



MONO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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Assistant Directors:
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Date: December 7, 2010
To: Honorable Chair and Members of the Board of Supervisors
From: Matt Carter, Solid Waste Superintendent
Subject: Results of the Countywide Solid Waste System Evaluation

Recommended Action:

Receive consultant report and provide any desired direction to staff.

Fiscal Impact:

None at this time.

Discussion:

The Mono County Department of Public Works (Public Works) operates six transfer stations, two C&D landfills, a regional landfill, and a permanent household hazardous waste facility. Two franchisees offer curbside service and either haul the waste to the regional landfill (Benton Crossing) or haul the waste out of County. The Benton Crossing Landfill, located near the centroid of the waste stream is nearing its lease life, expiring in 2023.

As the Board is aware, the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund has experienced a decrease in revenues from gate fees due to a reduced waste stream emerging from the economic downturn. Gate fees are the primary source funding the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund. The waste stream in Mono County has reduced by 55 percent over the past five years. This trend can be seen across the Country and is not unique to Mono County. On October 1, 2009 a tipping fee increase went into effect, but with a steadily declining waste stream the increase showed little improvement to the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund budget. Public Works has taken continual measures to reduce expenses and increase revenues by means other than a tipping fee increase. The Solid Waste Enterprise Fund began FY09/10 with a negative cash balance

With the two issues of locating a site to dispose of Mono County's waste and declining revenues the Public Works hired a consultant to evaluate the system. HDR Engineering, Inc. was successful in obtaining the contract. The consultant considered the efficiency of the current system, recommending a site and method of disposing waste, and analyzed fees charged for disposal services. HDR has finalized a report of their findings and will provide the Board recommendations based on their analysis.

If you have any questions regarding this item, please contact me at 760.932.5453.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Carter
Solid Waste Superintendent