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**DATE:** December 14, 2017

**TO:** Recycling Board/Planning Committee

**FROM:** Tom Padia, Deputy Director

**BY:** Rachel Balsley, Senior Program Manager

**SUBJECT:** County of Alameda General Services Agency Environmental Purchasing Update

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### **SUMMARY**

At the December 14 Recycling Board/Planning Committee meeting, StopWaste and County staff will provide a presentation on the implementation of recycled content and environmentally preferable purchasing (EPP) programs at the County of Alameda.

### **DISCUSSION**

The Alameda County Charter specifies that 5% of Measure D revenues be made available to the County of Alameda for implementation of a delineated Recycled Product Purchase Preference Program (RPPP program). Of this 5%, County GSA receives 85% for programmatic expenses to implement their EPP program and StopWaste receives 15% of these funds for programmatic administration costs and for consulting services to support jurisdictions in the implementation of their EPP programs.

An MOU signed by the Recycling Board and the County's General Services Agency (GSA) in 1994 and updated in 2012 describes the responsibilities of the GSA and StopWaste with respect to implementing this part of Measure D. Since recycled content products are frequently priced competitively with non-recycled products, the need for funds to purchase recycled content products has declined considerably since the passage of Measure D. The staff time to implement environmentally preferred purchasing, however, has grown given the increasing complexities of considering multiple environmental criteria.

To reflect changing conditions related to buying recycled content and environmentally preferable purchasing, and to take advantage of the expertise that County GSA has developed in this area, the revised 2012 MOU requires the County to dedicate 10% of the total Measure D RPPP funding received, toward helping the member agencies implement EPP efforts. The County's efforts in environmentally preferable purchasing for County facilities as well as their efforts to assist member agencies with the same will be presented at the December 14 Recycling Board/Planning Committee meeting.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

This item is for information only.