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About Sacramento GreenCycle

Sacramento GreenCycle is a Sacramento Regional Solid Waste Authority (SWA) project. The project objective is to develop a local composting facility. The facility would allow the SWA member agencies to manage one-half of their residential green waste locally, which amounts to about 100,000 tons annually. Currently, much of this residential green waste is being trucked out of Sacramento County for processing. One advantage of having a local facility is that it would reduce haul distances; thereby lowering transportation costs, truck emissions and traffic impacts. Local processing would also ensure that the green waste is used to produce high quality compost products at a well-run facility.

A Public-Private Partnership

The Sacramento GreenCycle facility is planned as a public-private partnership in which the site and facility operating permits are owned by SWA, and the facility is operated by a private contractor. Through this partnership, SWA will make certain the facility is a good neighbor, operating according to the best practices for the industry. The selected private contractor will have demonstrated expertise in facility operation and compost marketing.



AB 939

In 1989 the State Legislature passed AB 939, requiring local governments to reduce the volume of material sent to landfills by 50 percent. Because garden refuse can be easily separated from the overall waste stream, greencycling is key to AB 939 compliance.

The Greencycling Process

If you live in Sacramento County, there is a good chance you are already greencycling. Greencycling is the process in which garden trimmings, grass clippings and other garden refuse is collected, processed, and eventually re-used as compost and other soil amendment products for residential and commercial use. Greencycling is an easy way to recycle organic materials into compost, wood chips, mulch and other soil amendments.

The Siting Process

The Sacramento Regional Solid Waste Authority (SWA) began considering the feasibility of a local garden refuse processing facility in 2002. The SWA initially focused on identifying the technical requirements of such a facility.

In 2004, a Project Advisory Committee (PAC) was formed, consisting of interested area residents and stakeholders. The Sacramento GreenCycle Project Team and the PAC worked together to develop siting criteria and a list of 151 potential locations within Sacramento County for the new facility. The list was narrowed down to 14 sites through an evaluation



process that was based on siting criteria developed by the PAC. The process and list of sites were reviewed with key stakeholders and the Community Planning Advisory Councils (CPACs) representing the areas in which the various sites were located.

Ultimately, the four top ranked sites were sent by the PAC and the Project Team to the SWA Board of Directors, who approved a recommendation to carry those four sites into the environmental review process.



In the Works: CEQA & the EIR

CEQA: The environmental review process for the four top ranked sites began in late 2005, in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This ongoing process will include frequent opportunities for public input. Community outreach meetings will take place in areas surrounding the four proposed siting alternatives. These meetings will discuss the project as it relates to the local community's overall concerns and needs.

Sacramento County's Department of Environmental Review and Assessment (DERA) is the lead agency for preparation of the environmental documents – a process expected to last up to 18 months. Upon completion of the environmental review process, it is anticipated that the SWA Board will select a preferred site for the facility.

Notice of Preparation and Scoping Meetings:

A notice of preparation (NOP) was mailed in December 2005 to responsible agencies, trustee agencies, and involved federal agencies informing them about the project. The NOP serves as a mechanism to solicit feedback and comments on the scope and content of the environmental information contained within the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) as it relates to the agencies' regulatory responsibilities, such as permitting requirements.

Project scoping meetings will be held during winter 2005/2006. At these meetings, stakeholders will have the opportunity to discuss key issues they feel should be addressed during the environmental review.

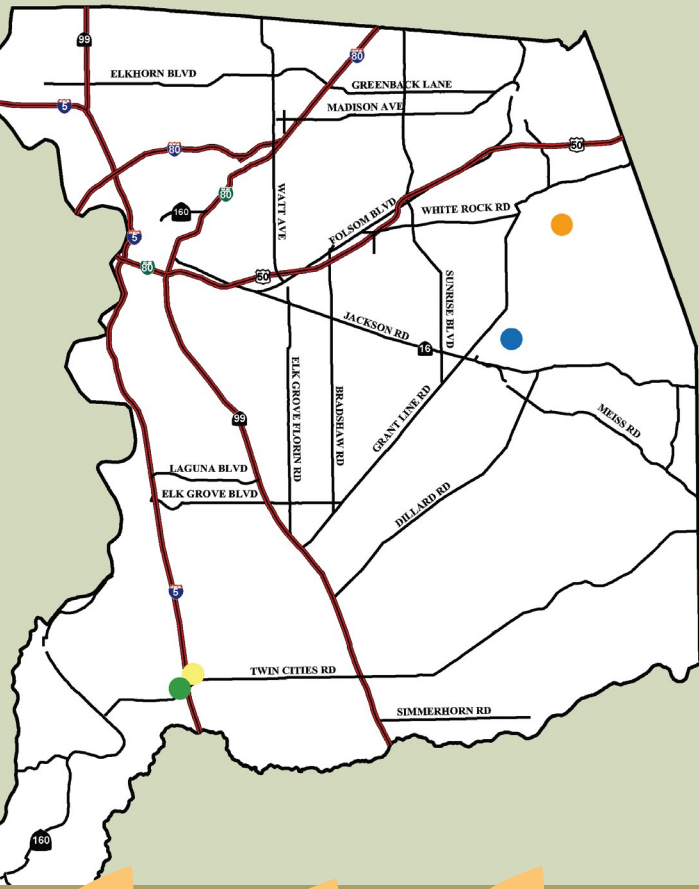
Development of the Environmental Impact Report:

After the scoping meetings, DERA will move forward with the development of a draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The intent of this public document is to:

- Evaluate and disclose the potential significant environmental effects associated with implementation of the Sacramento GreenCycle project;
- List ways in which significant effects might be minimized or avoided; and
- Identify and evaluate project alternatives.

The draft EIR provides decision makers, public agencies and the general public with information on the short-term and long-term environmental effects associated with the construction and operation of the proposed Sacramento GreenCycle project and project alternatives. The release of the Sacramento GreenCycle draft EIR is anticipated in late 2006.

THE FOUR TOP RANKED SITES



Twin Cities Road West – This site is approximately 75 acres. The Twin Cities Road West site is located northwest of the intersection of Interstate 5 and Twin Cities Road. Vehicles would access the site from southbound Interstate 5, exiting west onto Twin Cities Road to the entrance of the site.



Scott Road – This site is approximately 134 acres. It is located west of Scott Road, about one mile south of White Rock Road. Vehicles would access this site from eastbound Highway 50, exiting south onto Prairie City Road, turning east onto White Rock Road and south onto Scott Road to the entrance of the site.



Twin Cities Road East – This site is 276 acres. It is located on the east side of Interstate 5 and Twin Cities Road. Vehicles would access the site from southbound Interstate 5, exiting east onto Twin Cities Road to the entrance of the site.



Kiefer Landfill – The site at Kiefer Landfill is approximately 83 acres. It would occupy the space of future landfill modules 8 and 9. Vehicles would travel to the site via eastbound Highway 50 exiting south onto Howe Avenue, turning east onto Jackson Highway then north onto Grant Line Road, before turning east onto Kiefer Boulevard to the existing Kiefer Landfill entrance.

About the SWA

Sacramento Regional Solid Waste Authority (SWA) is a joint powers authority that regulates and coordinates regional waste management matters among its member agencies in the SWA region. Member agencies of the SWA are the City of Citrus Heights, the City of Sacramento and Sacramento County.




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Contact Information

If you would like to receive updates on the Sacramento GreenCycle project, please join our mailing list by contacting Jennifer Tencati at (800) 200-7904 or jennifer@mmcpr.com.

For more information, please visit the Sacramento GreenCycle web site at www.sacgreencycle.com.

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