


**MEMORANDUM  
WESTERN PLACER WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**

TO: **WPWMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS** DATE: **MARCH 14, 2019**  
FROM: **KEN GREHM / ERIC ODDO**   
SUBJECT: **WASTE ACTION PLAN NOTICE OF PREPARATION**

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Approve the Renewable Placer: Waste Action Plan Notice of Preparation (NOP) and authorize staff to issue the NOP in accordance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

**BACKGROUND:**

Over the past two years, staff and Jacobs have engaged in a master planning process (Renewable Placer: Waste Action Plan) resulting in analysis and development of potential reconfigurations of the WPWMA's properties to meet the long-term solid waste needs of the WPWMA and its Member Agencies. As a result of the Waste Action Plan process, two facility site layout plan (Plan) concepts were developed that staff believes best meet the WPWMA's goals. At the December 13, 2018 meeting, your Board authorized staff to initiate environmental review of both Plan concepts as equal weight alternatives.

In accordance with CEQA, the WPWMA is required to prepare and issue an NOP as the first step in the environmental impact report (EIR) development process. The NOP is intended to notify the appropriate agencies and other interested parties that the WPWMA is initiating an EIR process and afford them the opportunity to provide comments on significant environmental issues, reasonable alternatives, and possible mitigation measures that the WPWMA should address in its EIR. At a minimum, the NOP is required to include a brief description of the proposed project, the location of the proposed project with applicable maps, and the probable environmental effects of the proposed project.

WPWMA and Jacobs staff developed a draft NOP which was presented to, and discussed with, the Member Agency Advisory Committee. Following input from this group, Jacobs revised the draft NOP which is provided in Attachment B for your Board's consideration. Once approved by your Board, staff will post the NOP on a website set up by the WPWMA specifically for the Waste Action Plan EIR process ([www.renewableplacer.com](http://www.renewableplacer.com)) and will issue the NOP to the agencies and interested parties (via certified mail) identified in Attachment A.

Staff has tentatively scheduled release of the NOP for Friday March 15, 2019 (pending your Board's approval of the NOP) for a 30-day review and comment period. Additionally, staff will be conducting a public Scoping Meeting to discuss the proposed project and EIR process on Monday April 1, 2019 at 6:00 pm at the WPWMA's Administrative Offices.

ATTACHMENT: ATTACHMENT A – NOP RECIPIENT LIST  
ATTACHMENT B – NOTICE OF PREPARATION

Entities who will receive a copy of the WPWMA's Waste Action Plan NOP:

- California Office of Planning and Research
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- City of Roseville
- City of Lincoln
- City of Auburn
- Town of Loomis
- Placer County Air Pollution Control District
- CalRecycle
- Placer County Environmental Health
- AKT Development Corp.
- Placer Athens Limited Partnership
- Native Plant Society
- Alliance for Environmental Leadership
- Army Corp of Engineers
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- City of Rocklin
- County of Placer
- City of Colfax
- Pioneer Energy
- Regional Water Quality Control Board
- Department of Toxic Substances Control
- Placer Ranch, Inc.
- United Auburn Indian Community
- Sierra Club
- Audubon Society
- Representatives of the Roseville Collation of Neighborhood Associations as well as the Blue Oaks, Westpark, Fiddymment Farms, Amoruso, Whitney Ranch, and Lincoln Crossing neighborhoods

## NOTICE OF PREPARATION

**DATE:** March 15, 2019

**TO:** Agencies and Interested Parties

**FROM:** Western Placer Waste Management Authority

**SUBJECT:** Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Renewable Placer: Waste Action Plan

**REVIEW PERIOD:** March 15, 2019 to April 15, 2019

The Western Placer Waste Management Authority (WPWMA) is the lead agency and will prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Renewable Placer: Waste Action Plan (proposed project), which is described in detail below. In compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code [PRC] Section 21000 et seq.), WPWMA is distributing this Notice of Preparation (NOP) to the Office of Planning and Research, each responsible agency, interested parties, and federal agencies involved in approving the project, and to trustee agencies responsible for natural resources affected by the project.

### PURPOSE OF THIS NOTICE OF PREPARATION

In accordance with the State CEQA Guidelines (14 California Code of Regulations [CCR] Section 15082), WPWMA has prepared this NOP to inform agencies and interested parties that an EIR will be prepared for the proposed project. The purpose of an NOP is to provide sufficient information about the proposed project and its potential environmental impacts to allow agencies and interested parties the opportunity to provide a meaningful response related to the scope and content of the EIR, including mitigation measures that should be considered and alternatives that should be addressed (State CEQA Guidelines 14 CCR Section 15082[b]).

### PROJECT BACKGROUND

The WPWMA is a regional authority established in 1978 through a joint exercise of powers agreement between Placer County and the cities of Lincoln, Rocklin, and Roseville (Member Agencies) to own, operate and maintain a sanitary landfill and all related improvements. Member Agencies are provided with solid waste recycling, recovery, and disposal services at WPWMA facilities, which consist of the Western Regional Sanitary Landfill and a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) that includes composting, household hazardous waste acceptance, and recycling and buyback facilities. In addition, the WPWMA leases approximately 15,000 square feet of land and delivers landfill gas to a private company to operate a landfill gas-to-energy plant for the purposes of generating electricity.

The WPWMA also provides solid waste services to the cities of Auburn and Colfax and the Town of Loomis; these entities and the Member Agencies are collectively referred to as Participating Agencies. The WPWMA's current facility provides the majority of solid waste and recycling services to the Participating Agencies.

