



## Meeting of the Board of Directors

August 15, 2018

SPECIAL MEETING

CLOSED SESSION PRIOR TO REGULAR MEETING 8:00 a.m.

Regular Meeting at 8:30 a.m. (or immediately following closed session)

Estimated Ending Time 11:30 a.m.

*City of Santa Rosa Council Chambers*

*100 Santa Rosa Avenue*

*Santa Rosa, CA*

Meeting Agenda and Documents

**SONOMA COUNTY WASTE MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

**Meeting of the Board of Directors**

August 15, 2018

SPECIAL MEETING

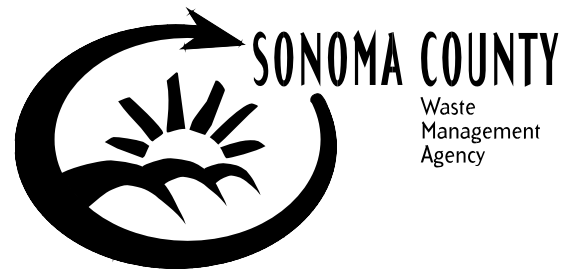
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*Note: This packet is 136 pages total*



## **SONOMA COUNTY WASTE MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

### **Meeting of the Board of Directors**

**August 15, 2018  
SPECIAL MEETING**

**Closed Session begins at 8:00 a.m.  
Regular Session begins at 8:30 a.m. or immediately after  
Closed Session  
Estimated Ending Time 11:30 a.m.**

City of Santa Rosa Council Chambers  
100 Santa Rosa Avenue  
Santa Rosa, CA

### **Agenda**

#### **Item**

1. Call to Order Special Meeting
2. **Closed Session:** CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL  
PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION  
Title: Executive Director
3. Adjourn Closed Session / Call to Order Regular Session / Introductions
4. Agenda Approval
5. Public Comments (items not on the agenda)

#### **Consent** (w/attachments)

- 6.1 Minutes of the June 20, 2018 Regular Meeting
- 6.2 July, August, and September 2018 Outreach Calendar
- 6.3 Approval of the Scope of Work for the Organic Material Transport Services Request for Proposals

## **Regular Calendar**

7. Republic Annual Presentation to SCWMA Board of Directors [Collard]

Recommended Action: Receive presentation

8. Public Hearing and Possible Action on SCWMA Organics Processing Services RFP [Carter]

Recommended Action: Staff recommends the Board 1) open the public hearing to receive feedback on the staff recommendation, 2) close the public hearing when public comment is complete. Staff's recommendation on Board action is to consider 1) entering into exclusive negotiations with Renewable Sonoma to negotiate an agreement to develop a new organics processing facility in Sonoma County, 2) developing a waste delivery agreement for SCWMA members to commit their flow of organic materials to the SCWMA for a term of 20 years from the effective date, and 3) developing a model staff report to assist SCWMA member agencies in the consideration of a waste delivery agreement to the SCWMA for the appropriate organic materials.

9. Boardmember Comments
10. Staff Comments
11. Next SCWMA meeting: September 19, 2018
12. Adjourn

**Consent Calendar:** These matters include routine financial and administrative actions and are usually approved by a single majority vote. Any Boardmember may remove an item from the consent calendar.

**Regular Calendar:** These items include significant and administrative actions of special interest and are classified by program area. The regular calendar also includes "Set Matters," which are noticed hearings, work sessions and public hearings.

**Public Comments:** Pursuant to Rule 6, Rules of Governance of the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency, members of the public desiring to speak on items that are within the jurisdiction of the SCWMA shall have an opportunity at the beginning and during each regular meeting of the SCWMA. When recognized by the Chair, each person should give his/her name and address and limit comments to 3 minutes. Public comments will follow the staff report and subsequent Boardmember questions on that Agenda item and before Boardmembers propose a motion to vote on any item.

**Disabled Accommodation:** If you have a disability that requires the agenda materials to be in an alternative format or requires an interpreter or other person to assist you while attending this meeting, please contact the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency Office at 2300 County Center Drive, Suite B100, Santa Rosa, (707) 565-3579, at least 72 hours prior to the meeting, to ensure arrangements for accommodation by the Agency.

**Noticing:** This notice is posted 72 hours prior to the meeting at The Board of Supervisors, 575 Administration Drive, Santa Rosa, and at the meeting site the City of Santa Rosa Council Chambers, 100 Santa Rosa Avenue, Santa Rosa. It is also available on the internet at [www.recyclenow.org](http://www.recyclenow.org)





Date: July 10, 2018

To: SCWMA Board Members

From: Patrick Carter, SCWMA Executive Director

**Executive Summary Report for the SCWMA Board Meeting of June 20, 2018**

**Item 4, Consent:** Items 4.1 Minutes of the April 18, 2018 Regular Meeting, 4.2 May, June, and July 2018 Outreach Calendar, 4.3 North County HHW Facility Update, 4.4 FY 2017/18 Third Quarter Financial Report, and 4.7 Budget Appropriation Adjustment were approved. Items 4.5 and 4.6 were pulled for discussion.

**Item 4.5 SCWMA FY 2018/19 Final Budget Approval and 4.6 Approval of Revised SCWMA Reserve**

**Policy:** These items had been discussed previously and were on consent per previous Board direction. The items were pulled to discuss incorporating estimated unfunded liability into the budget. SCWMA staff has estimated the amount based upon the average per employee unfunded liability for the County of Sonoma to be approximately \$700,000. The Board directed staff to examine mechanisms to account for and set aside existing funds for the SCWMA's portion of the unfunded liability in the event it becomes necessary. The Budget and Reserve policy were approved as presented, but staff was given direction to return with an analysis and budget amendment to appropriately set aside the funds.

**Item 5, Presentation of SCWMA Rebranding Progress by the Engine is Red:** Chris Denny from the Engine is Red delivered a presentation on the work done to date to rebrand the SCWMA. Information about focus groups and themes examined were shown. The public-facing brand developed through this process is Zero Waste Sonoma. The item was informational, no action was required.

**Item 6, Consideration of an Agreement with ECS Refining, Inc for E-Waste Handling, Transportation and**

**Recycling Services:** Staff discussed the RFP process to select a new contractor to handle, haul, and recycle e-waste collected at County-owned transfer stations in Sonoma County. The evaluation team determined ECS Refining, Inc. submitted the highest ranked proposal, however after the evaluation was completed, staff learned that ECS had declared bankruptcy. ECS staff assured SCWMA staff the bankruptcy would not affect their operations or their proposal. Staff recommended approval of the agreement with ECS Refining Inc., but also recommended approval of the second ranked proposal, Onsite Electronics, to become effective in the event ECS was unable to fulfill its obligations. The Board approved staff's recommendations.

**Item 7, Discussion and Possible Action on the Organic Material Processing Services RFP Evaluation:** Staff presented the evaluation of the proposals received through the SCWMA's RFP process. Proposals were received to cover both the short term (the next three years) and the long term (the following twenty years). Staff discussed the evaluation team's conclusion that sending organic material to the Redwood Landfill's and Cold Creek's existing compost facilities for a minimum of three years were the top ranked solutions for the short term. The Board approved the agreements with Cold Creek Compost and Redwood Landfill for at least three years.

Staff discussed the long term solutions and stated that the proposal from Renewable Sonoma was the top ranked site, as determined by the evaluation team. The Board directed staff to provide a more detailed

financial analysis which examined costs over time and ratepayer impacts, as well as more information about how Renewable Sonoma received its ranking by the evaluation team. The Board directed staff to agendize a public hearing for the August 15, 2018 SCWMA Board of Directors meeting to receive public input on staff's recommendation of Renewable Sonoma.



**To:** Sonoma County Waste Management Agency Board Members  
**From:** Patrick Carter, Executive Director  
**Subject:** August 15, 2018 Board Meeting Agenda Notes

**Please note there will be Closed Session discussion beginning at 8:00 a.m.**

## **Consent Calendar**

These items include routine financial and administrative items and **staff recommends that they be approved en masse by a single vote.** Any Board member may remove an item from the consent calendar for further discussion or a separate vote by bringing it to the attention of the Chair.

6.1 **Minutes of the June 20, 2018 Special Meeting:** regular acceptance.

6.2 **July, August and September 2018 Outreach Calendar:** This item provides an update on outreach events since the last meeting and upcoming outreach events. No action is required.

6.3 **Approval of the Scope of Work for the Organic Material Transport Services Request for Proposals:**

The agreement to transport organic material from the transfer stations to designated compost facilities expires on February 11, 2019. As that agreement will have not been competitively bid for over four years at that point, staff recommends releasing an RFP. **Staff recommends the Board approve the attached Scope of Work for the Organic Material Transport Services Request for Proposals, and to direct staff to release the Request for Proposals.**

## **Regular Calendar**

7. **Annual Presentation of Waste Activities by Republic Services:** The Master Operating Agreement between the County of Sonoma and Republic Services requires Republic to provide an annual update on waste-related activities performed over the past year. Staff from Republic will present the materials. **No action is required.**

8. **Public Hearing and Possible Action on SCWMA Organics Processing Services RFP:** Staff continues to support the evaluation team's recommendation to enter into exclusive negotiations with Renewable Sonoma. Staff has provided additional information about Renewable Sonoma's qualifications to respond to Board questions at the June 20, 2018 SCWMA meeting, and provided additional information about the scope of Renewable Sonoma's proposal. Staff estimates that accepting Renewable Sonoma's proposal would cause rates to increase between \$0.43 and \$1.70 per month, depending on the amount of material delivered to that facility and whether it is economical for some franchised haulers to deliver material directly to the site, bypassing the transfer stations. **Staff recommends the Board 1) open the public hearing to receive feedback on the staff recommendation, 2) close the public hearing when public comment is complete. Staff's recommendation on Board action is to consider 1) entering into exclusive negotiations with Renewable Sonoma to negotiate an agreement to develop a new organics processing facility in Sonoma County, 2) developing a waste delivery agreement for SCWMA members to commit their flow of organic materials to the SCWMA for a term of 20 years from the effective date, and 3) developing a model staff report to assist SCWMA member agencies in the consideration of a waste delivery agreement to the SCWMA for the appropriate organic materials.**



## Minutes of the June 20, 2018 Meeting

The Sonoma County Waste Management Agency met on June 20, 2018, at the Doubletree Hotel Vineyard Room, 1 Doubletree Drive, Santa Rosa, California.

### Board Members Present:

City of Cloverdale	David Kelley	City of Santa Rosa	John Sawyer
City of Cotati	Susan Harvey	City of Sebastopol	Henry Mikus
City of Healdsburg	Larry Zimmer	City of Sonoma	Madolyn Agrimonti
City of Petaluma	Dan St. John	County of Sonoma	Susan Gorin
City of Rohnert Park	Don Schwartz	Town of Windsor	Deb Fudge

### Staff Present:

Executive Director: Patrick Carter  
Counsel: Ethan Walsh  
SCWMA Clerk: Janel Perry  
Staff: Thora Collard, Kristin Thigpen

#### 1. Call to Order Regular Meeting

Regular meeting was called to order at 8:33 a.m.

#### 2. Agenda Approval

#### 3. Public Comments (items not on the agenda)

Carrie Baxter, R3 Consulting Group, is working with the City of Santa Rosa to create a Zero Waste plan. She requested the Board to take a survey regarding programs and policies.

#### 4. Consent (w/attachments)

- 4.1 Minutes of the April 18, 2018 Regular Meeting
- 4.2 May, June, and July 2018 Outreach Calendar
- 4.3 North County HHW Facility Update
- 4.4 FY 2017/18 Third Quarter Financial Report
- 4.5 SCWMA FY 2018/19 Final Budget Approval **[Supermajority Vote Required]**
- 4.6 Approval of Revised SCWMA Reserve Policy
- 4.7 Budget Appropriation Adjustment **[Supermajority Vote Required]**

Don Schwartz, City of Rohnert Park pulled items 4.5 and 4.6 for discussion.

### Public Comments:

None.

**The motion for approval of items on consent calendar excluding item 4.5 and item 4.6 was made by Madolyn Agrimonti, City of Sonoma, and seconded by Susan Harvey, City of Cotati.**

**Vote Count:**

City of Cloverdale	AYE	City of Santa Rosa	AYE
City of Cotati	AYE	City of Sebastopol	AYE
City of Healdsburg	AYE	City of Sonoma	AYE
City of Petaluma	AYE	County of Sonoma	ABSENT
City of Rohnert Park	AYE	Town of Windsor	AYE

AYES -10- NOES -0- ABSENT -0- ABSTAIN -0-

**Motion passed.**

Susan Gorin arrived 9:39.

**Board Discussion:**

**4.5 SCWMA FY 2018/19 Final Budget Approval:**

Mr. Schwartz commented on the County retirement unfunded liabilities gap.

Mr. Carter discussed the difficulties of determining fair amount of unfunded liability for the SCWMA. The estimated amount is about \$100,000 per employee, or \$700,000 total. He suggested reviewing the reserve policy annually and adjust as necessary. The contingency reserve has enough funds to cover \$700,000.

Ms. Gorin stated it is one of the County Board of Supervisors top priorities. There is a community committee dedicated to this task.

Mr. Mikus asked about the MOU with the County to provide staffing to SCWMA and where the liability lays since staff are employees of the County.

Mr. Carter stated it is good fiscal policy to have money set aside now, in case liability is passed onto us from the County in the future.

Mr. Schwartz commented that we should set aside \$700,000 to potentially invest into a trust rather than CDs or hold in a reserve account and refine the amount with the County Auditor and Controller. He recommended SCWMA report back to the Board in 3-6 months.

Mr. Sawyer asked if phasing in the investment would be a better option.

Mr. Carter commented that the Organics Reserve Fund balance was set aside for a compost facility, but our needs have changed. Currently there is \$3,000,000 of unallocated funds that can be put towards pension liability or other priorities.

Mr. Kelley recommended staff bring back a discussion item on this issue, to create a program with investment strategies.

Mr. Schwartz stated we should make a designation of money now, then refine in the future.

Ms. Harvey agreed we should put aside what we have, but later address the bigger problem.

Ms. Gorin supported moving the budget forward, then bring back discussion in future.

Mr. Carter stated the reserve policy reflects consolidation of funds. He recommended giving staff direction to amend budget and reserve policy at this meeting, then refine amounts as needed in the future.

### **Public Comments**

Roger Larson commented that Mr. Mikus should recues himself from voting, due to a conflict of interest with funding his own pension.

Mr. Walsh stated there is no conflict, as none of the Board members work for the SCWMA currently.

### **Board Discussion**

Dan St. John, City of Petaluma, made a motion to approve the final budget, but delay the reserve policy. Mr. Schwartz seconded the motion.

After discussion about the reserve policy, Mr. Schwartz withdrew his second.

**The motion for approval of budget and to bring reserve issue back for discussion at another time Dan St. John, City of Petaluma, and seconded by Susan Gorin, County of Sonoma.**

#### **Vote Count:**

City of Cloverdale	AYE	City of Santa Rosa	AYE
City of Cotati	AYE	City of Sebastopol	AYE
City of Healdsburg	AYE	City of Sonoma	AYE
City of Petaluma	AYE	County of Sonoma	AYE
City of Rohnert Park	NO	Town of Windsor	AYE

AYES -9- NOES -1- ABSENT -0- ABSTAIN -0-

**Motion passed.**

## **4.6 Approval of Revised SCWMA Reserve Policy**

### **Board Discussion**

None

### **Public Comments**

None

**The motion for approval of Reserve Policy as it stands and direction for staff to bring back discussion by September. Dan St. John, City of Petaluma, and seconded by Deb Fudge, Town of Windsor.**

**Vote Count:**

City of Cloverdale	AYE	City of Santa Rosa	AYE
City of Cotati	AYE	City of Sebastopol	AYE
City of Healdsburg	AYE	City of Sonoma	AYE
City of Petaluma	AYE	County of Sonoma	AYE
City of Rohnert Park	AYE	Town of Windsor	AYE

AYES -10- NOES -0- ABSENT -0- ABSTAIN -0-

**Motion passed.**

**Regular Calendar**

**5. Presentation of SCWMA Rebranding Progress by the Engine is Red**

Chris Denny, from the Engine is Red, presented a progress report.

**Board Discussion**

Ms. Fudge asked about the confusion of SCWMA having a new name and which website agendas would be on.

Mr. Denny responded all information would be kept together in a single web entity rather than two websites.

Kristin Thigpen, SCWMA staff, suggested going to RecycleSmart to see a similar concept.

Ms. Fudge stated that the group P.E.A.S in Windsor is trying to make Windsor concerts zero waste by offering recycling education through volunteers.

Mr. Denny stated we want to be a single resource to guide people where items should go and what programs and events are currently being held, rather than people searching through different municipalities.

Ms. Gorin stated areas of the county do not have internet access; information should be given out multiple ways. She suggested looking into starting rural area events and collections. She believed that Nextdoor can be an effective way to send out messages to the public.

Ms. Thigpen responded that Nextdoor is being used and the response has been great. She believed that having the guide is a good way to share information to those without internet.

Ms. Gorin suggested we use Facebook to link people to SCWMA as well.

Ms. Thigpen confirmed we use Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

Ms. Harvey stated that city websites should point people toward the SCWMA for the most current information.

Mr. Kelley asked if there was feedback for the term “waste” during the Engine’s discovery phase, since SCWMA does more than just manage waste.

Mr. Denny replied they are trying to anchor to the most commonly known words and then push beyond that.

Ms. Agrimonti stated she likes organizational charts.

Mr. Schwartz asked if we have discussed our campaign with the local haulers.

Ms. Thigpen stated that we keep the haulers up-to-date on our progress.

Mr. Schwartz stated we are operating too independently. We are expecting others to come to us in a leadership role, but we are not going to them.

Mr. Carter stated the rebranding effort is aspirational. We are saying we want to get to a place of being a national leader and high performing by doing research and reaching out to other leaders. Our responsibility is to do the research to find the best ways to run high quality programs, not the Engine’s. There are a lot of things we are catching up on right now like policies, building a new HHW facility, etc.

Mr. Schwartz stated if we are trying to become a national leader we should look at other national leaders to see what they are doing right, and also talk to our haulers to find out best practice.

Ms. Thigpen stated we are work very closely with the haulers, we just didn’t have them actively participate in our rebranding process.

Larry Zimmer, City of Healdsburg, thanked staff. He suggested a place on the website where people can type in what they want to dispose of and then received an answer.

Ms. Gorin stated Zero Waste is a philosophy and questioned if the name will produce additional confusion as other events and SCWMA’s use the same term.

Mr. Denny stated is allows us to tie to larger conversations, but establishes us as the local resource.

### **Public Comments**

Ms. Leslie Lukacs, chair Zero Waste Task Force, wanted to applaud the decision to name the SCWMA Zero Waste Sonoma. She commented that leaders in our county are moving towards zero waste. She mentioned wanting to present a zero waste resolution request at the next board meeting. She wanted to preserve the landfill as long as possible.

Mr. Ken Wells, LTF Chair, stated the SCWMA has been a national leader in the past. He wanted to know how the focus group was selected. He stated that social marketing is an effective way to produce behavior change and that education is not a behavioral change. It will take money to get to zero waste.



Mr. Rick Downey, Republic Services, stated we have to deal with the regulatory environment and every decision that is made has implications. He stated there is an issue with the SCWMA's guide only being printed once a year, as the information comes in more often.

### **Board Discussion**

Mr. Kelley is concerned there are a number of zero waste programs and using the name may generate confusion about our mission.

Ms. Gorin stated she appreciates Ms. Lukacs's support for the name but she has concern over possible trademark challenges.

Mr. Carter stated we can look into the issue. He stated we have an agreement to transfer Zero Waste Sonoma as an intellectual property from Ms. Lukacs' organization to ours.

Mr. St. John stated he liked the domain recyclenow.org.

Mr. Carter stated he didn't want us pigeon holed into just recycling. We could keep recyclenow.org then redirect people to new site.

Ms. Fudge agreed changing to Zero Waste Sonoma is a great idea.

### **6. Consideration of an Agreement with ECS Refining, Inc. for E-Waste Handling, Transportation and Recycling Services**

Mr. Carter presented the item and recommended the Board execute the Agreement with ECS Refining, Inc. for E-Waste Handling, Transportation and Recycling from the execution date through June 30, 2021, with the opportunity for two annual extensions.

Mr. Carter also recommended the Board execute an Agreement with Onsite Electronics for E-Waste Handling, Transportation and Recycling from an effective date to be determined through June 30, 2021 with the opportunity for two annual extensions.

### **Board Discussion**

Ms. Agrimonti, Ms. Harvey, and Ms. Gorin asked about scenarios in which ECS could default.

Mr. Walsh confirmed that we would terminate the agreement and have another company come in simultaneously. They would be in default for not paying us. Since we have a company to backfill it is not necessary to create a bond to cover gap.

Mr. St. John noted our cost consideration is only 20%, he preferred it to be higher. He stated we should be mindful of maximizing our revenue.

Mr. Carter replied he believed the amount is not huge in the grand scheme of things, around \$10,000-\$20,000. Factors other than revenue which were evaluated included handling of the materials, environmental certifications, and our solid track record with ECS.

Mr. Kelley asked why on the matrix Onsite was ranked 1 point higher on handling materials. He asked if we could identify why, then have company chosen use those best practices. He stated there is no schedule for payments.

Mr. Carter replied we are typically paid per shipment, with lag time from when they get the material to when we receive the money.

