



DATE: May 25, 2016
TO: Waste Management Authority Board
FROM: Wendy Sommer, Executive Director
BY: Michelle Fay, Program Manager
SUBJECT: 2016 StopWaste Business Efficiency Awards

SUMMARY

The 2016 StopWaste Business Efficiency Awards will be presented during the May 25 WMA Board meeting, recognizing eight Alameda County businesses for their efforts to reduce waste to landfill and improve energy efficiency. Doors will open at 2:30 p.m. for attendees to enjoy light refreshments and networking before the meeting is called to order at 3:00 p.m. Board members with awardees in their jurisdiction will be asked to hand the award to the business representative.

DISCUSSION

After a one-month call for nomination period, StopWaste received 24 nominations in nine Alameda County cities. Nominations were submitted by Member Agency staff, hauler representatives, StopWaste staff, and technical assistance consultants. Each nomination was evaluated based on Environmental Benefit, Relevancy to the Award Category, Innovation, and Replicability. Geographic distribution, industry representation and compliance with the Mandatory Recycling Ordinance were also considered. We are pleased to share the following list of awardees. Please see the attachment for more information about each awardee and brief description of their outstanding achievements.

Excellence in Recycling & Composting – Commercial Sector:

Corning Life Sciences, Union City – nominated by Jennifer Cutter, City of Union City

Mobile Mini, Fremont – nominated by Andrew Sloan, Cascadia Consulting

Oracle Americas, Inc., Pleasanton – nominated by Debbie Jeffery, Pleasanton Garbage Service

Excellence in Reducing Disposable Food Service Ware:

Lola's Chicken Shack, Alameda – nominated by Dara Rossoff Powell, Clean Water Action

Excellence in Reducing Wasted Food:

Foods Co, Oakland – nominated by Sue Coberg, Alameda County Community Food Bank and Cassie Bartholomew, StopWaste

Excellence in Recycling & Composting – Multi-Family Sector:

Felson Companies, Inc., Hayward – nominated by Sasha Stackhouse, Waste Management

Excellence in Energy Efficiency:

Richard Avelar & Associates Architects, Oakland – nominated by Miya Kitahara, StopWaste

Leadership & Achievement in Sustainability:

SMART Modular Technologies, Inc., Newark – nominated by Brett Oeverndiek, City of Newark staff

RECOMMENDATION

This item is for information only.

ATTACHMENT

2016 StopWaste Business Efficiency Awards – Achievement Highlights



2016 StopWaste Business Efficiency Awardees

- Corning Life Sciences – Union City
- Felson Companies, Inc. – Hayward
- Foods Co – Oakland
- Lola's Chicken Shack – Alameda
- Mobile Mini – Fremont
- Oracle Americas, Inc. – Pleasanton
- Richard Avelar & Associates Architects – Oakland
- SMART Modular Technologies – Newark

Achievement Highlights

CORNING LIFE SCIENCES (Union City)

Excellence in Recycling & Composting – Commercial Sector

Corning Life Sciences in Union City is part of global corporation Corning Inc. and has several hundred employees. They manufacture equipment and materials for research and lab applications, mainly in the field of genomics sampling and analysis. In addition to recycling, the Union City location voluntarily collects organics and fosters high participation with custom signage and frequent outreach. In 2015 Corning Life Sciences recycled and composted approximately 90% of their waste. Corning also donates reusable materials and actively engages staff in their sustainability efforts, for example at their annual Earth Day events.

MOBILE MINI (Fremont)

Excellence in Recycling & Composting – Commercial Sector

Mobile Mini in Fremont is the sixth largest of 76 branch locations worldwide, offering secure portable offices and storage units made from shipping containers. An internal efficiency effort in 2015 led the branch to downsize their large garbage capacity in favor of recycling and organics collection and to set up well-marked sort stations for staff. Mobile Mini now diverts 93% of their trash, including construction debris and compostable materials, reducing costs and boosting employee morale. They are also reducing energy use with LEDs and have applied to become a certified green business.

ORACLE AMERICAS, INC. (Pleasanton)

Excellence in Recycling & Composting – Commercial Sector

Oracle Americas, Inc. is a global developer of hard- and software with a strong corporate commitment to sustainable management. Their Pleasanton location has 1,600 employees on a 200,000 square foot campus. In 2013, in collaboration with the garbage hauler, the subsidiary's facility manager initiated a pilot to collect compostables—a service not available to Pleasanton businesses at the time. Extensive outreach, employee engagement and custom signage made the program a huge success. Along with recycling, it increased Oracle's diversion rate from 35% to 90%.

LOLA'S CHICKEN SHACK (Alameda)

Excellence in Reducing Disposable Food Service Ware

Lola's Chicken Shack is a family-run restaurant in Alameda with 12 staff and approx. 200 transactions per day, about half of which are take-out orders. Participating in the ReThink Disposable campaign, the owners replaced single-use plastic water cups with reusable cups and downsized the compostable food boxes for on-site dining to smaller and lighter food trays. They also eliminated disposable stir sticks and offer certain items like lids only on request. Lola's has reduced waste by 1,400 pounds per year and saves \$3,200 annually on food service ware, while saving staff time previously spent handling disposables.

FOODS CO (Oakland)

Excellence in Reducing Wasted Food

Foods Co is a 80,000 square foot supermarket with approx. 100 employees, located in East Oakland. The store is owned by Kroger, one of the largest grocery retailers in the country. Since Foods Co's opening in March 2014, they have operated a highly effective food rescue and donation program for produce, dairy, meat, bakery, dry goods and frozen food, in collaboration with the Alameda County Community Food Bank. In 2015, Foods Co donated 67,700 pounds of edible food, equivalent to 56,417 meals.

FELSON COMPANIES (Hayward)

Excellence in Recycling & Composting – Multi-Family Sector

Felson Companies, Inc. headquartered in Hayward is a property management company with twelve apartment communities in Alameda County, ranging from 24 to 188 units. Their seven Hayward communities added organics collection to recycling in July 2015. Thanks to extensive tenant outreach by the onsite community managers, supported by a third party porter service, participation is exceptionally high and contamination minimal. Each month the seven Hayward communities keep 94 cubic yards of food scraps and other compostable materials out of the garbage.

RICHARD AVELAR & ASSOCIATES ARCHITECTS (Oakland)

Excellence in Energy Efficiency

Richard Avelar & Associates in Oakland offer architecture and construction consulting services including reserve studies to help community associations plan and budget the replacement of common-area components. With their energy efficiency building expertise and knowledge of rebates available, Richard Avelar & Associates have guided many multi-family communities through the process of identifying energy savings opportunities, making upgrades and applying for rebates. Besides saving community associations hundreds of thousands of dollars, Richard Avelar & Associates have become a top advocate of the Energy Upgrade California program.

SMART MODULAR TECHNOLOGIES (Newark)

Leadership & Achievement in Sustainability

SMART Modular Technologies is a global manufacturer of computer memory and data storage products, headquartered in Newark, CA. Company-wide environmental performance goals and consistent use of quality and environmental management systems have led SMART Modular Technologies to take efficiency measures such as eliminate disposable food service ware, minimize office paper use, and separate many materials including batteries and light tubes for recycling. Over the past 3 years, they have reduced energy use and GHG emissions by 23%. Recycling stations throughout the facility and regular employee orientations support participation.