



DATE: May 23, 2018

TO: Waste Management Authority Board

FROM: Wendy Sommer, Executive Director

BY: Pat Cabrera, Administrative Services Director

SUBJECT: Public Hearing and Annual Adoption of Fee Collection Report for Household Hazardous Waste Fee

SUMMARY

At the May 23, 2018 WMA meeting, staff will give an overview and update on the Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) program and ask the Board to adopt the FY 2018-19 fee collection report as required by Ordinance 2014-01. Staff will also ask that the Board authorize opening the Livermore and Hayward facilities an additional day per week.

BACKGROUND

At the May 2014 WMA meeting, the Board adopted HHW Ordinance 2014-1: "Ordinance Establishing a Household Hazardous Waste Collection and Disposal Fee," which included a \$9.55 fee per residential unit. FY 18-19 will be the fifth year that the fee is collected and used to support existing and expanded activities at the four HHW facilities (Fremont, Hayward, Livermore, and Oakland). This fee, in combination with an HHW tip fee at the landfill and product stewardship savings, pays for the four facilities.

The fee also supports up to twelve one-day HHW events around the county per year. The permanent facilities and one-day events are operated under two Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs): one with the City of Fremont and one with the County of Alameda. Based on both actual participation data in FY 16-17 and projected data for FY 17-18 the City of Fremont is exceeding its goal of serving 13,000 households per year (by approximately 8% and 20% respectively). However, the County facilities are still below their collective goal of serving 66,000 households annually, although participation in FY 17-18 is projected to reach approximately 85% of its goal, up from approximately 80% in FY 16-17.

Increase in County Facilities Operations

Bill Pollock, Program Manager for the Alameda County Household Hazardous Waste program, is proposing opening the Livermore and Hayward facilities on Thursdays to both address capacity issues at the Livermore facility and to increase participation at the Hayward facility. As shown in

the attached letter from Mr. Pollock, the increase in staffing will total an additional \$180,000 in FY 18-19, which is still approximately \$230,000 lower than the County's reimbursement limit for the year. Staff is supportive of this increase in operations; however, pursuant to the terms of the MOU, Board approval is required for any changes to facility operating days or hours.

Fee change

Under the ordinance, a Fee Collection Report must be approved by the Board each year prior to placing the parcel fee on the Alameda County property tax roll. A proposed Fee Collection Report (FCR) was publicly noticed this month. The purpose of the notice of the proposed FCR is to allow residential property owners subject to the fee to provide updated information about the number of units on their property, since the fee applies to each unit. The 2018 Fee Collection Report includes changes that property owners have requested throughout the year and during the review of the 2018 Fee Collection Report. Staff has incorporated all requests for changes to the proposed FCR into the draft linked below. The Fee Collection Report lists all the parcels in Alameda County subject to the fee together with the fee amount for the parcel. The 2018 Fee Collection Report may be viewed at: <http://www.stopwaste.org/file/4816>. Please be aware that the file is very large and will take a while to download. Staff will have one copy available for review at the meeting.

The program is designed to have some surplus in the early years. The accumulated fund balance will support the program until the fee sunsets in 2024. The HHW fee ordinance calls for the fee to be adjusted each year beginning in FY 16-17, based on the HHW tip fee collected and product stewardship savings. Based on collections and savings in FY 16-17, the FY 18-19 HHW fee will be \$7.40 per residential parcel. Per the ordinance, the fee will reset to \$9.55 for the following fiscal year, but will again be adjusted downward *if* tip fee collections and product stewardship savings for FY 17-18 are found to have been higher than expected. The fee cannot be increased above \$9.55 except by amending the fee ordinance and complying with State laws concerning fee increases. The total HHW revenue for FY 18-19 is expected to be approximately \$7.0M including approximately \$4.3M that will be collected by the assessor. As previously discussed, the funds pay for the administration and implementation of the program, which includes StopWaste's costs for administration of the MOUs and outreach, operation of the four facilities and up to twelve one-day HHW events around the county.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the following:

1. That the WMA Board hold a public hearing on the Fee Collection Report and approve the Fee Collection Report for FY 2018-19, which includes adjusting the fee downward from \$8.46 to \$7.40 per unit for FY 2018-19.
2. That the WMA Board approve opening the Livermore and Hayward facilities on Thursdays as proposed by County staff.

Attachment: April 11, 2018 letter from Program Manager Bill Pollock



Alameda County Household Hazardous Waste Program, 1131 Harbor Bay Parkway, Mail Stop 51701, Alameda, California 94502-6540 PII 510/670-6460

April 11, 2018

Ms. Wendy Sommer, Executive Director
Ms. Pat Cabrera, Administrative Services Director
Alameda County Waste Management Authority
1537 Webster Street
Oakland, CA 94612

Subject: Proposal to increase household operating days at Livermore and Hayward HHW facilities.

The Household Hazardous Waste program's facilities are, pursuant to the 2014 MOU's open Wednesday through Saturday at the Oakland and Fremont facilities, and Fridays and Saturdays at the Hayward and Livermore facilities.

The program is moving steadily towards the goals set in the MOU of 60,000 households at the 3 county facilities but the Livermore facility is near capacity during the 2 days per week it is open. Hayward facility participation is recovering from last year's six month outage but still shy of its goals. At both facilities opening an additional day will help the program reach its goals, relieving the capacity issues at Livermore and increasing participation at the Hayward facility.

In order to open additional days the program will need a modest increase in staffing, 1 FTE technician and 1.2 FTE in temporary labor at an approximate cost of \$ 180,000. The program continues to operate below staffing levels outlined in the MOU and under the MOU's budget limits.

Opening an additional Thursday will require changing the Livermore small business day from bimonthly Thursdays to bimonthly Wednesdays. This should not unduly burden business customers in the Tri Valley area.

Regarding a board member's interest in modifying current operational schedules to include Sunday service: The program already provides Sunday service to approximately 4000 residents per year via one-day events. Shifting the permanent facility schedule to include Sundays would likely entail a protracted union clash, and may not result in an increase in participation over and above the current rates.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Pollock". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bill Pollock
Program Manager
Alameda County Household Hazardous Waste program