Mr. Mikus asked if it was a reorganization of chapter 11 and not a dissolution of assets.

Mr. Walsh confirmed.

Mr. Mikus expressed caution that the pricing with ECS may be part of the problem. He expressed concerned that shortcuts may be taken even with people who have the best intentions. He suggested we follow up that material is properly handled.

Mr. Carter replied that the contractor must provide downstream reports within 7 days of any change with penalties for non-compliance.

Mr. Walsh stated that payment is within 60 days of shipment.

Mr. Mikus wanted to make sure everyone recognized the risks.

Ms. Agrimonti asked if we are picking ECS because there are no additional funds we would have to supplement.

Mr. Carter stated that we are endorsing ECS because they ranked the highest from all of our evaluation criteria.

### **Public Comments**

John Walker, ECS Refining, stated there would be no service interruptions with SCWMA. ECS has a \$10,000,000 liability umbrella policy and a closure policy.

### **Board Discussion**

**The motion for approval on executing an Agreement with ECS Refining, Inc. with a backup contract with Onsite Electronics Susan Gorin, County of Sonoma, and seconded by Larry Zimmer, City of Healdsburg.**

#### **Vote Count:**

City of Cloverdale	AYE	City of Santa Rosa	AYE
City of Cotati	AYE	City of Sebastopol	AYE
City of Healdsburg	AYE	City of Sonoma	AYE
City of Petaluma	AYE	County of Sonoma	AYE
City of Rohnert Park	AYE	Town of Windsor	AYE

AYES -10- NOES -0- ABSENT -0- ABSTAIN -0-

**Motion passed.**

## **7. Discussion and Possible Action on the Organic Material Processing Services RFP Evaluation [Carter]**

Mr. Carter delivered a presentation regarding this item. Staff recommended the Board take the following actions: 1) enter into a disposal agreement with Waste Management/Redwood Landfill for a term of three years, 2) enter into a disposal agreement with Cold Creek Compost for a term of three years, 3) direct staff to schedule a public hearing on the proposals received through the SCWMA's Organic Material Processing Services RFP for long term organic material processing for the August 15, 2018 SCWMA meeting.

### **Board Discussion**

Mr. St. John asked why Napa Recycling is not the most cost effective alternative.

Mr. Carter stated that it is based on both distance and rates.

Mr. Schwartz asked about a flaw in the score of the short term calculations.

Mr. Carter commented that it was a misprint, but Cold Creek would still score the highest.

Mr. Schwartz asked how capacity fits into scoring.

Mr. Carter stated it was a criteria in the RFP and that scores were more heavily weighted on per ton disposal costs and transportation costs.

Mr. Schwartz asked if all short term sites have the capacity we need.

Mr. Carter responded that no single responder could cover all our capacity needs.

Ms. Harvey asked what the future growth in tons was.

Mr. Carter responded we may be around 125,000 tons per year in 20 years.

Ms. Harvey questioned the amount of manure and its impact.

Mr. Carter responded the herbicides in animal food is problematic.

Mr. Schwartz asked for clarification on the proposers marketing plan.

Mr. Carter stated the question is what will happen to the material on the backend, with diversion then landfill not being a good solution. There is currently an increased demand for compost and we asked how they would address the need through the proposal.

Mr. Schwartz stated that staff were directed not to give local preference.

Mr. Carter responded that he disagrees it is a local preference. It's more about a plan to serve a need within the county.

Ms. Gorin stated there is a demand for compost from home gardeners and is a need for the county.

Mr. Carter stated it was based on 15 points out of 100 points. He stated the company did not need to have a physical presence in Sonoma County, but the material could still fit the need of our residents.

Ms. Gorin asked how we would push them to bring the material back to Sonoma County.

Mr. Carter stated the agreement required 300 yards from Cold Creek Compost and 350 from Redwood Landfill per year to be offered free of charge for people to come and pick up in our county.

Ms. Gorin stated she preferred the location of compost production to be close to the distribution site. She questioned when the contact and delivery process would start.

Mr. Carter stated there would be no break in service, since we are already working with them.

Mr. Kelley asked how disposal cost impacted for local rates.

Mr. Carter responded there may be a slight increase based on slightly higher rates from Cold Creek Compost and based on the results from the RFP for transportation.

#### **Public Comments**

Martin Mileck, Cold Creek Compost, stated there is not a shortage of compost in the county. They work with five established dealers in our county and are capable of servicing more dealers.

Ken Wells, LTF, asked if there was a penalty if 10,000 tons per year commitment is not met.

Mr. Carter responded he believed we would have to pay for any material not sent that is under the 10,000 ton requirement.

Mr. Mikus asked if more than 10,000 tons is sourced out of Healdsburg.

Mr. Carter affirmed.

#### **Board Discussion**

**The motion for approval of two short term contracts for green waste disposal was made by Susan Gorin, County of Sonoma, and seconded by Susan Harvey, City of Cotati.**

#### **Vote Count:**

City of Cloverdale	AYE	City of Santa Rosa	AYE
City of Cotati	AYE	City of Sebastopol	AYE
City of Healdsburg	AYE	City of Sonoma	AYE
City of Petaluma	AYE	County of Sonoma	AYE
City of Rohnert Park	AYE	Town of Windsor	AYE

AYES -10- NOES -0- ABSENT -0- ABSTAIN -0-

**Motion passed.**

## **Board Discussion**

Mr. Carter presented long term options.

Mr. Mikus stated many of the proposals included using the Laguna site. He asked how that effects the people that don't have the advantage of that place.

Mr. Carter responded that all proposers were aware the site was available and could contract directly with Santa Rosa for lease of that space.

Mr. Mikus asked what happens if proposers cannot come to an agreement with Santa Rosa.

Mr. Carter responded we would go down the list.

Mr. Mikus suggested at the next meeting we should have information about revenue.

Mr. Carter responded that there will be a rate increase.

Larry Zimmer left at 11:58 AM.

Mr. Kelley asked if costs are spread evenly through all jurisdictions or based on flow commitments for each city.

Mr. Carter responded we do not know yet what the ratepayer impact would be. If cities opted out then they would not be charged the fee.

Mr. Schwartz asked if the range of rates from Renewable Sonoma was based on a low and a high volume received.

Mr. Carter confirmed.

Mr. Mikus stated that comparing averages may be false because the time commitment is a factor.

Mr. Schwartz asked if bidders were able to get a definitive cost for using the waste water plant location.

Mr. Carter responded that each proposer made their own assumptions on costs.

Mr. Schwartz stated that Renewable Sonoma has never operated before. How is their ranking similar to those that have an established history of operation?

Mr. Carter responded that Renewable Sonoma's team members have had a history of operating. Part of the RFP included a \$1,000,000 proposal bond. Renewal Sonoma required a \$10,000,000 bond.

Ms. Agrimonti left at 12:07 PM.

Mr. Schwartz responded it was a point of significant discomfort.

Ms. Harvey stated there is discomfort that one company has never worked together, Possible unforeseen location lease issues and contract issues between SCWMA and the cities. She questioned what makes you think they can work together?

Mr. Carter responded he is happy to address those concerns more fully in August.

Ms. Gorin clarified that she is not one of the supervisors that has a negative opinion of using Stage Gulch as a location.

Ms. Fudge responded she is uncomfortable putting 100% blame on Sonoma Compost for the facility's closure in the past. She believed a lot of blame came from things that went on at the county level, neighbors and behind the scenes.

Mr. Mikus agreed.

### **Public Comments**

William Skinner, Hitachi Zosen INOVA, stated that the higher bond for one company may indicate that there is possibility something may go wrong. He believed evaluation criteria should reflect this more. He stated his company's price decrease was known April 15<sup>th</sup> and was not new information.

Margaret. Kullberg, a resident living across from the proposed location for Stage Gulch Organics, commented that in the past the board concluded that area was not suitable. She believes it is still not suitable. She has traffic concerns with road size and safety hazards. She objects to increased insects and odors affecting her vineyards.

Roger Larsen, Happy Acre Resident, handed out a map of the Tiger Salamander habitat. He believes that Stage Gulch Road is the best location for compost site. He commented there will be drainage issues at the Water Treatment Facility. He stated it does not seem right giving the contract to the same people who experienced drainage problems in the past.

Allan Tose, Stage Gulch Organics, provided copies of Use Permit from Permit Sonoma. He stated the reduction of the site by five acres changes concerns and solves all problems. He stated the whole area of Llano Road site is Tiger Salamander territory as well. He commented that using a property that already exists and can meet the needs without destroying animal habitat makes the most sense.

Mr. Mileck, Cold Creek Compost, stated he offered the lowest bid for the previous contract but it was offered to the highest bidder. He then built a fully compliant facility in Mendocino County about a year faster than Sonoma Compost was able to. He stated by using the recommended proposal the rate payer would be paying \$52,000,000 more over 20 years, he is not sure the point system reflects this difference. His proposal proposes two facilities each able to do the entire job. He asked how this is reflected in the point system. He stated his compost product has been the best compost on the market for 25 years, and asked how that is reflected in points.

Mr. St. John asked for elaboration regarding which officials expressed concerns about the Stage Gulch site.

Mr. Carter stated Supervisors Rabbitt and Zane objected to Stage Gulch site years ago.

Mr. St John left at 12:32.

Direction was given to staff to arrange for a public hearing at the August 15 SCWMA Board meeting.

**7. Boardmember Comments**

None.

**8. Staff Comments**

None.

**9. Next SCWMA meeting:** July 18, 2018

**10. Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 12:34 P.M.

Submitted by: Janel Perry



Agenda Item #: **6.2**  
Agenda Date: **8/15/2018**

## **ITEM: June, July, August and September 2018 Outreach Calendar**

### **June 2018 Outreach Events**

June 1	5 PM – 8:00 PM	Rohnert Park Farmers Market
June 2	11 AM – 5:00 PM	Andy's Unity Park Dedication Community Celebration – Santa Rosa
June 5	4 PM – 8 PM	Community Toxic Collection – Healdsburg
June 6	5 PM – 8:30 PM	Wednesday Downtown Market – Santa Rosa
June 8	11 AM – 7 PM	E-Waste Event – Santa Rosa
June 9-10	9 AM – 5 PM	E-Waste Event – Santa Rosa
June 12	4 PM – 8 PM	Community Toxic Collection – Bodega Bay
June 14	9:10 AM – 10:15 AM	Healdsburg Labor Center presentation – Healdsburg
June 14	9:10 AM – 10:15 AM	Fulton Labor Center presentation – Fulton
June 15	11 AM – 1 PM	Occidental Bohemian Farmers Market – Occidental
June 17	11 AM – 1 PM	Kenwood Farmers Market – Kenwood
June 17	10 AM – 4 PM	Father's Day Annual "Show and Shine" Car Show – Santa Rosa
June 19	4 PM – 8 PM	Community Toxic Collection – Santa Rosa, West
June 20	9 AM – 10 AM	Graton Labor Center presentation – Graton
June 20-24	10 AM – 10 PM	Sonoma Marin Fair - Petaluma
June 21	11 AM – 1 PM	Cotati Farmers Market – Cotati
June 22	4 PM – 8 PM	Occidental Farmers Market – Occidental
June 24	11 AM – 1 PM	Windsor Farmers Market – Windsor
June 26	4 PM – 8 PM	Community Toxic Collection – Rohnert Park
June 27	5 PM – 9 PM	Santa Rosa Wednesday Night Market – Santa Rosa

### **July 2018 Outreach Events**

July 3	4 PM – 8 PM	Community Toxic Collection – Santa Rosa, East
July 10	4 PM – 8 PM	Community Toxic Collection – Glen Ellen
July 13	11 AM – 7 PM	E-Waste Event – Petaluma
July 14-15	9 AM – 5 PM	E-Waste Event – Petaluma
July 14	10 AM – 4 PM	Kids Day - Cotati
July 15	10:30 AM – 6 PM	La Gueliaquetza Event – Santa Rosa
July 17	4 PM – 8 PM	Community Toxic Collection – Cloverdale
July 19	9:10 AM – 10:15 AM	Healdsburg Labor Center presentation – Healdsburg
July 19	9:10 AM – 10:15 AM	Fulton Labor Center presentation – Fulton
July 24	4 PM – 8 PM	Community Toxic Collection – Larkfield
July 27-29	9 AM – 5 PM	Propane Exchange Event – Sonoma Raceway
July 31	4 PM – 8 PM	Community Toxic Collection – Sebastopol



### **August 2018 Outreach Events**

August 1	8 AM – 12:00 PM	DMV – Petaluma
August 2-12	10 AM – 10:00 PM	Sonoma County Fair – Santa Rosa
August 7	4 PM – 8 PM	Community Toxic Collection – Petaluma
August 10	11 AM – 7 PM	E-Waste Event – Oakmont
August 11	9 AM – 5 PM	E-Waste Event – Oakmont
August 14	4 PM – 8 PM	Community Toxic Collection – Oakmont
August 16	9:10 AM – 10:15 AM	Healdsburg Labor Center presentation – Healdsburg
August 16	9:10 AM – 10:15 AM	Fulton Labor Center presentation – Fulton
August 18	9:00 AM – 6 PM	28 <sup>th</sup> Annual Cotati Accordion Festival – Cotati
August 19	9:00 AM – 6 PM	28 <sup>th</sup> Annual Cotati Accordion Festival – Cotati
August 21	4 PM – 8 PM	Community Toxic Collection – Sonoma
August 28	4 PM – 8 PM	Community Toxic Collection – Windsor

### **September 2018 Outreach Events**

September 4	4 PM – 8 PM	Community Toxic Collection – Santa Rosa, West
September 7	11 AM – 7 PM	E-Waste Event – Rohnert Park
September 8	10 AM – 3 PM	24th Annual Cloverdale Car and Motorcycle Show – Cloverdale
September 8-9	9 AM – 5 PM	E-Waste Event – Rohnert Park
September 11	4 PM – 8 PM	Community Toxic Collection – Healdsburg
September 13	9:10 AM – 10:15 AM	Healdsburg Labor Center presentation – Healdsburg
September 13	9:10 AM – 10:15 AM	Fulton Labor Center presentation – Fulton
September 16	9:10 AM – 10:15 AM	Fiesta de Independencia (Luther Burbank Center) – Santa Rosa
September 18	4 PM – 8 PM	Community Toxic Collection – Kenwood
September 19	9:10 AM – 10:15 AM	Graton Labor Center presentation – Graton
September 22	9 AM – 5 PM	Healdsburg Kiwanis Club Family Safety Fair – Healdsburg
September 25	4 PM – 8 PM	Community Toxic Collection – Santa Rosa - Rincon Valley



Agenda Item #: **6.3**  
Cost Center: **Organics**  
Staff Contact: **Carter**  
Agenda Date: **8/15/2018**  
Approved By:

## **ITEM: Approval of the Scope of Work for the Organic Material Transport Services Request for Proposals**

### **I. RECOMMENDED ACTION / ALTERNATIVES TO RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends the Board approve the attached Scope of Work for the Organic Material Transport Services Request for Proposals, and to direct staff to release the Request for Proposals.

### **II. BACKGROUND**

The SCWMA currently has an agreement with Recology for hauling and disposal of wood waste and green waste delivered to the County-owned transfer stations. The SCWMA originally entered into the agreement with the Ratto Group on September 17, 2014, and subsequently amended that agreement on June 24, 2015 (First Amendment) and November 16, 2016 (Second Amendment). The Board approved the agreement assignment to Recology on November 15, 2017. The agreement expires on February 11, 2019.

### **III. DISCUSSION**

Staff is satisfied with Recology's performance in the existing agreement to transport organic materials. However, staff is following Board precedent to seek competitive pricing on agreements that have not been bid on for over three years.

Staff consulted with Republic Services, the County's contractor for transfer station operations and Republic stated that other companies would be allowed to use the site for the loading of materials, provided those companies meet the site insurance requirements.

Staff developed the attached Scope of Work to give flexibility to transport materials from the existing transfer stations to known organic material processing facilities, as well as establishing a method for determining the cost for currently unidentified sites, should that option be necessary or desired by SCWMA staff.

### **IV. FUNDING IMPACT**

There is no funding impact as a result of the approval of the scope of work. Funding impacts for the transport of organic material will be compared after proposals are received.

### **V. ATTACHMENTS**

Organic Material Transport Services Scope of Work



## Organic Material Transport Services RFP

### EVALUATION CRITERIA AND PRIMARY TASK LIST

---

This section describes the services required by the SCWMA. The SCWMA will execute an Agreement for Organic Material Transport Services with the selected Proposer as described in this RFP. The Agreement may incorporate any or all elements of the successful Proposer's response, either as originally submitted or as defined in subsequent negotiations. The Agreement is subject to the final approval of the SCWMA Board of Directors. Also set forth in this section are the major terms of the business arrangement that the SCWMA seeks with the successful Proposer, as further defined by the payment terms contained in the successful Proposer's response.

To enable the SCWMA to evaluate potential Organic Material Transport Contractors, please address each of the items below. SCWMA staff will evaluate the Proposals based on completeness of answers to the items below and use the following scoring criteria. Proposals must score at least 70 points to be considered for the agreement.

#### Evaluation Criteria

1. Experience **(25 points)** – Please describe the Proposer's qualifications and experience transporting organic material. Include references for performing similar services for other municipalities within the Bay Area. Please detail any fines or penalties received in relation to performing transport services in the past five years.
2. Capacity to perform requested services **(30 points)** - Please include a list of equipment that would be used to transport SCWMA material, including equipment type, equipment age, equipment capacity, and the equipment condition. If additional equipment necessary to provide the requested service, please describe how services will be provided by the Agreement start date. Indicate how many staff would be required to successfully perform these services, and explain whether staff would be dedicated to this program. Failing to demonstrate the ability perform all the tasks detailed in the Task section is grounds for proposal rejection.
3. Cost **(45 points)** – Please fill out Exhibit E (Cost Matrix) detailing the labor and transport expenses for delivering material from each transfer station to designated facility. Costs must be provided in terms of cost per ton for identified sites. In the event that new organic material processing facilities become available, please provide a cost per ton per mile metric which Contractor would use to determine the price of a transport beyond the currently identified sites.

## Primary Task List

The services to be performed under the Agreement may include the following tasks and any modifications agreed to during the contract negotiation process. Contractor must demonstrate acceptance of the tasks below in their RFP response.

Coordination with Transfer Station Staff – Contractor shall, in coordination with Republic Services of Sonoma County or their designee, and without assistance from SCWMA staff, determine the schedule and frequency of collection and amount of equipment necessary to transport the organic materials from designated transfer stations to SCWMA - designated organic material processing facilities. Inability to transport materials or delays causing Republic Services permit violations are grounds for agreement termination.

Inspection of Transported Materials – Contamination of organic material is problematic for organic material processing facilities, especially large metal pieces which can damage processing machinery. Contractor shall observe material loading (including listening for metallic contaminants), to the extent possible and at a safe distance, make note of any obvious contaminants, and notify receiving facilities of contaminants. Contractor shall notify Republic Services staff immediately of any hazardous materials observed in the load of the transport vehicle.

Maintenance of Vehicles – Contractor shall maintain its vehicles such that vehicles do not cause pollution or release of hazardous substances. In the event of an accidental release of vehicle fluids or hazardous materials, Contractor shall immediately take steps to remedy the situation. Contractor's vehicle operators shall be trained in the use of and vehicles shall be equipped with spill clean-up kits. Contractor must demonstrate proper emergency response protocols.

Compliance with Law – Contractor must comply with all Federal, State, and Local laws regarding the transport of materials. Contractor shall ensure vehicles are adequately covered to minimize the accidental release of transported material.

Invoicing – Contractor shall invoice SCWMA staff on a monthly basis, no later than the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month for the prior month's material transported. Invoices shall clearly indicate the tonnage of material transported from each transfer station to each receiving facility. Receiving facility weight tags shall be submitted as proof of transport for each load of material transported.

Routing of Material – Contractor acknowledges that SCWMA staff has made commitments to organic material processing facilities, which SCWMA will convey to Contractor. Contractor shall communicate as soon as possible if there is an event which prevents Contractor from delivering the material to SCWMA designated locations. Furthermore, in the event that SCWMA needs to make changes to the location of material delivery, Contractor shall comply with SCWMA's change request within 48 hours of the request.

Cost Per Ton Per Mile – As detailed in the primary selection criteria, Contractor shall provide a cost per ton per mile basis for determining the transportation costs of previously unidentified organic material processing facilities.



Agenda Item #: **7**  
Cost Center: **All**  
Staff Contact: **Collard**  
Agenda Date: **8/15/2018**  
Approved by

## **ITEM: Annual Presentation of Waste Activities by Republic Services**

### **I. RECOMMENDED ACTION / ALTERNATIVES TO RECOMMENDATION**

This agenda item is informational. No action is required by the Board at this time.

### **II. BACKGROUND**

As stated in the Master Operating Agreement, Republic Services is required to provide an annual report to the Board of Supervisors and the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency.

### **III. DISCUSSION**

Republic Services will be fulfilling their contractual obligation by providing an update on the progress made towards achieving the goals established in the Agreement. The report may include topics such as diversion goals, greenhouse gas reduction, commercial food waste programs and any new activities and programs.

### **IV. FUNDING IMPACT**

No funding impacts.

