


**MEMORANDUM
WESTERN PLACER WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**

TO: **WPWMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS** DATE: **MAY 10, 2018**
FROM: **BILL ZIMMERMAN / ERIC ODDO** 
SUBJECT: **FACILITY MASTER PLANNING PROJECT UPDATE**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

None. This report is for information purposes only.

BACKGROUND:

At the December 14, 2017 meeting, staff presented your Board with three facility concepts that were refinements of the initial planning concept presented to your Board in July 2015. The concepts were configured to maintain the long-term viability of the WPWMA's facility by: 1) responding to changes in applicable regulations, 2) addressing anticipated regional growth, 3) optimizing material diversion rates, 4) maximizing operational efficiencies to improve customer safety and maintain a stable cost structure, and 5) enhancing compatibility between operations and current and future adjacent land uses.

At the conclusion of the December presentation, staff noted the WPWMA would begin engaging key stakeholders to increase awareness of the WPWMA's master planning efforts and solicit feedback on the project concepts. The following provides a summary of these engagement activities.

Workshop with City Managers and the County Executive Officer

On February 26, 2018, staff conducted a workshop for Member Agency City Managers, the County Executive Officer, and other key Member Agency staff and provided the same presentation made to your Board at the December 2017 meeting.

Workshop attendees requested the following of WPWMA staff: 1) an explanation of how the WPWMA's plans address anticipated regional growth, 2) identification of potential ramifications of delaying or not proceeding with facility modifications, and 3) a similar presentation to each Member Agency City Council and the County Board of Supervisors.

Follow-up Master Plan Presentations

Per request of each Member Agency, staff scheduled the following presentations:

Roseville City Council	Wednesday May 2, 2018
Rocklin City Council	Tuesday May 8, 2018
Placer County Board of Supervisors	Tuesday May 22, 2018 (morning)
Lincoln City Council	Tuesday May 22, 2018 (evening)

Growth and Facility Capacity Estimates

Waste stream growth projections and facility capacity needs were estimated by the project consultant (CH2M) based on a combination of factors including: 1) historic site waste acceptance data, 2) population growth estimates by the California Department of Finance, 3) employment and housing construction estimates published in the California Economic Forecast, 4) taxable retail sales from the California Board of Equalization, and 5) estimates of impacts associated with impending solid waste-related regulations.

CH2M will conduct additional sensitivity analysis to evaluate how capacity and space requirements may change should unanticipated factors impact planned regional development, alter waste generation rates, or create other special needs at the facility.

Consequence of the “No Project” Option

As stakeholder engagement progresses, the WPWMA’s master planning efforts must include consideration of potential consequences of delaying or foregoing modifications to the WPWMA’s facilities.

Staff and CH2M have identified several operating scenarios assuming master planning and subsequent CEQA efforts are unsuccessful and future operations are limited to the WPWMA’s currently permitted facilities. These scenarios acknowledge that the WPWMA will not be able to fully meet all of the long-term needs of the Member Agencies. Providing ongoing services constrained to the existing site would necessitate either: 1) modifying and expanding MRF and composting operations at the expense of landfill capacity, or 2) phasing out MRF and composting operations to maximize landfill capacity. In the first scenario, an alternative, existing, non-WPWMA disposal location¹ would need to be identified to accept the Member Agencies’ waste streams upon closure of the Western Regional Sanitary Landfill. In the second scenario, Member Agencies would likely need to arrange for their own waste diversion and processing operations to meet regulatory and legal mandates.

Upon initial discussion, the general consensus among the Member Agency Advisory Committee (MAAC) was for the WPWMA to continue providing waste processing and diversion services by maintaining a viable MRF and composting operation as long as future landfill capacity could be identified elsewhere. Staff and CH2M are currently conducting preliminary research into possible alternative landfill locations for the purposes of estimating a budgetary-level cost impact of off-site landfill disposal.

Refining the Concepts

Since the project concepts were presented to your Board in December 2017 (attached), staff and CH2M, in consultation with the MAAC, has continued to evaluate them with the intent of refining them into two concepts.

At this time, staff intends to proceed with further analysis of Concepts 1 and 3. Staff believes that these concepts are distinct enough that a thorough evaluation of the environmental and economic constraints will yield more useful information to the WPWMA for the purposes of selecting a preferred project for CEQA evaluation.

¹ The time, cost and difficulty of successfully siting a new landfill in Placer County effectively negates the potential for the WPWMA to establish an alternative landfill site.

Other Developments

As previously reported to your Board, the WPWMA was contacted by several entities interested in conducting pilot studies at the WPWMA's facilities to evaluate various waste-to-energy technologies:

Firm	Biogas Energy
Project	Convert wood waste into bio-oil
Status	Obtained a Conditional Use Permit, finalizing right of entry agreement with WPWMA, anticipate starting operations in 2019

Firm	All Power Labs
Project	Convert wood waste into electricity
Status	Terminated project development due to permitting challenges

Additionally, staff has continued to meet with representatives of Rio Bravo regarding the possible relocation of their operation onto a portion of the WPWMA's property.

Schedule

Staff intends to continue engaging key stakeholders and soliciting feedback on the WPWMA's master planning concepts through the spring and summer with the intent of returning to your Board by the end of the calendar year with recommendation of a preferred project and to initiate the CEQA process.

ATTACHMENT: DECEMBER 2017 PROJECT CONCEPT DRAWINGS