



**DATE:** June 11, 2020

**TO:** Planning Committee/Recycling Board  
Programs and Administration Committee

**FROM:** Meghan Starkey, Senior Management Analyst

**SUBJECT:** Municipal Panel: COVID-19 Impacts on Member Agencies

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### **SUMMARY**

In June, the WMA Committees/Recycling Board will hear from a panel with representatives from three member agencies: Fremont, Livermore, and Oakland. These representatives will share the impacts that COVID-19 and the associated health orders have had on their cities, specifically on solid waste and recycling, as well as on environmental programs generally.

### **DISCUSSION**

Each panelist will provide information on how their cities and service providers have handled:

- City staffing impacts, including schedules, locations, and assignments;
- Changes across the range of solid waste and recycling services, including reductions or suspensions, operational adjustments due to health guidelines, and revenue (to both service providers and the cities);
- Impacts on existing programs; and
- Other community impacts that have solid waste components, such as homeless encampment abatement, bulky pickups, and illegal dumping.

The summary matrix in Appendix A presents the impacts to these three member agencies in solid waste and recycling services. A matrix showing all member agency impacts will be shared at the meeting.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

This item is for information only.

Appendix A: COVID Related Service Impacts

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Service Type	Fremont	Livermore	Oakland
Residential Recycling Collection	Republic - no impact	No change	CWS - no impact
Residential Recycling Processing	BLT Enterprises suspended - March 30 - May 29	No change	CWS - no impact
Residential Organics Collection	Republic - no impact	No change	WMAC - no impact
Residential Organics Processing	Republic - no impact	No change	WMAC - no impact
Commercial Recycling Collection	Republic - no impact	No change	CWS, CiviCorps, WMAC - no impact
Commercial Recycling Processing	BLT Enterprises suspended - March 30 - May 18	No change	CWS & CiviCorps - no impact; WMAC landfilled material for ~6 wks, then resumed processing
Commercial Organics Collection	Republic - no impact	Disposal	WMAC - no impact
Commercial Organics Processing	Republic - no impact	n/a	WMAC landfilled material for ~6 wks, then resumed processing
Curbside Bulky Pickup	Republic- suspended March 30 - May 4	No change	WMAC suspended; replaced w/shelf-haul drop-off at Davis St.
Neighborhood Bulky Pickup	Not Applicable	No change	n/a
Illegal Dumping Cleanup	Increased reports of dumping - services continued using private contractor - Art Cuevas		WMAC suspended for ~6 wks, then resumed w/additional trucks
Notice of force majeure event	Yes - BLT Enterprises	Yes, received notification in March.	WMAC - yes; CWS - no
Excuse from performance	BLT request to suspend processing	Yes, requested in April: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transfer one load per day of Residential Organics to a compost facility at the Altamont Landfill facility, as an alternate to the Approved Composting Site in Vernalis, CA.</li> <li>• Dispose of up to 1.5 tons of Commercial Organics per day at the Vasco Road Landfill, which are unsuitable for composting at the Altamont Landfill facility, as an alternate to the approved Composting Site in Vernalis CA.</li> <li>• Suspend Saturday commercial Solid Waste and Recycling Routes.</li> <li>• Reduce Customer Service Hours from 7:00 am to 5:00 pm to 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday, and temporarily close its offices to the public.</li> </ul>	WMAC - yes; CWS - no

Request for additional revenues	BLT cost claim pending	No formal request, expected in FY22	WMAC - no; CWS - no
Request for SWF permit waivers	Not Applicable	No	WMAC - yes; CWS - yes
Impact on franchise fee / AB 939 fee payments	Fees down about 20% due to decline in volumes	Due to commercial revenue reductions, anticipated \$30,000 per month less in franchise fee payment	WMAC - no; CWS - no
Impact on customer service operations	Republic - long hold times for first two weeks due to staffing issues	Customer Service hours reduced, see above.	WMAC – Customer service operations down for ~2 wks in March