### **V. ATTACHMENTS**

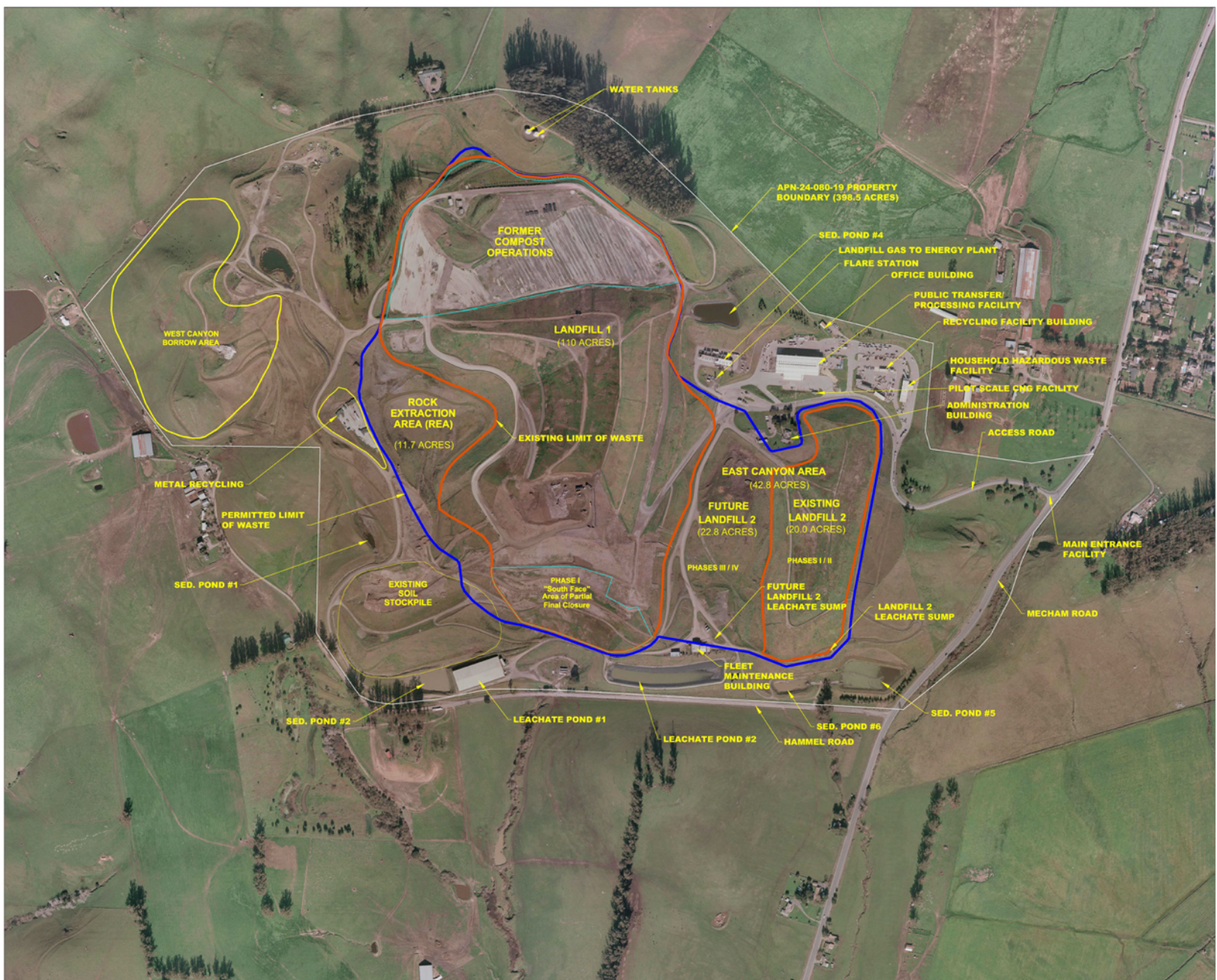
Annual Presentation to the SCWMA, 2017-2018 Update

# Annual Presentation to Sonoma County Waste Management Agency

2017 – 2018 Update – MOA







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# Summary of Landfill Airspace

**As of 3/31/2018**

<b>Projected Airspace Volume Consumed</b>	<b>22,711,212 Cubic Yards</b>
<b>Remaining Airspace of the Landfill</b>	<b>9,938,788 Cubic Yards</b>
<b>Remaining Capacity of the Landfill</b>	<b>8,257,516 Tons</b>
<b>Remaining Life of the Landfill</b>	<b>27 Years</b>
<b>Change in Airspace</b>	<b>Solid Waste Placed in (1/1/17 to 3/31/18)</b>
	<b>Volume Consumed as of 12/31/2017</b>
	<b>1,050,536 Cubic Yards</b>
	<b>21,660,676 Cubic Yards</b>

## **Waste Placement by Quarter, 2017 – 2018 by Material Type (in tons)**

<b>2017</b>	<b><u>MSW</u></b>	<b><u>Fire Waste</u></b>
Jan – Mar	<b>75,064</b>	
Apr – Jun	<b>79,946</b>	
Jul – Sep	<b>78,520</b>	
Oct – Dec	<b>70,154</b>	<b>357,016</b>
<b>2018</b>	<b><u>MSW</u></b>	<b><u>Fire Waste</u></b>
Jan – Mar	<b>73,011</b>	<b>524,809</b>
<b>Fire Waste Totals Through 6/30/2018</b>		<b>917,318</b>

# Diversion Analysis – Apr. 2017 – Mar. 2018

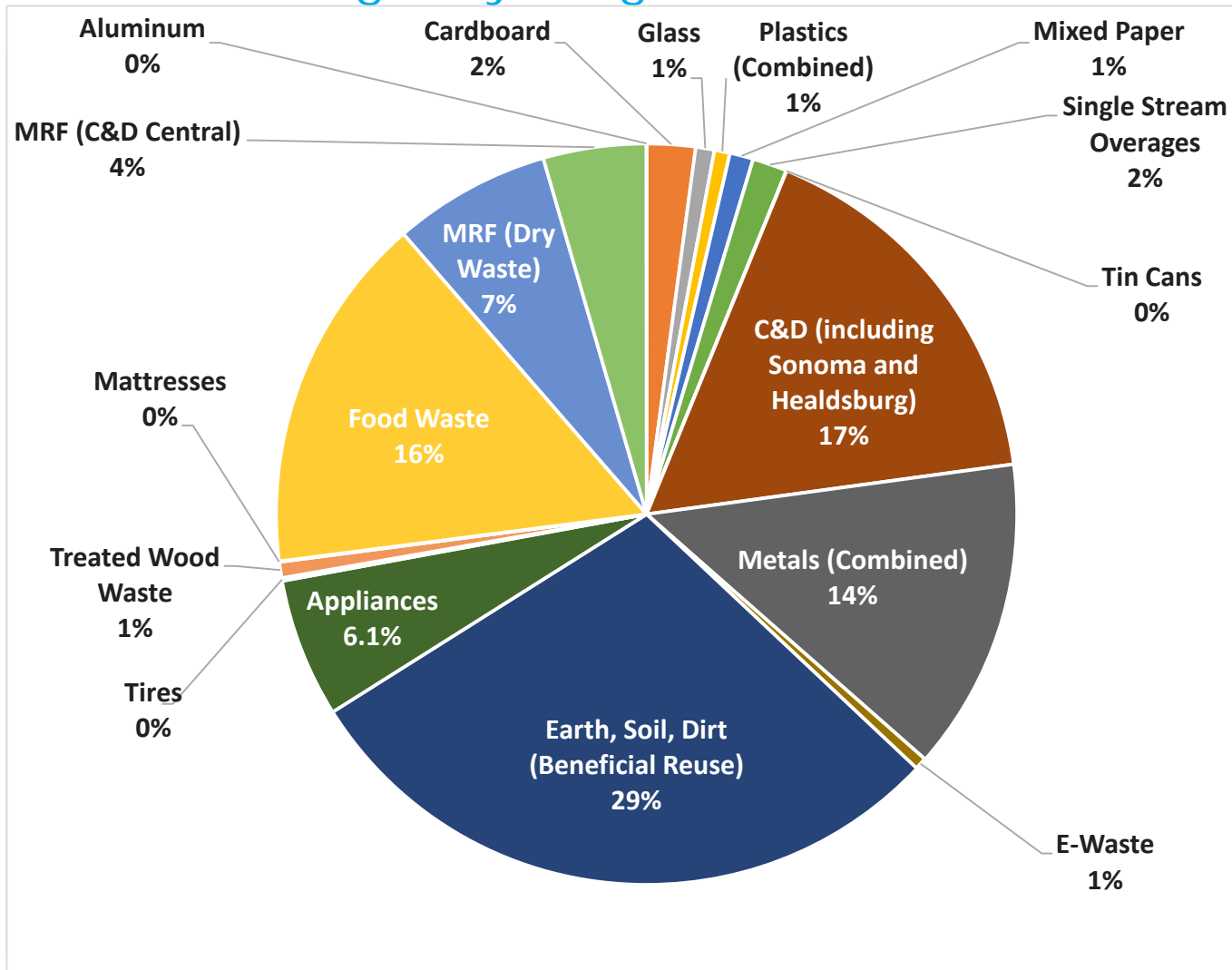
<b>*</b>		
<b>Materials Recovered From Disposal</b>	<b><u>2017</u></b>	<b><u>2016</u></b>
<b>Net Diverted at Facilities (Combined)</b>	<b>27,661.69</b>	<b>19,730.67</b>
<b>Detail</b>		
Aluminum	1.54	1.02
Cardboard	584.43	495.12
Glass	227.00	424.13
Plastics (Combined)	186.49	309.41
Mixed Paper	285.01	-0-
Single Stream Overages	418.76	-0-
Tin Cans	2.84	1.51
C & D (including Sonoma and Healdsburg programs)	4,616.16	3125.71
Metals (Combined)	3,769.49	3250.60
E-Waste	149.78	49.04
Earth, Soil, Dirt (Beneficial Reuse)	8,031.93	4515.63
Appliances	1,675.60	1243.30
Tires	35.88	34.84
Treated Wood Waste	193.45	-0-
Mattresses (Guerneville Pilot Program)	6.90	-0-
Food Waste	4,332.06	4877.18
MRF		
Dry Waste	1,903.44	1403.18
C & D (Central)	1,242.93	-0-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>27,661.69</b>	<b>19,730.67</b>

**Note: All figures in tons**

**Goal: 67,000 tons per year**

*Note: All figures are in tons.*

## Diversion Percentages by Weight - 2017



*Note: Diversion goal of 67,000 tons/year following the first full year of operations of the MRF*

# How to Achieve Annual Diversion Tonnage

<u>Initiative</u>	<u>Projected</u>	<u>2017 Totals</u>
Food Waste	10,000 Tons	4,332
Z-Wall Sort	22,000 Tons*	7,539
C & D (all sites)	10,000 Tons**	5,859
Commercial Recycle	20,000 Tons***	1,903
Soil for beneficial reuse	<u>5,000 Tons</u>	<u>8,032</u>
Totals	67,000	27,665

\* Additional Volumes from self-haul with rebuild effort

\*\* LEED C&D activity associated with rebuild effort

\*\*\* MRF Activity with full time operations

# Recology's Commercial Compost Program

- 1,849 commercial compost customers
- 9 member "Waste Zero Team"
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Commercial Compost route will be added by June 2018
- Promoted via newsletter, website, social media, brochure, and targeted AB1826 outreach
- Provide posters, labels, indoor containers, and training

## Recycle More, Save More!



### Containers and Signage

Recology can provide you with a free starter kit of internal containers and signage.



### Waste Zero Specialists

Our professional team of Waste Zero Specialists provides free technical assistance, including on-site waste analysis, staff trainings, and presentations.

The Waste Zero Team will help you conserve natural resources, reduce waste that goes to the landfill, and save money. Together we can make a difference!



800.243.0291  
RSMWasteZero@recology.com  
This brochure is also available online at [Recology.com](http://Recology.com)  
Like us on Facebook! 

# California State Laws

AB341 Mandatory Recycling  
Requires commercial properties that generate four or more cubic yards of garbage per week to enroll in recycling service.



AB1826 Mandatory Organics  
Requires commercial properties that generate four or more cubic yards of compostable material per week to enroll in compost service.



# Green House Gas Study Update

- GHG Study completed for year 3
- Recycling and Diversion Impacts
- MRF impact – current and future

Table 5 - GHG Totals			
	GHG Emissions (MTCO2e)		
Source	2014	2016	2017
Landfill Methane	58,617	77,880	79,600
Haul Vehicles	1,984	1,767	1,534
Total GHG Emissions	60,601	79,647	81,134
Waste Diversion Reduction	20,912	32,315	46,523
Net GHG Emissions	43,689	60,090	34,611
Biogenic CO2	21,285	28,280	28,904

Net GHG Emissions	2014	2016	2017
Metric tons of CO2 Equivalent	43,689	60,090	34,611

# Rate Analysis

- **Rate Increases Effective April 1, 2018**

• <u>Description</u>	<u>Previous Rate</u>	<u>New Rate</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>%</u>
• <b>County Rate</b>	<b>130.16</b>	<b>133.31</b>	<b>3.15</b>	<b>2.42</b>
• <b>City Rate</b>	<b>134.36</b>	<b>137.64</b>	<b>3.28</b>	<b>2.44</b>
• <b>Self Haul Rate</b>	<b>117.50</b>	<b>118.50</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>0.85</b>
• <b>Note:</b>	All percentage increases are below 90% of CPI			



# Visual Updates



Partial Final Closure – Looking West





Partial Final Closure Area



## Initial Excavation for Cell Construction





Protection during rain event





Liner section welding and LCRS gravel placement



## Current Fill Operations – Former Compost Deck Cell



**QUESTIONS ?**

Thank you.







Agenda Item #: **8**  
Cost Center: **Organics Reserve**  
Staff Contact: **Carter**  
Agenda Date: **8/15/2018**  
Approved By:

## **ITEM: Discussion and Possible Action on the Organic Material Processing Services RFP Evaluation**

### **I. RECOMMENDED ACTION / ALTERNATIVES TO RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends the Board 1) open the public hearing to receive feedback on the staff recommendation, 2) close the public hearing when public comment is complete. Staff's recommendation on Board action is to direct staff 1) to enter into exclusive negotiations with Renewable Sonoma to negotiate an agreement to develop a new organics processing facility in Sonoma County, 2) to develop a waste delivery agreement for SCWMA members to commit their flow of organic materials to the SCWMA for a term of 20 years from the effective date, and 3) develop a model staff report to assist SCWMA member agencies in the consideration of a waste delivery agreement to the SCWMA for the appropriate organic materials.

### **II. BACKGROUND**

The Board entered into an agreement with R3 Consulting Group (R3) at the February 15, 2017 SCWMA meeting to provide technical assistance in an RFP process. Staff prepared an online survey and held two public workshops to receive feedback from the Board and the public on the priorities for the RFP. The following list includes the major milestones for this project to date:

- The RFP was released on May 31, 2017.
- A mandatory pre-proposal conference to provide an overview to potential proposers and to determine the number of interested parties was held on June 28, 2017.
- Addendum #1 to the RFP was released on July 7, 2017, in which staff answered the questions received up to that point. The question period was extended to September 8, 2017 and the proposal due date was extended to October 18, 2017.
- Shortly after the issuance of Addendum #1, the City of Santa Rosa released an RFP for Location of an Organics Processing Facility on City of Santa Rosa Property to allow the City to have a procurement process with a facility operator that may participate in the SCWMA's RFP process.
- Addendum #2 for the SCWMA's RFP was released on July 27, 2017 and contained responses to questions asked of staff up to that date. Addendum #2 also contained an invitation to interested parties to visually inspect incoming green waste at the Healdsburg Transfer Station on August 9, 2017 for the benefit of proposers understanding of the composition of incoming green waste. Six parties attended the inspection.
- Addendum #3 was issued on September 22, 2017, which extended the question period to November 13, 2017 and the proposal due date to January 16, 2018.
- Addendum #4 was issued on November 21, 2017, and answered the remaining questions received up to November 13, 2017.
- 12 proposals were received by staff by the due date of January 16, 2018.
- Two proposals have been withdrawn since January 16, 2018.

- The SCWMA Board of Directors approved the proposal evaluation weighting at the February 21, 2018 SCWMA meeting.
- The SCWMA Board of Director gave staff direction to arrange a public hearing at the August 15, 2018 SCWMA meeting to receive public input on this item.

### III. DISCUSSION

Staff has not changed its recommendation from the June 20, 2018 SCWMA Board of Directors meeting. Staff recommends the Board to direct staff to negotiate exclusively with Renewable Sonoma for long term organics processing capacity. Staff has addressed the concerns raised by the Board at the June 20, 2018 meeting in a memo responding to an email from Rohnert Park staff (attached).

Though a summary of the proposals was included in the previous staff report, staff recognizes that more rationale behind the evaluation team's ranking of the Renewable Sonoma proposal would be helpful. Renewable Sonoma's proposal demonstrated the clearest understanding of the purpose of the RFP, described constraints of the current system and provided feasible solutions. A focus of the proposal was contamination of incoming material; Renewable Sonoma's proposal included outreach staff from SCS Engineers to provide in-person education to organic material generators in Sonoma County to both increase the amount of compostable material and reduce contamination. Providing this service displaces the need for additional SCWMA staff to perform similar tasks. No other proposal provided this level of educational effort, and furthermore Renewable Sonoma has proposed beginning the outreach effort prior to the operation of the facility, so when the facility is operational, there will be more material with less contamination. Renewable Sonoma proposes to accept a wide array of organic materials, including biosolids, a material which was not indicated as acceptable by the other top ranked sites. Renewable Sonoma's proposal includes a number of synergies with the Laguna Subregional facility, including producing fuel, which underutilized equipment would convert to electricity, assisting with operational and capital improvements with the existing biosolids composting operation by the city, and providing some level of lease revenue to that operation (lease amount would be subject to future negotiation with the City of Santa Rosa). Renewable Sonoma also demonstrated community support within their proposal by providing nineteen letters of support from local organizations and individuals; subsequently, since SCWMA staff solicited feedback since the June 20 SCWMA meeting, an additional 80 letters of support or signatures to a petition have been received by staff at the time of the creation of this staff report (all responses attached).

Staff offered presentation opportunities to the top ranked long term sites, Cold Creek Compost/Stage Gulch Organics, Hitachi Zosen Inova, Napa Recycling, Renewable Sonoma, and Waste Management. After the presentations, staff recommends the Chair open the public hearing, limiting speakers to 3 minutes each for public comment, closing the public hearing, and considering the staff recommendations for next steps.

#### **Next Steps:**

As multiple parties are involved, and there are a number of decision points still ahead for this process to be successful, staff recommends the following schedule:

- Develop an agreement with Republic on the flow of commercial food waste

- Create model staff reports for each SCWMA member jurisdiction to secure the commitment of organic waste flow to the SCWMA and assist member agency staff in the presentation to governing Councils/Board
- Assist in the lease process as needed or desired by Santa Rosa staff
- Negotiate the final agreement with Renewable Sonoma
- Enter into a disposal agreement with Renewable Sonoma for a term of 20 years with two – five year extensions.

#### **IV. FUNDING IMPACT**

The cost of the Renewable Sonoma, Cold Creek Compost and Redwood Landfill combination, Hitachi Zosen Inova, and Stage Gulch Organics proposals depend on the amount of material received.

Staff's recommended proposal, Renewable Sonoma, is estimated to have an average rate impact of \$0.43 to \$1.70 per month per Sonoma County garbage service customer.

Continuing with the status quo is estimated to require rate increases between \$0.32 and \$0.34 per month per customer by 2021 to account for expected inflation.

Hitachi Zosen INOVA's proposal is estimated to have rate impact of between \$1.18 and \$1.70 per customer per month.

The lowest cost proposal would be the Stage Gulch Organics proposal potentially lowering rates by \$0.21 per customer per month, to raising rates by \$0.14 per customer per month.