WPWMA's facilities have adapted over the years to support evolving community needs, and today include Placer County's only active landfill. Since its inception, the WPWMA has planned for the future of its Participating Agencies, including: constructing the MRF in 1995 and expanding it in 2007 to assist jurisdictions in complying with state recycling mandates; purchasing the western and eastern adjacent properties for potential future solid waste management operations and conducting early CEQA review of the western property for landfilling; expanding the composting area capacity in 2011 to accommodate increased green waste material produced in the region; providing facility access for new and emerging solid waste conversion technology pilot studies; and partnering with a local university to promote research and development opportunities.

Placer County is the second fastest growing county in California and its population is expected to nearly double in the next 30 years according to California State Department of Finance, Population Projects for California and Its Counties 2000-2050 (July 2007). In addition to projected population increases, Placer County jurisdictions are

seeking ways to respond to simultaneous restrictions in global recycling markets and increasingly stringent state-mandated limitations on materials that can be placed in California's landfills.

In 2015, the WPWMA initiated a master planning effort identified as Renewable Placer: Waste Action Plan (Waste Action Plan). The Waste Action Plan is being developed to identify the physical and operational changes needed to WPWMA facilities and operations to ensure that the WPWMA's facilities support future waste management and recycling needs for the rapidly growing communities it serves while complying with an increasingly complex regulatory environment. The Waste Action Plan is also being developed to maintain a stable cost structure for Participating Agencies, to improve operational efficiencies and customer safety, and to enhance compatibility between ongoing operations and current and future adjacent land uses.

## PROJECT LOCATION

The proposed project is located on WPWMA's existing properties, generally at the intersection of Fiddymont Road and Athens Avenue (Figures 1, 2 and 3), which consist of the following, totaling approximately 928 acres:

- Approximately 155-acre eastern property, which is used for cattle grazing and is not currently permitted for solid waste operations;
- Approximately 314-acre center property, which includes the Western Regional Sanitary Landfill (WRSL) and associated solid waste infrastructure, including a public waste and recyclables drop-off area, compost area, construction and demolition (C&D) processing area, MRF, and household hazardous waste collection area; and
- Approximately 459-acre western property, a portion of which is currently leased to the City of Lincoln for discharge of reclaimed water and a portion of which is leased for model airplane operations. This property has been subject to environmental review and a Conditional Use Permit to operate a landfill has been previously granted by the Placer County Planning Commission; however, the property has not been fully permitted for waste disposal.

WPWMA's mailing address is 3013 Fiddymont Road, Roseville, CA, 95747; the project site includes the following Assessor Parcels:

Project Properties	Assessor Parcel Numbers
Western Property	021-281-001-000, 021-281-002-000, 017-062-001-000, 017-062-002-000, 017-062-003-000
Center Property	017-063-001-000, 017-063-002-000
Eastern Property	017-063-003-000

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

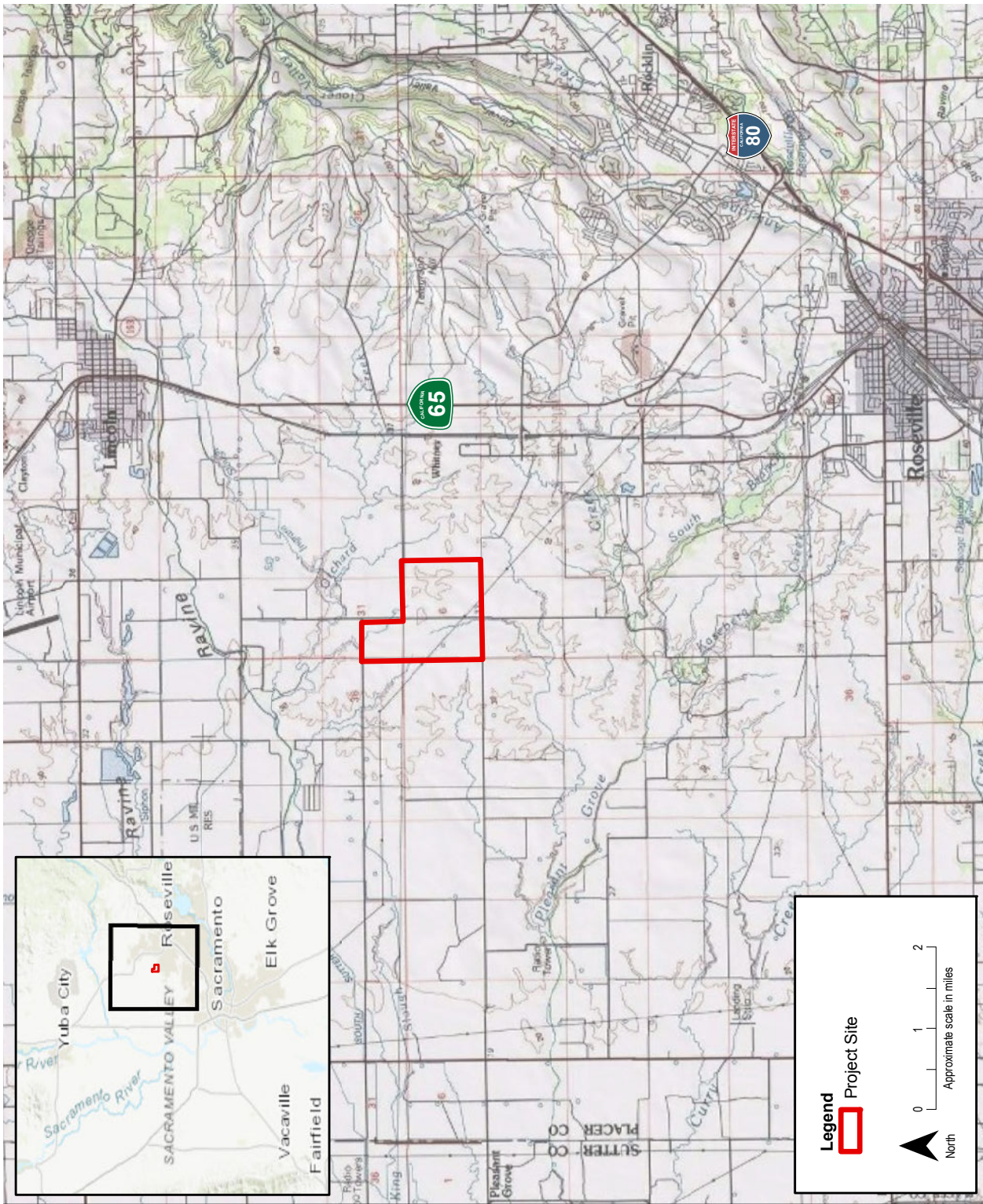
Two potential plan concepts were identified by the WPWMA for detailed analysis in the Waste Action Plan EIR. These two different approaches to implementing the Waste Action Plan, identified as Plan Concept 1 and Plan Concept 2, include similar elements but the locations and characteristics of the elements vary among the two plans. The description provided below identifies the common elements that are included in both plan concepts. These are divided into solid waste project elements, complementary/programmatic elements, and supporting elements. This summary of the project elements is followed by a description of the unique characteristics of each plan concept.

