified by the Project Manager further in the process. If developed, a long-term commitment to utilize the facility would be required from participating jurisdictions.

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:

FTEs:

Special Instructions:

None

Attachments:

None

Authored by:

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