

CITY OF SANTA ROSA
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

TO: BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
FROM: JOE SCHWALL, DEPUTY DIRECTOR REGIONAL WATER REUSE
OPERATIONS, WATER DEPARTMENT
BRANDALYN TRAMEL, PURCHASING AGENT FINANCE
DEPARTMENT
SUBJECT: GENERAL SERVICE AGREEMENT F001538 – ADD DISPOSAL
FEES FOR “OVERS” PRODUCT, AND ONE-YEAR EXTENSION –
DISPOSAL OF BIOSOLIDS TO THE LOCAL LANDFILL, REDWOOD
LANDFILL, INC.
ACTION: RESOLUTION

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Water and Finance Departments that the Board of Public Utilities, by resolution, approve the First Amendment to General Service Agreement F001538 to 1) add disposal fees for the disposal of “overs” product, and 2) add a one-year extension with no increase to contract unit price with an increase in compensation for the disposal of wastewater treatment biosolids to Redwood Landfill, Novato, California, in an amount not to exceed \$231,325.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Biosolids tipping fees are fees associated with the acceptance of biosolids materials at the landfill. The biosolids are used as alternative daily cover over the Redwood Landfill site, which is regulated by the State. On average, less than 5% of the Laguna Treatment Plant’s annual production of biosolids are taken to landfill. The current Agreement expires on October 31, 2020.

BACKGROUND

The Laguna Treatment Plant had four beneficial reuse options for biosolids that are produced at the plant: Land Application, Compost Production, Landfill, and the Lystek facility located at the Fairfield-Suisun Wastewater Treatment Plant. On December 7, 2017, the Board of Public Utilities waived competitive bidding and authorized a three-year term contract with two one-year renewal options for landfill disposal of biosolids to Redwood Landfill, Novato, California. The Redwood Landfill, the only local landfill site that is authorized in this area to accept biosolids waste, is the most affordable landfill option.

“Overs” is material that is removed from compost during the final screening process. Screening removes over-sized material too large to pass through the screen which typically includes larger pieces of wood that had not broken down through the composting process,

but also includes impurities such as plastics that were introduced with the vegetative bulking agent (“green waste”) at the beginning of the process. Normally, these “overs” are returned to the beginning of the composting process for further treatment, but now that the compost facility has been closed the last remaining “overs” must be disposed of in a landfill.

ANALYSIS

The Laguna Treatment Plant currently has three beneficial reuse options for biosolids that are produced at the plant: Land Application, delivery and treatment to a Class A biosolids at the Lystek facility located at the Fairfield-Suisun Wastewater Treatment Plant, and landfilling. For the land application program, the City has contracts to deliver and apply biosolids to private farmland in the southern portion of the county as well as four City-owned farms. All these locations are held to Federal 503 and/or State General Order regulations which include strict limits on the amount of biosolids that may be land-applied as well as time constraints. All privately and City-owned lands are limited to accept biosolids application only during the months of May through October. From November through April, biosolids will be delivered to the Lystek facility or to the City-owned Alpha biosolids storage facility. Landfilling is the backup option for the City to send biosolids when the above beneficial reuse options are not viable due to capacity or time constraints.

Redwood Landfill offered a one-year extension with no increase to unit price and is the only local landfill site that is authorized in this area to accept biosolids waste. As part of a price analysis, staff reviewed pricing of tipping fees at two other landfills. Meacham Rd (Central) landfill will not take City biosolids because they need to be 50% or higher solids content. Potrero Hills Landfill in Solano County will charge \$47.00 per wet ton. Redwood Landfill is \$44.55 per wet ton and \$58.00 per wet ton for “overs” product. With no price increase after the initial three-year term, staff deems the proposal submitted from Redwood Landfill, Inc. to be fair and reasonable. Prices for acceptance of the “overs” were also solicited from these three landfills. Redwood Landfill provided the lowest unit cost for disposal of “overs.”

FISAL IMPACT

Funds required for this operational expense have been appropriated in the fiscal year 2020-21 adopted budget in the Water Department, as a regular ongoing operating need, funds for this type of expenditure will continue to be included annually in the proposed budget for the Water Department.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The hauling of City’s biosolids has been reviewed consistent with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to (1) Residuals Processing Mitigated Negative Declaration adopted in 1977, (2) the Santa Rosa Subregional Sludge Beneficial Use Project Program EIR certified in 1991, (3) the Management Plan for the Beneficial Reuse of Biosolids by Land Application CEQA TM 2.2 adopted in 1993, and (4) the South County Biosolids Reuse MND adopted in 2010.

PRIOR BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES REVIEW

On December 7, 2017, the Board of Public Utilities waived competitive bidding and authorized a three-year term contract with two one-year renewal options in the amount of \$494,505.

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Not Applicable.

NOTIFICATION

Not Applicable

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – General Services Agreement

CONTACT

Joe Schwall, Deputy Director, Regional Water Reuse Operations, 707-543-3358

Zach Kay, Biosolids Coordinator, 707-543-3374

Brandalyn Tramel, Purchasing Agent, Finance, 707-543-3706

Jennifer Myles, Senior Buyer – Finance, 707-543-3709