# Update Regarding a Potential Regional Organics Processing Facility and Preparation of an RFP

City Council/BPU Liaison Subcommittee Emma Walton, Deputy Director of Water Reuse October 5, 2021



OUR FUTURE IN EVERY DROP

# Background

- Oct 2015 In-county Compost Closed due to Stormwater Runoff Issues
- May 2017 ZWS Issued RFP for a New Regional Organics Processing Facility
- Aug 2018 ZWS Selected Renewable Sonoma to Provide Regional Organics Processing
- Feb 2019 BPU Authorized an ENA with Renewable Sonoma for Lease of City Property
- Dec 2020 BPU/CC Closed Session Conference with Real Property Negotiator



City's -Biosolids Compost Facility (closed May 2020)

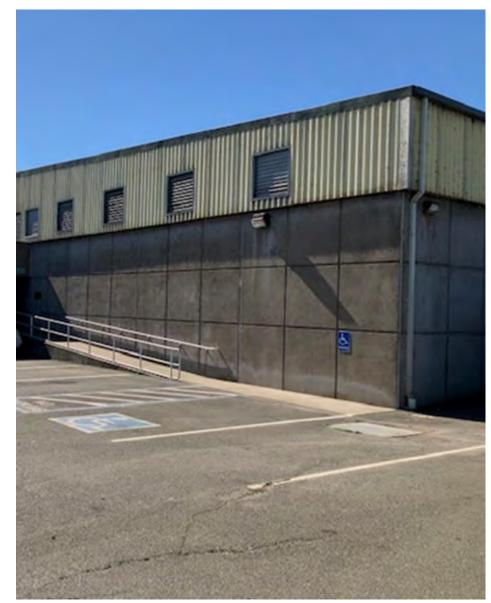
PA D

#### Preferred Location Aerial View



# Recent Activity

- May 2021 Renewable Sonoma ended Negotiations with ZWS and with the City
- Sept 2021 ZWS Anticipated Release of Draft EIR for the Stage Gulch Project – ZWS still Considering Options
- Since negotiations ended, Staff have identified immediate and future operational needs for use of Biosolids Compost Facility.



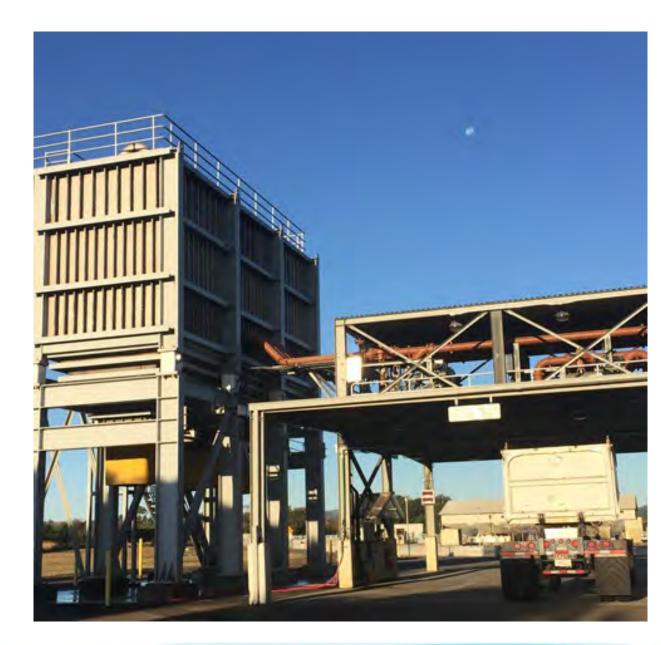
# Changing Environment

- Benefits originally envisioned from co-location of facilities did not materialize
- San Francisco Regional Board is reconsidering permitting of land application of biosolids in South County
- SB-1383 will likely increase demand for land application sites
- Need long-term in-county solution for City's biosolids



### Recommendation

The Water Department recommends issuing a request for proposals to evaluate potential opportunities for Santa Rosa Water to utilize the closed Biosolids Compost Facility for operational purposes and forgo offering the site as a potential regional organics processing facility.



# Recommended Next Steps

**Board of Public Utilities** 

• Work with BPU to issue an RFP and evaluate potential long-term options

#### **City Council**

 Staff to provide written communication regarding potential future use of the site for operational purposes

