



To: Board of Supervisors  
From: Birgitta E. Corsello, County Administrator  
Date: April 7, 2016  
Subject: Significant Issues Update

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### **1) County Administrator's Update on Contracts**

The County Administrator signed the following contracts of significance since the last Significant Issues update:

- Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health, a contract amendment with Shannon Hurlburt, to help manage the County's Strategic National Stockpile local program and the local antibiotic and antiviral cache, \$12,997, in addition to the \$33,666 original contract amount, totaling \$46,643, from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016.

### **2) Status Update: Local Agency Management Program (LAMP) for Onsite Water Treatment Systems**

Solano County currently implements a comprehensive permitting and inspection program for onsite wastewater treatment systems (OWTS), also known as septic systems, by ensuring compliance with the requirements contained in Solano County Code, Chapter 6.4. These local requirements protect public health and the environment, while allowing development to occur utilizing OWTS for sewage disposal.

On June 19, 2012, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) adopted the Water Quality Control Policy for Siting, Design, Operation, and Maintenance of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS Policy). The OWTS Policy establishes a statewide, risk-based, tiered approach for the regulation and management of OWTS installations and replacements, and sets the level of performance and protection expected from OWTS.

As a result of the OWTS Policy local Solano County code requirements can only be implemented after May 13, 2018 if they are incorporated into a Local Agency Management Program (LAMP) approved by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board with concurrence by the San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Without an approved LAMP, the County will only be authorized to issue permits for OWTS meeting the prescriptive statewide standards contained in the OWTS Policy. This would likely increase costs to property owners and could limit development because many OWTS designs would not meet the prescriptive statewide standards resulting in referral directly to the Central Valley or San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board for approval.

On May 6, 2014, the Board of Supervisors authorized the Director of Resource Management to execute all applications and documents required to apply for and implement a LAMP. Since that time, the

Department has been working with the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board on details to include in the application package.

On March 10, 2016, the Department of Resource Management submitted the LAMP application package describing the existing Solano County OWTS program to both Regional Water Quality Control Boards. The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board has 90 days to inform the County if additional information is required and has up to one year to approve the Solano County LAMP at a publicly noticed meeting.

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### **3) Update on Garbage, Recyclable, and Green Waste Collection Services in the Unincorporated Areas of Solano County**

In November 2014, the Board of Supervisors approved amendments to the service agreements with Recology Vacaville Solano (Recology) and Solano Garbage Company (SGC) to extend the terms by ten years from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2024 for garbage, recyclable, and green waste collection services in the majority of the unincorporated areas of the County. In March 2015, the Board approved a new service agreement with Rio Vista Sanitation Service (RVSS) for the same term and services in the unincorporated areas in Rio Vista.

The data collected and illustrated in the tables and chart below show the initial annual (2015) results of the new diversion benchmarks and new, additional services offered to customers. This data will continue to be tracked and evaluated annually to determine the progress towards improving customer recycling behavior, reduction of waste from neighborhoods, and customer satisfaction. Overall, these first-year results are positive, especially in the unincorporated area of Vallejo, where recycling improved and the tonnage of waste removed through the use of the free landfill passes increased substantially. It is anticipated that with the continued, required community outreach and promotion of these services, from both the service providers and the County, future data will continue to show improvement.

#### **New recycling and diversion goal benchmarks**

This benchmark was established to measure and evaluate progress towards improving customers' recycling behavior. The ratio used is the calculation of the tonnage of solid waste collected to the tonnage of recyclable and green/organic waste collected. Prior years' data from each service provider was used to establish the initial 2015 annual benchmark with a 6% decrease each year thereafter (3% less solid waste should equate to 3% more recyclables for a net change of 6%). A 2:1 ratio would mean there is twice as much solid waste tonnage being collected as recyclables/green/organic waste, so a decreasing ratio is a result of more recycling and diversion.

<b>Area - Service Provider</b>	<b>2015 Diversion Benchmark Ratio</b>	<b>2015 Actual Ratio</b>	<b>Benchmark Achieved*</b>
Vacaville/Dixon - Recology	3.24:1	3.24:1	Yes
Vallejo - Recology	2.5:1	1.86:1	Yes**
Fairfield/Suisun - SGC	1.31:1	1.41:1	No
Rio Vista - RVSS	3.24:1	5.79:1	No

\*If the annual benchmark is not met, then the service provider will perform community outreach efforts designed to improve customers' recycling behaviors with costs recoupable through a temporary increase in customer rates.

\*\*As part of the amendment, Recology replaced customers' 18-gallon recycling tubs with 96-gallon toters.

