

MONTEREY COUNTY



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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September 11, 2018

The Honorable Bruce Delgado, Chair
Monterey Regional Waste Management District Board
P. O. Box 1670
Marina, CA 93933-1670

RE.: Support for the Proposed MOU between SVSWA and MRWMD

Dear Chair Delgado:

As policy makers and managers, we are faced with addressing ever increasing regulatory requirements that place cost burdens on our residents and businesses. The solid waste industry is one of the municipal sectors facing these burdens. Recent solid waste regulations, in conjunction with industry game-changers like the National Sword that restricts China's importation of foreign recyclables, are leading to significant increases in the cost to manage solid waste for all jurisdictions in the State.

On July 17, 2018, the Board of Supervisors received a presentation overview of a proposed memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority (Authority) and the Monterey Regional Waste Management District (District) to form a cooperative agreement that leverages resources and efficiently maximizes the use of the solid waste processing and landfill facilities in Monterey County. The ideas presented make a lot of sense, particularly the following recommendations:

1. Fully utilize the processing capacity of the District's new materials recovery facility and spread the capital and operating costs over a larger, countywide tonnage.
2. Utilize Monterey One Water's (M1W) existing digester capacity to process clean commercial food waste collected countywide and increase the renewable energy output at M1W's treatment plant.
3. Re-direct the Peninsula's organic waste to Authority facilities and eliminate the need for developing redundant organics processing facilities in the county.
4. Direct-haul curbside-collected waste to the nearest landfill (i.e., Marina or Johnson Canyon).
 - a. We understand this option has the potential to extend the life of Johnson Canyon, while eliminating or delaying the cost to develop new cells and spreading out the closure costs over a longer time-period.
 - b. Reduce the need to import solid waste from other counties.

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The proposed MOU is a smart opportunity for our local solid waste organizations to collaborate to think countywide and strive to minimize inevitable rate increases for residents and businesses in Monterey County. Accordingly, the County of Monterey strongly supports formalizing the proposed MOU between the Authority and the District to allow the two organizations to collaborate to efficiently manage solid waste in the county and share resources. We look forward to being kept apprised of the MOU's progress and any way we can support the process.

Sincerely,

Luis A. Alejo, Chair
County of Monterey Board of Supervisors

cc: Rudy Fischer, M1W Board Chair (*via email to pgrep@my1water.org*)
Supervisor Luis A. Alejo, District 1
Supervisor John M. Phillips, District 2
Supervisor Simón Salinas, District 3
Supervisor Jane Parker, District 4
Supervisor Mary L. Adams, District 5
Lew C. Bauman, County Administrative Officer
Elsa Jimenez, Director of County Health Services
John Ramirez, Director of County Environmental Health Bureau