#### **V. ATTACHMENTS**

Response to Site Selection Concerns  
Financial Analysis of Long Term Proposals  
Feedback to Proposals

### 2021 No New Diversion Scenario, 75,000 tpy, no direct haul, no commercial food

Site	Disposal Fee	Transport Fee	Tonnage Delivered	Total Annual Cost	Baseline Cost	Cost Increase Over Baseline	Number of Ratepayers, 2018	Avg. Monthly Ratepayer Impact
Renewable Sonoma	\$ 89.00	\$ 14.59	75,000	\$ 7,769,250	\$ 4,917,272	\$ 2,851,979	140,000	\$ 1.70
CCC/Redwood LF	\$ 47.93	\$ 24.71	75,000	\$ 5,448,322	\$ 4,917,272	\$ 531,050	140,000	\$ 0.32
Hitachi Zosen	\$ 89.00	\$ 14.59	75,000	\$ 7,769,250	\$ 4,917,272	\$ 2,851,979	140,000	\$ 1.70
Stage Gulch Organics	\$ 50.00	\$ 18.45	75,000	\$ 5,133,750	\$ 4,917,272	\$ 216,479	140,000	\$ 0.13

### 2021 Increased Diversion Scenario, 80,000 tpy greenwaste, no direct haul, no commercial food

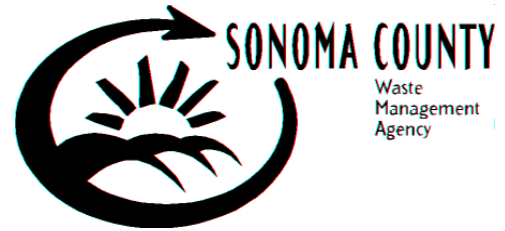
Site	Disposal Fee	Transport Fee	Tonnage Delivered	Total Annual Cost	Baseline Cost	Cost Increase Over Baseline	Number of Ratepayers, 2018	Avg. Monthly Ratepayer Impact
Renewable Sonoma	\$ 78.00	\$ 14.59	80,000	\$ 7,407,200	\$ 5,245,090	\$ 2,162,110	140,000	\$ 1.29
CCC/Redwood LF	\$ 48.08	\$ 24.71	80,000	\$ 5,823,199	\$ 5,245,090	\$ 578,109	140,000	\$ 0.34
Hitachi Zosen	\$ 83.00	\$ 14.59	80,000	\$ 7,807,200	\$ 5,245,090	\$ 2,562,110	140,000	\$ 1.53
Stage Gulch Organics	\$ 50.00	\$ 18.45	80,000	\$ 5,476,000	\$ 5,245,090	\$ 230,910	140,000	\$ 0.14

### 2021 Increased Diversion Scenario, 80,000 tpy greenwaste, 50% direct haul, no commercial food

Site	Disposal Fee	Transport Fee	Tonnage Delivered	Total Annual Cost	Baseline Cost	Cost Increase Over Baseline	Number of Ratepayers, 2018	Avg. Monthly Ratepayer Impact
Renewable Sonoma	\$ 78.00	\$ 7.30	80,000	\$ 6,823,600	\$ 5,245,090	\$ 1,578,510	140,000	\$ 0.94
CCC/Redwood LF	\$ 48.08	\$ 24.71	80,000	\$ 5,823,199	\$ 5,245,090	\$ 578,109	140,000	\$ 0.34
Hitachi Zosen	\$ 83.00	\$ 7.30	80,000	\$ 7,223,600	\$ 5,245,090	\$ 1,978,510	140,000	\$ 1.18
Stage Gulch Organics	\$ 50.00	\$ 13.84	80,000	\$ 5,107,000	\$ 5,245,090	\$ (138,090)	140,000	\$ (0.08)

### 2021 Increased Greenwaste and Food Waste Scenario, 80,000 tpy greenwaste 50% direct haul, 20,000 tpy commercial food direct-haul

Site	Disposal Fee	Transport Fee	Tonnage Delivered	Total Annual Cost	Baseline Cost	Cost Increase Over Baseline	Number of Ratepayers, 2018	Avg. Monthly Ratepayer Impact
Renewable Sonoma	\$ 67.00	\$ 5.84	100,000	\$ 7,283,600	\$ 6,556,362	\$ 727,238	140,000	\$ 0.43
CCC/Redwood LF*	\$ 48.52	\$ 24.71	100,000	\$ 7,322,708	\$ 6,556,362	\$ 766,346	140,000	\$ 0.46
*Note: presented for reference purposes, this scenario is infeasible for these facilities								
Hitachi Zosen	\$ 83.00	\$ 5.84	100,000	\$ 8,883,600	\$ 6,556,362	\$ 2,327,238	140,000	\$ 1.39
Stage Gulch Organics	\$ 50.00	\$ 11.99	100,000	\$ 6,199,250	\$ 6,556,362	\$ (357,112)	140,000	\$ (0.21)



## Memorandum

Date: August 8, 2018

To: Don Schwartz, City of Rohnert Park

From: Patrick Carter, Sonoma County Waste Management Agency

Re: Response to Site Selection Concerns

This memo responds to your email regarding SCWMA's RFP for organic material processing services site selection process, dated July 6, 2018. Thank you for conveying your concerns and giving staff the opportunity to address them prior to the August 15 SCWMA Board of Directors meeting. I am summarizing your comments and responding to them below:

1. We have a major concern regarding the qualifications of Renewable Sonoma. Please explain the rationale behind an increased performance bond requirement for Renewable Sonoma. Renewable Sonoma has never operated as a company, and its principals only include two individuals over a 20 year contract.

### Response:

The evaluation team felt that Renewable Sonoma's proposal best fit the overall goals and intent of the Organic Material Processing Services RFP. The proposal clearly demonstrated a clear understanding of the purpose of the RFP, the constraints of the current organics collection system and future challenges, and provided feasible solutions. For example, Renewable Sonoma's proposal includes an education program where team members would visit businesses and provide trainings to reduce contamination, in addition to mechanical efforts at the compost site to remove contaminants. Renewable Sonoma's proposal includes the wide range of acceptable materials, including handling biosolids and manures, while rejecting only compostable plastics and compostable papers which could jeopardize the use of finished compost in Organic agriculture.

The qualifications section of the proposal evaluation includes evaluating the management team, experience providing service, successful operations, experience maximizing landfill diversion, experience providing customer service, experience providing public education programs, references, litigation history, review of key financial indicators, ability to finance capital purchases, and plans for responding to fluctuations in the organic materials market. The evaluation team concluded that the Renewable Sonoma team's (including SCS Engineers and Suez) qualifications were excellent. The principals of Renewable Sonoma successfully operated a reputable compost facility for twenty years, they assembled a very qualified team for this proposal, they have extensive experience maximizing diversion, providing customer service, and providing public education, have proposed a feasible method for funding the capital expenditures necessary for

this proposal, and have extensive experience responding to the fluctuating organics markets. The reason for not ranking higher in this category was Sonoma Compost's failure to meet the insurance requirements during litigation involving the SCWMA and Sonoma Compost that ultimately resulted in the closure of the compost site at the Central Disposal Site in 2015.

Staff proposed, and Renewable Sonoma accepted, a higher performance bond requirement compared to other proposals. This was done during the evaluation process after the evaluation team had concluded that Renewable Sonoma was the highest ranked proposal. The higher performance bond amount was requested not out of a technical concern about the Renewable Sonoma proposal, but was requested as a mechanism to address anticipated concerns Board members may have about the past litigation history with Sonoma Compost, whose principals are also the principals of Renewable Sonoma. This request, while well intentioned, instead seems to have drawn more attention to the technical feasibility of the proposal; this was not staff's intent. Renewable Sonoma's proposal would have had the same ranking without the additional performance bond amount.

The principals of Renewable Sonoma being two individuals, and the rest of team being subcontractors was an initial concern to the evaluation team as well. When questioned on this during the evaluation process, Renewable Sonoma highlighted their team member roles, with Suez providing a major construction and operational role in the partnership. Ensuring there is trained, qualified backup staff is to be a significant part of Suez's role in this project. The evaluation team felt that Suez's role in the organization mitigated concerns about leadership turnover.

2. A letter of credit to ensure contract compliance would give the SCWMA easier access to funds in the event of default by Renewable Sonoma.

Response:

SCWMA staff agrees that having confidence that the contractor will comply with the agreement requirements is better than having a readily enforceable method of cost recovery in the event of default. Staff does not believe there is inherently a greater risk from the Renewable Sonoma proposal than other in-county compost facilities proposed. Furthermore, the SCWMA is not funding the project construction, so the main risk to the SCWMA would be continued outhauling in the event that facility operation was delayed or abandoned. As such, staff believes the performance bond requirement is adequate.

3. Why was Renewable Sonoma allowed to increase their bond, and therefore viability, and other proposers not?

Response:

The request from the evaluation team, and the acceptance by Renewable Sonoma, to increase the performance bond was done after the initial ranking of the proposals. Renewable Sonoma's proposal was the highest ranked proposal overall, but the evaluation team had concerns about Board's reception of this proposal given the litigation history of the principals of Renewable Sonoma's company, Sonoma Compost. The evaluation team felt that the protection of the

additional performance bond amount would mitigate concerns over past performance, and requested the additional amount after the initial ranking was completed. Staff would still recommend Renewable Sonoma's proposal without the increased performance bond, as staff does not feel that this operation involves a greater risk than other proposed in-county facilities.

4. How does the WDA requirement for the committed cities to direct commercial food to a Republic facility affect this process?

Response:

SCWMA staff has met with Republic to discuss the direction of commercial food waste to a facility other than Republic's Richmond compost facility. Republic indicated an openness to the possibility of a direct-haul to a new in-county facility, provided Republic is made financially whole. SCWMA staff believes a solution regarding redirecting food waste to an in-county compost facility would be feasible at the current cost of the commercial food waste program. The inclusion of the additional commercial food waste tonnage from the existing program and the potential future tonnage from a more robust program would assist in the economics of an in-county compost facility.

5. How do assumptions of the lease costs at the Laguna Subregional Facility vary between proposers? If significantly different, how could this affect the system costs?

Response:

Estimates of the lease costs were not detailed by proposers. Proposers acknowledged through the RFP process that inaccurate assumptions of costs were not a basis for renegotiation of disposal costs.

There are potential cost reductions or revenue increases that the Laguna Subregional Facility may realize through energy production, capital improvements, and reduced cost biosolids composting of which SCWMA staff is aware, but cannot quantify at this time, as additional negotiation between the City of Santa Rosa and Renewable Sonoma would be required.

6. We need to see rate comparisons to make informed decisions. Please describe the estimated rate impact on a jurisdiction basis, and for multiple options.

Response:

A city-specific rate analysis involves too many variables for staff to perform function at this time. However, the change in disposal fees resulting from selecting the Renewable Sonoma proposal over current disposal fees (approximately \$32/ton in the worst case scenario) is similar to rate increases when the SCWMA closed the Central Compost Site and began out-hauling organic materials (approximately \$26/ton). According to R3, the rate increases due to the outhaul increases were less than \$2/residential account/month.



SCWMA staff expects future rate increases as a result of the worst case scenario (\$89/ton for disposal and no direct hauling of greenwaste from routes to Renewable Sonoma's facility) would also be less than \$2 per month.

In the best case scenario (delivering at least 100,000 tons per year of material to Renewable Sonoma, Renewable Sonoma is able to negotiate with the City of Santa Rosa to minimize its footprint on non-Laguna parcels, and Renewable Sonoma receives grant funding from an expected CalRecycle organics grant), the rate change may not be significantly different from continuing with the status quo. Delivering 100,000 tons per year (which is not infeasible considering the tens of thousands of tons of organic material currently landfilled) changes the disposal rate from \$89/ton to \$67/ton, minimizing non-Laguna parcel land use reduces the disposal cost up to \$6/ton, and grant funding impact would depend on the size of the grant award which ranges up to \$4 million.

Another previously unquantified savings from Renewable Sonoma's proposal is the commitment of education staff to perform outreach and training at businesses to maximize diversion and reduce contamination, displacing the potential need for SCWMA staff to perform similar tasks as required by AB 1383. The additional outreach demonstrates compliance with state law, and the provision of outreach through Renewable Sonoma eliminates rate increases that would be necessary if the SCWMA added staff to perform those tasks. Each additional Waste Management Specialist staff member costs at least \$110,000 per year (including salary and benefits).

7. How relevant to this discussion is CalRecycle's identification of the need for additional organics processing capacity?

Response:

State legislation, most notably through SB 1383 and AB 876, require California to divert 50% of organic waste from landfill disposal by 2020 and 75% by 2025, as well as require California jurisdictions to create plans for diverting future organic waste and ensure sufficient organics processing capacity exists. Additional regulations are expected to go into effect 2022, and in 2024, regulations may require local jurisdictions to impose penalties on organics generators for noncompliance. The 2014 Waste Characterization Study identified over 100,000 tons per year of potentially compostable material that was landfilled. Other jurisdictions are performing the same analyses as the SCWMA in terms of capacity available and will be attempting to secure additional future organic material processing capacity shortly if they haven't begun the process already. As such nearby available capacity is expected to become very scarce.

This sentiment was echoed in the California Resource Recovery Association conference in late July that SCWMA spoke at and attended. A major theme was that planning has begun, and many jurisdictions are planning to use the same capacity. Existing capacity may be the least cost option now, but as existing facilities reach capacity limits, the cost to add more capacity later will likely come at a premium. Though it is unlikely all 100,000 tons of currently landfilled organic materials will be divertible from landfill disposal in the short term, even trying to secure processing capacity for 25%, or 25,000 tons per year, in a few years may be a difficult task, as the available capacity becomes more distant.



Using the CalRecycle-developed tools for estimating 15 year capacity for Sonoma County, SCWMA staff calculated an approximate 73,000 tons per year of capacity deficit in 15 years. This would require SCWMA staff to approximately double the processing capacity it currently utilizes. This additional capacity would need to come from expansion of existing facilities or creation of new capacity.

8. What are the greenhouse gas impacts from delivery of material to in-county and out-of-county facilities (and combinations thereof)?

Response:

Greenhouse gas impacts are caused by the distance route trucks travel from route to disposal facility and then from disposal facility to the processing facility. Staff notes that the hauling distance from each SCWMA member jurisdiction except for Petaluma (which currently directs green waste to the Redwood Landfill's compost facility) and Sonoma would be shortened by delivering organic material to the Renewable Sonoma facility on Llano Road. For example, the distance from Rohnert Park City Hall to Redwood Landfill's Compost Facility is approximately 16.5 miles, and the distance from City Hall to Renewable Sonoma's proposed site is approximately 6 miles. In many cases, such as the northern county jurisdictions and Santa Rosa, the hauling distance is greatly reduced (over 50%) by transporting the material to Renewable Sonoma's proposed facility compared to the closest out-of-county compost facilities.

A more thorough greenhouse gas analysis would be performed by Renewable Sonoma during the permitting process, if Renewable Sonoma is selected.

9. Why would landfilling of organic materials be problematic? What are the alternatives to using organics as ADC?

Response:

Landfilling organic material directly or through ADC results in methane production. There are regulations related to the collection and destruction of landfill gases, so part of the issue is regulatory and operational.

The other part is a diversion requirement and ratepayer cost issue. Since the Annual Reporting process to the State has been in effect, greenwaste used as ADC has not been considered landfill disposal. Pursuant to AB 1594, as of January 1, 2020, greenwaste used for ADC will be considered landfill disposal for AB 939 compliance purposes. In 2017, over 11,000 tons of greenwaste was used as ADC (though this is likely out-of-the-SCWMA-system material, as the SCWMA does not direct its greenwaste to be disposed as ADC). While 11,000 tons by itself may not push the SCWMA from compliance with AB 939 to non-compliance, compounding factors, like shrinking markets for recycled materials, may make compliance more difficult in the future.

Landfilling greenwaste is more expensive than any of the proposals currently under consideration, so landfilling greenwaste would result in increased costs to ratepayers.

The alternatives to ADC are using dirt or tarping materials as daily cover. Both methods are common; Republic uses tarps at the Central Landfill for daily cover.

**From:** Holly Jordan  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Comment on Sonoma County composting proposals  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 17, 2018 8:32:35 PM

---

I purchased compost two years ago from a Santa Rosa retailer whose source was Cold Creek.

The "organic" compost was loaded with glass shards, bits of plastic, and other inorganic debris. Huge amounts!

I could not use it for edibles and had to sift the entire yard of compost to remove as much glass and plastic as I could in order to use it for landscaping. Most of the debris was quite small, so this was a difficult and time consuming effort. Horrible waste of time and money!

I see Cold Creek came first in the rankings for short term. If they cannot prove to the County that they can create a product without nasty glass and plastic, then they definitely should not be selected!

Thanks for listening.

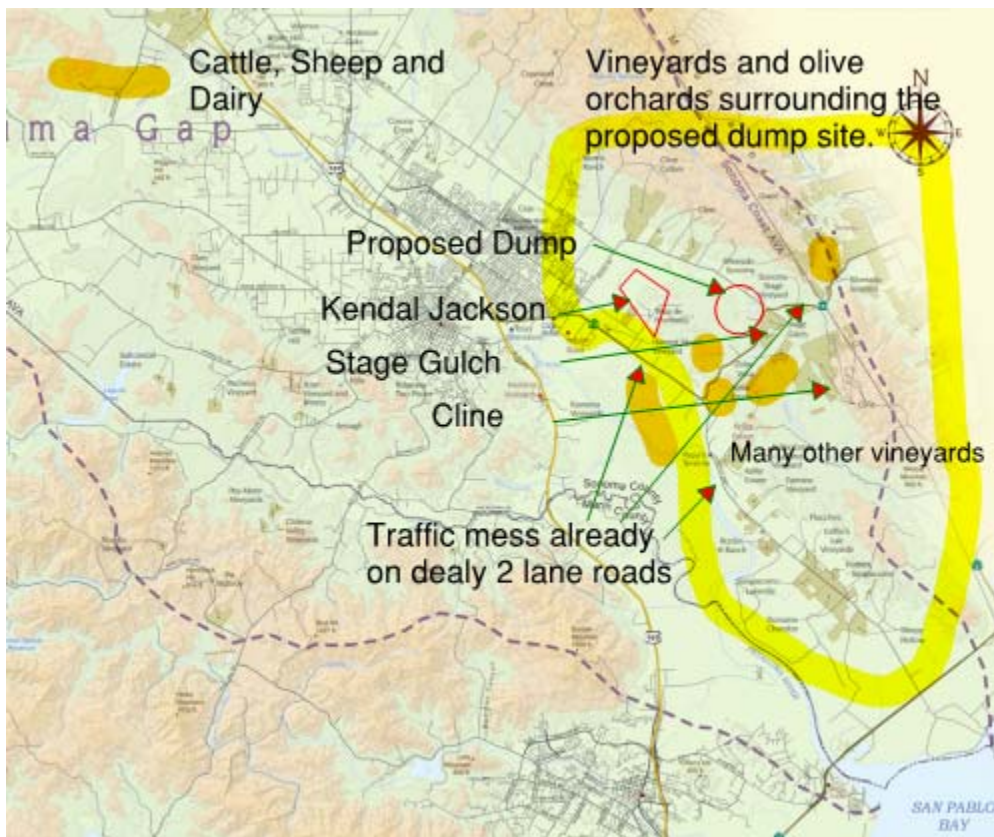
Holly Jordan  
Santa Rosa

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## Thora Collard

**From:** Guido Murnig <FRAGUIDO@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 7, 2018 2:13 PM  
**To:** Patrick Carter; David Rabbitt; Andrea Krout  
**Cc:** bob.bogel@cagwin.com; sfoster711@gmail.com; Dan Watts (dwatts820@gmail.com); fredc@clinecellars.com; Taylor Serres; 'Guido Murnig'; Kyle M. Murnig (stallongo@gmail.com); lacey241@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Opposition to dump site at Texiera Ranch  
**Attachments:** Salient points regarding the proposed.docx

Patrick Carter  
 David Rabbitt  
 Susan Gorin  
 Melanie Bagby  
 Susan Harvey  
 Larry Zimmer  
 Dan St. John  
 Pam Stafford  
 John Sawyer  
 Henry Mikus  
 Madolyn Agrimonti  
 Debora Fudge



Reasons for our opposition to the SCWMA Compost Facility  
 From Guido A. Murnig on behalf of many!

1200 Stage Gulch Road, Petaluma, CA 94954 707.781-9527, [fraguido@msn.com](mailto:fraguido@msn.com)

Debbie and Guido Murnig – 1200 Stage Gulch Road

Pat and Bob Bogel – 1190 Stage Gulch Road

Samantha and Dan Watts – 1180 Stage Gulch Road

Faith and Chuck Zeglin – 1250 Stage Gulch Road

Salient points regarding the proposed 'mulching' station on Stage Gulch Road.  
See partial map on page 3.

- We live in an agricultural zone-we can see the site from our land.
- There are dairy ranches:
  - Mendoza Ranch abutting the Texiera ranch
  - Clover-Sonoma over the hill from Texiera ranch
  - Several others whose names I do not know.
- There are beef cattle and sheep ranches:
  - Triangle G across Adobe Road
  - Sequira Cattle Ranch across Adobe Road
  - Craig Jacobson Sheep ranch on Stage Gulch Road
  - Martinelli ranch with beef cattle across the street
  - Bob Bogel sheep ranch on Stage Gulch Road
  - Watts Ranch Equestrian Center
- There are grape vines and olive orchards as well, everywhere:
  - Stage Gulch Vineyards directly across the road
  - Martinelli Tolay Vista Vineyards across the road – Dave Martinelli is opposed
  - Triangle G Neighbor Vineyards across Adobe – is opposed
  - Kendall Jackson Vineyards down Adobe
  - Our Stage Gulch Ranch Olive orchards across the road
  - Cline Vineyards and Olive Orchards across Stage Gulch Road – Fred and Nancy Cline and Green String Farms – are opposed
  - Hyde Pinot Noir Sonoma Stage Vineyards on Stage Gulch Road
  - El Coro Vineyards off Stage Gulch by Mendoza
  - Keller Estate Vineyards and Olive Orchards
  - The Carneros Vintners on Stage Gulch Road
  - Neighbor Vineyards with extensive plantings would be impacted
  - Robledo as well as Roche Vineyards would be a victim as well
- People make their livings with these animals and crops which is already a challenge.
- TRAFFIC here is already a travesty with all the current elements involved.
  - It can take as many as 10 minutes to exit our road onto Stage Gulch Road every day now.
  - The 50 mile an hour speed limit sees people traveling at 55 & 60 miles an hour when the congestion is less significant.

- Added multiple trucks to this already tense and terrible condition would exacerbate an already unacceptable circumstance.
- My oldest son was killed in a traffic encounter on Lakeville highway due to driver error.
- Air quality would be dramatically impacted by the dumping
- An increase of rodents will be a major element we will have to deal with
- Insects will increase significantly and new varieties will arrive.
  - We already contend with an increased olive fly population
  - The apple moth is another pest
  - Phylloxera is back with a new strain
  - The Virginia Creeper is here
  - The Grapevine Moth
  - Gypsy moths
  - Mediterranean fruit fly
  - Japanese beetles
  - Glassy-winged sharpshooter
  - Light brown apple moth
- Is the county prepared to deal with the law suits that will result from
  - Impact on the dairy cows and quality of milk
  - Impact on the grapes and olives from the foul air
  - Impact on the local dairy and ranch land and the natural grass lands
  - Loss of income to the ranchers that will result
  - Damaged quality of produce, grapes and olives
- Property values will be greatly impacted by the presence of such a facility.
- Local land owners and growers are opposed to this across the board and will make every legal effort as required to see that this facility is not located here.
- The current owner of the land wants to sell the property and this is in their personal interest but damages all the properties surrounding.
- Perhaps they should consider reducing the selling price in order to attract a buyer that will use the land as intended.