**New annual bulky item curbside collection**

The following table shows the number of customers who utilized this service in 2015:

Area - Service Provider	Number of Total Customers	Bulky Item Customers	Percent of Total Customers
Recology - Vacaville/Dixon	2875	84	2.92%
Recology - Vallejo	930	51	5.48%
SGC - Fairfield/Suisun	1364	51	3.74%
RVSS - Rio Vista	84	10	11.90%

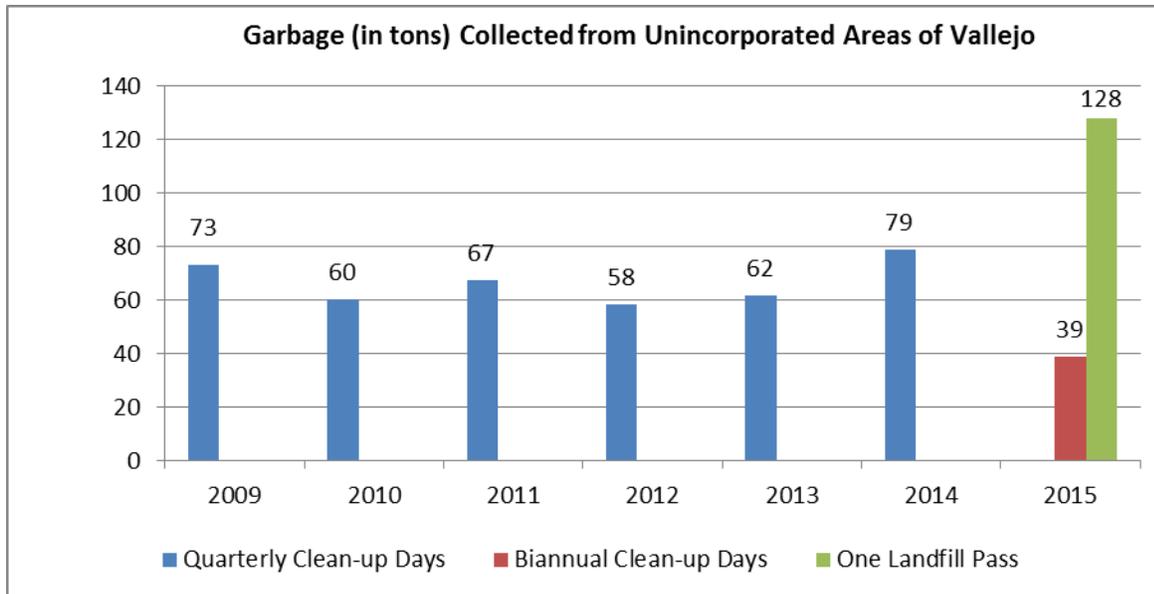
**New free landfill passes**

Customers in all unincorporated areas except Vallejo were offered up to three free landfill passes per year. Customers in Vallejo were offered one free landfill pass per year (discussed next).

Area - Service Provider	Number of Landfill Passes Available	Landfill Passes Used	Percent of Total Passes Available
Recology - Vacaville/Dixon	8625	1400	16.23%
Recology - Vallejo	930	163	17.53%
SGC - Fairfield/Suisun	4092	661	16.15%
RVSS - Rio Vista	252	26	10.32%

**New hybrid approach to the Vallejo "Clean-up" days**

For the unincorporated Vallejo area, Recology had been providing four annual clean-up days (once per quarter). New services for 2015 included offering customers one free annual landfill pass. In exchange, the clean-up days were reduced to two a year. Data collected for 2015 compared against previous years shows the success of the free landfill pass as illustrated below.



**New annual performance measures to gauge customer satisfaction with liquidated damages for failure to perform**

In order to meet this performance measure, the total number of complaints unresolved by the service provider and received by the County must be no more than 5% of the service provider's total customers.

No complaints were received by the County in 2015.

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**4) Workforce Investment Board of Solano County Awarded SlingShot Grant from the California Workforce Development Board**

The Workforce Investment Board (WIB) of Solano County along with five other North Bay counties were recently awarded a \$1M SlingShot grant from the California Workforce Development Board (CWDB) to improve workforce development programs and income mobility in the region. The CWDB has dedicated funding through the SlingShot grant initiative to seed collaborative efforts by employers, industry, government, workforce and economic development, and education stakeholders within regions throughout California to identify and then work to solve business challenges.

The WIB of Solano County applied for a CWDB SlingShot grant as a member of a five county collaborative of workforce development agencies called the North Bay Employment Connection (NBEC). The NBEC collaborative includes the Solano, Napa-Lake, Marin, Sonoma, and Mendocino County Workforce Development Boards; and together these agencies are dedicated to connecting businesses with skilled workers, and equipping job seekers with the tools needed for today's challenging careers.

