



Upper Valley Agency  
WASTE MANAGEMENT

April 02, 2020

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Office of the Governor  
California State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support of Solid Waste Service Providers During the COVID-19 Emergency

Dear Governor Newsom:

The Board of Directors of the Upper Valley Waste Management Agency (a Joint Powers Authority whose members include Napa County, the Cities of St. Helena and Calistoga, and the Town of Yountville) is writing in support of our own solid waste service provider, Upper Valley Disposal Services (UVDS) and the many other haulers across the State who have been impacted by the COVID-19 crisis.

Our communities are taking the necessary shelter-in-place precautions to fight COVID-19 and protect health and safety. However, decreased waste volumes associated with closure of restaurants, retail, and other establishments has created an immediate and catastrophic loss of income for many of our solid waste service providers including our own local family run small waste and recycling company. We need our service providers to remain financially viable through this emergency so they can continue to maintain this critical infrastructure.

In the context of the many needs created by this disaster, we ask that the State finds the proper ways to financially support our essential solid waste service providers. "Picking up the garbage" was one of the very first Public Health goals and failing to support those that do this task only compounds this crisis. We must ensure the continuity of service and the protection of human health and safety.

In the here and now, we need to protect our communities during this national emergency and the vital role our waste providers contribute to this important goal. We urge you to consider ways to support the companies and agencies that make this happen.

Sincerely,

Margie Mohler  
Chair, Upper Valley Waste Management Agency

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