Debbie and Guido Murnig – 1200 Stage Gulch Road

Pat and Bob Bogel – 1190 Stage Gulch Road

Samantha and Dan Watts – 1180 Stage Gulch Road

Faith and Chuck Zeglin – 1250 Stage Gulch Road

## Guido & Debbie Murnig



Owners & Growers since 1997

Orchard and Cellar at:

1200 Stage Gulch Road

Petaluma, Ca 94954

Stage Gulch Ranch

Growers of Italian Varietal Olives

& Estate Bottled Olive Oil

Phone: 707-781-9527

Cell: +1 555-2713

E-mail: [fraguido@msn.com](mailto:fraguido@msn.com)

E-Mail [stagegulchranch@gmail.com](mailto:stagegulchranch@gmail.com)

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**Thora Collard**

---

**From:** dave@tolayvista.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 8, 2018 8:39 AM  
**To:** Patrick Carter  
**Subject:** Public Comment on Organic Material Processing Services RFP Response  
**Attachments:** SCWMA letter 8.8.18.pdf

Attached please find public comments regarding the Cold Creek Compost/Stage Gulch Organics proposal.

**Dave Martinelli**

Tolay Vista Vineyards

[dave@tolayvista.com](mailto:dave@tolayvista.com)

<http://www.tolayvista.com/>

707.695.6498

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***Tolay Vista Vineyards******4879 Grove Street******Sonoma, CA 95476******707.695.6498***

August 8, 2018

Mr. Patrick Carter  
Waste Management Specialist  
Sonoma County Waste Management Agency  
2300 County Center Drive, Suite B100  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

RE: Public Comment on the Organic Material Processing Services RFP Response

I am writing with multiple concerns specifically regarding the Cold Creek Compost/Stage Gulch Organics proposal. I am extremely concerned that Site 40, despite being dropped as a potential composting site in previous analyses years ago, is back on the table for discussion as a possible compost site.

In 2012, I submitted comments citing numerous deficiencies in the DEIR (copy attached for reference). Since that time, traffic congestion on Stage Gulch Road has increased exponentially. Any project that would add significant additional daily traffic volume to an already over-worked country road should simply be rejected.

With respect to the Cold Creek/SGO proposal, I have specific concerns:

- Traffic
- Air Quality
- Financial Capacity of Applicants

**Traffic**

As noted above, traffic congestion has become an issue of huge significance in our local neighborhood, even without considering the impact of a new processing facility and the incremental vehicular and large truck traffic that it would bring.

I grew up on our family ranch, the entrance to which is located at the intersection of Stage Gulch and Adobe Roads. I live in Sonoma, but commute to work on the ranch on a daily basis. Just in the past couple of years, traffic congestion has exploded on Stage Gulch Road. By mid- afternoon on any day during the work week:

- Heading West on Stage Gulch Road, it is impossible to make a left hand turn to head South on Lakeville Highway
- Heading South on Lakeville Highway, it is difficult, but possible, to make a left hand turn off of Lakeville Highway to head East onto Stage Gulch Road

- Traffic headed East on Stage Gulch Road begins to back up at the Adobe Road stop sign by 3:00 PM. Commuters returning from the Bay Area have decided that the Lakeville/Stage Gulch/116 route is the best way to get to avoid the Sears Point bottleneck. The backup from the Adobe Road stop sign can extend up to a mile behind the intersection.
- By 5:00 PM, Hwy 116 headed East to Sonoma slows to a bumper to bumper crawl. This used to only occur in the case of an accident but is now a daily event during the work week. Having lived on or near this property my entire life, I can attest that this traffic congestion is only a very recent phenomenon.

The proposed compost site would handle 100,000 tons of material annually and up to 600 tons daily. It will take 20-40 trucks per day to accommodate hauling raw material in and finished compost out of the site, plus public and employee traffic. The local roads are already overburdened---adding heavy additional traffic volume simply does not make sense. Before any further serious consideration is given to Site 40, a simple review of CalTrans traffic data (or perhaps a site visit at 4:30 PM) needs to occur.

### Air Quality

As expressed in my previously submitted list of concerns back in 2012, I have acute air quality concerns about any composting project that will be immediately up-wind of our vineyard.

My family owns and farms Tolay Vista Vineyards, which is located approximately 3000' SE of Site 40. Our vineyard lies directly in the path of the prevailing winds. Odors and air pollutants from Site 40 will become a huge issue for our business. Potential impacts on our vineyard, as well as the literally hundreds of acres of vineyards in the Tolay Valley, all of which are down-wind from Site 40, needs to be addressed and satisfactorily mitigated.

The presence of odors and/or pollutants on our site will put us out of business. Purchasing of wine grapes is a highly subjective endeavor. While there are measurable quantitative factors involved, there are also a myriad of highly subjective qualitative factors that go into the purchase decision. These factors influence price and desirability, and ultimately whether the winery even wants to buy the grapes at all.

During a public meeting on January 18, 2012, I heard multiple testimony from both vineyard owners and grape buyers on the negative impacts associated with being down-wind from a compost facility. Even just the perception of contaminants that our proximity creates will reduce or eliminate the interest of grape buyers.

Any proposed composting project would need to fully analyze this specific impact, and then propose action steps to properly mitigate this concern. If it chooses to move forward with a composting project on Site 40, the SCWMA needs to be prepared to compensate the impacted neighboring land owners for their loss.



**Financial Capacity of Applicants**

Stage Gulch Organics is essentially a start-up enterprise with no operating history or financial records. In the RFP, a Pre-Qualification letter for \$15,000,000 in financing for SGO was included.

**It is essential to note that this is a Pre-Qualification letter, not a Pre-Approval letter.** On close review, one can see that the letter has a number of caveats that point out that the funding for this project has not been collateralized, underwritten, or approved. Frankly, I'm not sure that the Pre-Qualification letter has any material value in determining the financial capacity of the applicants.

Since SGO has no financial records, we are only able to review the financial information provided by Cold Creek. Per their submitted Tax Returns:

- In 2014, they had a Net Loss of (\$289,683)
- In 2015, they had a Net Loss of (\$40,854)
- In 2016, they had a modest Net Income of \$12,609

Per the 2016 tax returns, Cold Creek had a total asset base of \$2.3mm, with over \$3.1mm in total liabilities, resulting in a negative equity position of (\$838,686).

I recognize that Cold Creek is a well-known and well respected composting business, and that Income Tax Returns alone do not always paint a complete financial picture.

Nonetheless, the only information available for analysis were the Tax Returns submitted with the RFP. These confirm a history of Operating Losses and Negative Net Worth. This does not suggest that the applicants are capable of taking on their proposed \$7mm in debt for the Cold Creek expansion, let alone the \$15mm for the SGO project.

I would expect that SCWMA staff will require a much more detailed and diligent financial review as part of the vetting process for any application.

**Conclusion**

In its detailed review of the proposals received, and without giving consideration to the financial capacity concerns noted above, staff ranked the Cold Creek/Stage Gulch Organics proposal 4<sup>th</sup> out of the nine proposals received. Further, staff specifically stated that it was **NOT RECOMMENDING** the SGO long term solution.

**For all of the above reasons, we strongly recommend that the SCWMA to drop any plan that would allow a composting facility to be constructed on Stage Gulch Road (Site 40).**

Sincerely,



Dave Martinelli

Owner, Tolay Vista Vineyards

***Tolay Vista Vineyards***  
***4879 Grove Street***  
***Sonoma, CA 95476***  
***707.695.6498***

February 15, 2012

Mr. Patrick Carter  
Waste Management Specialist  
Sonoma County Waste Management Agency  
2300 County Center Drive, Suite B100  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

RE: Public Comment on the DEIR for the SCWMA Compost Facility

We are writing with multiple concerns about the DEIR and this entire project. Not only is the DEIR inadequate in several critical areas, the entire project (i.e. the relocation of the current compost facility) seems like a solution lacking a problem.

With respect to the DEIR, we have specific comments regarding Site 40 in the following areas:

- Air Quality
- Hydrology
- Land Use and Agriculture

**Air Quality**

Section 5.3 lists the Significance Criteria associated with measuring air quality. **This list needs to include additional criteria concerning the impact of pollutants and/or odors on neighboring vineyards.**

Our family owns and farms Tolay Vista Vineyards, which is located approximately 3000' SE of Site 40. Our vineyard lies directly in the path of the prevailing winds. Odors and air pollutants from Site 40 will become a huge issue for our business. Potential impacts on our vineyard, as well as the literally hundreds of acres of vineyards in the Tolay Valley, all of which are down-wind from Site 40, needs to be addressed and satisfactorily mitigated.

The presence of odors and/or pollutants on our site will simply put us out of business. Purchasing of wine grapes is a highly subjective endeavor. While there are measurable



quantitative factors involved, there are also a myriad of highly subjective qualitative factors that go into the purchase decision. These factors influence price and desirability, and ultimately whether the winery even wants to buy the grapes at all.

During the public meeting on January 18, 2012, we heard multiple testimony from both vineyard owners and grape buyers on the negative impacts associated with being downwind from a compost facility. Because it fails to fully analyze this specific impact, and then fails to propose action steps to properly mitigate this concern, the DEIR is inadequate.

Our proximity to this facility will certainly have an adverse impact on our ability to grow "clean" grapes, and even were we able to do so, just the perception of contaminants that our proximity creates will reduce or eliminate the interest of grape buyers. If it chooses to move forward with either of the alternative sites, both of which are upwind from existing vineyards, the SCWMA needs to be prepared to compensate the impacted neighboring land owners for their loss.

At that same January 18 meeting, we also heard public comment from a UC Davis professor who spoke of a new composting technology (in vessel solution), one that was not analyzed in the DEIR, that represents the current gold standard in terms of containing air pollutants and thus preserving air quality. This expert also testified that with either the windrows or the ASP methods that there will be effects on neighbors from odors and pollutants.

At a minimum, only superior technological options should be used in the development of this project. Neither the windrow nor the aerated static pile should even be considered. Why settle for out of date, pollutant releasing technologies when planning a project of this size and magnitude for future generations??

### **Hydrology**

It appears that one of the primary reasons that Site 40 ranked as the environmentally preferred alternative was the (as analyzed) availability of water to the site. **However, we have several concerns about the water availability analysis in the DEIR.**

Page 18-2 references "...total 82.9 AF/yr of water required in support of the Site 40 alternative." We were unable to find any other reference to the 82.9 AF/yr figure and suspect that it may not be an accurate number.

Table 18-1 computes Annual Demand for the composting operations on Site 40 to be 130 AF per year. In addition, page 18-4 references total historic demand to be 496 AF per year. So the combined demand of both historic use and the proforma compost operation use would be 626 AF/yr (130+496).

To meet this demand, the DEIR proposes the following:

- Utilize recycled water from the City of Petaluma, approximately 520 AF/yr
- Expand and utilize existing reservoir, 87-164 AF/yr

- Construct new detention basin, 24 AF/yr
- Utilized existing groundwater, limited to 0.8 AF/yr

**There are significant issues with all of these potential water sources, none of which are adequately addressed in the DEIR.**

**Recycled water from the City of Petaluma.** At the January 18 meeting we heard testimony from other users of City water (local farmers, Rooster Run golf course) who maintained that they have not been able to receive full allotments of City water in recent years. The reasons are varied (e.g. water conservation by users, the City developing alternative uses for that water within City limits such as parks and golf courses), but the fact remains that City has not been able to fulfill its contractual obligations to delivery recycled water to users. While the long term growth of the City will certainly create additional supply, the City continues to aggressively look for beneficial ways to utilize that water within the City limits. Consequently, the availability of supply to outside users may not increase commensurate with the City's growth. Further, if supplies are already insufficient to meet demand, would not the composting operation's usage represent incremental demand that would also be unmet?

**Existing Reservoir.** The existing reservoir is only 87 AF, with an approved permit to be expanded to 164 AF. However, the water uses permitted are inconsistent with the project and any change to permitted use will require the approval of the SWRCB.

Additionally, there is no discussion in the EIR as to the recharge rate for this reservoir. In order to annually recharge, a 164 AF reservoir in this area would need a very substantial watershed. While the water rights may give the approval to store this much water, a water availability analysis needs to be completed to determine whether 164 AF is available annually, in all years.

**New Detention Basin.** This detention basin will require full SWRCB approval, which will take years. In addition, the same water availability analysis will need to be performed to determine adequacy of long term supply.

**Existing groundwater.** The availability of this resource is limited by the mitigation required under the DEIR as it constrained to be utilized at the rate of no more than 0.8 AF/yr per Impact 18.2.

### **Land Use and Agriculture**

Impact 19.3 clearly states that conversion of Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance is Significant and Unavoidable, even after mitigation. Therefore, we fail to understand how the Site 40 can score so poorly in this area and still be considered to be the environmentally superior alternative. **From our perspective, this represents a very fundamental flaw with the adequacy of the DEIR.**



The focus in Section 19 of the DEIR seems to be on the conversion of the Site 40 lands away from their current agricultural use. While this is indeed a significant and unavoidable impact, the DEIR is flawed in that it also fails to discuss the impact of the project on the viability of neighboring agricultural operations. Specifically, the discussion in Impact 19.2 fails to address the concerns raised earlier in this letter around the impacts on neighboring vineyards from odor and pollutants.

Per the Significance Criteria in Section 9.3:

A project would also be considered to have a significant impact on the environment if it would cause physical changes in the environment that would be substantially incompatible with existing or planned land uses.

Clearly the location of an industrial composting operation adjacent to, and upwind from, hundreds of acres of existing vineyards will create just such an impact on hundreds of acres of neighboring farmland. Further, this impact, like impact 19.3, would be significant and unavoidable. **Again we reiterate our position (discussed previously) that neighboring landowners would have to be compensated for any economic losses they would suffer as the result of the location of this facility to Site 40.**

The loss of prime agricultural land on Site 40, and the significant and unavoidable impacts on surrounding agricultural operations should be sufficient to have this site dropped as an alternative under consideration.

### General Comments

Apart from our specific concerns with the DEIR analysis of Site 40, we have some more general observations about the entire project of relocating the composting facility. We would urge the SCWMA to reconsider its directive that the composting facility be relocated away from its existing site.

It does not make sense to move the composting facility away from the County Landfill. At its current location, the site can take advantage of the existing infrastructure of roads and truck scales, specifically designed for trucks of this size and nature. Further, waste haulers often carry split loads of green waste along with other waste/recycling and it is only logical that they would proceed to one central location to make a drop. If the composting operation were relocated, these same trucks will have to drop half their load at central and then make a second trip down South of Petaluma to drop the balance? Or even if some sort of centralized transfer station for green waste is developed, there will still need to be additional truck trips down to one of the Petaluma sites. This seems inefficient and wasteful.

The Central Disposal Site has been in use for decades. Nobody wants to have a landfill or compost facility located in their back yard, but any issues with neighbors over location were resolved generations ago. Since this site is already in place and established, every effort should be made to consolidate and expand at the existing site, rather than

leapfrogging these activities into some new area. This will only raise a whole host of new objections, from neighbors, environmental concerns, and regulatory agencies.

If space is a constraint, have there been discussions with the operators, either Sonoma Compost or Republic, to explore creative solutions to expand capacity? What about constructing a digester at the Central Landfill? What about In Vessel composting solutions? What about utilization of recycled waste water from Santa Rosa at the central site? All of these alternatives were raised during the Public Comment at the January meeting.

It seems like the established goal of 200,000 tons of composted material per year is a somewhat artificial target. It is unclear how much science went into the development of that number---the current site already handles 100,000 tons per year and it sounds like the goal was simply to double current capacity. Through some of the solutions noted above, together with the acquisition of and expansion on the neighboring property, it seems like future needs could be met.

Either of the Southern Petaluma alternatives will result in a project costing tens of millions of dollars for site acquisition and build out. Not to mention the costs for studies, reports, lawsuits, and mitigation. We suspect that the relocation will not be politically popular. The average citizen will be scratching their head wondering why the County would choose to move out composting to displace numerous agricultural operations when land contiguous to the existing landfill could be acquired and used for site expansion.

**We urge the SCWMA to drop any plan that would relocate the composting facility away from the Central Disposal Site or contiguous properties.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'DM', is written over a horizontal line.

Dave Martinelli  
Owner, Tolay Vista Vineyards



Sonoma County Waste Mgt.

Patrick Carter

I can not obtain  
a phone # for your agency  
or an E-Mail

I wish to know  
if you are aware a compost  
facility is being discussed  
for back at Stage Gulch Rd. After 3  
years of fighting it I wish to  
know what I can do or whom  
I can talk to <sup>to</sup> know what  
your position is on this site.

Would you demand EIR again  
or what? Obvious ~~we~~ we don't want  
this to start over again.

Please call me -

707 762-8066

or E-Mail

mgkull67@gmail.com

If I threw away my old contacts  
with you hoping it was finished  
Margaret Kullberg

July 11, 2018

Patrick Carter

SCWMA Executive Director

2300 County Center Dr. Suite B-100

Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Dear Sir:

While we appreciate the action the Board took on June 20 of this year in selecting Renewable Sonoma in Santa Rosa as the primary location for a new compost facility, we are concerned with the re-consideration of Cold Creek/Stage Gulch Organics on August 20. All the previous arguments against the facility being located at 1035 Stage Gulch Rd. still stand. The traffic impacts will be horrendous; the risk of land and water contamination by an uncovered dump are of great concern; damage to the environment and animal habitat by a commercial facility is inevitable; loss of land values and a further degrading of privacy and security of local residents will occur in what used to be the scenic southeast gateway to Petaluma.

Traffic is heavily impacted at both corners Of Stage Gulch Rd. (Adobe and Lakeville) during the daily commutes, Sonoma Raceway events, and any accidents that happen on Highway 37 or the surrounding roads. Stage Gulch Rd. is the alternative route. It is a narrow, two lane country road that was never intended to handle the volume that flows through here daily. Add heavy trucks at an average of one per twelve minutes and it will be gridlock all day. Large trucks can not pull out easily onto Lakeville with the oncoming traffic whizzing by. It takes only a couple of cars trying to turn left onto Lakeville to block cars trying to turn right by the Tin Bar. There is no room to get around the back-up. Start adding heavy trucks and the line soon extends up the hill, often to our ranch almost a mile away. Conversely, trucks turning off Adobe onto Stage Gulch will have to slow down to navigate the traffic, often backed up a half mile in the afternoon, and then , even if a turn lane is added, slow to make a right into 1035 Stage Gulch, further adding to the congestion directly across from the Kullberg home.

Not only our local traffic will be impacted, but all of Petaluma. There are only three exits to Petaluma off Highway 101. During commute times and on weekends and holidays, traffic slows to a crawl through the "Petaluma narrows." Trucks coming from anywhere north, will need to exit at Washington or Sonoma, 116 and use Washington or Lakeville/Frates to Adobe Rd. and on to the compost site. These streets are all in gridlock already. With the new times suggested for commercial compost trucks running from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. and the public welcome from 7:30 to 3:30, seven days a week, all the involved intersections will be at a standstill. And idling vehicles add to our pollution!

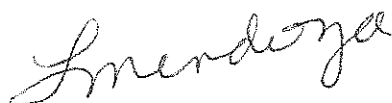
We continue to be concerned about water and land contamination, too. The proposed location of this facility is above our stock pond. In the event of leakage, either from a natural occurrence or mechanical/construction failure, compost particulates and liquid could enter our watershed and pond. We rely on this source for our organic operation. The proposed facility will also need potable water and drilling a well in that area is above our well water source. And while the existing dam on the Texeira property can provide irrigation to approximately 220 acres (if the levy is repaired), it is permitted only for irrigation, landscaping and stock ponds. Relying on the City of Petaluma effluent can be sometimes questionable as they often shut the system down for repairs or maintenance, and it is a shared system with several new users already coming on line in 2019.

At JLT Ranch, we work to provide a wholesome, organic product. We are certified caretakers of the environment and work with many organizations and levels of government to protect our ranch, our community and our world. We understand the value of composting and support the industry.....just not in an inappropriate location. This enterprise belongs in an area with less traffic congestion, more water availability, and more centrally located; next to an existing waste water plant in the central county makes more sense.

Please consider the above points, look at statistics on traffic in the area around Petaluma , and stay with your first choice company and location, Renewable Sonoma. Thank you.

Jim and Luci Mendoza

601 Stage Gulch Rd. Petaluma, 94954



**From:** Dennis Hagemann  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Composting in Sonoma Cjounty  
**Date:** Monday, July 23, 2018 8:07:52 AM

---

Hello,

No more increases in fees of any kind to us residents. The cost of living in this county in out of sight.

How about becoming more efficient and lower some of the costs of living here.

Thanks,

Dennis Hagemann

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**From:** Olga Kachook  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** FW: SCWMA Organic Materials Processing Services RFP Evaluation Results Available  
**Date:** Monday, July 30, 2018 2:15:56 PM  
**Attachments:** [image.png](#)  
[image002.jpg](#)  
[World Centric- SCWMA Feedback Organics RFP.pdf](#)

---

Hello Patrick,

Attached is a letter of feedback from World Centric on the SCWMA's organics processing RFP and the recommended processor.