**Solid Waste Project Elements** are the project elements that are needed to continue providing solid waste management services to WPWMA's Participating Agencies in the near and long term. These project elements include the following:

- **Expanded Landfill Capacity** – The site's landfill capacity is proposed to be expanded to accommodate current and future Participating Agency solid waste disposal demands;



Figure 1. Regional Vicinity Map



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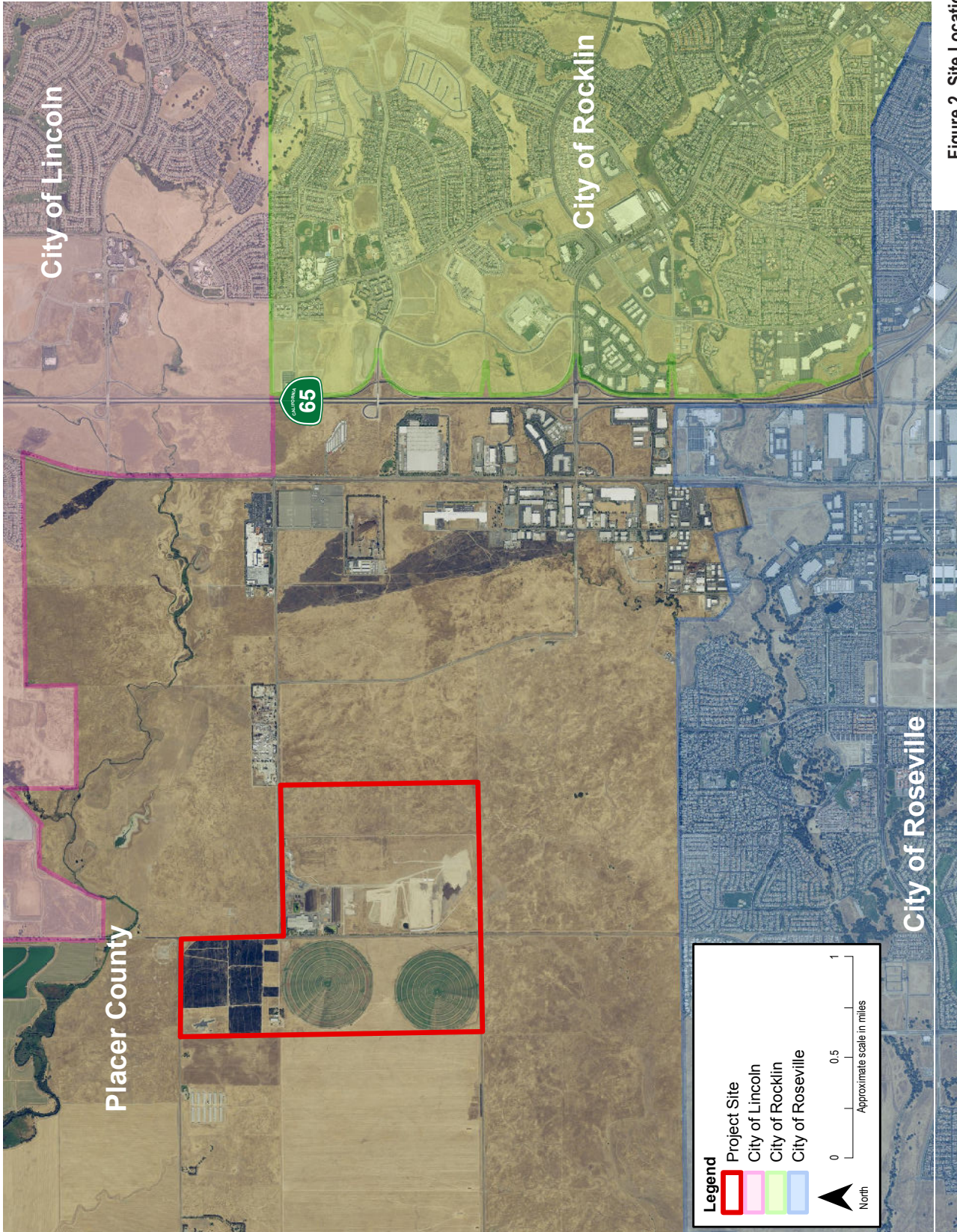


Figure 2. Site Location Map








# EXISTING SITE AND USES

## LEGEND

- (A) Composting
- (B) Stormwater Ponds
- (C) Construction and Demolition
- (D) Entrance
- (E) Scalehouse Facilities
- (F) Public Waste Drop-Off
- (G) Landfill Gas-to-Energy Plant
- (H) Materials Recovery Facility
- (I) Stormwater Management and Biological Mitigation

