



COUNCIL AGENDA: 11-9-04

ITEM: 2.5

# Memorandum

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR AND  
CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Carl W. Mosher

**SUBJECT:** SEE BELOW

**DATE:** 11-4-04

Approved

Date

11-5-04

COUNCIL DISTRICT: City-Wide

**SUBJECT:** ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE CALIFORNIA INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD, REUSE ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM

## RECOMMENDATION

Adoption of a resolution authorizing the Director of the Environmental Services Department (ESD) to submit an application to the California Integrated Waste Management Board, Reuse Assistance Grant Program, in the amount of \$43,900 for the purpose of supporting recycling programs in San Jose Public Schools, to accept the grant on behalf of the City, and to execute the documents necessary to implement the grant.

## BACKGROUND

The Resource Area For Teachers (RAFT) is a local non-profit organization that provides surplus materials donated by local businesses to teachers and other non-profits for classroom use. RAFT also provides an extensive training program to educate teachers on ways to use these materials for immediate implementation in their curricula.

In Fiscal Year 2003-04, RAFT provided materials to 3,400 San José teachers, from 567 educational institutions serving over 316,000 students. San José has the largest number of participating teachers of any city in the Bay Area. During the same period, 350 San Jose businesses donated approximately 1,100 cubic yards of materials, such as plastics, textiles, and computers. RAFT's program contributes to reducing the amount of solid waste going directly to local landfills through their innovative reuse strategies. They provide a vital connection between businesses and educators by offering reusable materials to make students' learning interactive and memorable.

RAFT has been receiving funds from the Integrated Waste Management Fund to support its recycling and reuse efforts since FY 1999-00. These funds were used as the local match for a Reuse Assistance Grant to the City from the California Integrated Waste Management Board in FY 2001-02.

The grant funding supported RAFT's outreach program to businesses and paid for discounted RAFT memberships for teachers. The grant contract was successfully completed, with substantial growth in donation of surplus materials and teacher memberships.

### ANALYSIS

The State announced a new Reuse Assistance Grant cycle in August 2004, with \$250,000 available statewide, an individual grant limit of \$50,000, and a 100 per cent matching funds requirement. RAFT was the only potential partner to propose an eligible project and prepare a draft application, which they submitted to ESD on October 25, 2004. ESD submitted an application by the State's October 29, 2004, deadline, but must also submit a Council resolution specific to this application by November 12, 2004.

RAFT's proposed project will divert a wide variety of reusable materials from disposal. The grant funding will be used to promote the activities of RAFT to both businesses and teachers. The project is designed to solicit ongoing donations of reusable materials (including paper products, labels, wood trimmings, metal parts, assorted plastics, other manufacturing discards, and used computers) for use by teachers in math, science and art projects. Letters supporting the grant proposal were received from Agilent Technologies, Applied Materials, Cadence Design Systems, Hewlett-Packard Company, and National Semiconductor, all of whom donate surplus materials to RAFT.

During the course of this project, an effort will be made to coordinate donor outreach with other non-profit reuse organizations, some of which are interested in higher-volume materials unsuitable for classroom use. Examples of such materials are surplus food, building materials, office furniture, and electronic equipment other than useable computers.

In addition, the funding will again be used to promote RAFT membership by providing discounts to teachers. RAFT will report on its activities to the City and City staff will submit progress reports and invoices to the State.

### PUBLIC OUTREACH

The California Integrated Waste Management Board announced the current Reuse Assistance Grant cycle in August 2004, sending post cards and emailing notices to all cities and counties, as well as to other interested parties. The availability of the grant was also noticed on the Board's

website. City staff announced the grant cycle at meetings of the Technical Advisory Committee of the Santa Clara County Recycling and Waste Reduction Commission.

**COORDINATION**

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

**COST IMPLICATIONS**

While the grant application requires matching funds, the City of San Jose is currently providing RAFT with \$43,900 in FY 2004-05. This funding will be referenced in the grant application to demonstrate matching funding. Staff will also identify \$400 of already budgeted staff time needed to prepare and submit periodic reports as in-kind matching funds. This proposal is consistent with the Mayor's directions to work with public-private partnerships to deliver services and reduce costs and to leverage resources. There are no additional cost implications.

**BUDGET REFERENCE**

Fund #	Appn #	Appn. Name	RC #	Total Appn.	Amt. for Contract	2004-2005 Adopted Operating Budget	Last Budget Action (Date, Ord. No.)
423	0762	Non-Personal/ Equipment	500580	\$3,074,589	N/A	Page VIII - 50	N/A

**CEQA**

Not a project.



CARL W. MOSHER  
Director, Environmental Services Department