

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

915



FROM: Waste Management Department

SUBMITTAL DATE:
May 5, 2015

SUBJECT: Department Name Change and Sustainability Roadmap, All Districts [\$0 – Waste Management Department Enterprise Funds].

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Authorize the General Manager-Chief Engineer to take any necessary actions to change the Department's name to "Riverside County Department of Waste Resources"; and
2. Direct the General Manager-Chief Engineer to work with stakeholders to prepare a "Sustainable Waste Resources Roadmap".

BACKGROUND:

Summary

The solid waste industry has been undergoing a significant transformation within the last five years through multiple legislative mandates to divert and recycle materials from the waste stream. Almost 30 years ago, the department was created to focus on the growing complexity of landfill regulations and management thereof. (Continued)

Departmental Concurrence


Hans Kernkamp

General Manager-Chief Engineer

FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:	Next Fiscal Year:	Total Cost:	Ongoing Cost:	POLICY/CONSENT (per Exec. Office)
COST	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/>
NET COUNTY COST	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	

SOURCE OF FUNDS: Waste Management Department Enterprise Funds

Budget Adjustment: No

For Fiscal Year: 14/15

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE

BY: 
Alex Gann

County Executive Office Signature

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

☐ Positions Added
☐ Change Order

☐ A-30
☐ 4/5 Vote

Prev. Agn. Ref.:

District: All

Agenda Number:

12-3

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FORM 11 Department Name Change and Sustainability Plan, All Districts [\$0 – Waste Management
Department Enterprise Funds].**

DATE: May 5, 2015

PAGE: 2 of 3

BACKGROUND: (cont.)

Today, the complexity has evolved into managing not just one waste management practice, but multi-faceted approaches. To reflect this new paradigm, staff is recommending that our department's name be changed to more accurately convey the challenges, and *opportunities*, this new paradigm presents. Therefore, we are recommending that the department name be changed to the "Riverside County Department of Waste Resources". The new name highlights the concept that much of what our society throws away today actually has residual value and should be repurposed for a higher and better use. Staff envisions only minimal costs associated with the name change, as existing supply orders have been put on hold pending the Board's decision.

In addition, staff is requesting the Board's approval to embark upon developing a "Sustainable Waste Resources Roadmap" to help guide the Department and the County in its efforts to provide sustainability initiatives that will better divert, recycle and process many of the waste streams required by State mandates, such as organics. Much of this in-house effort will be on revamping the existing Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan, with particular attention paid to the source reduction and recycling element. Staff recommends commencing this work now, as the State has an aggressive plan to reach a 75% diversion goal by 2020. To date, a Department workgroup has identified the following three focus areas:

- **Expand Existing Programs/Services**

Develop, enhance, and expand high-quality programs and services to provide for solid waste management needs while striving to reduce the amount of waste generated and disposed of at landfills. Quality programs and services are essential components to reducing waste.

The Department has a number of highly successful and award-winning waste reduction, recycling, composting, conversion, and hazardous waste programs and services. These programs and services have helped the unincorporated County and cities meet the State's 50 percent waste diversion mandate. In order to reduce our dependence on landfilling in the long-term and thereby ensuring a sustainable waste management future, initiatives need to be enhanced and expanded while simultaneously identifying opportunities to develop new programs and services. The programs, services and initiatives will be broken down and discussed as the roadmap moves forward.

- **Potential Pilot Programs/Services**

Develop new high-quality programs and services to reduce the amount of waste generated and disposed of at landfills. Additional high-quality programs and services are essential components to further reducing waste.

An efficient waste diversion system is essential to implementing sustainability practices and meeting the State's 75% recycling goal. In order to divert hundreds of thousands of tons of materials currently going to landfills each year, new infrastructure and facility improvements will need to be implemented to collect, process, and divert this material to beneficial uses. This will require identifying opportunities for improvements of existing and proposed facilities and infrastructure. Additional infrastructure will also require sustainable funding streams identified by local governments and businesses, and ultimately require support from customers, ratepayers, and taxpayers in order to be successful. Each focus area has unique facility and infrastructure challenges and requirements, which will be highlighted by the recommended initiatives as the roadmap moves forward.

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FORM 11 Department Name Change and Sustainability Plan, All Districts [\$0 – Waste Management
Department Enterprise Funds].**

DATE: May 5, 2015

PAGE: 3 of 3

- **Outreach and Education**

Proactive and appropriate communication will be essential in order to engage and empower stakeholders and further promote a sustainable waste management future.

Education and communication are critical elements of a successful endeavor to achieve a waste-free future. Educating diverse communities will require an innovative message in multiple languages. Additionally, it is critical to educate and engage the business community, the waste industry, and other stakeholders as well as County employees in order to implement sustainable practices and develop markets. The initiatives recommended for education and outreach will provide a system of continuing outreach and education.

Impact on Citizens and Businesses

None