

# COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

## Inter-Departmental Correspondence

**Date:** November 2, 2001

**Board Meeting Date:** November 20, 2001

**TO:** Honorable Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Neil R. Cullen, Director of Public Works

**SUBJECT:** Application for California Integrated Waste Management Board Grant for EcoPark Feasibility Study

### RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution authorizing the Director of Public Works to submit a grant application to the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) for \$9,945 to help finance studying the feasibility of establishing an EcoPark within the County.

### Key Facts

- The CIWMB is offering Reuse Assistance Grants, which can provide up to 50% of the financing of studies and projects.
- An EcoPark is property which would be used by businesses and nonprofits such as salvage companies, food reuse operations, secondhand stores, artisans who use recycled or salvaged materials, and other reuse type businesses.
- An EcoPark located within San Mateo County would benefit all jurisdictions within the County as it could decrease the amount of material landfilled through reuse activities.
- The City/County Association of Governments' (C/CAG) Solid Waste Advisory Committee subcommittee has discussed the possibility of an EcoPark for some time, as space and storage for reuse businesses is difficult to locate. C/CAG would be involved in the process of the study and is being asked for a letter of support for this proposal at their meeting of November 8, 2001.
- The Grant would finance the feasibility of establishing an EcoPark and would result in recommendations on how to proceed with the siting and financing if it is determined to be feasible.

Honorable Board of Supervisors

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**Discussion**

Low profit margin of nonprofit businesses and organizations such as Whole House Building Supply, Second Harvest, and Habitat for Humanity, are limited in their ability to recycle or reuse building materials, food, and other materials due to the high cost of storing material for reuse. For example, Habitat for Humanity does not have the ability to store salvaged materials and therefore must depend on new building materials for their projects.

The purpose of an EcoPark is to provide a location at a reasonable cost to related reuse and recycling businesses in order to encourage the reuse and recycling of materials that otherwise would be landfilled.

The feasibility study will identify stakeholders (including C/CAG, potential tenants, nonprofits), create a countywide process to research locations and funding for an EcoPark, and to make final recommendations as to the feasibility of pursuing this project. Cities would be involved as an EcoPark would have to conform to a city's zoning regulations.

**Fiscal Impact**

The total cost of the study is approximately \$20,000 (\$19,990). The proposed grant is a matching grant and we are recommending that Solid Waste Funds be used to provide the approximately \$10,000 local match. There is no impact to the General Fund.

A form of resolution has been approved by County Counsel.



Neil R. Cullen  
Director of Public Works

NRC:JB:sdd

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cc: Milt Mares, County Counsel  
Donna Vaillancourt, Management Services Division Manager  
Jill Boone, Countywide Recycling Programs Coordinator

**Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_**

**Board of Supervisors, County of San Mateo, State of California**

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**Resolution Authorizing the Director Public Works to Submit a Grant Application  
to the California Integrated Waste Management Board  
to Help Finance Studying the Feasibility of Establishing an EcoPark within the County**

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**RESOLVED**, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, that

**WHEREAS**, Section 42000 et. seq. of the State of California Public Resources Code authorizes the California Integrated Waste Management Board to conduct market development activities to strengthen demand by manufacturers and end-use consumers for recyclable materials collected by municipalities, nonprofit organizations, and private entities; and

**WHEREAS**, the concept of reuse encompasses integrated waste management objectives such as building materials efficiency, construction and demolition waste reduction, and maximization of reused and recycled content building and landscaping materials; and

**WHEREAS**, in August 2001, the California Integrated Waste Management Board approved an evaluation process, scoring criteria, and preference criteria for the Reuse Assistance Grants; and

**WHEREAS**, the Director of Public Works has recommended that he be allowed to apply for a Reuse Assistance Grant from the California Integrated Waste Management Board to help finance studying the feasibility of establishing an EcoPark-property which would be used by businesses and nonprofits such as salvage companies, food reuse operations, secondhand stores, artisans who use recycled or salvaged materials, and other reuse type businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board has considered the recommendation of the Director of Public Works.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND DETERMINED THAT** the Director of Public Works is hereby authorized to:

1. submit an application to the California Integrated Waste Management Board for a Reuse Assistance Grant; and
2. execute all necessary documents, including applications, agreements, amendments, and payment requests to secure grant funds and to implement and carry out the purposes specified in the grant.

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