NBEC applied last year for a CWDB SlingShot grant in order to strengthen regional economic prosperity and improve income mobility by creating stronger relationships between businesses and community partners within the region's key industries. To accomplish this NBEC will utilize the SlingShot grant to create innovative and fundamental changes with how industry engagement occurs to better design and implement workforce programs. The NBEC SlingShot Alliance will focus on engaging industry representatives to foster "Business Champions" and create Industry Sector Partnerships, which will advise community partners on specific industry workforce trends and demands.

NBEC identified priority industries within the five-county region for the SlingShot grant initiative which include manufacturing, healthcare, agriculture, hospitality/tourism, professional/technical services, and the government/public sector. Within the five NBEC subregions each county will have a unique industry focus, and here in Solano County community partners will be engaging the healthcare and manufacturing industries. Each region aims to launch Industry Sector Partnerships and train Sector Specialist to help connect job seekers with employment opportunities and inform community partners of specific industry needs.

"This SlingShot grant will provide the Solano WIB an opportunity to support industry growth in the North Bay, and help move the needle on income mobility to create good jobs and family-sustaining wages."  
-Robert Bloom, Executive Director, Workforce Investment Board of Solano County

The ultimate goal of the NBEC SlingShot initiative coined the "North Bay Business Sector Alliance" is to ensure that local businesses have the resources and support needed to grow and offer good jobs in the region, and job seekers are prepared to access those opportunities, resulting in an increased regional prosperity for the entire community.

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## **5) Workforce Investment Board of Solano County Hosts Regional Career Fair on April 7, 2016**

The Workforce Investment Board (WIB) of Solano County is set to host the Spring 2016 Regional Career Fair on Thursday, April 7th from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. The event will again take place at the University of Phoenix – Fairfield Campus located at 5253 Business Center Drive. The WIB has been hosting Regional Career Fairs for the past 12 years and the University of Phoenix has served as co-host for the last 11 years.

This remains a no-cost event and is open to the general public. Over 600 job seekers attended the October 2015 Fall Career Fair. One of the unique characteristics of this Regional Career Fair is that employers must be actively recruiting for open positions in order to participate. Employer outreach is underway and staff expects 95 to 100 employers will be attending the event.

In addition to several other business and community sponsors, the WIB is pleased to announce that Alpha Media's 95.3KUIC, 101.7KKIQ, and KKDV 92.1 radio is again serving as the Premier Sponsor of the April 7th Regional Career Fair.

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## **6) Update: 2016 Solano County United Way Giving Campaign**

Solano County has been participating in an annual charity campaign to raise funds in support of the United Way of the Bay Area and their mission to cut Bay Area poverty in half by the year 2020. At the close of the 2015 "Live United" campaign period, Solano County employees raised \$40,991.

An estimated one in four Bay Area residents lives in poverty and struggle to meet basic needs. The United Way of the Bay Area supports these individuals and families in Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo and Solano Counties. Services are aimed at ending the cycle of poverty through programs that provide education in financial stability, basic needs assistance, and family support and job opportunities.

Within the last year, the United Way tackled Solano County poverty through programs such as 'SparkPoint Community Schools', which provides mental health counseling, academic enrichment, and financial coaching and food pantries. The 'Earn It! Keep It! Save It!' program assisted with 4,920 free tax filings, resulting in \$4 million returned back to Solano County residents. Lastly, the '211 Helpline' answered 10,222 calls from the local community and connected individuals to food, shelter and other vital services.

The Solano County "Live United" campaign ran from December 7, 2015 to December 18, 2015, and was coordinated by Megan Richards and Christiana Lewis with First 5 Solano. County-wide efforts resulted in an average donation of \$14 per employee. Special thanks to the department team leaders listed below:

- Sharon Garrett, Agriculture
- Kathy Dossa, Assessor/Recorder
- Rosalyn Mendoza, Auditor/Controller
- Christiana Lewis, Board of Supervisors/CAO/First 5 Solano

- Dennis Bunting, County Counsel
- Diana Jaramillo, Department of Child Support Services
- Beth Lancaster, Department of Information Technology
- Elaine Pulido, District Attorney/OFVP
- Michelle Offermann, General Services
- Monica Fong, Angelica Vaca, Grace Quejado, Margie Harris, Lucy McNeil, and Terry Boucher, Health and Social Services
- Jose Penalzoza, Human Resources
- Tamie Tvrdik and Cathy Perez, Library
- Maggie Luna, Probation
- Roberta Flannel and Michi Yamamoto, Public Defender & Alt. Public Defender
- Eva Rivera, Resource Management
- Pamela Stonsby, Sheriff/Coroner
- Ted Puntillo, Veterans Services

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