



A Public Agency

For Immediate Release

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***Shoreway Public Recycling Center Update:
Temporary Closure of Buyback Starting Saturday, August 17***

SAN CARLOS, CA – August 13, 2019 – The buyback portion of Shoreway Environmental Center’s Public Recycling Center (PRC) will temporarily close effective Friday, August 16 at 4:00 p.m.

RethinkWaste provides important services to the public, including at the PRC collecting items for recycling from the public free of charge, including buyback for California Redemption Value (CRV) bottles and cans.

However, markets significantly changed recently and as a result, the largest independent recycling company in the state, **rePlanet, abruptly closed all 284 of its buyback centers throughout California**, including three in the RethinkWaste service area. The unexpected and unforeseen closures created an overwhelming response to RethinkWaste’s San Carlos PRC, resulting in an unprecedented number of customers and volume of collected CRV containers to our facility. While our PRC recently completed a layout update to allow for a few more vehicles to queue in the buyback area, the percent increase does not match up with the increases in vehicles experienced in the last week.

“The safety of our community members and area is always our top priority and the long lines along Shoreway Road places our customers, the driving public, pedestrians, cyclists, employees of our facilities and neighbors and vendors at risk when arriving or departing the facility area,” said Joe La Mariana, RethinkWaste Executive Director. “We appreciate the public who use the CRV program now and in the past. We will assess market conditions and necessary program costs during this temporary closure period and look to the state for assistance in helping resolve this situation. *Earliest* possible date to resume buyback operations at the PRC is early October.”

Please note that the Public Recycling Center will remain open Monday – Saturday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. to accept a wide variety of drop-off items (at no charge) from the public including excess cardboard, latex and oil-based paint, batteries, cooking oil, fluorescent lights and more. See a full list at: <https://rethinkwaste.org/shoreway-environmental-center/services/>

RethinkWaste sincerely apologizes for the inconvenience and encourage people in search for alternate local buyback locations to go to: RecycleStuff.org.

About RethinkWaste

RethinkWaste is a joint powers authority of twelve public agencies in San Mateo County (Atherton, Belmont, Burlingame, East Palo Alto, Foster City, Hillsborough, Menlo Park, Redwood City, San Carlos, City of San Mateo, parts of unincorporated San Mateo County and the West Bay Sanitary District). We own and manage the 16-acre Shoreway Environmental Center facility, located at 333 Shoreway Road in San Carlos, which processes all the collected trash, recyclable and compostable materials. This facility has a \$130 million dollar annual operating budget, handles and processes almost 500,000 tons of materials annually--more than half are recycled and creates almost 400 jobs for our local community. See RethinkWaste.org and follow us on Facebook and Twitter at @RethinkWaste.

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City of Menlo Park • City of Redwood City • City of San Carlos • City of San Mateo • County of San Mateo • West Bay Sanitary District