



## **RECYCLING AND WASTE REDUCTION COMMISSION**

### **2023 LEGISLATIVE POLICIES AND PRIORITIES**

### **INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT**

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#### **The County supports:**

1. Improved Integrated Waste Management Programs including efforts to promote sustainable resource management; a reduction in greenhouse gases generated from the use of material resources and the collection and disposal of wastes; the standardization of the use of terms; local government authority to direct waste to permitted facilities; local jurisdiction compliance with state waste diversion mandates; and improved accuracy of the State-mandated reporting.
2. Expanded Product Stewardship and Producer Responsibility that reduces the amount and toxicity of solid waste generated and shifts physical and financial responsibility to the producers of products for the recovery and disposal of problem wastes through comprehensive end-of-life management, for example, manufacturer implemented take-back programs for products such as pharmaceuticals, sharps, fluorescent lamps, household and electric vehicle batteries, photovoltaic panels, e-cigarettes and vaping products, per- and polyflouroalkyl substances (PFAS), treated wood waste, and single-use items, and funding for reusable foodware systems.
3. Securing local Integrated Waste Management program funding and financing; local solid waste franchising and fee-setting authority; compensation for the collection, recycling, and disposal of waste; and alternative funding sources.
4. Expansion of Recycling, Composting, and Organics programs and facilities to strengthen markets for recyclable materials and finished bio-products, encourage the production and purchase of products containing recycled-content materials, and implement a statewide recycling information network.
5. Banning disposal of organics in landfill.
6. Energy recovery from landfill gas, wood wastes, and other source-separated biomass.
7. Energy production at landfills.
8. Performance standards and use of alternative cover for landfills, limited to the quantities required to protect public health and safety and minimize nuisances.

#### **2023 COMMISSIONERS:**

**Kathy Watanabe**, Central County Cities | **Larry Klein**, SMaRT Station Cities | **Bryan Mekechuk**, West Valley Cities | **Liang Chao**, North County Cities | **Vicki Veenker**, Member-at-Large | **Anthony Phan**, Member-at-Large | **Sylvia Arenas**, Santa Clara County | **Domingo Candelas**, City of San José | **Rebecca Eisenberg**, Santa Clara Valley Water District | **Fred Tovar**, South County Cities

## Countywide Solid Waste Services

Serving the Jurisdictions of Santa Clara County  
17575 Peak Ave | Morgan Hill, CA 95037



Recycling & Waste Reduction Commission  
of Santa Clara County

9. Legislation to further address litter control, illegal dumping and abatement problems in California including enforcement, outreach campaigns, a reduction in single-use items such as cigarette filters, other problem materials, and the cleanup of littered and illegally dumped areas.
10. Regulations that prohibit the release of radioactive or radiation-contaminated materials into the recycling stream.
11. Requirements that products containing hazardous materials be designed, manufactured, and used in ways that avoid harm to workers and the environment and shall be managed and recycled using proper processes and procedures according to environmental regulations and Department of Toxic Substances Control guidelines.
12. Elimination of local government waste liability under Superfund for the disposal of ordinary municipal waste, expedited de minimis settlements for hazardous material generated by local government operations, and allocation of costs on the basis of toxicity rather than the volume of municipal waste. Superfund reform should also provide a level of protection to third party investors, lenders, and developers of Brownfield sites.
13. Preventing adoption of state and federal laws and global treaties that preempt local government from protecting public health and the environment.
14. Legislation and regulations that support Countywide Food Rescue efforts.

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