-  Project Boundary
-  Permitted Landfill Footprint
-  Areas Containing Other Existing Site Features

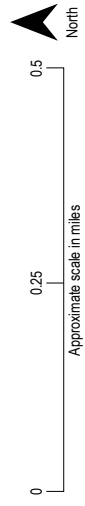
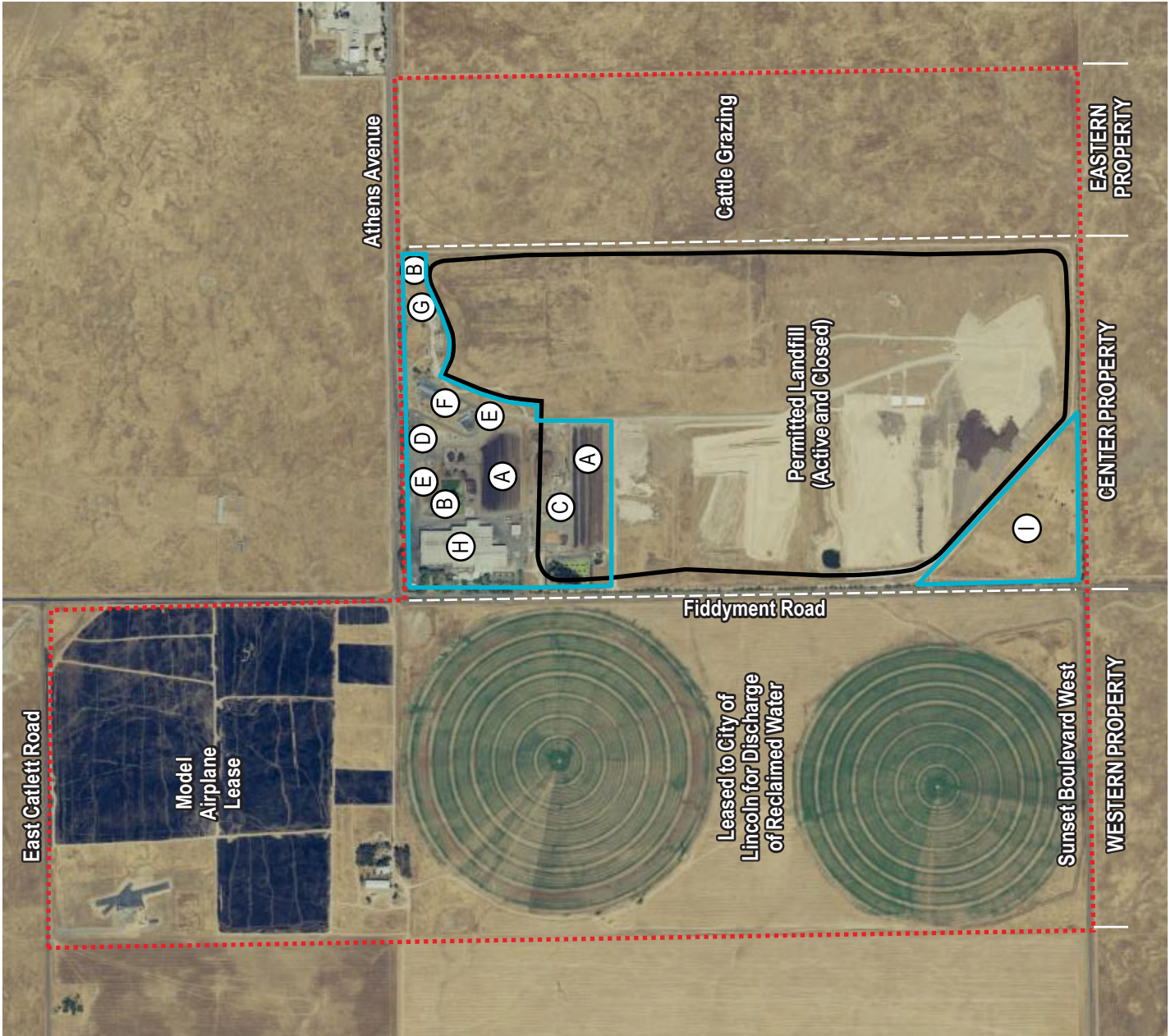


Figure 3. Existing Site and Uses



- Existing Solid Waste Excavation – Closed and pre-Subtitle D<sup>1</sup> portions of the landfill are proposed to be excavated and relocated to a Subtitle D-compliant module.
- Expanded and Redesigned Compost Operations – The compost operations are proposed to be redesigned to increase capacity to accommodate growth in the waste stream and increased organic diversion required by new compost regulations, to accept additional compostable material streams (e.g., food waste), and to improve odor control;
- Expanded and Redesigned Construction and Demolition Waste Operations – The construction and demolition waste operations are proposed to be redesigned to increase capacity to accommodate growth in the waste stream and respond to increased diversion mandates; and
- Expanded and Redesigned Public Area Operations – The public area operations are proposed to include a public waste tipping area, a material buy-back center, a household hazardous waste drop-off area, a reuse store, and an entrance kiosk with vehicle queuing lanes. The existing public area operations are proposed to be redesigned to increase capacity to accommodate population growth and associated facility use, support customer safety and convenience, and provide opportunities for increased material diversion (e.g., operation of a reuse store).

