



RethinkWaste
South Bayside Waste Management Authority

For Immediate Release

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MENLO PARK APPROVES SHOREWAY FACILITY BOND FINANCING
City Recognizes Long-Term Financial and Environmental Benefits of Master Plan

SAN CARLOS, CA - February 25, 2009 - Last night the Menlo Park City Council unanimously approved the issuance of \$65.5 million in new debt to finance the Shoreway Recycling and Disposal Center master plan improvements. The City of Menlo Park is the sixth South Bayside Waste Management Authority (SBWMA) Member Agency to vote in favor of issuing new debt to finance improvements in recycling and solid waste infrastructure. The master plan upgrades are needed to accommodate single stream recycling and other new programs that will be rolled out by January 1, 2011. The new programs add convenience for residents who will use wheeled carts to recycle another 50,000 tons annually once the new facility and services are available.

"These state-of-the-art facilities are a key part of SBWMA's plan to increase recycling rates by 30 percent. Doing so will keep our disposal fees low and extend the life of the Ox Mountain landfill well into the future," said Menlo Park Mayor Heyward Robinson.

It is anticipated that the improvements will result in roughly a 5% residential and commercial garbage rate increase, which translates into an increase of approximately \$0.61 per month for Menlo Park households.

"Menlo Park and the other five Member Agencies who have approved the bond financing recognize that the investment they are making today will deliver immediate and long-term financial and environmental benefits to their communities that far exceed the costs of the new debt," said SBWMA Chairwoman Martha DeBry. "Not only are we anticipating greater commodity revenues due to an increase in the amount of recyclables we will be processing in the future, but we will also be reducing Shoreway's operating costs by more than \$2 million annually."

In addition to Menlo Park, the cities of Redwood City, San Mateo, Foster City, San Carlos and East Palo Alto have also approved issuing new debt. Two-thirds of the Member Agencies must vote in favor of the bonds to move forward with the master plan. Once this occurs, the SBWMA will finalize the financing plan for the project for review and approval by the Member Agencies.

The Shoreway facility, located in San Carlos, is owned by the SBWMA and serves as a central location for receiving, transferring and processing all garbage, recyclables, yard trimmings and food scraps materials collected from residents and businesses in the SBWMA service area. The existing transfer station was built in 1984 and the materials recovery facility building (MRF), where the recyclables are processed, was built in 1968.

The improvements to the outdated Shoreway facility include a new single stream MRF, expanded transfer station, major traffic and safety improvements, improved customer convenience and accessibility, and “Green Building” features.

SBWMA

Formed in 1982, the SBWMA is a joint powers authority comprised of 12 member agencies (Atherton, Belmont, Burlingame, East Palo Alto, Foster City, Hillsborough, Menlo Park, Redwood City, San Carlos and San Mateo along with the County of San Mateo and the West Bay Sanitary District) in San Mateo County and is a leader in implementing innovative waste reduction and recycling programs. The SBWMA also owns and manages the Shoreway Recycling and Disposal Center in San Carlos consisting of a permitted solid waste transfer station and a recycling processing facility. For more information on the SBWMA, please visit our website at www.RethinkWaste.org.

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