



DISTRIBUTION DATE: 4/18/12

City Administrator's Office

# MEMORANDUM

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR &  
CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Vitaly B. Troyan, P.E.

**SUBJECT:** StopWaste.Org Energy JPA

**DATE:** April 12, 2012

City Administrator  
Approval

Date

4-16-12

## INFORMATION

On March 28, 2012, the Board of StopWaste.Org (SWO) directed its staff to pursue (1) an agreement for the creation of an energy-focused joint powers authority (JPA) and (2) the development of draft JPA documents. Membership to the proposed Energy JPA would be voluntary and decided by each City Council. SWO is the Alameda County Waste Management Authority and the Alameda County Source Reduction and Recycling Board operating as one public agency.

The purpose of this new entity would be to develop a more formal countywide governance structure for seeking and implementing energy-related grants/funds. It is expected that SWO would staff the proposed Energy JPA. According to its staff, SWO believes that this is the best way to diversify its revenue, continue its role as a regional coordinator on energy-related programs, and enable collective competitiveness in energy-related grant seeking.

The City has partnered with multiple agencies in the region on energy efficiency for more than a decade. The City founded the East Bay Energy Watch (EBEW) partnership with PG&E and local governments throughout Alameda and Contra Costa counties. EBEW is currently in the process of expanding and formalizing its governance structure. The City also participates in a natural gas procurement program administered by ABAG.

Since 2009, the City has actively partnered with SWO on development and delivery of the Stimulus-funded Energy Upgrade California program. This program has promoted residential energy upgrades in Oakland and throughout the Bay Area. SWO has represented Alameda county local governments in this effort, and has secured energy-related grants as a prime or sub applicant.

It is expected that energy-related grant opportunities will continue to be available in California on a competitive basis in the coming years. Formation of an Energy JPA by SWO could impact Oakland in reduced autonomy, yet collaboration may enhance our competitiveness in future grant applications. Several questions should be considered:

- Fundraising – What funding sources will the proposed Energy JPA pursue? How will these overlap with funding opportunities that the City might have otherwise pursued on its own or through other partnerships?
- Mission – How will Oakland's priorities be reflected in the proposed Energy JPA's mission, activities, decisions and funding proposals?
- Representation on the JPA – Who will represent Oakland if the proposed Energy JPA is formed?
- Coordination – What systems will be established to achieve effective coordination and collaboration, and to avoid duplication of effort and conflict? A number of existing agencies, including the City, already provide energy-related programs and services within the geographic area that would be served by the proposed Energy JPA.
- Staffing – What additional demands on staff resources will be created by the proposed Energy JPA in time needed to track and participate in its work?

SWO staff held a conference call on April 10<sup>th</sup> with member agency staff to provide more information and discuss next steps on the proposed JPA formation. SWO staff plan to develop an administrative draft of the JPA documents over the next few weeks, and to circulate the drafts to member agency staff to review in May.

PG&E plans to provide a presentation on the proposed EBEW governance structure at an Alameda County City Managers meeting on April 18<sup>th</sup>.

A workshop is planned later in April for stakeholders including local governments, SWO, East Bay Energy Watch, ABAG and PG&E to increase coordination in energy efficiency strategic planning and program delivery. We will provide additional information as it becomes available.

Respectfully submitted,



Vitaly B. Troyan, P.E.  
Director, Public Works Agency

For questions please contact Garrett Fitzgerald, Sustainability Coordinator, at (510) 238-6179.