**Complementary/Programmatic Elements** are the project elements that are not specifically required to provide continued solid waste management services to Participating Agencies but that are important in achieving other project goals (e.g., create opportunities for innovation and economic growth, enhance opportunities to increase recycling and landfill waste diversion, and enhance ability to comply with regulations). These project elements include the following:

- Pilot Study Area – Space would be reserved for third parties to conduct pilot studies using materials and products from the facility and processing them in new ways or producing beneficial products including renewable energy, fuels, and marketable commodities;
- Compatible Manufacturing – Space would be reserved for third-party commercial or full-scale compatible technologies and manufacturing operations that would take materials and products from the facility and then produce beneficial products including renewable energy, fuels, and marketable commodities;
- University Research Area – Space would be reserved for university-led research using materials and products from the facility and processing them in new ways or producing beneficial products including renewable energy and marketable commodities. This could also include more general solid waste-related research to improve facility diversion, increase efficiencies, lower environmental impacts, etc.; and
- Landfill Gas (LFG) to Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Area – Space would be reserved for a potential third party or WPWMA-led facility that would convert landfill gas to compressed natural gas that could be used to fuel vehicles operated by local governments, waste hauling companies, or other private companies, or otherwise be transferred to other end users.

**Supporting Elements** are the project elements that are required to support both the solid waste project and complementary/programmatic elements. These include recovered materials storage areas, stormwater ponds, road crossings, maintenance areas, administrative buildings, parking areas, continued use of the existing MRF, a Household Hazardous Waste Facility (HHWF), and redesigned site entrances.

Solid waste project elements and supporting elements include those directly under WPWMA's control. These elements will be evaluated at a project-specific level of detail in the EIR. Complementary/programmatic elements include those that may involve third-party involvement and are not fully defined at this time. Complementary/programmatic elements will be evaluated at a program level in the EIR.

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<sup>1</sup> United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Resource Recovery and Conservation Act (RCRA) Subtitle D was promulgated in 1993 and was implemented by states to address non-hazardous solid waste disposal, including requirements for the liners of municipal solid waste landfills.



A comparison and description of Plan Concept 1 and Plan Concept 2 are provided in the following table and sections.

Plan Concept Comparison		
Plan Element	Plan Concept 1	Plan Concept 2
Expanded Landfill Capacity	Approximate doubling of waste disposal capacity	Approximate 50-percent increase of waste disposal capacity
Location of Expanded Landfill Capacity	Eastern Property	Western Property
Peak Landfill Height	325 Feet	325 Feet
Existing Solid Waste Excavation	Provides additional landfill disposal capacity on Center Property	Facilitates expansion of processing and recycling operations on Center Property
Location of Compost Operations	Western Property	Center Property
Location of Construction and Demolition Waste Operations	Center Property	Center Property
Location of Public Drop-Off Area Operations	Western Property	Center Property
Location of Complementary/Programmatic Elements	Primarily Western Property	Primarily Western and Eastern Property
Location of Supporting Elements	Primarily Center Property	Primarily Center Property

## PLAN CONCEPT 1

Plan Concept 1 is illustrated in Figure 4 and includes all of the above described elements. The following describes how these elements are proposed to be located on the project site.

**Expanded Landfill Capacity** – The expanded landfill area would be located on the eastern property, adjacent to the existing landfill, which would allow the expanded landfill to be directly connected to and build upon the existing landfill. Doing so will allow the WPWMA to best utilize available land by achieving additional landfill capacity on the smallest footprint practicable. By expanding the landfill’s footprint to the east, the landfill’s proposed peak elevation would increase to 325 feet, or approximately 30 feet above the currently permitted peak elevation of 295 feet and 129 feet above the landfill’s existing height of 196 feet (as of aerial mapping dated Jan 2, 2019). The eastern landfill expansion, when combined with the proposed excavation of the closed portions of the existing landfill, would result in the site’s total waste disposal capacity approximately doubling.

**Existing Solid Waste Excavation** – The northern closed and pre-Subtitle D-lined portions of the existing landfill are proposed to be excavated and relocated to a Subtitle D-compliant lined module to provide greater groundwater protection. This relocation of waste would also provide additional landfill disposal capacity within the excavation area.

**Expanded and Redesigned Compost Operations** – Composting operations and other organics management would be located on the western property. The composting system operations would be sized to accommodate anticipated material growth rates. Placement on the western property provides additional space, specifically allowing for expansion of composting operations as necessitated by current and anticipated future organics regulations.

**Expanded and Redesigned Construction and Demolition Waste Operations** – Expanded construction and demolition waste operations and ongoing MRF operations would remain adjacent to each other on the center property.

**Expanded and Redesigned Public Waste Drop-Off Area Operations** – The expanded public waste drop-off area would be located on the western parcel to enhance the safety and convenience of public customers by separating them from the more active commercial waste management operations.

# PLAN CONCEPT 1

## LEGEND

### Solid Waste Project Elements

- ① Current And Future Landfill
- ② Waste Excavation Area
- ③ Landfill Expansion Area
- ④ Compost Area
- ⑤ Construction & Demolition Area
- ⑥ Public Waste Drop-Off

### Complementary/Programmatic Elements

- ⑦ Compatible Manufacturing
- ⑧ Pilot Study Area
- ⑨ University Research Area
- ⑩ Landfill Gas To Compressed Natural Gas Area

### Supporting Elements

- ⑪ Recovered Materials Storage Area
- ⑫ Stormwater Ponds
- ⑬ Road Crossing
- ⑭ Maintenance Areas
- ⑮ Administrative Building Areas
- ⑯ Parking
- ⑰ Materials Recovery Facility
- ⑱ Household Hazardous Waste Facility
- ⑲ Entrances
- ⑳ Landfill Gas-to-Energy Plant

- Project Boundary
- Landfill Footprint
- Waste Excavation Area

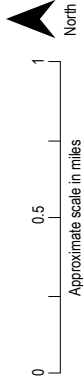


Figure 4. Plan Concept 1



**Complementary/Programmatic Elements** – The complementary/programmatic elements include compatible manufacturing, pilot study areas, university research areas, and a landfill gas to compressed natural gas area. For the compatible manufacturing and university research uses, areas have been designated in the northern and southern portions of the western property. For potential pilot studies, they are proposed to be located in these same two areas in addition to an area directly east of the MRF operations on the center property. The final element, the landfill gas to compressed natural gas area, is proposed to be located in the southern portion of the western property. Although space has been initially reserved for these elements primarily within the western property, opportunities may arise that would support locating some of these complementary/programmatic elements in closer proximity to the solid waste project elements or within areas not yet developed with solid waste project elements. Therefore, this plan concept assumes these complementary/programmatic elements could be located throughout the project site.