Please let me know if you have any questions I can clarify.

Thank you,

Olga

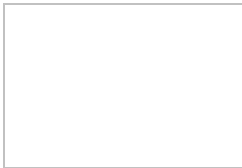
Olga Kachook

Sustainability Manager

[olgak@worldcentric.org](mailto:olgak@worldcentric.org) | [worldcentric.org](http://worldcentric.org)

Tel: 707-766-0727

617 2nd Street, Suite C, Petaluma, CA 94952



**From:** Dan Noble

**Sent:** Thursday, July 12, 2018 11:32 AM

**To:** Patrick Carter

**Cc:** Alan Siegle ; Ambrosia Thomson ; Anne Cummings Jacopetti ; Erin Axelrod ; Evan Wiig ; Janae Lloyd ; [kerry@conservationaction.org](mailto:kerry@conservationaction.org); Leslie Lukacs ; Lisa Moore ; Michael Siminitus ; Mimi Enright ; Olga Kachook ; Pamela Davis ; Robin Factor ; Stan Chavez ; Terry Harrison ; Theresa ; Tom Shearer ; Wendy Krupnick ; Will Bakx ; Zachary Kay

**Subject:** Re: SCWMA Organic Materials Processing Services RFP Evaluation Results Available

Thank you for the information, Patrick.

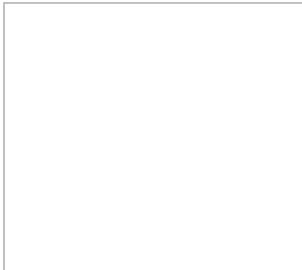
We'll get back to you with further comments or recommendations that we might have.

Sincerely,

Dan

Dan Noble, Chairman

Cell/text: (619) 992-8389, [DanWyldeNoble@gmail.com](mailto:DanWyldeNoble@gmail.com)



Dan Noble, Executive Director

**Association of Compost Producers**

*The Calif. State Chapter of the US Composting Council*

**"We Build Healthy Soil" - [www.HealthySoil.org](http://www.HealthySoil.org)**

Cell/text: (619) 992-8389, [DanWyldeNoble@gmail.com](mailto:DanWyldeNoble@gmail.com)

Dan Noble, President

**Noble Resources Consulting**

**Noble Resources Group, LLC**

*Building Local Renewable Carbon & Nutrient Economies*

Cell/text: (619) 992-8389

[DanWylderNoble@gmail.com](mailto:DanWylderNoble@gmail.com)

[www.NobleResourcesGroup.com](http://www.NobleResourcesGroup.com)

[www.linkedin.com/pub/dan-noble/1/a26/a69](https://www.linkedin.com/pub/dan-noble/1/a26/a69)

On Thu, Jul 12, 2018 at 11:11 AM Patrick Carter <[Patrick.Carter@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Patrick.Carter@sonoma-county.org)> wrote:

Hello Dan and members of the Compost Coalition,  
As you have previously expressed interest in the SCWMA's Organic Materials Processing Service RFP, I wanted to let you know the proposals and SCWMA's staff evaluation are available on our website at <http://www.recyclenow.org/agency/reports.asp>  
If you would like to comment on the process or the recommendation, please send them to my attention at [Patrick.carter@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Patrick.carter@sonoma-county.org)  
Thank you!  
-Patrick

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# WORLD CENTRIC

July 30, 2018

To Patrick Carter and the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency,

World Centric would like to provide feedback on the proposals the SCWMA received for Organic Material Processing Services. We believe the preferred proposal from Renewable Sonoma does not adequately address compostable packaging as a waste stream, and would like the SCWMA to reconsider qualifying this material as a contaminant that would not be processed by Renewable Sonoma.

We encourage the SCWMA to require that the new facility be capable of processing certified compostable packaging, including packaging made from fibers like wheat straw, sugarcane bagasse and bamboo, as well as plant starch biopolymers such as polylactic acid (PLA). At a minimum, we would like to see the winning proposal provide a comprehensive plan for managing food serviceware.

We see compostable packaging as a critical piece of the waste reduction puzzle:

- **Compostable packaging is certified compostable and will break down fully under the right conditions.** World Centric's products are BPI-certified compostable using ASTM D6400 testing. This means that our products will fully compost in 3-6 months.
- **Compostable packaging is successfully processed by other facilities in California.** For example, Napa Waste & Recycling Services accepts fiber and PLA compostable food serviceware and has no problems with the material breaking down fully. They do this by grinding the materials and putting it through an active composting phase for a sufficient period of time.
- **Accepting compostable packaging increases waste diversion.** Studies have shown that including compostable packaging in composting programs increases overall waste diversion. This is because compostable packaging can "act as a vehicle for food scrap diversion." ([Source](#))
- **Businesses and residents across Sonoma County want to be able to compost food packaging.** We receive feedback nearly weekly from local customers who have switched to compostable products and are disappointed that the region's facilities do not accept these alternatives.
- **Compostable packaging is often the best choice for restaurants.** Using reusable containers is not possible for businesses without access to a dishwasher. Similarly, recyclable packaging is not an appropriate choice, since it would be contaminated with food and therefore not recyclable. Compostable packaging is the most environmentally friendly disposable option ([Source](#)).

We believe the SCWMA needs to proactively address the question of food serviceware and packaging and recognize that this is a growing material stream – in fact, packaging was nearly 30% of MSW in 2014, and has likely increased since [then \(Source\)](#). World Centric believes the best solution to single-use disposable plastics is reusable, durable serviceware. However, this transition will take time, especially for small restaurants and cafes, and compostable products can serve as a bridge solution. With recycling markets shrinking, we need to find ways to process more material locally, and that includes food serviceware and packaging.

We hope that the SCWMA will become a regional leader by planning for a modern commercial composting facility that can handle compostable packaging, increasing overall waste diversion in the county and helping the state meet its emission reductions goals.

Thank you,  
Olga Kachook, Sustainability Manager





To whom it may concern

Biogas Zürich AG  
Paul-Pflüger-Strasse 102  
8010 Zürich  
biogas@zuerich.ch

Tel. +41 44 645 59 88  
Fax +41 44 645 59 89

Kontakt: Helmut Vetter  
Direktwahl +41 44 645 56 58  
helmut.vetter@zuerich.ch

Zürich, 2nd November, 2016 / VEH

**Werdhölzli biowaste fermentation plant: biogas and high-grade compost, made in the heart of Zurich**

With its legislative priority to make Zurich sustainable, the city's council has committed to devising measures to help make the vision of a 2000-watt society a reality. This will require a reduction in energy consumption to 30% of the current level, i.e. 2000 watts, and cuts in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by around 80% to a maximum of one metric ton per city inhabitant per year.

One measure the City of Zurich is pursuing is the recovery of energy from biowaste. And when it decided to build a fermentation plant in the west of the city to harness this source of renewable energy, it opted to use Hitachi Zosen Inova's Kompogas® process.

Between 1978 and 2013, Zurich's waste disposal and recycling unit, ERZ Entsorgung + Recycling Zurich, processed garden waste into compost at its Werdhölzli facility. The odor emissions were at times considerable, and the open composting plant was abandoned at the beginning of 2013. It was replaced by a fermentation facility that now converts biowaste into biogas and high-grade fertilizer. Zurich has thus managed to enhance the services it offers residents, while at the same time cutting greenhouse gas emissions and massively reducing the problem of odors.

The open composting facility has given way to a state-of-the-art enclosed fermentation plant designed to ensure there is no impact on the surrounding urban area, either from odors or noise. The Kompogas facility therefore enjoys broad popular support. The open day in April this year attracted a huge number of visitors, and we have received a great deal of positive feedback regarding the cleanliness and sustainability of the plant. Some comments from local residents can be found on our website [www.biogaszuerich.swiss](http://www.biogaszuerich.swiss). Complaints about odors have been essentially eliminated since the construction of the enclosed fermentation plant, which quite literally came as a breath of air for residents who were plagued by the smells from the composting works prior to 2013.



The new overall energy generation concept at the Werdhölzli facility links the fermentation unit with the adjacent sewage treatment works, which supplies thermal energy to the Kompogas plant in the form of local heat. The combined upgrading of raw biogas and sewage gas into biogas keeps the waste heat to a minimum while maximizing energy generation. The City of Zurich has thus achieved a milestone in the sustainable supply of renewable energy to its residents, with the Kompogas plant at Werdhölzli playing a key role in terms of both the economics and the underlying philosophy.

Biogas Zürich AG

A blue ink signature of Helmut Vetter, consisting of a stylized 'H' followed by a cursive 'Vetter'.

Helmut Vetter  
Managing Director

**From:** Gaylen Thomson  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** compost service  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 17, 2018 9:31:11 PM

---

Hello,

I think the idea of picking up peoples compost is a great idea. I always have compost to deal with and would welcome this service.

Gaylen Thomson

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**From:** Dennis Tapley  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Compost  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 8, 2018 7:55:58 AM

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Need for compost, local, growing for citizens who wish to home-grow organic . This is A BIG DEAL.! Thanks for your consideration. Dennis  
Sent from my iPad

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**From:** Karen Cappa  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Compostable resources for Sonoma County  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 7, 2018 4:59:17 PM

---

Hello

I was sent a link from Next-door about commenting on proposals for renewable compostable waste in Sonoma County. I was only able to open a couple of them. One was just gibberish and another made me have to shut down my computer because it froze the screen.

So- I won't be doing that again, however here are my thoughts about renewable waste and composting in this county.

I do believe that we need to absolutely compost as much as we can with as much as we can. If we can put more compostable products into the compost green waste containers then these products also will not be in the landfill. These would include compostable utensils, some paper products that do not have plastic in them, more and more edible waste and possibly waste from animals like dogs and cats. I know that there are waste containers that people can put in their yards for pet waste so it would be great if we could have that as an option because most of the pet waste ends up in a plastic bag which of course is not compostable.

It is horrible to me to know that most of the recyclable plastics and other recyclable items are shipped across the world to China to be recycled! I am at a loss as to why we cannot provide recycling of these products here in America! We have the technology so why are we paying millions of dollars to ship this junk to China? If you know the answer please tell me.

I compost in my yard as do most of my friends. If we as a county could encourage people to do that then there would be less waste in general. Perhaps the county could buy in mass many composters and other items like worm bins so people could buy them inexpensively from the waste companies to help out with this waste issue. Then everyone can all have worm bins, composter and recycling as a part of every day life rather than an after thought- then we would be creating less greenhouse gasses and have a cleaner healthier world.

Thanks for allowing me to comment.

Karen Cappa  
Rohnert Park

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**From:** Jenny Rockwell  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** composting  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 18, 2018 11:29:32 AM

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I'm in favor of adopting composting!  
Thanks for your consideration,  
Jenny Rockwell  
Resident of Santa Rosa

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**From:** Jack Grimes  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Composting in Sonoma County  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 8, 2018 6:01:04 AM

---

Dear Patrick,

The need for composting of organic material in Sonoma County is great and it clearly is effectively working in Marin County. If most people do not have the space or inclination to compost in their own backyards, the county has an obligation to provide the equipment and resources (with the population paying for it, of course) to make it work. The finished composted product can be sold and used by most residents if it is made available.

I ask that you help make this proposal a reality.

Regards, Jack Grimes

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**From:** Sarah Heyne  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Composting in Sonoma County  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 8, 2018 10:05:45 AM

---

Hello Patrick Carter,

I am a resident of Santa Rosa and would like to comment about the organic materials processing proposals. Continuing composting within our county is of utmost importance for many environmental reasons. I would like to stress the additional importance of choosing a company that plans for the facility to be in or near Sonoma County. Transporting compost long distances in large trucks will offset much of the environmental benefit of composting. Vehicle use is the largest contributor of CO<sub>2</sub> in Sonoma County and we should be taking steps to limit, not increase, vehicles on the road. I am concerned that many of the proposals call for transporting the compost quite far outside our county.

I attended the SCWMA meeting several years ago where the public comments were filled with neighbors of the pre-existing compost facility who were adamantly against construction for improvement. Please do not let similar loud "not in my backyard" voices prevent a local compost facility. Opposing voices will almost always be the loudest and seemingly dominant, but they are not always the true majority or correct.

I would like to see more integration of goals between government departments, as well as with NGOs. As someone who has worked for many organizations that have a specific goal, such as reducing water, reducing waste, or reducing carbon dioxide release, I frequently see these goals becoming isolated and disconnected. For example, water agencies may have low flow toilets but they are often careless with disposable materials. Organizations with waste management efficiency goals often promote use of reusable materials, but waste water during facilities clean up and have older, water-wasting toilets. Some government employees spend time removing invasive plants, while nearby other employees are planting these same species as windbreak on the highway. Please realize that your decision could move SCWMA toward a more integrated approach that considers greater goals, rather than just those specific to waste management. Please prioritize a holistically environmentally sound proposal, which would include a local facility, over all other factors.

Thank you,

Sarah Heyne

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**From:** Joy Ambra  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** composting  
**Date:** Thursday, July 26, 2018 9:16:47 AM

---

I was very sad to see what happened to the old compost company it was a great resource for many here in petaluma

I realize there was alot involved with happy acres and possible pollutants , which now seems absurd give the toxic dumping from the oct fires that has been allowed..

so I am in favor of using green waste effciently i hope it happens soon .. I live close to the site and have to go to grab and grow to dump my green waste ... I would rather support my local landfill..

joy ambra

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**From:** Theresa RYAN  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Cc:** [Suzanne Doyle](#)  
**Subject:** August 15th hearing  
**Date:** Monday, July 23, 2018 5:38:27 PM  
**Attachments:** [SCWMA\\_July2018Sierra Club.docx](#)

---

Hi Patrick,

Attached is letter from Executive Committee members of the Redwood Chapter of Sierra Club, Sonoma Group regarding the upcoming hearing regarding proposals for a local compost company.

Theresa

Theresa M Ryan

Zero Waste Committe member

Compost Coalition member

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**SONOMA GROUP**

**P.O. Box 466, Santa Rosa, CA 95402-0466  
(707) 744-7651 email: [songrp@sonic.net](mailto:songrp@sonic.net)  
[www.sierraclub.org/redwood/sonoma](http://www.sierraclub.org/redwood/sonoma)**

TO: Patrick Carter, Executive Director  
Sonoma County Waste Management Agency

RE: Compost facility contract

July 23, 2018

The Sierra Club Sonoma Group, recommends that the most qualified RFP for a local compost facility be awarded a contract at the August 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency. The Sonoma Group executive committee believes the SCWMA committee has deliberated carefully and attempted to select the best proposal without bias. The process of selection has been lengthy and careful. We urge you to facilitate awarding the SCWMA contract for a compost facility to the most worthy proposal on August 15<sup>th</sup>. We need to move forward solving Sonoma County's lack of a local compost operation.

There are many pieces to climate change mitigation and one of them is creating soil amended by compost to sequester carbon from the atmosphere. There is much research being done currently related to the carbon sequestration of soil enriched with compost. In this light, we need the availability of inexpensive and high-quality compost so we can improve Sonoma County soils and help its agriculture and gardening communities. Agriculture currently is having trouble obtaining enough inexpensive compost. Also related - we need a facility that will not increase greenhouse gases by out-hauling our organics to Mendocino Solano and Marin Counties.

We support the selection of a facility management company that has a proven track record of providing compost to Sonoma County farmers and gardeners. It should also be one that creates state of the art design so any drainage or odor from the facility is captured and watershed is protected. We also prefer that whatever facility is chosen mitigate for any lost habitat for endangered species on the chosen site.

The Sonoma County Waste Management Agency owes the citizens of this county a speedy resolution to the selection. There have been several groups and other contenders that might want to slow the selection process down. Don't let them. It is unacceptable that there are opponents who would delay the process because of their own vested interests. The people of Sonoma County need you to move forward as quickly as possible to choose a facility having the qualities described here.

Given the connection of greenhouse gases to out-hauling of organics and the need for local compost for agriculture, and for compost's potential use for carbon uptake in soils, it is urgent the selection process continue without further delay.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments,

Suzanne Doyle, *Sonoma Group Co-Chair*

Theresa Ryan, *Sonoma Group Chair Compost Subcommittee*

Richard Sachen, *Sonoma Group Executive Committee member*

Sierra Club, Sonoma Group of the Redwood Chapter

**From:** Jane McDonough  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Bring back compost!  
**Date:** Friday, August 3, 2018 9:24:18 AM

---

I support Renewable Sonoma's bid to get us back to our local compost system.

Dear SCWMA Board Members:

I support Renewable Sonoma as the commercial compost provider for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency. Renewable Sonoma is owned by Sonoma Compost, a local business, with a history of being community-minded, respecting the environment, and providing high-quality local compost.

I am confident that Renewable Sonoma will be engaged with the community and do the hard work necessary to deliver an environmentally friendly compost operation that produces high quality compost at a rate that is accessible to the public, businesses and municipalities of Sonoma County.

I respectfully request that you support SCWMA staff and evaluation committee's recommendation to enter into an agreement with Renewable Sonoma so this exciting project can move forward.

Sincerely,  
Jane McDonough

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**From:** Robin Latham  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Choose Renewable Sonoma  
**Date:** Monday, August 6, 2018 10:37:01 AM

---

Dear SCWMA Board Members:

I support Renewable Sonoma as the commercial compost provider for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency.

I loved Sonoma Compost before they were forced to move. They provided a valuable service and fantastic organic Compost. Re-newable Sonoma is owned by Sonoma Compost, a local business, with a history of being community-minded, respecting the environment, and providing high-quality local compost.

I am confident that Renewable Sonoma will be engaged with the community and do the hard work necessary to deliver an environmentally friendly compost operation that produces high quality compost at a rate that is accessible to the public, businesses and municipalities of Sonoma County.

Please Bring back quality compost to Sonoma county!

Sincerely,  
Robin Latham of Sebastopol  
1404 Hurlbut Ave  
707/829-1928

--

Sent from Gmail Mobile

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**From:** Howard & Lynda Higson  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Comments to Waste Management Board  
**Date:** Thursday, August 9, 2018 8:54:59 AM

---

To the Members of the Sonoma County Waste Management Board  
and Patrick Carter, Executive Director:

Sonoma County needs to have municipal composting.

We are in favor of the proposal of Sonoma Renewable for the following reasons:

1. Their compost is high quality.
2. They encourage farmers and gardeners to compost on their own property.
3. They are in favor of public education about composting.
4. The new site would be using up-to-date technology.
5. They have the experience necessary to manage a composting business.

Thank you.

Best regards,  
Howard and Lynda Higson  
7765 Dos Palos Lane  
Sebastopol, CA 95472

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**From:** Rich Goldberg  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Commercial compost operation in Sonoma County  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 8, 2018 3:02:51 PM

---

Dear Mr. Carter,

- Renewable Sonoma is owned by Sonoma Compost, the company operating our former, excellent local compost facility at the central landfill site.
- They have a long history of supporting composting education, school garden programs, community waste-diversion/ Zero Waste efforts, and local farmers and gardeners
- Their proposal includes an anaerobic digester that will generate electricity from green waste via natural gas generation
- They are excellent environmental stewards
- They have a long history of working with local farmers and have extensive knowledge of the local composting market
- Their business emphasis is on creating high-quality soil-amendment products for customers (as opposed to merely diverting green waste from landfill)

**Local composting means:**

- We do not have to truck our greenwaste out of the county (thereby reducing greenhouse gas production)
- Farmers, schools, and gardens can purchase high-quality compost produced locally (at lower prices because of reduced delivery fees)

I used Sonoma Compost products for over a decade and was thoroughly pleased with the materials, with the staff, with the management. Please accept your own staff's recommendation to allow the establishment of their new facility on Llano Rd. Thank you.

Respectfully,  
Rich Goldberg  
118 Highland Ave.  
Penngrove, CA 94951  
[rgclimber@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rgclimber@sbcglobal.net)

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**From:** Carrie Krueger  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Compost  
**Date:** Saturday, August 4, 2018 7:07:31 AM

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I support Renewable Sonoma in their efforts to (re)create a composting facility here in our own community. I do not want to see stinky trucks take it to far off locations when we can keep this valuable resource here at home. Please allow this common sense project to get underway, quickly. Thank You, Carrie Krueger, 4301 Primrose Ave, Santa Rosa.

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**From:** Terri Moon  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Compost  
**Date:** Thursday, August 2, 2018 3:42:18 PM

---

Dear Patrick Carter,

I highly and passionately encourage you to support the bid from Renewable Sonoma regarding a new compost facility. Ever since our beloved compost facility was closed a few years back, we have been without this very important community resource. The same folks who ran the facility that was closed have found a new location!!! This location will not only provide much needed compost- it will also generate methane gas in the process.

Compost is a critical resource that can support the sustainability of our community by increasing the quality of our soil. It will also sequester CO2 from the air, thus improving air quality as well. Compost is a win-win for soil and air, and additionally water, because adding compost supports saving water (which will become more and more important as draught years become more common) and increases the quality of water, by utilizing soil to filter the water which protects creeks and other water sources.

Our household has boycotted the use of green waste collection cans for yard waste since the closing of Sonoma Compost because we don't want to contribute to exhaust emissions to carry weeds to another county to transform them into compost. Opening Renewable Sonoma would encourage us to use our green cans again, reduce exhaust emissions resulting from transportation in the current system, and also reduce the costs of compost here in Sonoma County. Sonoma County is known for its agricultural uniqueness: our vineyards, our permaculture, and our organic gardens (historically via Luther Burbank and more recently via Permaculture farming and more) and compost is a critical piece of this puzzle.

