

Department of Public Works



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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DIRECTOR

October 1, 2010

**To: Property Owners in the Unincorporated Areas of the County of San Mateo
(Burlingame to Menlo Park)**

Re: New Garbage and Recycling Collection Service beginning on January 1, 2011

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the important changes in the waste, recycling, and compostable collection services that will begin in your area on January 1, 2011 as a result of a new franchise agreement between the County of San Mateo and Recology San Mateo County (Recology). New garbage and recycling carts and bins are currently being distributed to customers in advance of Recology becoming your new service provider.

Change in Collection Service Provider and Program Benefits:

Recology will begin providing collection services to your property beginning January 1, 2011. Recology will collect garbage, recyclables, and compostable materials curbside with the use of automated collection trucks. The new service requires that customers place their carts at the curb or edge of road for collection or pay additional fees to continue with backyard collection service. The franchise agreement provides for the following processes and collection service benefits:

- Weekly automated collection of recyclable materials, compostable materials (food scraps and yard trimmings), and garbage
- Easy-to-use color-coded wheeled carts
- Collection of single stream recyclables
- Annual public rate reviews by industry experts to provide rate stabilization
- New energy-efficient, cleaner emissions fleet

The Department of Public Works will be recommending collection service rates to the Board of Supervisors in the near future and each property owner will be notified of the proposed rates and the time and place of the public hearing at which the Board will consider approval of the rates. Recology will be responsible for billing customers based on the established rates.

We have provided website and contact information below if you wish to learn more about the new collection services. The websites include videos describing the new collection services, a comparison of the current vs. new collection services, dates of the carts and kitchen pails distribution, dates for upcoming public meetings to share information about the new collection services, and other important information about recycling, reuse, and garbage. We encourage you to review these websites or contact the agencies listed below to learn more about the new collection service and the additional options you will have for reducing your waste through recycling and reuse.

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Re: New Garbage and Recycling Collection Service beginning on January 1, 2011
October 1, 2010

Page 2

New Collection Services Websites and Contact Information	
Recology San Mateo County	www.RecologySanMateoCounty.com (650) 595-3900
SBWMA	http://www.rethinkwaste.org (650) 802-3500
County of San Mateo, Department of Public Works - RecycleWorks	www.RecycleWorks.org 1-(888) 442-2666

South Bayside Waste Management Authority

The South Bayside Waste Management Authority (SBWMA) is comprised of 12 member agencies: Atherton, Belmont, Burlingame, East Palo Alto, Foster City, Hillsborough, Menlo Park, Redwood City, San Carlos, the City of San Mateo, the County of San Mateo, and the West Bay Sanitary District. The County's previous participation had primarily been for garbage and recycling collection services in the North Fair Oaks Area (County Service Area No. 8 – [CSA8]). Each member agency currently has its own franchise agreement with Allied Waste (formerly BFI) for collection services within their jurisdictions; and SBWMA provides coordinated waste management related staff services to member agencies including rate review and recycling program services. The current franchise agreements with Allied Waste will expire on December 31, 2010 and new franchise agreements have been executed with the new service provider, Recology.

Franchised and Non-Franchised Areas

Currently the unincorporated areas in the SBWMA service area, with the exception of areas in the CSA8 and the West Bay Sanitary District (i.e., West Menlo Park, Menlo Oaks, and Ladera), are not covered by a franchise agreement. These areas include: Burlingame Hills, San Mateo Highlands and Baywood Park (Crystal Springs area), Peninsula Golf Club, Harbor Industrial, Devonshire Canyon, Palomar Park, Oak Knoll, Kensington Square, Emerald Lake Hills, Sequoia Tract, and Trailer Ranchero.

Property owners in the unincorporated non-franchised areas have been charged garbage rates that were set by the service provider. However, beginning in 2006, Allied Waste began imposing additional fees on customers in the unincorporated areas (except CSA8). The County had no control over and could not eliminate the added fees because there was no franchise agreement in place. It was clear from the feedback that we received from residents that they preferred establishing a franchise agreement in their areas to take advantage of the new services being offered from Recology and have greater predictability of their garbage rates.

With the impending expiration of the franchise agreements between the SBWMA member agencies and Allied Waste, SBWMA initiated a contractor selection process on behalf of the member agencies, which resulted in selection of a collection service provider that would meet the established minimum level of service requirements.

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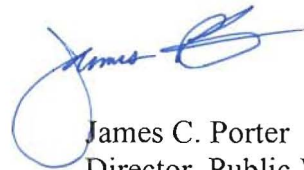
Re: New Garbage and Recycling Collection Service beginning on January 1, 2011
October 1, 2010

Page 3

The Department of Public Works notified all known Homeowner Associations and Advisory Agencies within the non-franchised SBWMA service area of the criteria that would be used to determine level of garbage, recycling, and organic material collection services that would be provided in their area either by a franchise agreement or without a franchise agreement. On October 20, 2009, the Board of Supervisors approved a 10-year franchise agreement with Recology to provide collection services to all properties within the unincorporated areas not currently covered by a franchise agreement that are within the SBWMA service area. Your property is located within this area.

We look forward to working with you and providing you with the information you need during this collection service transition.

Very truly yours,



James C. Porter
Director, Public Works

JCP:AMS:JAL:LC:sdd

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F:\users\ewms\03 Program Files\Unincorporated\New County Franchised Area Info\ResCommLtr091010.doc

F-351 (40D)

cc: Members, Board of Supervisors, County of San Mateo
Mr. Kevin McCarthy, Executive Director, South Bayside Waste Management Authority
Peggy Jensen, Deputy County Manager
Dean Peterson, Director, Environmental Health
Brian J. Wong, Deputy County Counsel
Ann M. Stillman, Deputy Director, Engineering, Design & Environmental Protection
Joe La Mariana, Manager, Waste Management and Environmental Services
Lillian Clark, Resource Conservation Program Manager