**Supporting Elements** – The supporting elements for this plan are primarily located in the northern portion of the center property where the majority of supporting activities currently occur. These elements include recovered materials storage areas, maintenance areas, administration buildings, facility parking, the existing MRF, the HHWF, and the existing landfill gas-to-energy plant. Within this area, the existing waste delivery entrance on Athens Avenue is proposed to be realigned to better accommodate anticipated future traffic loading. In addition, a new site entrance is proposed near the southwest corner of Athens Avenue and Fiddymment Road to provide vehicle access to the western property. Further south on Fiddymment Road, a new road crossing would be installed, consisting of either a tunnel, bridge, or conveyor system, to connect the waste operations on the center property to those proposed on the western property. Stormwater ponds are proposed to be located in multiple locations to capture stormwater runoff from site operations, including at the southern end of the eastern property, at the southwestern end of the center property, and within the central area of the western property. In addition to being located within the northern area of the center property, a maintenance area would be located in the central portion of the western property to support composting and public tipping operations. A HHWF may also be located in the public waste drop-off area on the western property to reduce the need for transport of hazardous waste received at the public waste drop-off area to the HHWF located on the center property.

## PLAN CONCEPT 2

Plan Concept 2 is illustrated in Figure 5 and includes all of the above described elements. The following describes how these elements are proposed to be located on the project site.

**Expanded Landfill Capacity** – The expanded landfill area would be located entirely on the western property, separated from the existing landfill by Fiddymment Road. Plan Concept 2 provides less landfill capacity than Plan Concept 1 due to the inability to combine the two landfill footprints. Within the center property, the landfill's peak elevation would not exceed 295 feet, the current permitted elevation, which is 99 feet greater than the landfill's existing height of 196 feet (as of aerial mapping dated Jan 2, 2019). The proposed height of the landfill expansion area on the western property would be 325 feet.

**Existing Solid Waste Excavation** – The northern closed and pre-Subtitle D-lined portions of the existing landfill are proposed to be excavated and relocated to a Subtitle D-compliant lined module to provide greater groundwater protection. The relocation would facilitate expansion of processing and recycling operations in the northern portion of the center property.

**Expanded and Redesigned Compost Operations** – Composting operations and other organics management would be located in the northern portion of the center property. The composting operations would be sized to accommodate anticipated material growth rates. The relocation of waste from the northern portion of the existing landfill would provide the additional space needed to accommodate these operations.

**Expanded and Redesigned Construction and Demolition Waste Operations** – Expanded construction and demolition waste operations would be located within the northern portion of the center property near the redesigned composting and public waste drop-off areas.

**Expanded and Redesigned Public Waste Drop-Off Area Operations** – The expanded public waste drop-off area would be located within the northern portion of the center property near the redesigned composting and construction and demolition waste operation areas. These operations would be designed to ensure they are



# PLAN CONCEPT 2

## LEGEND

### Solid Waste Project Elements

- ① Current And Future Landfill
- ② Waste Excavation Area
- ③ Landfill Expansion Area
- ④ Compost Area
- ⑤ Construction & Demolition Area
- ⑥ Public Waste Drop-Off

### Complementary/Programmatic Elements

- ⑦ Compatible Manufacturing
- ⑧ Pilot Study Area
- ⑨ University Research Area
- ⑩ Landfill Gas To Compressed Natural Gas Area

### Supporting Elements

- ⑪ Recovered Materials Storage Area
- ⑫ Stormwater Ponds
- ⑬ Road Crossing
- ⑭ Maintenance Areas
- ⑮ Administrative Building Areas
- ⑯ Parking
- ⑰ Materials Recovery Facility
- ⑱ Household Hazardous Waste Facility
- ⑲ Entrances
- ⑳ Landfill Gas-to-Energy Plant

