SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA



FROM: Supervisor Ashley, Supervisor Stone

SUBMITTAL DATE: February 20, 2013

SUBJECT: LANDFILL AREA REVENUE GENERATING ENTERPRISE IN RIVERSIDE COUNTY BUILDING EXPANDED DETENTION SERVICES (LARGER BEDS) PROGRAM

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Direct the executive office to:

- 1. Withdraw Riverside County's response to the Los Angeles County Sanitation District's Request for Proposal for Waste Disposal Services submitted February 12, 2013.
- 2. Within 90 days of approval of this motion, complete the following tasks:
- Identify all active and closed landfills in the county.
- Determine the actual annual costs spent on maintaining all closed landfills over the past three years.
- Quantify what the county generates in net revenue from the El Sobrante Landfill after payment to USA Waste Services as required under the Second Agreement.
- Quantify the revenue generated by the other county operated landfills and how the respective enterprise funds can be spent.
- Analyze if a private company were to manage the existing landfills and maintain the closed landfills, what would be the approximate amount of GENERAL FUND REVENUE that could be collected annually with domestic trash disposal and potential importation of trash from other counties. (Understanding that at a minimum, the county would receive the same tipping fees as collected at the El Sobrante Landfill)
- Prepare a and release a Request for Qualifications for a firm that can operate existing landfills for both domestic and imported trash, and manage the closed landfills within 90 days of approval of this motion. Quantify the revenue that could be generated, as a result, for the general fund use, versus money going into an enterprise fund.
- Analyze the potential pension savings, over time, based on existing employee count.

After completing the second task, report back to the Board on what could be generated in additional revenue to augment the funding of the county's public safety services.

(Background Continued)

MARION ASHLEY, Fifth District Supervisor

JERF STONE, Third District Supervisor

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COUNTY

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BACKGROUND:

Because of the Great Recession, the County of Riverside has seen its revenues decline steadily since 2007. As a result, discretionary income has decreased by 25%, causing a decrease in public safety expenditures and services at a time when violent crimes are increasing due to "Realignment". It is evident that "Realignment" is responsible for an increase of violent crime that is sweeping across the county and the state, by early releases of dangerous criminals from state prisons and local county detention centers. The county's detention center population is at capacity and is under a federal order to release an inmate as a new one enters. The urgent need to double the existing number of cells from approximately 4000 to 8000, as quickly as possible, is obvious. Generating revenue to pay for the high costs of operating such an expansion in cell capacity is critical. By having a public/private partnership to managing existing and closed landfills, it may be possible to create new revenue streams for the general fund, instead of revenue for an enterprise fund that cannot be used for public safety. The Board of Supervisors should examine all potential revenue generating options, with the exception of increasing taxes on county residents, to accomplish these goals.