Let's take the next step to ensure our heritage and our future by giving Renewable Sonoma the green light on their proposed project,  
Terri Moon

---

Terri Moon, MS, Harmony at Home  
Mediation, Empathy and Collaborative Communication (NVC) Training for Families  
[www.TerriMoon.com](http://www.TerriMoon.com), 707-709-8574 (home/office), 707-591-1872 (cell/text)

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**From:** sylviber  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Compost Comments  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 8, 2018 9:28:20 AM

---

We definitely support Renewable Sonoma for the composting here in the county for the next 20 years. Will Bakx did a great job at the dump before and produced quality compost, which was a boon to all of us gardeners in the county.

Thanks,

Sylvia Bray and Bernardo Larque Manzo

--

sylviber

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**From:** Andy Bunnell  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Compost facility  
**Date:** Thursday, August 9, 2018 6:09:34 AM

---

Hi Patrick

I want to strongly support Wiill and Sonoma Compost transitioning to the Laguna Facility It makes the most sense and I am very excited that they are looking to do some innovative things with the waste water compost. I was hoping that there could be more than one facility but i get that the numbers do not line up. Maybe it does make sense for Healdsburg to remain with Cold Creek.

THanks

Andy

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**From:** C. Hoex  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Compost Provider for Sonoma Co.  
**Date:** Sunday, August 5, 2018 10:51:31 AM

---

Dear SCWMA Board Members:

We support Renewable Sonoma as the commercial compost provider for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency. Renewable Sonoma is owned by Sonoma Compost, a local business, with a history of being community-minded, respecting the environment, and providing high-quality local compost. They have supported composting education, school gardens programs, community Zero waste efforts, local farmers and gardens.

We have seen them in action during the rainy season fire recover to mitigate toxic runoff from burn sites using mycelium, such is their knowledge and expertise in organic cycles, and soil science. They are true scientists of the carbon cycle. Their business emphasis is on creating high-quality soil-amendment products for customers (as opposed to merely diverting green waste from landfill.) Also having a local commercial composter such as Renewable Sonoma means we reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by not trucking our green waste out of the county.

As a Flower farmer and home gardeners we are confident that Renewable Sonoma will provide the products we need to grow beautiful and healthy produce, at a rate the is accessible to public, businesses and municipalities of Sonoma Co.

I respectfully request that you support SCWMA staff and evaluation committee's recommendation to enter into an agreement with Renewable Sonoma so this exciting project can move forward.

Thank you for your consideration,

Name: Christine Hoex (owner Simply Flowers) Tom Hoex ( home gardener)

Address: 330 Horn Ave Santa Rosa

Zip: 95407

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**From:** Ron Bartholomew  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Compost recommendation  
**Date:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 10:40:55 AM

---

Dear Mr. Carter,

I am writing to express my support for accepting the proposal from Renewable Sonoma for handling the compost for Sonoma County.

Although hauling the green waste out of the area may be financially feasible now, as a long term solution, it is not the correct approach. The "carbon footprint" of hauling must be considered. It has been proven that Sonoma County customers, through Renewable Sonoma's previous business, Sonoma Compost, enthusiastically utilized the finished product.

I strongly encourage the SCWMA to accept their proposal and keep the precious compost local and not continue hauling our green waste to the detriment of our environment.

Sincerely,

Ron Bartholomew

1296 Furlong Rd.

Sebastopol, CA 95472

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**From:** bob klein  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** compost  
**Date:** Monday, August 6, 2018 7:00:27 AM

---

I'm writing to support the bid for Renewable Sonoma to take over the composting operation in our county. We are in need of clean efficiently processed compost managed with reliable service. Renewable Sonoma has the resources to accomplish this.

thank you  
Bob Klein

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**From:** Ron Karp  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Composting  
**Date:** Saturday, August 4, 2018 5:39:56 PM

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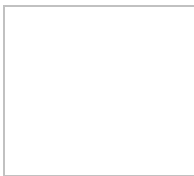
Dear SCWMA Board Members:

I am concerned by the gap in commercial composting in Sonoma County that we have had since Sonoma Compost shut down. Now that an alternative exists, I'm writing to support Renewable Sonoma to take over.

I respectfully request that you support the SCWMA staff and evaluation committee's recommendation to enter into an agreement with Renewable Sonoma so that we will once again have composting from a reputable company.

--

**Ron Karp**  
Executive Director



Food For Thought  
P.O. Box 1608  
Forestville, CA 95436

[www.fftfoodbank.org](http://www.fftfoodbank.org)  
707-887-1647

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**From:** SHEILA MORRISSEY  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** composting  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 8, 2018 5:33:31 AM

---

I urge you to bring back composting to the area! Why???

- Renewable Sonoma is owned by Sonoma Compost, the company operating our former, excellent local compost facility at the central landfill site.
- They have a long history of supporting composting education, school garden programs, community waste-diversion/ Zero Waste efforts, and local farmers and gardeners
- Their proposal includes an anaerobic digester that will generate electricity from green waste via natural gas generation
- They are excellent environmental stewards
- They have a long history of working with local farmers and have extensive knowledge of the local composting market
- Their business emphasis is on creating high-quality soil-amendment products for customers (as opposed to merely diverting green waste from landfill)

**Local composting means:**

- We do not have to truck our greenwaste out of the county (thereby reducing greenhouse gas production)
- Farmers, schools, and gardens can purchase high-quality compost produced locally (at lower prices because of reduced delivery fees)Thank you for your attention.

Sheila Morrissey, Petaluma resident

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**From:** Leslie Kotin  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** for your consideration...  
**Date:** Saturday, August 4, 2018 11:55:20 AM

---

Dear SCWMA Board Members:

I support Renewable Sonoma as the commercial compost provider for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency. Renewable Sonoma is owned by Sonoma Compost, a local business, with a history of being community-minded, respecting the environment, and providing high-quality local compost.

I am confident that Renewable Sonoma will be engaged with the community and do the hard work necessary to deliver an environmentally friendly compost operation that produces high quality compost at a rate that is accessible to the public, businesses and municipalities of Sonoma County. I respectfully request that you support SCWMA staff and evaluation committee's recommendation to enter into an agreement with Renewable Sonoma so this exciting project can move forward.

It is obviously a win-win situation. it would be a great loss if this bid is not unanimously accepted.

i ask that you not use my street address or e-mail info for any mailings. many thanks,  
leslie kotin

Name: \_\_\_Leslie Kotin\_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_3822 Bloomfield RD, Sebastopol, CA\_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_95472\_\_\_\_\_

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**From:** Paul Judge  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** I support Renewable Sonoma as the commercial compost provider for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency  
**Date:** Monday, August 6, 2018 10:34:12 PM

---

Dear SCWMA Board Members;

I whole heartedly endorse that the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency support and adopt Renewable Sonoma as the commercial compost provider for homeowners and businesses of Sonoma County. I am familiar with the owner/operators of Sonoma Compost and appreciate their long history and service to the community providing high quality compost to their customers and school gardens and community non-profit groups in the past.

I know that my neighbors and colleagues will welcome the return of a locally owned and competently operated composting service which has served Sonoma County in the past and look forward to continuing in the near future.

Please support the recommendations of the SCWMA Staff and selection process that has urged you to enter into an agreement with Renewable Sonoma for the benefit of Sonoma County residents and agricultural enterprises.

Sincerely,

Paul Judge  
property owner / taxpayer  
471 Parquet Street  
Sebastopol, Ca. 95472

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**From:** Denny Pedersen  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Cc:** [Denny](#)  
**Subject:** I support Renewable Sonoma's bid  
**Date:** Saturday, August 4, 2018 11:11:12 AM

---

Dear SCWMA Board Members:

Being a UCCE Master Gardener of Sonoma County, I know the importance of keeping our green compost in our community.

I support Renewable Sonoma as the commercial compost provider for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency. Renewable Sonoma is owned by Sonoma Compost, a local business, with a history of being community-minded, respecting the environment, and providing high-quality local compost.

I am confident that Renewable Sonoma will be engaged with the community and do the hard work necessary to deliver an environmentally friendly compost operation that produces high quality compost at a rate that is accessible to the public, businesses and municipalities of Sonoma County.

I respectfully request that you support SCWMA staff and evaluation committee's recommendation to enter into an agreement with Renewable Sonoma so this exciting project can move forward.

**Thank you for your consideration,  
Denny Pedersen, UCCE Master Gardener of Sonoma County**

**6073 Van Keppel Road  
Forestville, CA 95436**

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**From:** Jamie Eggerss  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** In favor of Sonoma Renewable composting  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 8, 2018 2:34:26 PM

---

To Patrick Carter and members of Sonoma County Waste Management Board:

I'm writing to express my support for the municipal composting proposal put forth by Sonoma Renewable. Sonoma Renewable is the only group that believes in helping farmers compost on their own property. Furthermore, they produce the highest quality compost around, and would bring some of the best composting technology to create a NEGATIVE carbon footprint. Finally, this group has operated the largest composting business in Sonoma County from 1993-2015, so I'm confident that they will run the best operation with the most benefit to our local community and economy. Please consider this my recommendation and hope that you select Sonoma Renewable to return Sonoma County to locally-run, sustainable, large-scale composting.

Thank you,

Jamie Eggerss  
Santa Rosa, CA

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**From:** Pam Neuberg  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** In support of Renewable Sonoma  
**Date:** Sunday, August 5, 2018 1:56:17 PM

---

Please support SCWMA staff and evaluation committee's recommendation to enter into an agreement with Renewable Sonoma so this valuable project can move forward.

I miss being able to buy high quality compost for myself as well as businesses in our county. They will also donate their products to the community.

This is a win win enterprise. Please support it.

Thank you,  
Pam and Joel Neuberg  
555 Dufranc Ave  
Sebastopol

Sent from my iPad  
Pam Neuberg

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**From:** Pete Gang  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** In support of Renewable Sonoma's bid for commercial compost operation  
**Date:** Thursday, August 2, 2018 9:52:36 AM

---

Dear SCWMA Board Members,

As a citizen of Sonoma County, I am writing in strong support of Renewable Sonoma's bid for the future commercial compost operation proposed for the Llano Road site.

It is essential that our County have a local facility that can process all of our 'green' waste AND provide us with high-quality compost that can be used to sequester atmospheric carbon.

Sincerely,

Pete

Pete Gang, Architect  
381 Cleveland Avenue  
Petaluma, CA 94952  
707-762-4838

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**From:** Aaron Schreiber-Stainthorp  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Letter of Support for Renewable Sonoma  
**Date:** Friday, August 3, 2018 10:41:10 AM  
**Attachments:** [image005.jpg](#)  
[image006.png](#)

---

Dear SCWMA Board Members:

I'm writing to express my support for Renewable Sonoma as the commercial compost provider for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency. Renewable Sonoma is owned by Sonoma Compost, a local business, with a history of being community-minded, respecting the environment, and providing high-quality local compost.

As a sustainability professional I see first hand the challenges our county currently faces with composting organics and I also see the potential to create a closed loop system that composts organics locally and lets them go directly back to agricultural in our county. Renewable Sonoma has the background, experience and community connections to be a partner that can help us close the loop on organics and make Sonoma county a model for Zero Waste.

I respectfully request that you support SCWMA staff and evaluation committee's recommendation to enter into an agreement with Renewable Sonoma so this exciting project can move forward.

Name: Aaron Schreiber -Stainthorp Title:  
Sustainability Specialist

Address: 2738 Aztec Street, Santa  
Rosa

Zip: 95403

Best,

**Aaron Schreiber -Stainthorp**

**Sustainability Specialist**

**Jackson Family Wines**

707.535.8505 office | 773.330.2924 mobile



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**From:** Terence Rodgers  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Local Compost Operations  
**Date:** Thursday, August 2, 2018 10:31:52 AM

---

Dear SCWMA Board Members:

I support Renewable Sonoma as the commercial compost provider for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency. Renewable Sonoma is owned by Sonoma Compost, a local business, with a history of being community-minded, respecting the environment, and providing high-quality local compost.

I am confident that Renewable Sonoma will be engaged with the community and do the hard work necessary to deliver an environmentally friendly compost operation that produces high quality compost at a rate that is accessible to the public, businesses and municipalities of Sonoma County. I respectfully request that you support SCWMA staff and evaluation committee's recommendation to enter into an agreement with Renewable Sonoma so this exciting project can move forward.

Name: Terence Rodgers  
Title: Teacher

Address: 7620 Healdsburg Ave.  
Sebastopol 95472

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**From:** Clara O'Connor  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** please accept the Sonoma Renewable proposal  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 8, 2018 8:07:29 PM

---

Dear Sir,

I feel they are the best for the job to help Sonoma County have a fabulous composting facility once again.

Many Thanks,

Clara O'Connor

(Graton)

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**From:** Kamran Nayeri  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Please choose Renewable Sonoma's bid  
**Date:** Thursday, August 2, 2018 11:58:31 AM

---

Dear SCWMA Board Members:

I support Renewable Sonoma as the commercial compost provider for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency. Renewable Sonoma is owned by Sonoma Compost, a local business, with a history of being community-minded, respecting the environment, and providing high-quality local compost.

I am confident that Renewable Sonoma will be engaged with the community and do the hard work necessary to deliver an environmentally friendly compost operation that produces high quality compost at a rate that is accessible to the public, businesses and municipalities of Sonoma County. I respectfully request that you support SCWMA staff and evaluation committee's recommendation to enter into an agreement with Renewable Sonoma so this exciting project can move forward.

Thank you.

Kamran Nayeri, Ph.D.

1755 Darby Road

Sebastopol, CA 95472

707-861-3155

PS. Ever since they were shut down I have not been able to get mulch of same quality and affordable prices nearby. Last spring I bought what suppose to have been organic soil for my veggie garden from Grab&Grow at almost \$50 a yard but it proved to be nutrient deficient and included seeds from a plant that I have not been able to identify which keep coming up in my raised beds. I never had ANY such problems getting my mulch and soil from Sonoma Compost when they were around.

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**From:** Stephanie Elliott  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Please chose Renewable Sonoma  
**Date:** Sunday, August 5, 2018 2:30:33 PM

---

Dear SCWMA Board Members:

I support Renewable Sonoma as the commercial compost provider for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency. Renewable Sonoma is owned by Sonoma Compost, a local business, with a history of being community-minded, respecting the environment, and providing high-quality local compost.

I am confident that Renewable Sonoma will be engaged with the community and do the hard work necessary to deliver an environmentally friendly compost operation that produces high quality compost at a rate that is accessible to the public, businesses and municipalities of Sonoma County.

I respectfully request that you support SCWMA staff and evaluation committee's recommendation to enter into an agreement with Renewable Sonoma so this exciting project can move forward.

This is such an important resource to our community to have a company with experience and excitement is so important.

Thanks for your time,

Name: Stephanie Elliott

Address: 2619 Brush Street, Graton,  
CA

Zip: 95444

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**From:** Robin Rogers  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Renewable Sonoma  
**Date:** Monday, August 6, 2018 2:39:36 PM

---

Dear SCWMA Board Members:

I support Renewable Sonoma as the commercial compost provider for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency. Renewable Sonoma is owned by Sonoma Compost, a local business, with a history of being community-minded, respecting the environment, and providing high-quality local compost.

I am confident that Renewable Sonoma will be engaged with the community and do the hard work necessary to deliver an environmentally friendly compost operation that produces high quality compost at a rate that is accessible to the public, businesses and municipalities of Sonoma County.

I respectfully request that you support SCWMA staff and evaluation committee's recommendation to enter into an agreement with Renewable Sonoma so this exciting project can move forward.

--

**Blessings,**

**Robin Rogers**  
**7476 Hidden Lake Road**  
**Forestville, CA 95436**

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**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** Laurie Maguire  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Renewable Sonoma  
**Date:** Saturday, August 4, 2018 4:27:14 PM

---

Dear SCWMA Board Members:

I support Renewable Sonoma as the commercial compost provider for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency. Renewable Sonoma is owned by Sonoma

Compost, a local business, with a history of being community-minded, respecting the environment, and providing high-quality local compost.

I am confident that Renewable Sonoma will be engaged with the community and do the hard work necessary to deliver an environmentally friendly compost operation that produces high quality compost at a rate that is accessible to the public, businesses and municipalities of Sonoma County.

I respectfully request that you support SCWMA staff and evaluation committee's recommendation to enter into an agreement with Renewable Sonoma so this exciting project can move forward.

Thank you,

Laurie Maguire Teacher, Sebastopol Union School District

7350 Fircrest Ave  
Sebastopol, CA 95472

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**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** Terry Winter  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Renewable Sonoma  
**Date:** Saturday, August 4, 2018 3:50:11 PM

---

I would like to strongly support the proposed choice of Renewable Sonoma as the compost provider by the waste management agency.

I have years of experience dealing with Sonoma Compost, and found them an ethical and responsible and environmentally-conscious business. Sonoma County deserves to choose such a business to once again provide composting within our county.

Thank you,

Terry Winter  
4901 Ross Road  
Sebastopol, CA 95472

[terrywinter3@gmail.com](mailto:terrywinter3@gmail.com)

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**From:** Rose DeNicola  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Renewable Sonoma  
**Date:** Friday, August 3, 2018 3:34:45 PM

---

Dear SCWMA Board Members:

I support Renewable Sonoma as the commercial compost provider for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency. Renewable Sonoma is owned by Sonoma Compost, a local business, with a history of being community-minded, respecting the environment, and providing high-quality local compost. I am confident that Renewable Sonoma will be engaged with the community and do the hard work necessary to deliver an environmentally friendly compost operation that produces high quality compost at a rate that is accessible to the public, businesses and municipalities of Sonoma County.

I respectfully request that you support SCWMA staff and evaluation committee's recommendation to enter into an agreement with Renewable Sonoma so this exciting project can move forward.

Name: \_\_Rose DeNicola\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_3822 Bloomfield Rd Sebastopol\_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_95472\_\_\_\_\_

--

Certified Massage Therapist  
Certificate #69838

707.775.8838  
[rosedenicola.com](http://rosedenicola.com)

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**From:** Dennis O'Rourke  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Cc:** [Paul Judge](#)  
**Subject:** Renewable Sonoma  
**Date:** Friday, August 3, 2018 1:49:52 PM

---

I support Renewable Sonoma as the commercial compost provider for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency. Renewable Sonoma is owned by Sonoma Compost, a local business, with a history of being community-minded, respecting the environment, and providing high-quality local compost.

I am confident that Renewable Sonoma will be engaged with the community and do the hard work necessary to deliver an environmentally friendly compost operation that produces high quality compost at a rate that is accessible to the public, businesses and municipalities of Sonoma County.

I respectfully request that you support SCWMA staff and evaluation committee's recommendation to enter into an agreement with Renewable Sonoma so this exciting project can move forward.

Dennis O'Rourke Sonoma County Taxpayer  
20580 River Blvd. Monte Rio, CA  
95462

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**From:** Rhianna Frank  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Renewable Sonoma  
**Date:** Thursday, August 2, 2018 2:57:56 PM

---

Dear SCWMA Board Members:

I support Renewable Sonoma as the commercial compost provider for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency. Renewable Sonoma is owned by Sonoma Compost, a local business, with a history of being community-minded, respecting the environment, and providing high-quality local compost.

I am confident that Renewable Sonoma will be engaged with the community and do the hard work necessary to deliver an environmentally friendly compost operation that produces high quality compost at a rate that is accessible to the public, businesses and municipalities of Sonoma County. I respectfully request that you support SCWMA staff and evaluation committee's recommendation to enter into an agreement with Renewable Sonoma so this exciting project can move forward.

Rhianna Frank

Sebastopol Resident

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**do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.

**From:** Paul Fritz  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Renewable Sonoma compost provider  
**Date:** Thursday, August 2, 2018 1:27:35 PM

---

Dear SCWMA Board Members:

I support Renewable Sonoma as the commercial compost provider for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency. Renewable Sonoma is owned by Sonoma Compost, a local business, with a history of being community-minded, respecting the environment, and providing high-quality local compost. I am confident that Renewable Sonoma will be engaged with the community and do the hard work necessary to deliver an environmentally friendly compost operation that produces high quality compost at a rate that is accessible to the public, businesses and municipalities of Sonoma County. I think their anaerobic digester is an exciting component that will be able to generate electricity in addition to high quality compost.

We need to keep our green waste local and not generate excessive greenhouse gasses by transporting it to other counties. As a home gardener I miss have a local compost operation and look forward to being a client of Renewable Sonoma's in the hopefully near future.

I respectfully request that you support SCWMA staff and evaluation committee's recommendation to enter into an agreement with Renewable Sonoma so this exciting project can move forward.

Paul Fritz

**Fritz Architecture-Urbanism**

241 South Main Street  
Sebastopol, CA 95472  
707.975.6220

[www.fritzarchitecture.com](http://www.fritzarchitecture.com)

[www.smalltownurbanism.com](http://www.smalltownurbanism.com)

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**From:** HEIDI DOUGHTY  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Renewable Sonoma is the best choice!  
**Date:** Thursday, August 2, 2018 9:50:22 AM

---

Dear Patrick,

Please choose Renewable Sonoma's bid for the future commercial compost operation in our county!! As a mother and teacher, this is a very important issue to me.

