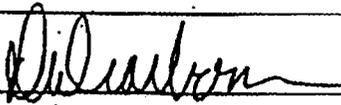


CITY OF SAN JOSÉ - MEMORANDUM

TO: TRANSPORTATION, PLANNING- FROM: Carl W. Mosher, Director
AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: Revised Integrated Waste
Management Policies

DATE: August 13⁷, 1998

APPROVED: 

DATE: 8-7-98

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the revised Integrated Waste Management policies.

BACKGROUND

The Integrated Waste Management (IWM) Program of the Environmental Services Department recently reviewed and updated the City's original policies, adopted in October of 1983, to ensure that they reflect accurately the current long term goals of the City. On April 23, 1998, staff presented these policies to the Transportation, Planning and Environment Committee (TP&E) for approval. While the Committee gave its approval, it also asked staff to consider modifying or expanding several of the policies, to include: 1) diversion goals by sector (single family, multi-family, commercial, etc.); 2) competition; 3) linkage to the sustainable city goals; 4) promotion of green building; and 5) scavenging.

On May 5, 1998, staff presented the revised policies to the City Council. Council approved the policies, and directed staff to report on its findings after evaluation of the issues above.

ANALYSIS

At Council's direction, staff addressed the following issues:

1) Diversion Goals By Sector

While IWM is committed to maximizing diversion in all sectors, staff has not assigned diversion targets to specific sectors in order to allow flexibility in directing resources to achieve the City's overall diversion goals. Currently, IWM is focusing on increasing diversion in the multi-family dwelling and commercial sectors, as this is where the largest diversion increase is feasible.

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2) Competition (Changes in italics)

Policy: Exclusive solid waste collection contracts will be subject to *periodic* solicitations to maximize the number of potential vendors so as to ensure competitive costs and excellent customer service.

Historically, the IWM policies have included a provision for solicitations at least every ten years, consistent with the useful life-span of collection equipment and the associated amortization thereof. The strict ten year requirement has now been eliminated to allow for greater flexibility in setting the terms of collection contracts. As with the last Request For Proposal for residential collection contracts, staff will determine the appropriate intervals for solicitations by considering changes in the industry, changes in solid waste collection technology, and the City's ability to realize the greatest return on its investment in terms of cost, customer service and diversion.

3) Linkage to Sustainable City Goals

Policy: In recognition of the California Integrated Waste Management Act and the City's Waste Reduction Strategy *and Sustainable City Major Strategy*, the City has a goal to divert as much municipal solid waste from landfills as is technically and economically feasible. Specifically, a goal of a minimum of 50 percent waste diversion has been set for the year 2000 and beyond.

The Sustainable City Major Strategy defines a sustainable city as "...a city designed, constructed and operated to minimize waste, efficiently use its natural resources and to manage and conserve them for the use of present and future generations." The City's minimum of 50 percent waste diversion goal represents its commitment to manage and conserve natural resources for future generations.

4) Promotion of Green Building

Policy: The City will encourage, when economically feasible, the use of recovered materials in local manufacturing *and construction, such as the use of recycled building materials.*

Again, consistent with the Sustainable City Policy, the City will demonstrate its leadership in promoting environmentally friendly building practices in the development of its own infrastructure and in the local community.

5) Scavenging

Scavenging is an issue as it may undermine efforts by the City's contractors to collect recyclable materials from their customers and to realize revenues as a result of doing so. However, it is a difficult societal and legal matter that is beyond the scope of this policy document.

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Staff will continue to design its programs and contract agreements with features that minimize the opportunity for scavenging, while preserving the system's overall efficiencies.

The entire revised policy document has been updated to incorporate the Committee's comments and is attached for review.

COORDINATION

This memorandum has been coordinated with the City Attorney's Office.



CARL W. MOSHER

Director

Environmental Services Department

Attachments (Revised Policies)

CITY OF SAN JOSE INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT POLICY DOCUMENT

THIS DOCUMENT PROVIDES A FRAMEWORK FOR THE CITY'S SOLID WASTE PROGRAM. THESE POLICIES ARE CONSISTENT WITH, AND SUPPORTED BY, THE SAN JOSE MUNICIPAL CODE.

GENERAL POLICIES

- In recognition of the California Integrated Waste Management Act and the City's Waste Reduction Strategy and Sustainable City Major Strategy, the City has a goal to divert as much municipal solid waste from landfills as is technically and economically feasible. Specifically, a goal of a minimum of 50 percent waste diversion has been set for the year 2000 and beyond.
- The City's approach to integrated waste management will follow the State-established hierarchy which places an emphasis on implementing all feasible waste reduction, recycling, and composting waste diversion programs while continuing to landfill waste that cannot be addressed by those diversion strategies.
- The City considers solid waste a recoverable resource and will pursue an active course toward the reuse, recycling, and recovery of waste.
- The City will endeavor to make recycling services accessible to all City residents and businesses.
- Incentives will be used where appropriate to encourage waste generators and collectors to minimize waste and foster waste reduction, recycling and composting practices.
- Local landfill space will be utilized in such a way as to preserve current and future capacity and avoid more costly disposal options.
- Solid waste diversion programs will be provided on a cost-recovery basis.
- The City will demonstrate its commitment to achieving its solid waste diversion goals by instituting waste reduction, recycling, and buy-recycled practices at all City facilities and public areas within its jurisdiction.

CONTRACTED COLLECTION SERVICES

- The City will consider cost, customer service, and diversion in the selection of solid waste collection contractors.
- Performance standards and incentives will be included in solid waste collection contracts to ensure (1) that contractors are responsive and provide a high quality of service to their

customers, (2) fiscal accountability of contractors, and (3) sufficient and accurate data is provided to the City to evaluate program and contractor performance.

- Exclusive solid waste collection contracts will be subjected to periodic solicitations to maximize the number of potential vendors so as to ensure competitive costs and excellent customer service.
- The City will divide its residential service area into collection districts to encourage participation by the greatest number of proposers.
- In pursuit of its solid waste diversion goals, the City will attempt, to the maximum extent feasible, to maintain a market-driven, non-exclusive solid waste system in the commercial sector.

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

- The City will encourage infrastructure development in order to stimulate markets for recovered waste materials.
- The City will encourage the establishment of private recycling and processing operations in the region.
- The City will encourage, when economically feasible, the use of recovered materials in local manufacturing and construction, such as the use of recycled building materials.

PUBLIC EDUCATION

- The City will provide educational materials/programs for the people who live and work in San José about the solid waste services that are offered here.
- Public education and technical assistance will be used to encourage waste reduction, composting and recycling, as well as the proper disposal of household hazardous waste.
- Public education activities will be tailored to the specific requirements of target audiences.