



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: Public Works
Department No.: 054
Agenda Date: March 10, 2026
Placement: Administrative Agenda
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from: No
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director(s): Chris Sneddon, P.E., Public Works Director
Contact: Jeanette Gonzales-Knight, P.E., Deputy Director
SUBJECT: **Competitive Bid Waiver for the Procurement of Parts for the Sustainable Generation Membrane Cover System used at the Tajiguas ReSource Center; Third Supervisorial District**

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Purchasing Agent

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Authorize the County Purchasing Agent to waive competitive bidding requirements per County Code Section 2-39(c) and procure parts for the SG MOBILE® System with GORE® Covers at the Tajiguas ReSource Center in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 annually from Sustainable Generation, LLC without being required to conduct a formal bid process through June 2029; and
- b) Determine that the above-recommended action is not a project that is subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(2), finding that the actions are continuing administrative and maintenance activities that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes to the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to authorize the purchase of parts for the SG MOBILE® System with GORE® Covers being used at the Compost Management Unit (CMU) at the Tajiguas ReSource Center in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 annually for fiscal years 2025-2026 through 2028-2029.

Sustainable Generation, LLC is the supplier of specialized equipment, including a proprietary, cloud-based monitoring platform (SG Mobile®) that allows remote access to temperature, oxygen, and blower metrics at each of the covered aerated static piles of compost. Due to the absence of alternative vendors supplying the specialty equipment, pursuant to County Code Section 2-39 (c), the Board may waive the competitive bidding requirement where there are limitations on the source or supply.

Discussion:

As noted in Attachment B, the parts needed to perform repairs and maintenance on the SG Mobile® System are not available through any other vendor and cannot be fulfilled with a bid process. The SG Mobile® System and Gore® Covers are essential to keep, operate, and maintain publicly owned waste disposal systems pursuant to Public Contract Code §22002(d)(5). To support timely repairs and minimize system downtime, staff recommends the Board waive the competitive bidding requirement for specialty parts. This waiver will allow staff to respond more quickly to potential equipment failures. The waiver of competitive bidding is not a project subject to CEQA as a continuing administrative and maintenance activity. The ReSource Center, which the services will support, has been subject to CEQA review in 12EIR-00000-00002 and subsequent CEQA Addendums available for review at [Environmental Documents | Santa Barbara County, CA - Official Website](#).

Background:

The Resource Recovery & Waste Management Division of the Public Works Department operates a Compost Management Unit at the Tajiguas ReSource Center that processes post-digested organic material (digestate) created by the Anaerobic Digestion Facility. This organic material originally comes from the commercial sector and is also extracted from municipal solid waste from the communities of the South Coast, the Santa Ynez Valley and the Cuyama Valley, as well as the cities of Santa Barbara, Goleta, Solvang, and Buellton. The CMU transforms this material into compost used at local farms.

The digestate is aerobically cured through forced aeration (using a SG MOBILE® System) in twenty (20) fully covered piles wrapped in GORE® Covers. The covers are comprised of a semi-permeable membrane designed to allow positive direction aeration and reduce odors by over 90%, which has been key in reducing odor complaints from nearby residents related to composting operations.

On July 18, 2023, your Board approved to waive competitive bidding to procure the proprietary covered aerated static pile compost system from Sustainable Generations, LLC for the Tajiguas ReSource Center (see [County of Santa Barbara - File #: 23-00733 \(legistar.com\)](#)). On October 3, 2023, your Board approved to award the contract for the maintenance and installation of the SG MOBILE® System with GORE® Covers (see [County of Santa Barbara - File #: 23-00932 \(legistar.com\)](#)). This proposed action, to waive the competitive bid requirement and authorize the County Purchasing Agent/Chief Procurement Officer to procure the parts from Sustainable Generations, LLC will allow for the SG MOBILE® System to continue operating without interruption of service.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

ReSource Center maintenance costs are budgeted in the Public Works Resource Recovery and Waste Management Enterprise Fund 1930, Program 1860, Line-Item Account 7120, and will continue to be budgeted in each year, subject to Board approval. There is no impact to the General Fund.

Special Instructions:

Direct the Clerk of the Board to forward a certified copy of the minute order to:

- Phung Loman, General Services Department – Purchasing Division, Chief Procurement Officer; and
- Yanette Luna, Public Works Department – Resource Recovery & Waste Management Division, Administrative Office Professional Senior; and
- Carlyle A. Johnston, Public Works Department – Resource Recovery & Waste Management Division, ReSource Center Manager.

Attachments:

Attachment A – Sustainable Generation Parts Price Listing 2026

Attachment B – Sole Source Letter for Service from Sustainable Generation

Contact Information:

Carlyle A. Johnston
ReSource Center Manager
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