



Memorandum

MONTEREY REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Reviewed by: Wmm Date: 5/14/10
General Manager

DATE: May 14, 2010
TO: General Manager
FROM: Public Education and Recycling Manager
SUBJECT: Update on Grant Funding and Authorization for Staff to Proceed with Implementation of On-site Beverage Container Buyback Center

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board authorize staff to proceed with implementation of an on-site beverage container buyback center using funds from a grant issued by the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle).

BACKGROUND

In December of 2007, a grant application submitted by the District to the California Department of Conservation (DOC) was awarded in the amount of \$85,000 to help offset the cost of implementing a beverage container buyback center (buyback center) on-site; the grant has an expiration date of June 30, 2010.

In March of 2009, the District received a "Stop Work Notice" from the DOC stating all work on the grant must cease until further notice. The District had not yet initiated work on the grant due to reduced budget and staffing availability.

DISCUSSION

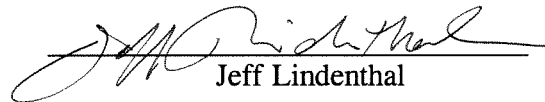
On May 1, 2010, the District received a letter from CalRecycle (formerly DOC) informing staff that the "Stop Work Notice" is no longer in effect and work may be initiated on the grant. Staff from CalRecycle has requested that the District submit a grant extension request, if the grant is to be implemented, which would extend the termination date of the grant to June 30, 2011.

Staff proposes to implement the buyback center at the Last Chance Mercantile (LCM) and initially operate it on a part-time basis during the week and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday. Part-time staffing requirements will be met by utilizing existing LCM and District staff. A financial proforma has been drafted for this project and estimates net revenue from the sale of beverage containers. Adding a buyback center to the LCM would enhance the services the District already provides, as well as provide another program for customers to utilize when visiting the District facilities. A public opinion poll of District customers conducted in the spring of 2009 found that 80% of customers surveyed said they would use a buyback center if available at the District.

The \$85,000 buyback center grant will offset costs associated with the start-up of the operation and provide funding for bins, site improvements, and related equipment. Existing buyback centers on the Peninsula are located at grocery stores and have limited hours of operation and accept a limited range of materials. A&S Metals also operates a buyback center at the yard in Castroville (see attached list). The District presently offers drop-off recycling for a wide range of materials; adding a buyback center would allow customers to receive a refund for the deposit they pay on beverage containers at the time of purchase.

CONCLUSION

A buyback center is a natural complement to services already offered at the District and is one that would be appreciated by District customers given the relatively limited options to redeem beverage containers that presently exist on the Peninsula. Staff therefore requests authorization to proceed with the implementation of a beverage container buyback center on-site using CalRecycle grant funds.


Jeff Lindenthal

Attachment

LOCAL BUY BACK CENTER LISTINGS

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	HOURS	PHONE
A & S Metals	11340 Commercial Parkway	Castroville	Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. (Closed Sundays)	(831) 633-3379
TOMRA Recycling/rePLANET	270 Reservation Road (Behind CVS Pharmacy)	Marina	Tuesday - Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Closed Sunday & Monday)	(877) 737-5263
Monterey City Disposal Service	800 Del Monte Center (Behind Whole Foods)	Monterey	Monday, Wednesday – Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. (Closed Sunday & Tuesday)	(831) 372-7977
NexCycle	900 Lighthouse Avenue (Nob Hill Foods parking lot)	Monterey	Wednesday & Thursday ONLY 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Closed for lunch 1 to 2 p.m.)	(800) 883-2274
NexCycle	1212 Forest Avenue (Safeway parking lot)	Pacific Grove	Monday & Tuesday Friday - Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Closed for lunch 1 to 1:30 p.m.)	(800) 883-2274
NexCycle	801 Tioga Avenue (Behind Costco)	Sand City	Monday – Friday, 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Saturday & Sunday, 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (Closed for lunch 1 to 1:30 p.m.)	(800) 883-2274