Thank you,

Heidi Doughty

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**From:** Kate Murray  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Renewable Sonoma Proposal  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 8, 2018 4:19:27 PM  
**Attachments:** [Renewable Sonoma.pdf](#)

---

Hello Mr. Carter,

I am writing to you on behalf of North Bay Leadership Council to show our support for Renewable Sonoma's proposal for organic materials processing services. Please read, and share with the Board Members, the attached letter outlining why we support this proposal. Thank you for your time and consideration.

-Kate Murray

**Kate Murray**

**North Bay Leadership Council**

775 Baywood Dr., Suite 101

Petaluma, CA 94954

707.283.0028

707.763.3028 Fax

[kmurray@northbayleadership.org](mailto:kmurray@northbayleadership.org)

[www.northbayleadership.org](http://www.northbayleadership.org)

*"Employers committed to making the North Bay sustainable, prosperous, and innovative."*

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*Chair*  
**CRAIG NELSON**  
 Chairman  
 Nelson Family of Companies

*Vice Chair*  
**STEVE PAGE**  
 President & General Manager  
 Sonoma Raceway

*Secretary/Treasurer*  
**PATTY GARBARINO**  
 President  
 Marin Sanitary Service

*Executive Committee*  
**BRAD BOLLINGER**  
 Publisher  
 North Bay Business Journal

*Executive Committee*  
**BARRY FRIEDMAN**  
 President & CEO  
 Friedman's Home Improvement

*Executive Committee*  
**ANDREW GIACOMINI**  
 Managing Partner  
 Hanson Bridgett LLP

*Executive Committee*  
**PAT KENDALL**  
 Medical Group Administrator  
 Kaiser Permanente

*Executive Committee*  
**MARK WOOD**  
 Chairman Emeritus  
 North Bay Leadership Council

**ALON ADANI**  
 Owner  
 Cornerstone Properties

**MICHELLE AUSBURN**  
 Partner  
 BPM LLP

**SAM BELDONA**  
 Dean, School of Business and  
 Leadership  
 Dominican University of California

**KATIE KERNS DAVIS**  
 Sr. Manager, Public Affairs  
 Pacific Gas & Electric

**NANCY DOBBS**  
 President & CEO  
 KRCB Radio & Television

**AIMI DUTRA KRAUSE**  
 Public Relations Director  
 The Dutra Group

**INGRID ESTRADA**  
 CAO  
 Keysight Technologies

**STEVE FALK**  
 CEO Sonoma Media Investments  
 Press Democrat

**RICHARD "DICK" GHILOTTI**  
 Owner & President  
 Ghilotti Construction

**DARRYL HAWKINS**  
 VP, Field Operations Northeast Bay  
 Area  
 Comcast

**SHERIE HICKMAN**  
 Hospital Administrator  
 Novato Community Hospital

**JORDAN LAVINSKY**  
 Partner  
 Hanson Bridgett LLP

**KATHRYN LOWELL**  
 Vice President of Government Affairs  
 BioMarin

**BRETT MARTINEZ**  
 President & CEO  
 Redwood Credit Union

**MEAGAN MOORE**  
 CAO  
 Buck Institute For Research on Aging

**LESLIE PERRY**  
 Partner  
 Perry, Johnson, Anderson, Miller  
 & Moskowitz LLP

**JUDY SAKAKI**  
 President  
 Sonoma State University

**TODD SALNAS**  
 President, Sonoma County  
 St. Joseph Health System

**BILL SILVER**  
 CEO  
 CannaCraft

**FRED VELA**  
 Regional Vice President  
 Wells Fargo Bank

**CYNTHIA MURRAY**  
 President & CEO

**KATIE MURRAY**  
 CAO



August 8, 2018

Sonoma County Waste Management Agency  
 2300 County Center Drive  
 Suite B-100  
 Santa Rosa, CA 95403

RE: Renewable Sonoma's proposal for Organic Materials Processing Services

Dear Board Members,

North Bay Leadership Council (NBLC) supports Renewable Sonoma as the commercial compost provider for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency. Renewable Sonoma is owned by Sonoma Compost, a local business, with a history of being community-minded, respecting the environment, and providing high-quality local compost.

Renewable Sonoma is now in the position to utilize their award-winning expertise to create a world class composting system adjacent to the Laguna Treatment Plant. They are committed to designing and operating a facility that will process curbside yard debris and organics locally while diverting 75 percent of organic materials from landfills. Their system has many additional benefits including reducing emissions by 85 percent, generating energy from anaerobic digestion that will be used by the Laguna Treatment Plant, providing a source for local compost, and eliminating the out-haul of 65,000 tons of organics per year.

Renewable Sonoma is made up of a team of local and national companies with a history of being good community-minded businesses and generous supporters of local causes in our region. We are confident that Renewable Sonoma will continue to be engaged with the community and do the hard work necessary to deliver an environmentally friendly system that produces high quality compost at a rate that is accessible to the public, businesses and municipalities of Sonoma County.

As an organization representing the leading employers in the North Bay, NBLC respectfully requests that you support SCWMA staff and evaluation committee's recommendation to enter into an agreement with Renewable Sonoma, so this exciting project can move forward.

Sincerely,

Cynthia L. Murray  
 President and CEO

**From:** Robert Kourik  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Renewable Sonoma  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 8, 2018 9:19:18 AM

---

Hi Patrick, I have had nothing but positive results with the compost from Sonoma Compost at the Sonoma Landfill. I support the application by Renewable Sonoma for the current RFP for the SCWMA project. Please accept their proposal to manage Sonoma County's green waste. Thanks, Robert

\*\*\*\*\*

Robert Kourik  
TerraInforma Communications  
(Metamorphic Press)  
634 Scotland Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95409

707-538-7096 land  
707-695-5603 cell

[www.Robert-Kourik.com](http://www.Robert-Kourik.com)

Author & Publisher  
"Understanding Roots"

"Drip Irrigation for Every Landscape and All Climates"

"Insectary Chart"

"No matter how cynical you get, it's impossible to keep up." Lillie Tomlin

"Scratch a cynic, you'll find a disappointed optimist. " George Carlin

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**From:** Nichole Warwick  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Renewal Sonoma  
**Date:** Thursday, August 2, 2018 10:20:33 AM

---

Dear SCWMA Board Members:

I support Renewable Sonoma as the commercial compost provider for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency. Renewable Sonoma is owned by Sonoma Compost, a local business, with a history of being community-minded, respecting the environment, and providing high-quality local compost.

I am confident that Renewable Sonoma will be engaged with the community and do the hard work necessary to deliver an environmentally friendly compost operation that produces high quality compost at a rate that is accessible to the public, businesses and municipalities of Sonoma County. I respectfully request that you support SCWMA staff and evaluation committee's recommendation to enter into an agreement with Renewable Sonoma so this exciting project can move forward. Thank you.

Nichole Warwick, MA

Executive Director, Families Advocating for Chemical and Toxics Safety;

Environmental Health Program Manager, Daily Acts;

Board Member, Ceres Community Project

9250 Hwy 116, Forestville, CA 95436

--

**Nichole Warwick**  
*Psychological & Educational Consultant*  
*Environmental Health Advocate*

**(707) 321-8570**

*"A society grows great when old men [and women] plant trees in whose shade they know they shall never sit"*

*Email is not a guaranteed secured medium for exchange of information. Please be aware that confidentiality cannot be assured. Thank you for your understanding.*

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**From:** Ellen Rilla-Laherty  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Cc:** [Patrick Laherty](#)  
**Subject:** Return of local compost operations  
**Date:** Saturday, August 4, 2018 11:37:34 AM

---

Dear SCWMA Board Members:

We support Renewable Sonoma as the commercial compost provider for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency. Renewable Sonoma is owned by Sonoma Compost, a local business, with a history of being community-minded, respecting the environment, and providing high quality local compost. We were customers for many years. We are confident that Renewable Sonoma will be engaged with the community and do the hard work necessary to deliver an environmentally friendly compost operation that produces high quality compost at a rate that is accessible to the public, businesses and municipalities of Sonoma County. We respectfully request that you support SCWMA staff and evaluation committee's recommendation to enter into an agreement with Renewable Sonoma so this exciting project can move forward. environment, and providing high-quality local compost.

Ellie & Patrick Laherty  
11131 Cherry Ridge Road, Sebastopol, CA 95472

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**From:** Sunny Galbraith  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** scanned copies of petition for Renewable Sonoma bid  
**Date:** Thursday, August 2, 2018 12:42:07 PM  
**Attachments:** [Renewable Sonoma signatures, set 1.pdf](#)  
[Renewable Sonoma signatures, set 2.pdf](#)

---

Hi Patrick-

Here are six scanned pages of the Renewable Sonoma support petition to the board. Emails and perhaps more petitions should be coming in over the next week. I told people to make sure they got them in to you by August 14th.

Thank you for passing along to the board!  
Sunny

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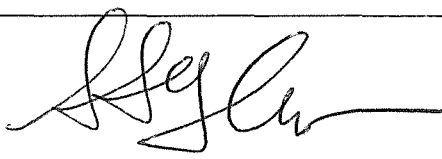





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Dear SCWMA Board Members:

We, the undersigned, support Renewable Sonoma as the commercial compost provider for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency. Renewable Sonoma is owned by Sonoma Compost, a local business, with a history of being community-minded, respecting the environment, and providing high-quality local compost.

We are confident that Renewable Sonoma will be engaged with the community and do the hard work necessary to deliver an environmentally friendly compost operation that produces high quality compost at a rate that is accessible to the public, businesses and municipalities of Sonoma County.

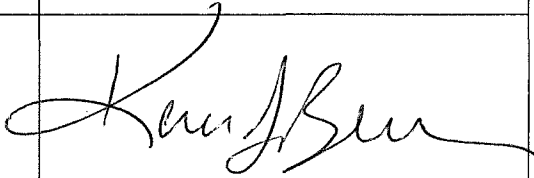
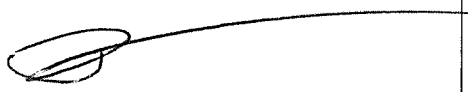
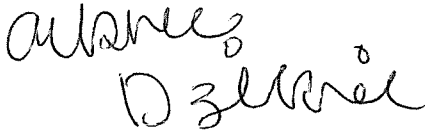

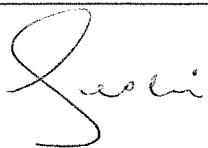

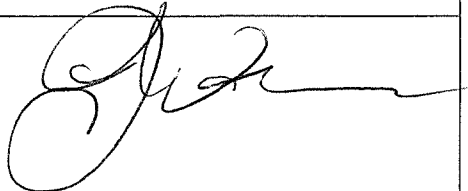
We respectfully request that you support SCWMA staff and evaluation committee's recommendation to enter into an agreement with Renewable Sonoma so this exciting project can move forward.

Name	Address (with city and zipcode)	Signature
Sunny Galbraith	440 S. High St Sebastopol 95472	
Guy Tillotson	652 S. High St Sebastopol, CA 95472	
Theresa Ryan	411 Anthony Dr Healdsburg CA 95448	
Terry Taylor	9826 Keith Court Windsor, CA 95492	
John LaBarge	601 West Sierra Ave. Cotati CA 94931	
Todd Sutton	600 Rinaldo St. Santa Rosa, CA 95409	
Robin Factor	285 Brey Rd Santa Rosa 95409	

We, the undersigned, support Renewable Sonoma as the commercial compost provider for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency. Renewable Sonoma is owned by Sonoma Compost, a local business, with a history of being community-minded, respecting the environment, and providing high-quality local compost.

We are confident that Renewable Sonoma will be engaged with the community and do the hard work necessary to deliver an environmentally friendly compost operation that produces high quality compost at a rate that is accessible to the public, businesses and municipalities of Sonoma County.

We respectfully request that you support SCWMA staff and evaluation committee's recommendation to enter into an agreement with Renewable Sonoma so this exciting project can move forward.

Name	Address (with city and zipcode)	Signature
Karen J. Brown	8938 Bodega Hwy. Sebastopol, 95472	
David Silva	8938 Bodega Hwy Sebastopol, CA 95472	
Aubree Dzilvelis	1239 Pine tree ln Sebastopol, CA 95472	
Zaida Jenkins	7366 East Harbut Ave Sebastopol, CA 95472	
Leslie Oliver	Bodega	
Caleb Williams	7416 Calder Ave Sebastopol, CA 95472	
John Werner	1470 High School Rd. Seb. 95472	

Dear SCWMA Board Members:

We, the undersigned, support Renewable Sonoma as the commercial compost provider for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency. Renewable Sonoma is owned by Sonoma Compost, a local business, with a history of being community-minded, respecting the environment, and providing high-quality local compost.

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We respectfully request that you support SCWMA staff and evaluation committee's recommendation to enter into an agreement with Renewable Sonoma so this exciting project can move forward.

Name	Address (with city and zipcode)	Signature
William J. McLaughlin	8816 Barnett Valley Rd Sebastopol, CA 95472	William J. McLaughlin
Julie Hernsen	8816 Barnett Valley Rd. Sebastopol, CA 95472	Julie Hernsen
Kim Hoch	8156 Bulega Bay Sebastopol, CA	Kim Hoch
Jeremiah Siem	Sebastopol	Jeremiah Siem
Robin Latham	1404 Humboldt Ave Sebastopol, CA 95472	Robin Latham
Benjie Nelson	17429 River Ln Guerneville, CA 94946	Benjie Nelson
Jim Corbett	7869 Washington Sebastopol, CA	Jim Corbett

95472

Dear SCWMA Board Members:

We, the undersigned, support Renewable Sonoma as the commercial compost provider for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency. Renewable Sonoma is owned by Sonoma Compost, a local business, with a history of being community-minded, respecting the environment, and providing high-quality local compost.

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We respectfully request that you support SCWMA staff and evaluation committee's recommendation to enter into an agreement with Renewable Sonoma so this exciting project can move forward.

Name	Address (with city and zipcode)	Signature
Bradley Brink Go Will!!	120 4th St #523 Petaluma, CA 94952	Bradley Brink
Deri Ji Harland	Sebastopol CA	Deri Ji Harland
Amin Pers	Sebastopol CA	Amin Pers
Denny Freeman	Santa Rosa 95407	Denny Freeman
LAUREL ADAMS SALTZBERG	7168 CALDER AVE SEBASTOPOL	Laurel Adams
Linn Erickson	Sebastopol	Linn Erickson
Christy Labard Harris	419 Sebastopol Petaluma Ave Sebastopol 95472	Christy Labard Harris



Dear SCWMA Board Members:

We, the undersigned, support Renewable Sonoma as the commercial compost provider for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency. Renewable Sonoma is owned by Sonoma Compost, a local business, with a history of being community-minded, respecting the environment, and providing high-quality local compost.

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We respectfully request that you support SCWMA staff and evaluation committee's recommendation to enter into an agreement with Renewable Sonoma so this exciting project can move forward.

Name	Address (with city and zipcode)	Signature
Melanie Piper Adam Opper	2015 Burnside Rd Seb CA 95472	Melanie Piper Adam Opper
Barb Brown	5300 Hessel Avenue Seb. CA. 95472	Barb Brown
Buickerood Jonathan Buickerood	8570 Lawrence Ln Sebastopol, CA 95472	Jonathan Buickerood
Leila Reed	5240 Hutchinson CA Sebastopol 95472	Leila Reed
JW BALLARD	836 McFarlane Ave Sebastopol, CA 95472	JW Ballard
WYNDHAM GALBRAITH	440 High St SEBASTOPOL CA 95472	Wyndham Galbraith

Dear SCWMA Board Members:

We, the undersigned, support Renewable Sonoma as the commercial compost provider for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency. Renewable Sonoma is owned by Sonoma Compost, a local business, with a history of being community-minded, respecting the environment, and providing high-quality local compost.

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We respectfully request that you support SCWMA staff and evaluation committee's recommendation to enter into an agreement with Renewable Sonoma so this exciting project can move forward.

Name	Address (with city and zipcode)	Signature
Larry Vito	6811 Laguna Parkway Sebastopol	Larry Vito
Sean M. Weil	5240 Hutchinson Rd Sebastopol, CA	Sean M. Weil
Trisha Allen trishasorrel@gmail.com	8570 Lawrence Lane Sebastopol, CA 95472	Trisha Allen
Angela Sturr azsturr@comcast.net	7717 French Lane Sebastopol, CA 95472	Angela Sturr

**From:** Carolyn Glanton  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Support for Renewable Sonoma  
**Date:** Thursday, August 2, 2018 2:07:39 PM

---

Dear SCWMA Board Members:

I support Renewable Sonoma as the commercial compost provider for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency. Renewable Sonoma is owned by Sonoma Compost, a local business, with a history of being community-minded, respecting the environment, and providing high-quality local compost.

I am confident that Renewable Sonoma will be engaged with the community and do the hard work necessary to deliver an environmentally friendly compost operation that produces high quality compost at a rate that is accessible to the public, businesses and municipalities of Sonoma County.

I respectfully request that you support SCWMA staff and evaluation committee's recommendation to enter into an agreement with Renewable Sonoma so this exciting project can move forward. I am very excited to have composting return to our county, reducing the amount of greenhouse gases produced by trucking greenwaste out of the area.

Name: Carolyn Glanton Title: Resident

Address: 1436 Velma Ave, Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Best,  
Carolyn

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**From:** Christine Yaeger  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Support Renewable Sonoma  
**Date:** Monday, August 6, 2018 5:36:41 PM

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Dear SCWMA Board Members:

I am writing in support of Renewable Sonoma as the commercial compost provider for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency. For years until they were shut down, my neighbors and I purchased a truckload of compost from Sonoma Compost to share throughout the neighborhood. It was an annual neighborhood project that benefited our properties and supported our county. It is important to me that Renewable Sonoma is owned by Sonoma Compost, a local business, with a history of being community-minded, respecting the environment, and providing high-quality local compost.

I am confident that Renewable Sonoma will be engaged with the community and do the hard work necessary to deliver an environmentally friendly compost operation that produces high quality compost at a rate that is accessible to the public like my neighborhood, businesses and municipalities of Sonoma County.

I respectfully request that you support SCWMA staff and evaluation committee's recommendation to enter into an agreement with Renewable Sonoma so this exciting project can move forward. It is time that we once again process the county's household yard and food waste locally.

Thank you.

Christine Yaeger  
471 Parquet Street  
Sebastopol, CA 95472

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**From:** Heather Cruciano  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Support the return of local compost operations!  
**Date:** Friday, August 3, 2018 12:40:08 PM

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Dear SCWMA Board Members:

I support Renewable Sonoma as the commercial compost provider for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency. Renewable Sonoma is owned by Sonoma Compost, a local business, with a history of being community-minded, respecting the environment, and providing high-quality local compost.

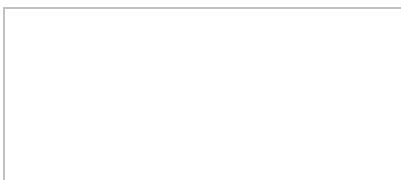
I am confident that Renewable Sonoma will be engaged with the community and do the hard work necessary to deliver an environmentally friendly compost operation that produces high quality compost at a rate that is accessible to the public, businesses and municipalities of Sonoma County. As a home gardener I use a lot of compost and deeply miss the high-quality local compost that we have had access to previously.

I respectfully request that you support SCWMA staff and evaluation committee's recommendation to enter into an agreement with Renewable Sonoma so this exciting project can move forward.

Name: \_Heather Cruciano\_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_505 Parquet St, Sebastopol, CA\_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_95472\_\_\_\_\_



**Heather Cruciano | Student Insurance Coordinator**  
**SAI Study Abroad**

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Toll free 800.655.8965 | fax 707.824.0198  
7160 Keating Avenue, Sebastopol, CA 95472



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**From:** wilddarlin@gmail.com  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** Yes! SCWMA and Renewable Sonoma  
**Date:** Friday, August 3, 2018 3:29:09 PM

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Dear Patrick and whomever this may concern

I respectfully request that you support SCWMA and Renewable Sonoma's possible, productive, positive promising relationship.

Hrieth Pezzi

Long time Sonoma Compost user, recycler, and general community member

Sent and possibly misspelled by my phone

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**From:** Bette Spagel  
**To:** [Patrick Carter](#)  
**Subject:** composting in Sonoma County  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 18, 2018 7:44:53 AM

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I have skimmed through the various composting proposals, and although I support looking to local businesses first, sometimes bigger is better.

The Waste Management operation *is* huge, but as a 45 year resident of Oakland and consumer of WM services for some 20+ years, I would vote in favor of that operation. Economies of scale are one consideration, the proposed near by composting location another, and, my experience with WM was always positive.

When I moved to Sonoma County, I was taken aback by the Local waste collection agency's refusal to accept food soiled paper. We were accustomed to putting food and food soiled paper in the green bin. In addition, the WM DID allow the compostable green bags that my late husband and I used to collect food items for disposal/composting. Being able to use these bags to avoid constant washing of the little green bin encouraged us to recycle rather than dump into the garbage sack.

My garbage bill in Oakland was in line with what I have paid for waste/recycling now, both from Ratto and from Recology.

I am aware that there are practical considerations to address; if collection rates rise too high, people will just start dumping stuff under the false impression that it will all decompose eventually and cause no environmental problems. Many already do this with pet waste, rather than pick it up and put in the garbage.

Thank you for reading this rather long email. I moved up here to because I love the area and I want to see it kept as green as possible.

Bete Spagel  
PO Box 355  
Monte Rio 95462

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