- Project Boundary
- Landfill Footprint
- Waste Excavation Area

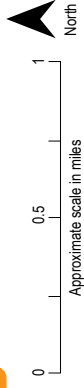
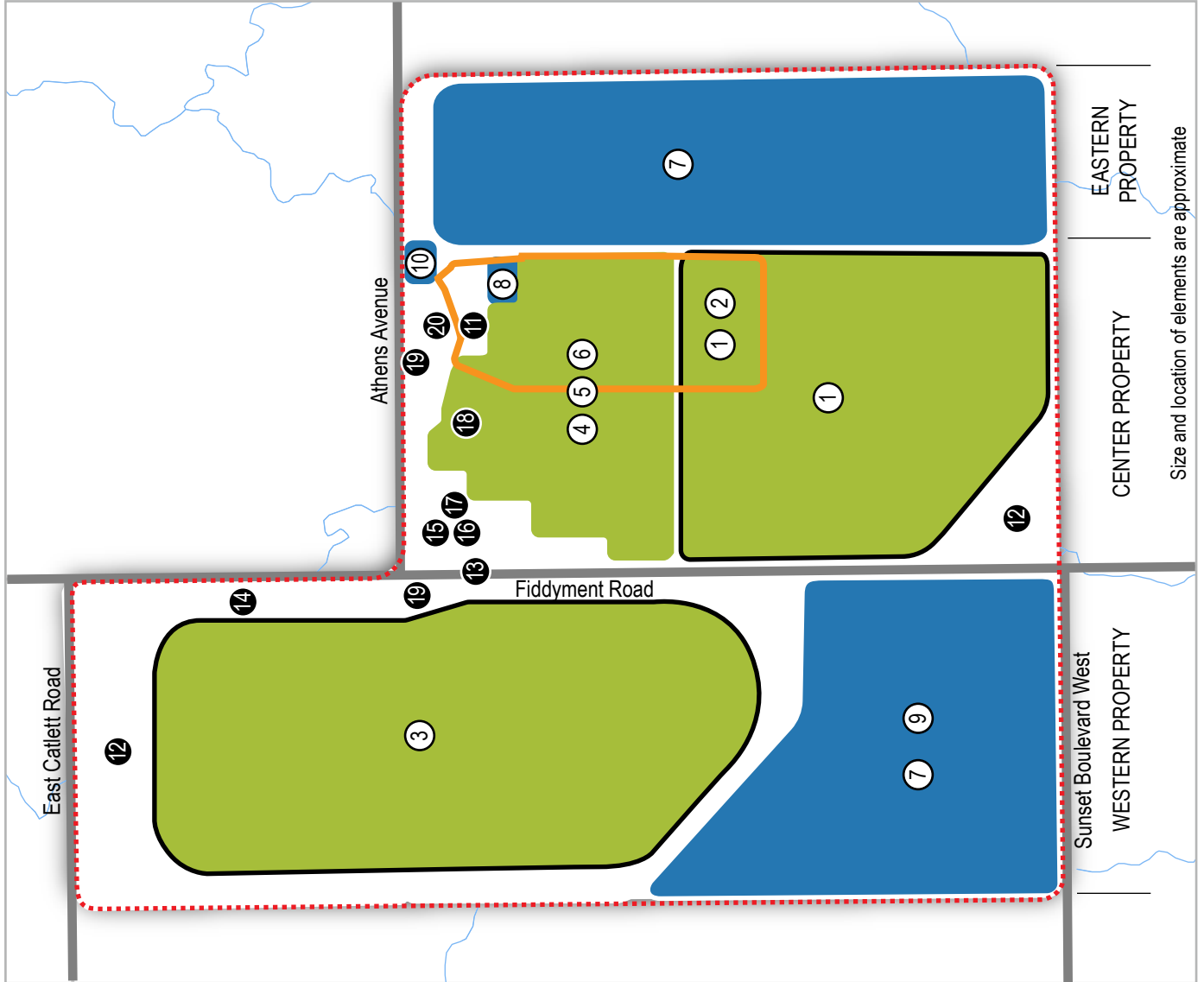


Figure 5. Plan Concept 2



separated from the other waste management operations to ensure the safety and convenience of public customers accessing the site.

**Complementary/Programmatic Elements** – The complementary/programmatic elements include compatible manufacturing, pilot study areas, university research areas, and a landfill gas to compressed natural gas area. For the compatible manufacturing uses, areas have been designated in the southern portions of the western property and on the entire eastern property. The same area in the southern portion of the western property would also be designated for university research uses. Areas for pilot studies and a landfill gas to compressed natural gas facility are designated in the northeastern portion of the center property. Although space has been initially reserved for these elements primarily within the southern portions of the western property and on the eastern property, opportunities may arise that would support locating some of these complementary/programmatic elements in closer proximity to the solid waste project elements or within areas not yet developed with solid waste project elements. Therefore, this plan concept assumes these complementary/programmatic elements could be located throughout the project site.

**Supporting Elements** – Similar to Plan Concept 1, the supporting elements for this plan are primarily located in the northern portion of the center property where the majority of supporting activities currently occur. These elements include recovery materials storage areas, administration buildings, facility parking, the existing MRF, the HHWF, and the existing landfill gas-to-energy plant. Within this area, the existing waste delivery entrance on Athens Avenue is proposed to be realigned to better accommodate waste deliveries. In addition, a new site entrance is proposed to be installed near the southwest corner of Athens Avenue and Fiddymment Road to provide vehicle access to the western property. The new road crossing identified in Plan Concept 1 on Fiddymment Road would be installed further north near the southern end of the MRF. This new road crossing would consist of either a tunnel, bridge, or conveyor system to connect the waste operations on the center property to those proposed on the western property. Stormwater ponds are proposed to be located in two locations to capture stormwater runoff from site operations, including at the northern end of the western property and at the southwestern end of the center property. A maintenance area is proposed to be located in the northern portion of the western property, directly east of the new landfill footprint on this property to support landfill-related operations.

## POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

The environmental issues to be addressed in the Draft EIR are anticipated to include the following:

- Aesthetics
- Air Quality and Odors
- Biological Resources
- Cultural and Tribal Resources
- Geology, Soils, and Paleontology
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Climate Change
- Hazards, Hazardous Materials, and Wildfire
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Noise
- Public Services
- Transportation/Traffic
- Utilities and Energy
- Other CEQA Sections, including alternatives, growth-inducing impacts, and cumulative Impacts

### Aesthetics

The project site is located within a relatively flat area at the base of the Sierra Nevada foothills. The existing Western Regional Sanitary Landfill is a prominent visual feature in the area and changes to the landfill and associated solid waste management operations anticipated with project implementation could alter the site's existing visual character.

### Air Quality and Odors

During construction of individual project elements, criteria air pollutant emissions would be temporarily and intermittently generated. Operation of the proposed project would result in air pollutant emissions from a variety of solid waste management operations and from vehicle trips generated by the project. Construction- and

operations-related emissions could adversely affect residences and businesses in the vicinity and contribute to regional emissions. Based on previous studies conducted by the WPWMA<sup>2</sup>, the dominant odor generating sources at the WPWMA's facilities include composting, daily landfill disposal operations, and fugitive emissions of landfill gas. Implementation of the proposed project could alter the source potential, intensity, and frequency of site odors. Furthermore, excavation and relocation of waste from the closed area of the existing landfill has the potential to generate odors.

