

MEMO



Staff Reports

Item# 19

Meeting Date: November 17, 2023

To: Board of Directors
From: Director of Communications, Zoë Shoats
Approved by: General Manager, Felipe Melchor

Subject: TAC / SB 1383 Update from October 11, 2023, Meeting

Recommendation

Information only.

Background

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) is a staff working group comprised of at least one representative from each member jurisdiction ReGen Monterey serves; the three franchise haulers who serve them; and ReGen Monterey staff. The TAC was initially formed to better coordinate ReGen Monterey member jurisdictions in choosing a common franchise hauler to provide curbside collection service for the benefit of the community. Since then, the group meets at a frequency set by demand to share resources and work collaboratively towards common goals and meet regulations. The Committee does not make decisions, rather, staff members recommend actions for the ReGen Monterey Board and/or their elected bodies to take action.

Discussion

The TAC met on Wednesday, October 11, 2023, virtually via Zoom. Items discussed include:

- 1. CalRecycle Local Area Assistance Grant Funding Round 2 – Areas of Focus –**
CalRecycle is offering a second round of funding available to local jurisdictions in early 2024 for implementation of SB 1383. Overall funding has increased from a base award of \$20,000 per jurisdiction in the first funding cycle to \$75,000 for this second funding cycle. A total of \$1,369,635 is available to jurisdictions in Monterey County this cycle. ReGen Monterey will be applying for grant funds on behalf of its member jurisdictions for cost sharing, as will Salinas Valley Recycles. As the County of Monterey is split between both entities, they will be applying separately. In total, \$600,000 will be coming to ReGen Monterey for their jurisdictions' implementation assistance.

ReGen Monterey has hired Blue Strike Environmental to apply for and programmatically administer those grant funds. A subcommittee of the TAC was formed to lead the grant process and outline a project approach. The subcommittee is recommending that funding support the following activities:

- Education, Outreach and Technical Assistance

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Let's not waste this.



- Edible Food Recovery (generators)
- Compost Procurement through 2026
- Enforcement Readiness

Blue Strike Environmental staff will be submitting the grant application before the November 15 deadline.

2. **Edible Food Recovery (EFR) Inspections by Blue Strike Environmental** – Blue Strike Environmental is contracted by ReGen Monterey to provide various edible food recovery services. Their team has begun inspections of tier 2 edible food recovery generators (hotels, large restaurants, health facilities, large venues and events, state agency cafeterias, local education agencies with on-site food facility) per SB 1383 regulations. The inspections ask if those generators have written agreements for edible food donations and if they are weighing their donated goods. General outreach has already been conducted with tier 1 generators and they will be followed up with after tier 2 initial inspections are completed.
 - a. **Recyclist Review for EFR Inspections** – Recyclist is a shared database that ReGen Monterey provides for reporting purposes to its member jurisdictions. ReGen staff provided a review of Recyclist capabilities for tracking edible food recovery—for both generator and food recovery organization inspections.
3. **CalRecycle Visits to ReGen Monterey & Member Jurisdictions** – ReGen Monterey staff shared that they hosted CalRecycle Local Assistance and Market Development representatives, Laura Chain and Melissa Vargas for a full site tour on Tuesday, October 3. ReGen staff informed TAC members that we were able to showcase the vast infrastructure and number of diversion programs that support our member jurisdictions in adhering to state mandates. The tour provided a special emphasis on composting operations with Keith Day Company staff. CalRecycle representatives walked away with a deeper understanding and applauded our work as a region.

Financial Impact

None

Conclusion

The TAC will continue to meet monthly and staff members will make recommendations to the boards they serve for action as needed.]