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News from: Oakland Public Works

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Zero Waste Recommendation Goes to City Council

Oakland, CA – The City of Oakland released a staff report recommending a package of franchise contracts for Zero Waste Services to enhance Oakland's green leadership and divert waste from landfills, including expanded collection of recycling, organics and garbage for Oakland residents and businesses. The report will be considered by the City Council at a special meeting at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 29, 2014.

The City engaged in a competitive procurement process that included a request for proposals that attracted the participation of six national and local companies, and resulted in responsive proposals from two of those companies: Waste Management of Alameda County and California Waste Solutions. Public Works Department staff engaged in rigorous, concurrent negotiations with these two proposers for 10 months.

Staff's recommendation is based on the combination of proposals that provides the best value to Oakland residents and businesses. Some of the environmental benefits of the new Zero Waste Services contracts that enhance Oakland's leadership as a Green City include:

- Quieter trucks that run on clean, locally produced natural gas fuel
- Bulky pickup service for all households in multi-family buildings should reduce illegal dumping
- Green cart service for multi-family buildings
- Additional removal of illegal dumping on Oakland streets
- Continuation of Council District community cleanups
- Community-based Zero Waste outreach program including Youth Ambassadors

The new rates reflect actual present day costs for providing these services. Current rates are based on contracts entered in 1995, and have not kept pace with the actual costs of providing these services in Alameda County. The current contracts, originally set to expire at the end of 2010, were extended by the City twice, and preserved the existing, lower rates for a total of four-and-a-half years. Current contracts will expire on June 30, 2015. Services and rate increases under the new contracts would begin on July 1, 2015.

Under the recommendation, rates for typical single-family home service are expected to increase by \$14.63 to \$43.93 (approximately 49% increase). Rates for a typical 20-unit multi-family building are expected to increase by \$127.69 to \$583.89 (approximately 25% increase).

(more)

Recently negotiated contracts in other Alameda County cities have seen similar rate increases:

City	Year	Increase
Albany	2011	45%
Berkeley	2009	25%
Berkeley	2014	25%
Castro Valley	2009	45%
Dublin	2011	27%
Emeryville	2011	45%
Hayward	2007	32%
Livermore	2010-11	38%

With these new contracts, Oakland will divert significantly more material from landfill disposal through increased recycling and composting, enhancing Oakland's leadership in sustainability. For more information and links to related project documents, please visit www.zerowasteoakland.com

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