March 11, 2014

Marin County Board of Supervisors
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903

SUBJECT: 1) Hold Public Hearing at 10:30 a.m. to Consider the Bay Cities Refuse Services Rate Increase; and 2) Approval of a Consolidated Agreement.

Dear Board Members:

RECOMMENDATIONS: 1) Hold the public hearing at 10:30 a.m. for Bay Cities Refuse Services' requested 4% rate increase for the Southern Marin Franchise Area No. 1 to approve the requested rate increase effective April 1, 2014; and 2) approve the consolidated franchise agreement.

SUMMARY: Bay Cities Refuse Services (BCRS) is the franchised waste hauler in the area known as Southern Marin Franchise Area No. 1 for refuse and recycling services. This franchise area, established by your Board in 1993, encompasses two small unincorporated areas in Southern Marin. One area includes most of the houseboat area including Waldo Point Harbor, Kappas Harbor and Yellow Ferry Harbor. The second area runs just south of Sausalito to the Golden Gate Bridge and West of Fort Cronkite.

BCRS is requesting a 4% rate increase effective April 1, 2014, and an annual Consumer Price Increase as listed the Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics (not to exceed 4% annually) for the remainder of this agreement which ends in December 2017. The franchise agreement between the County and BCRS provides for the company to "realize a fair and reasonable profit." The last rate increase granted BCRS was in October 2009. The requested 4% rate increase totals $1.17 per household and will keep BCRS rates comparable with similar franchise areas.

To accommodate the County's goal of Zero Waste by 2025, in March of 2013 BCRS expanded its yard waste service from bi-weekly to weekly collection in order to implement a food waste composting program that is projected to reduce up to 60 tons annually from the landfill. This program provides weekly collection of food waste including vegetable, meat, dairy and food contaminated paper products that are composted with green waste to create compost.

The original franchise agreement with BCRS was signed in 1993 and is scheduled to expire in December 2017. Since the initial agreement was signed there have been thirteen franchise amendments. These thirteen amendments have included several service and rate adjustments. With the goal of combining the initial agreement and the thirteen amendments staff has compiled a consolidated franchise agreement with the goal of creating a current single
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document to simplify future evaluations of this franchise agreement. This combined
agreement does not change previous agreements other than to include the new food
waste component in section 30 of the consolidated franchise agreement.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no fiscal impact to the County from this rate increase or
consolidated franchise agreement.

REVIEWED BY: [ ] Department of Finance [ X ] N/A
[ X ] County Counsel [ ] N/A
[ ] Human Resources [ X ] N/A

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Devine
Program Manager

Attachment