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**Agenda Item
Regular Meeting of the
Board of Supervisors
Tuesday, August 25, 2026**

Item Number: 3.1

MEETING DATE: 08/25/2026

DEPARTMENT: RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY

AGENDA ITEM PREPARER: Celina Stotler

DEPT HEAD/DIRECTOR: Deems Katada

SUBJECT:

PUBLIC WORKS – D. KATADA

1. Receive a presentation on the transfer station analysis and staff's recommendation of the Resource Recovery Park site as the preferred location.
2. Provide direction regarding the preferred transfer station site, including consideration of staff's recommendation to advance the Resource Recovery Park site.
3. Authorize staff to proceed with preparation of the transfer station concept design and financial analysis, including a preliminary cost estimate, evaluation of financing options, and preliminary rate analysis.
4. Direct staff to return to the Board with a proposed budget adjustment, anticipated in the amount of \$250,000.00 from the County Solid Waste Fund (Fund 225), to fund the transfer station concept design and financial analysis.

SBC FILE NUMBER: 142

AGENDA SECTION:

REGULAR AGENDA

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:

The County's latest John Smith Road Landfill Disposal Capacity Report prepared by Lewis Engineering based on the April 2026 aerial survey, estimates that the John Smith Road Landfill will reach capacity in June 2035, leaving approximately 9.24 years of remaining disposal capacity as of August 2026.

Under the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939), counties are required to prepare and maintain a Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan and ensure a minimum of 15

years of disposal capacity. Because the John Smith Road Landfill currently provides less than the required 15 years of remaining capacity, the County must evaluate long-term solid waste disposal solutions.

The landfill operator, Waste Solutions Group of San Benito, LLC, previously pursued an expansion of the John Smith Road Landfill with the County of San Benito that would have provided for additional capacity beyond 15 years. However, the San Benito County Planning Commission denied the Conditional Use Permit and recommended denial of the associated General Plan Amendment. Subsequently, Waste Solutions Group withdrew its appeal and, on November 5, 2025, submitted a Notice of Termination of Expansion to the County. Although no landfill expansion project is currently proposed, the possibility of a future application cannot be ruled out. At this time, the County has not received any new expansion proposal and should continue evaluating all feasible options to address future disposal capacity needs.

The Sanitary Ad Hoc was formed by the Board of Supervisors on April 16, 2024, and its primary objective is to explore long-term disposal capacity for County residents and businesses for the Board's consideration and future discussion. The Committee's objectives include:

- Long-term solid waste capacity for County residents
- Reduced haul trucks
- Increased recycling and renewable energy opportunities
- Maintaining rates low for County residents while considering funding opportunities and any necessary funding mechanisms
- Building Regional Relationships
- Accurate Data on Transfer Station Costs and Expansion Costs to Public and Board

Consistent with the Board's policy limiting ad hoc committees to a 12-month duration, the Sanitary Ad Hoc Committee was dissolved in February 2025. Staff have evaluating regional disposal options and potential partnerships, including the feasibility, conceptual design, and estimated costs of a transfer station.

On March 25, 2026, staff provided the Board of Supervisors with an update on the Sanitary Ad Hoc Committee's efforts and sought direction regarding alternative technology research, conceptual transfer station plans, and discussions with the landfill operator. The Board directed staff to continue evaluating disposal alternatives, including transfer station options, landfill expansion, and alternative technologies; and return in with updated information, cost estimates, and further analysis of options.

Since the March 25, 2026 Board discussion, staff have continued evaluating long-term solid waste disposal options and have completed additional environmental analysis, continued regional outreach and partnership discussions, received updates from the landfill operator, and refined the conceptual transfer station layouts. Staff is presenting the updated analysis and recommending the Resource Recovery Park site as the preferred location for the transfer station location. Staff is seeking Board direction to proceed with concept design and financial analysis, including preliminary cost estimates, financing options, and rate impact analysis.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no immediate fiscal impact associated with the recommended actions. Based on the Board's direction, staff anticipates returning at a future meeting with a proposed budget adjustment of \$250,000.00 from the County Solid Waste Fund (Fund 225) to fund the anticipated FY 2026–27

expenditures associated with the transfer station concept design and financial analysis. The total cost of the additional analysis is currently estimated at approximately \$500,000.00 over two fiscal years. Funding for the remaining anticipated expenditures would be considered through future budget processes and brought to the Board for approval as appropriate.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

1. Receive a presentation on the transfer station analysis and staff's recommendation of the Resource Recovery Park site as the preferred location.
2. Provide direction regarding the preferred transfer station site, including consideration of staff's recommendation to advance the Resource Recovery Park site.
3. Authorize staff to proceed with preparation of the transfer station concept design and financial analysis, including a preliminary cost estimate, evaluation of financing options, and preliminary rate analysis.
4. Direct staff to return to the Board with a proposed budget adjustment, anticipated in the amount of \$250,000.00 from the County Solid Waste Fund (Fund 225), to fund the transfer station concept design and financial analysis.

ATTACHMENTS:

[Agenda Fact Sheet - Transfer Station](#)

[Presentation - Planning Beyond the Landfill: Transfer Station Evaluation, Site Selection and Next Steps](#)

[Regional Solid Waste Facilities Map.pdf](#)

[Environmental Evaluation of Transfer Station Alternatives](#)

[John Smith Road Landfill Transfer Station Site - Conceptual Layout and Entrance Facility Grading Plan](#)

[Resource Recovery Park Transfer Station - Conceptual Layout](#)

[Resource Recovery Park Transfer Station Site - Draft Ballpark Capital and Ops Estimates](#)