

Central Services
Joan Araujo, Director

Engineering Services
Vacant, Director

Roads & Transportation
Anitha Balan, Director

Water & Sanitation
Vacant, Director

Watershed Protection
Jeff Palmer, Director

July 23, 2024

Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

Subject: **Approval of, and Authorization for the Director of the Ventura County Public Work Agency – Water and Sanitation to Execute an Agreement with Clean Harbors, Inc. for Regional Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator (CESQG) Collection Services, Effective July 23, 2024 through July 23, 2029 for a Total Amount not to exceed \$1,500,223; Find that Approval of the Agreement is Exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); All Supervisorial Districts.**

Recommendations:

1. Approval of, and authorization for the Ventura County Public Works Agency – Water and Sanitation (PWA-WS) Director or designee to execute an agreement with Clean Harbors, Inc. for regional household hazardous waste and conditionally exempt small quantity generator collection services, effective July 23, 2024, through July 23, 2029 for a total amount not to exceed \$1,500,223 (collectively, the “Agreement”).
2. Authorization for the PWA-WS Director or designee to approve amendments and modifications to the Agreement to make corrections, clarifications, and other non- substantive changes so long as the amendments and modifications are consistent with the original purpose of the Agreement, do not result in additional costs to the County, and are reviewed and approved as to form by County Counsel.
3. Find that approval of the Agreement is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as an action by a regulatory agency that maintains, restores, enhances, or protects natural resources and/or the environment, and direct the PWA-IRWM Director to file a notice exemption with the Ventura County Clerk’s Office and the California Office of Planning and Research.



Fiscal/Mandates Impact:

Mandatory: No
Source of Funding: County Waste Management Fees
Funding Match Required: None
Impact on Other Department(s): None

Summary of Revenue and Total Costs:

		<u>FY 2024-25</u>		<u>FY 2025-26 through FY 2029-30</u>
Revenue:	\$	0	\$	0
Costs:				
Direct	\$	283,100	\$	1,217,123
Indirect – Agency/Dept.	\$	0	\$	0
Indirect – County CAP	\$	0	\$	0
Total Costs	\$	283,100	\$	1,217,123
Net Costs	\$	283,100	\$	1,217,123
Recovered Indirect Costs	\$	0	\$	0

Current Fiscal Year Budget Projections:

Current FY 2024-25 Budget Projection for Integrated Waste Management - Unit 4040				
	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Projected Budget	Estimated Savings/(Deficit)
Appropriations	\$ 5,316,187	\$ 5,316,187	\$ 5,316,187	\$0
Revenue	\$ 5,316,187	\$ 5,316,187	\$ 5,316,187	\$0
Net Cost	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Sufficient appropriations are included in the FY 2024-25 Adopted budget.

Discussion:

The Ventura County Household Hazardous Waste Element for the unincorporated area, approved by your Board in January 1992 to comply with state law, requires the



implementation of household hazardous waste (HHW) programs for unincorporated communities whenever feasible, including a multi-jurisdictional cooperative approach with cities adjacent to these communities. To meet this mandate, the County currently participates in a regional program in the west County via a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the cities of Fillmore, Ojai, and Santa Paula. Additionally, the County has HHW service contracts with the cities of Camarillo and Thousand Oaks to provide collection services to unincorporated area residents in eastern Ventura County.

The County sponsors numerous HHW collection events each year at the County-owned Pollution Prevention Center in the unincorporated area of Ventura. In 2023, over 121,000 pounds of hazardous materials were collected from more than 1,200 residents and qualifying businesses.

One of the primary responsibilities of the County in the regional implementation of HHW collection programs is to provide technical staff, HHW facility operations, temporary collection events, and equipment for the collection and management of HHW and CESQG waste through administration of a HHW/Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator (CESQG) Service Agreement. The current HHW/CESQG service agreement, originally executed with a private contractor in 2017, will expire in July 2024. Consequently, PWA-WS recently completed a formal Request for Proposal process to determine the most qualified HHW management service provider with which to contract. The process used a review panel consisting of County staff from two different agencies with wide ranging hazardous waste and regulatory compliance experience to review the contractor-provided proposals. Using a weighted scoring matrix, the panel determined that Clean Harbors, Inc. is the best choice in firms able to meet the County's HHW program service needs.

Due to staff training requirements, certifications, and special licensing requirements associated with HHW services, this service Agreement is exempt from the Living Wage Ordinance.

California Environmental Quality Act:

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines categorically exempt projects and actions taken by regulatory agencies that maintain, restore, enhance, and/or protect natural resources and the environment. (CEQA Guidelines, §§ 15307, 15308.) The purpose of the County's HHW programs and activities, including the services to be provided under Agreement, is to divert household hazardous waste from being deposited in landfills, prevent, and reduce chemical releases from HHW items to landfills that may degrade groundwater quality, and increase recycling and/or reuse of HHW items. As explained above, in 2023, more than 121,000 pounds of hazardous materials were collected from more than 1,200 residents and qualifying businesses. Approval of the Agreement would not result in any construction activities or the relaxation of standards



allowing for environmental degradation. Therefore, approval of the Agreement is categorically exempt from CEQA as actions by regulatory agencies for the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, and/or protection of natural resources and the environment. (CEQA Guidelines, §§ 15307, 15308.) Accordingly, staff requests your Board find approval of the Agreement exempt from CEQA and direct the PWA-IRWM Director or designee to prepare and file a notice of exemption with the Ventura County Clerk's Office and the California Office of Planning and Research.

Strategic Plan:

This item contributes to the Board of Supervisors (Board's) 2024-2027 strategic priority to provide:

- III. Reliable infrastructure and sustainability through
 - 1. Maintaining and improving dependable public resources to serve the needs of our diverse communities.
 - 3. Investing in sustainable infrastructure, renewable energy, and preservation of our natural resources.

This item and the accompanying attachments have been reviewed by the County Executive Office, Auditor-Controller's Office, and County Counsel.

If you have any questions regarding this item, please contact the undersigned at (805) 654-2373 or Derrick Wilson at (805) 658-4311.

Sincerely,



David Fleisch, P.E.
Assistant Director

Attachments:

Exhibit 1 – HHW Service Agreement
Exhibit A – Scope of Services
Exhibit B – Surety Bond for Performance
Exhibit C – West County MOU
Exhibit D – Contract Cost Estimate

