

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**A RESOLUTION TO CEASE BURIAL OF
RESIDUALS AND SOLID WASTE AT
TAJIGUAS LANDFILL AS OF JANUARY 1,
2039 AND TO SEEK OTHER RESIDUAL
DISPOSAL OPTIONS**

Resolution No. _____

WHEREAS, Article XI, section 7 of the California Constitution authorizes cities and counties to protect public health and safety by taking measures in furtherance of their authority over police and sanitary matters; and,

WHEREAS, the Legislation of the State of California, by enactment of the California Integrated Waste Management Act (AB 939), Global Warming Solutions Act (AB 32), Mandatory Commercial Recycling and 75% Diversion Goal (AB 341), Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling (AB 1826), 15 Year Disposal Capacity policy (PRC Division 30, Part 2, Chapter 4, Section 1701), Compostable Organics Infrastructure (AB 876), and Short Lived Climate Pollutants (SB 1383), established a solid waste management program which requires cities and counties to implement solid waste management plans and develop programs to be in compliance with these provisions; and,

WHEREAS, the County currently manages many solid waste resources to provide an integrated waste management system for the communities of Buellton, Goleta, Santa Barbara, and Solvang as well as the unincorporated South Coast and Santa Ynez Valley areas; and,

WHEREAS, solid waste resources managed by the County include collection and processing of commingled recyclables, green waste, and food waste; hazardous and universal waste programs for residents and businesses; education; operation of four recycling and transfer stations, one hazardous waste collection center, and one Class III landfill; and,

WHEREAS, the Tajiguas Landfill is owned and operated by the County and has been in operation for more than half of a century since 1967 for disposal of municipal solid waste such as residential and commercial waste collected by contracted and franchised haulers, waste from four area transfer stations, residuals from commingled recyclables processed off-site, self-hauled waste, and other hard to handle materials; and,

WHEREAS, the Tajiguas Landfill currently operates under a variety of permits issued by CalRecycle, Regional Water Quality Control Board, the County and the Air Pollution Control District, and has a permitted maximum capacity of 23.3 million cubic yards of waste; and,

WHEREAS, on July 12, 2016, the County approved the contract and certified the Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (“Subsequent EIR”) No. 12EIR-00000-00002 for the Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project (“Project”); and,

WHEREAS, the Project is composed of a material recovery facility and anaerobic digester that will be capable of recovering up to 60% of waste currently being disposed as well as process both source separated recyclables as well as organics generated by the community in addition to being largely energy self-sufficient; and,

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WHEREAS, the Project will provide a long-term solution to the region's solid waste management needs including enabling all participating jurisdictions to be in compliance with the growing number of stringent waste management regulations and greenhouse gas reduction requirements; and,

WHEREAS, the development of the Project has been a collaborative effort involving staff from the cities of Buellton, Goleta, Santa Barbara, Solvang, and the County as well as involving public outreach including over 140 presentations to interested parties; and,

WHEREAS, on November 14, 2017, the County considered the Revised Tajiguas Resource Recovery Project ("Revised Project") and adopted findings, including California Environmental Quality Act findings; approved the Comprehensive Plan Amendment amending the Tajiguas Landfill "Waste Disposal Facility Overlay;" received the Planning Commission's Government Code section 65402 conformity report; approved the Second Amendment to the Amended Contract Between the County and Respondent MSB Investors, LLC; and, considered a Revised Addendum to the Subsequent EIR together with the Subsequent EIR No. 12EIR-00000-00002, State Clearing House No. 201204 certified by the Board on July 12, 2016 and Subsequent EIR Revision Letter and Errata dated May 27, 2016; and,

WHEREAS, in 2004, the US Department of Interior evaluated a 76 mile segment of the Gaviota Coast for its significance, suitability and feasibility for inclusion in the National Park System and concluded that the Gaviota Coast contains nationally significant natural and cultural resources and was suitable but not feasible for inclusion in the National Park System;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Interior study found that the Gaviota Coast includes one of the rarest global biomes unique to the United States with 1,400 species that occupy the healthiest remaining coastal ecosystem in southern California that serves as an ecological transition zone between northern and southern California ecological provinces for both terrestrial and marine species which contributes to the area's extraordinary biotic diversity; and,

WHEREAS, the scenic, biological, cultural, agricultural and recreational resources of the Gaviota Coast are of exceptional value and importance to the community; and,

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that the Community Vision articulated in the Gaviota Coast Plan of preserving the rural character of Gaviota by protecting and enhancing its varied and unique natural and cultural resources, agricultural productivity, and by enhancing and expanding public recreation and access opportunities consistent with the capacity of its resources; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County hereby establishes a policy, replacing Resolution 18-150, as follows:

- i. To cease burial of residuals from the ReSource Center and municipal solid waste at the Tajiguas Sanitary Landfill as of January 1, 2039, excluding emergency debris;

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- ii. To not seek expansion of the Tajiguas Sanitary Landfill, other than for emergency debris, as of January 1, 2039;
- iii. When seven years of remaining disposal capacity is reached based on the County’s annual report to CalRecycle, to begin to seek locations other than the Gaviota Coast for disposal of residuals from the ReSource Center and municipal solid waste (a new landfill and/or contracting with other existing landfills);
- iv. To work with the Gaviota Coast Conservancy on potential land use restrictions for consideration by the Board of Supervisors on the Tajiguas Sanitary Landfill that precludes future landfilling as of January 1, 2039; and,
- v. To limit use of Baron Ranch primarily to open space, recreation and agricultural uses.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California this 23rd day of January, 2024 by the following vote:

AYES:
 NOES:
 ABSTAIN:
 ABSENT:

STEVE LAVAGNINO, CHAIR
 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS


ATTEST:

 MONA MIYASATO
 CLERK OF THE BOARD

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

 RACHEL VAN MULLEM
 COUNTY COUNSEL

By _____
 Deputy

DocuSigned by:

 By _____
 Deputy