### **Biological Resources**

Special-status plant or wildlife species could potentially occur on the project site. Implementation of the proposed project could result in disturbance or take of special-status species or disturbance or removal of suitable habitat for these species. Aquatic features identified in the project area include vernal pools, swales, seasonal wetlands, and ponds. The project could potentially remove, fill, or hydrologically interrupt wetlands identified on the project site and could potentially affect jurisdictional waters.

### **Cultural and Tribal Resources**

Although no known prehistoric or historic resources have been identified on the project site, excavation activities necessary to construct individual project elements have the potential to disturb unknown archaeological or tribal cultural resources.

### **Geology, Soils, and Paleontology**

The project site is situated in a relatively stable geologic province. However, soil disturbance activities associated with individual project elements could increase soil erosion or affect soil stability. Landfill expansion activities have the potential to affect seismic instability. Also, excavation activities have the potential to expose unknown paleontological resources.

### **Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Climate Change**

Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are anticipated to be generated by individual project elements during construction and operations. Emissions would be associated with vehicle trips, on-site equipment usage, increased energy demand, and ongoing and expanded solid waste operations.

### **Hazards, Hazardous Materials, and Wildfire**

The anticipated construction activities and expanded solid waste operations proposed at the site have the potential to increase the transport, use, and storage of hazardous materials that could represent a risk to the public. In addition, the complementary/programmatic elements could introduce new uses that could increase the exposure of the public to hazards or hazardous materials. With the proposed project's expanded uses at the site, the potential for wildfire could also increase.

### **Hydrology and Water Quality**

Expansion of the solid waste management operations and the introduction of complementary/programmatic elements would alter the site's hydrology and could affect the quality of the water discharged from the site. Also, proposed waste excavation of the pre-Subtitle D landfill modules could affect site water quality related to rain events during excavation and relocation.

### **Land Use and Planning**

The proposed project would alter land uses on the eastern and western properties that will be evaluated in the context of the policies included in the Placer County General Plan and the proposed Sunset Area Plan. The proposed Sunset Area Plan includes a variety of policies that are anticipated to contribute to long-term growth in

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<sup>2</sup> Environmental Management Consulting. 2015. Odor Assessment Report. Western Placer Waste Management Authority. November.  
SCS Engineers. 2009. Odor Study Report. Western Regional Sanitary Landfill. September.  
SCS Engineers. 2007. Air Modeling Report. Odor-Causing Substances. Western Regional Sanitary Landfill. September.



the region. One such policy includes reducing the 1-mile residential buffer that currently exists around the WPWMA facility.

### **Noise**

The construction of the individual project elements, the expansion of solid waste management operations, and the introduction of complementary/programmatic elements would increase noise generation and introduce new noise sources at the site that could affect local residents and businesses.

### **Public Services**

Project implementation, including the introduction of complementary/programmatic elements, could increase the demands on local fire protection, law enforcement, schools, recreational facilities, and road maintenance services.

### **Transportation/Traffic**

The construction of the individual project elements, the expansion of solid waste management operations, and the introduction of complementary/programmatic elements would be expected to increase vehicle trips on local roadways associated with new passenger vehicle and truck haul trips. Also, changes in site entrances could alter traffic patterns immediately adjacent to the site.

### **Utilities and Energy**

Construction of the individual project elements, the expansion of solid waste management operations, and the introduction of complementary/programmatic elements would increase the demand on site utilities including water supply, wastewater services, and solid waste disposal. In addition, the project's increased energy demands would increase the use of electricity at the site.

### **Cumulative Impacts**

Implementation of the proposed project could potentially result in significant impacts to the above resource areas. When taken together with the effects of past projects, other current projects, and probable future projects, most notably those associated with the proposed Sunset Area Plan and Placer Ranch Specific Plan, the project's contribution to the overall cumulative effect of all these activities could be considerable.

## **ALTERNATIVES TO BE EVALUATED IN THE EIR**

In accordance with the State CEQA Guidelines (14 CCR Section 15126.6), the EIR will describe a range of reasonable alternatives to the proposed project that are capable of meeting most of the project's objectives, and that would avoid or substantially lessen any of the significant effects of the project. The EIR will also identify any alternatives that were considered but rejected by the lead agency as infeasible and briefly explain the reasons why. The EIR will provide an analysis of the No-Project Alternative and will also identify the environmentally superior alternative.

## **DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW**

The NOP is available for public review at the following location:

Western Placer Waste Management Authority  
3013 Fiddymont Road  
Roseville, CA 95747

The NOP is also available for public review on WPWMA's website: [www.RenewablePlacer.com](http://www.RenewablePlacer.com)

## COMMENTS ON NOP

Agencies and interested parties may provide WPWMA with written comments on topics to be addressed in the EIR for the project. Because of time limits mandated by State law, comments should be provided no later than 5:00 pm on April 15, 2019. Please direct all written comments to the following address:

Western Placer Waste Management Authority  
3013 Fiddymment Road  
Roseville, CA 95747  
Attention: Stephanie Ulmer  
Email: [sulmer@placer.ca.gov](mailto:sulmer@placer.ca.gov)

Agencies that will need to use the EIR when considering permits or other approvals for the proposed project should provide the name of a contact person. Comments provided by email should include "Renewable Placer: Waste Action Plan NOP" in the subject line and the name and address of the commenter in the email body.

All written comments pertaining to environmental issues received during the NOP comment period will be considered and addressed in the Draft EIR, which is anticipated to be available for public review in late spring 2020.

## SCOPING MEETING

To assist in local participation, a Scoping Meeting will be held to present the proposed project and to solicit input from the public and responsible agencies on the content of the Draft EIR. The scoping meeting will be held at the WPWMA's administrative offices, located at 3013 Fiddymment Road, Roseville, CA 95747, on **April 1 at 6:00 pm**.