DEPARTMENT: Administration  BY: Rich Inman, CAO
PHONE: 966-3222

RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Direction and action requesting funding for Compost Facility from Congressman George Radanovich.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

Supervisor Turpin has presented the attached to Congressman Radanovich and has requested that his be discussed by the full Board of Supervisors.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Financial Impact? ( ) Yes ( ) No  Current FY Cost
Budgeted In Current FY? ( ) Yes ( ) No ( ) Partially Funded
Amount in Budget:  
Additional Funding Needed: $  
Source:
Internal Transfer  
Unanticipated Revenue  
Transfer Between Funds  
Contingency  
( ) General ( ) Other  

Annual Recurring Cost: $

List Attachments, number pages consecutively

Memo to Tricia Geringer from Fred Soloman

CLERK’S USE ONLY:
Res. No.:  
Ord. No.  
Vote – Ayes:  
Noes:  
Absent:  

☑ Approved
☐ Minute Order Attached ( ) No Action Necessary

The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of the original on file in this office.
Date:
Attest: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
County of Mariposa, State of California
By:  

Deputy

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER:
☑ Requested Action Recommended
☐ No Opinion
Comments:

CAO:  

Revised Dec. 2002
MEMO

To: Tricia Geringer, Legislative Director
From: Fred S. Solomon
Date: February 4, 2005
Re: Mariposa County Mixed Solid Waste Compost Facility

The County of Mariposa is constructing a compost facility on the site of its landfill to turn mixed solid waste into compost. This is a “first of its kind” compost project in California. The project will serve to allow the County to meet its waste diversion mandate imposed by the California State Legislature in Assembly Bill 939, adopted in 1989 and to preserve the useful life of the County’s landfill by reducing the volume of waste deposited in the landfill by 60%.

The landfill receives waste from residents and commercial haulers from throughout the County, including Yosemite National Park. The provision of a waste disposal facility is vital to Yosemite Park’s users and, with the help of Congressman Radanovich, was the reason the national Park Service contributed funds for the development and construction of the compost facility.

The estimated cost of the project was $7,462,000 and funding was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Park Service Grant</td>
<td>$1,962,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA Rural Development Grant</td>
<td>$1,800,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA Rural Development Loan To The County</td>
<td>$3,200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County of Mariposa</td>
<td>$ 500,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

While the County of Mariposa was able to maintain its budget estimate through the award of a contract for the compost system, the bid of $4,965,000 to construct the building to house the compost system exceeded the budget of $3,551,000 by approximately $1,400,000. In order to secure the USDA grants and loans for the project, the County had to make its budget estimate as far back as June of 2003. Construction costs included an inflation factor for the period up to the bid on the building. However, nationwide cost increases and material shortages in concrete and steel, as
well as environmental issues related to the serpentine nature of rock formations on the
site, far exceeded our estimates.

The County re-evaluated its plans for the building and reduced the budget deficit from
$1,400,000 to $875,000. In order for the County to meet the deadline for waste
diversion as imposed by the State of California Integrated Waste Management Board,
the County had to fund the budget shortfall of $875,000 from its dwindling reserve, issue
the contract for construction, and seek funds to replace the funds taken from the
Reserve Fund.

Efforts have been made to obtain additional funds from the National Park Service but
they have advised the County that such an action would take Legislative action. An
additional loan from the USDA is not supportable by landfill revenues to pay the debt
service on the loan. Further increase in disposal fees has been considered but
discounted as the disposal fees in the County are already among the highest in the area.

The County is ready to commence construction and we are hopeful that your office can
be of assistance in obtaining the $875,000. If I can provide you with additional
information, please contact me. If correspondence directly from the Chair of the Board
of Supervisors would be helpful, let me know. In my role as the County’s consultant, I
am probably the most comprehensive source of knowledge on the project.

I may be reached at my home, (209) 742-5705, or at the County Public Works
Department at (209) 966-5356. My home address is 4561 Bridgeport Dr., Mariposa, CA
95338.

Fred S. Solomon
MARIPOSA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MINUTE ORDER

TO: RICH INMAN, County Administrative Officer
FROM: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board

SUBJECT: FUNDING FOR THE COMPOST FACILITY THROUGH CONGRESSMAN GEORGE RADANOVICH

Resolution Number 05-89

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIPOSA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
ADOPTED THIS Order on March 15, 2005

ACTION AND VOTE:
Rich Inman, County Administrative Officer;
Discussion and Action Concerning Seeking Funding for Compost Facility through Congressman George Radanovich

BOARD ACTION: Discussion was held. Supervisor Turpin suggested that the information on the compost facility be updated and that a formal request from the Board be made for support of additional funding. Discussion was held relative to the information. (M)Turpin, (S)Stetson, Res. 05-89 was adopted approving a letter to be sent to Congressman Radanovich, signed by the Chair, asking for additional funding for the compost facility/Ayes: Unanimous. Chairman Pickard called for input from the public on this matter, and none was received.

cc: Dana Hertfelder, Public Works Director
File
April 7, 2005

Congressman George Radanovich
19th District
123 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-0518

Re: Mariposa County Mixed Solid Waste Compost Facility

Dear Congressman Radanovich:

The Mariposa County Board of Supervisors took an official unanimous action on Tuesday, March 15, 2005, to submit this request to you for any support you may be able to provide to assist the County with its financing of the new Mixed Solid Waste Compost Facility. In February, the County’s Project Manager for this project, Mr. Fred Solomon, provided Tricia Geringer of your staff a breakdown of the funding needs for this project. Briefly, the project is a “first of its kind” in California, and will serve as a unique example of how local communities can deal with their solid waste in an environmentally safe manner while simultaneously extending the life of existing landfills.

The estimated cost of the facility was $7,462,000 with the County contributing $500,000, with the balance coming from the National Park Service ($1,962,000), USDA Rural Development Grant ($1,800,000) and a USDA Rural Development Loan to the County ($3,200,000). Unfortunately, when the bids were opened the lowest bid exceeded this estimate by $1,400,000. The County re-evaluated its plans for the project and was able to reduce the cost by $525,000, still leaving a deficit of $875,000 which the County will have to provide from its own limited resources.

We are asking for your support and assistance in obtaining this $875,000. Consideration has been given to increasing the existing disposal fees, but this option was discounted since the County’s current disposal fees are already among the highest in the region.

Any assistance you may be able to provide would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to discuss this matter with me personally, or if you need additional information, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Best wishes,

Bob Pickard
Chairman of the Board of Supervisors

cc: Members, Board of Supervisors
Rich Inman, County Administrative Officer
Dana Hertfelder, Public Works Director