



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: April 1, 2008  
Placement: Administrative  
Estimated Tme:  
Continued Item: No  
If Yes, date from:  
Vote Required: Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Department Scott D. McGolpin, Public Works Director, ext. 3008  
Director(s)  
Contact Info: Mark Schleich, Deputy Director, ext. 3603

**SUBJECT: Proposed Changes to Used Oil Recycling Program**

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Other Concurrence:** N/A

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors authorize the Public Works Department, Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division, to cancel an existing curbside used oil collection program (funded by a grant from the California Integrated Waste Management Board) and use the funding to more effectively increase used oil recycling in our community.

**Summary Text:**

On an annual basis, the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) awards grants to local government agencies to support the collection and recycling of used motor oil and filters. The grant funds are based on population size, and the County currently receives approximately \$53,000 each year. This amount includes funds designated for the cities of Buellton, Goleta, and Solvang, which have requested to be part of the County's regional recycling program.

The regional program currently includes the following components: 1) collection of used oil and filters from the public at no charge through nine state-certified collection centers (e.g. automotive supply stores, quick lubes, automotive repair shops, recycling buy-back facilities); 2) collection of used oil and filters from the public at no charge through a curbside collection program in the northern part of the county (operated by Health Sanitation Service/Waste Management); and 3) education and outreach activities including media advertisements and distribution of program flyers.

County staff proposes to use a greater portion of the annual grant funds to support additional educational activities. Among these activities is an English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) outreach program administered by a group called C2: Alternative Services (C2), based in Santa Rosa, California. C2 will train local ESL instructors to incorporate the oil recycling message into their lesson plans. C2 will provide all necessary resources, including lesson materials, overhead and PowerPoint slides, student booklets, oil recycling fact sheets, and promotional items for students. C2 will also provide a stipend to participating teachers to encourage their involvement in the program.

Research conducted by the CIWMB indicates that outreach programs such as these can have a significant and positive impact on oil recycling rates. Many non-English speakers, including new immigrants, are eager to participate in recycling programs, but often don't have the information needed to do so. ESL classes provide a great opportunity to educate non-native English-speakers in our community.

In addition to the ESL program, staff proposes to increase awareness of used oil recycling opportunities through a comprehensive media campaign. Newspaper, radio, and/or television advertisements will remind residents about local oil recycling programs. In particular, the ads will highlight the availability of permanent collection facilities, such as certified centers and household hazardous waste (HHW) facilities. In attempts to keep costs down and avoid duplication of efforts, staff will encourage the participation of neighboring jurisdictions.

To assist "do-it-yourselfers" with the collection, storage, and transportation of used motor oil, staff proposes to use a portion of the grant funds to purchase a supply of specially-designed "drainer" containers. The containers will be made available at each of the certified centers in the region. Staff will also distribute containers at the Community Hazardous Waste Collection Center located in southern Santa Barbara County and the Santa Ynez Valley Recycling and Transfer Station in Los Olivos. In addition, containers will be distributed at public events, such as local Earth Day festivals and the County's temporary HHW collection events. The County has purchased containers in the past, and they have been very popular among the public.

Finally, staff proposes to use grant funds to cover the costs of recycling used oil and filters collected at the Community Hazardous Waste Collection Center, the Santa Ynez Valley Recycling and Transfer Station ABOP facility, and temporary HHW events in New Cuyama and Santa Ynez. These costs are eligible for reimbursement under the Block Grant program; however, the County has never taken advantage of the funds for these purposes. By using grant funds to cover recycling fees, the County will achieve cost savings.

To fund the proposed new activities, the County will need to reallocate its annual Used Oil Recycling Block Grant. The County currently spends a majority of its grant funds on the curbside collection program (\$43,000 of the \$53,756 total in fiscal year 2006/2007). This program was popular at its inception in fiscal year 1999/2000, but participation has decreased significantly over the years. A summary of program participation is provided on the following page.

**North County Curbside Oil Collection Program  
(Serviced by Health Sanitation Service/Waste Management)**

Year	Total Pick-ups	Gallons of Oil	Number of Oil Filters
1999/2000	557	1,475	528
2000/2001	378	1,145	389
2001/2002	351	888	341
2002/2003	329	953	277
2003/2004	264	617	278
2004/2005	218	576	213
2005/2006	200	389	153
2006/2007	142	313	134

In fiscal year 2006/2007, 313 gallons of used motor oil were collected through the curbside program compared to approximately 11,000 gallons of oil collected at the certified centers. Oil is collected at the certified centers at no charge to the County. The centers are eligible for reimbursement payments from the state to help cover recycling costs. In contrast, the curbside program currently costs the County \$9.98 per pound of waste collected. As mentioned earlier, this equates to a significant portion of the County's grant funds. For comparison purposes, the County's Community Hazardous Waste Collection Center, which accepts all types of household hazardous wastes like paint, pesticides, batteries, and used oil, had a cost per pound of \$1.27 during fiscal year 2006/2007.

Due to the low participation and high costs of the curbside program, staff is recommending that the County cancel the program and instead use the funding to support the activities outlined earlier. Staff proposes to send letters to existing and former customers of the curbside program to notify them of the cancellation of the program and to identify alternative options (e.g. certified centers, temporary HHW events, permanent HHW facilities) for recycling their used oil and filters. Additionally, Health Sanitation Service/Waste Management will include information in their quarterly newsletter on the proper management of used motor oil. After staff has conducted these outreach activities, the curbside program will be discontinued (approximately June 2008).

**Background:**

The California Oil Recycling Enhancement Act (Statutes of 1991, Chapter 817) authorizes the collection from oil manufacturers of four cents for every quart of lubricating oil sold, transferred, or imported into California. With the collected funds, the Act mandates the California Integrated Waste Management Board to provide used oil collection opportunities and non-competitive Used Oil Recycling Block Grants to local governments to establish used oil collection and education programs.

The County uses its annual Used Oil Recycling Block Grant to comply with the mandates set forth in the 1989 California Integrated Waste Management Act (Public Resources Code, Title 14, Division 7). The Act requires submittal of a Household Hazardous Waste Element (HHWE) that describes the recommended programs to divert household hazardous waste, including used motor oil and filters, from landfills. Your Board adopted the HHWE on February 4, 1992.

**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		\$ 53,000.00	
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ -	\$ 53,000.00	\$ -

Activities related to the County’s Used Oil Recycling Program are funded by a grant from the California Integrated Waste Management Board. Waste Board staff have approved and are supportive of the proposed changes to the County’s program.

**Authored by:** Leslie Robinson, Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division, ext. 3615

**cc:**