

Agenda Date: 1/23/2012 Agenda Placement: 8A

# Upper Valley Waste Management Agency **Board Agenda Letter**

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Steven Lederer - Manager

Upper Valley Waste Management Agency

REPORT BY: Steven Lederer, Director of Environmental Management - 253-4471

SUBJECT: Board Study Session on Franchise Issues

#### RECOMMENDATION

#### STUDY SESSION ON FRANCHISE ISSUES

DISCUSSION ITEM: The Agency Manager requests the Board continue its Study Session on the following items:

A. Methods of funding additional services through increasing fees:

- 1. Franchise Fees
- 2. Build into rates costs of various city/town sponsored events (such as the Yountville clean up event)
- 3. One time (annual) residential surcharge to fund a particular event (such as an HHW event)
- B. Methods of reducing rate payer costs:
  - 1. Doing a "ground up" review of service costs (note that this will not reduce total costs but may move various fees around)
  - 2. Whether certain services could be cut to reduce costs
  - 3. Whether an efficiency study of UVDS operations should be conducted

This item to remain on the agenda to accommodate ongoing Board comments as the Board sees fit.

# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

During the June, 2011 Board meeting several policy questions were discussed in the context of setting 2011-2012 rates. In subsequent meetings the Board has identified their top issues, which are addressed in this agenda item.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Is there a Fiscal Impact?

No

## **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

## BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

At previous Board meetings, Board direction has narrowed the focus to the following items. A brief discussion of each of the issues is provided below.

A. Methods of funding additional services through increasing fees:

- 1. Franchise Fees
- 2. Build into rates costs of various city/town sponsored events (such as the Yountville clean up event)
- 3. One time (annual) residential surcharge to fund a particular event (such as an HHW event)
- B. Methods of reducing rate payer costs:
  - 1. Doing a "ground up" review of service costs (note that this will not reduce total costs but may move various fees around)
  - 2. Whether certain services could be cut to reduce costs
  - 3. Whether an efficiency study of UVDS operations should be conducted

At our last meeting, the Board requested staff investigate and report back on the following:

- 1. Rates and services provided in other regions of the County
- 2. The costs to develop an HHW facility at CFL
- 3. A draft mailer for the Board to review in order to poll residential customers regarding their desire to fund an HHW event via an annual surcharge.

In response to this request:

- 1. A matrix of rates and services provided throughout the county has been produced by Dave and Julia and is attached.
- 2. The Agency Manager researched the costs of establishing the HHW facility at Devlin Road. In 1994 this facility was constructed for a cost of \$500,000. While that number is not fully determinative of the cost to develop a similar facility at CFL, it does appear clear that such an effort is beyond the financial capabilities of our agency.
- 3. The draft mailer to customers is also attached.

The Manager will provide a summary of each of the above at the meeting and requests direction moving forward.

# **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

- A . Basic service rates & fees in other regions of the County
- B . Comparitive table of services provided in other regions of the County
- C . HHW Postcard Mailer

Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Steven Lederer