



JOHN A. FANTHAM
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

County of Santa Cruz

0355

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

701 OCEAN STREET, ROOM 410, SANTA CRUZ, CA 960604070
(931) 454-2160 FAX (931) 454-2385 TDD (831) 454-2123

AGENDA: APRIL 4, 2000

March 23, 2000

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, California 95060

SUBJECT: WASTE REDUCTION - PROMOTION OF HOME COMPOSTING

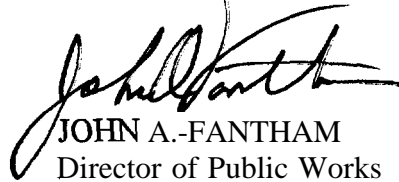
Members of the Board:

As your Board is aware, the County is obligated by state law to reduce the amount of landfill disposal at the County's Buena Vista Landfill. While the County continues to make significant progress in this regard, it remains important to continually encourage residents of the county to produce less waste. One effective means of doing so is through the promotion of home composting, and in support of this activity, the Public Works Department is sponsoring a one-day sale of home composting and worm composting bins on April 15, 2000. Home composting bins will be offered for sale at a discount price by the vendor used by Waste Management of Santa Cruz County.

The Skills Center, Inc. produces worms for vermicomposting and sells bins and supplies for vermicomposting and will also be present at this one-day sale. The Skills Center has requested that the County help underwrite the cost of their composting worms as a means to further encourage more residents to use vermicomposting for food waste reduction (see attached letter). The idea would be a promotion that up to the first 100 residents of the unincorporated area purchasing worm composting bins would receive a pound of composting worms at no cost. We believe that this would be an effective use of County solid waste public education funds to promote waste reduction. Skills Center, Inc. will be reimbursed \$13.00 per pound of worms distributed up to a maximum reimbursement of \$1,300.

It is therefore recommended that your Board authorize an expenditure in a **not-to-exceed** amount of \$1,300 for the purchase of vermicomposting worms from the Skills Center, Inc. for promotion of the County's residential home composting program.

Yours truly,)

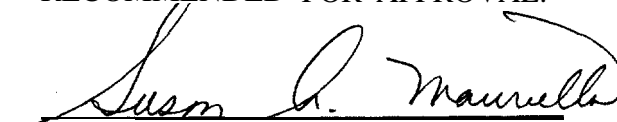


JOHN A. FANTHAM
Director of Public Works

DdG:bbs

Attachment

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL:



Susan A. Maurella
County Administrative Officer

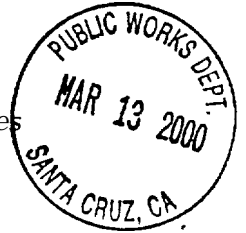
copy to: Public Works Department

WRB



Programs and Businesses Training and Employing People with Developmental Disabilities

0357



3 Administration

Mattison Lane Industries
Community Employment Services
Community Living Services
2685 Mattison lane
Santa Cruz, CA 95062
831/476-6501
Fax 83 1/476-328 1

Aptos Training Center
8056 Valencia Street
Aptos, CA 95003
831/662-8707
Fax 831/662-9239

Mobile Work Group
93 Rountree Lane
Watsonville, CA 95076
831/728-0321
Fax 831/728-9075

Monterey Peninsula Training Center
511 Grand Avenue
Pacific Grove, CA 93950
831/375-0809

Community Employment Services
831/375-0800
Community Living Services
831/375-7973
Fax 831/375-7973

Pajaro Valley Training Center
14 Carr Street
Watsonville, CA 95076
831/761-8628
Fax 831/761-1165
Human Resources
83161-7067
Fax 831/761-7069

Salinas Valley Training Center
65 San Miguel Street
Salinas, CA 93901
831/422-0208
Fax 831/422-5038

Skills Center Industries
Community Employment Services
546 Brunken Avenue
Salinas, CA 93901
831/758-0973
Fax 831/758-0252

An Affiliate of HOPE
Rehabilitation Services

A United Way Agency



Accredited by
Commission on
Accreditation of
Rehabilitation
Facilities

March 11, 2000

Mr. Dan de Grassi
County of Santa Cruz Public Works
70 1 Ocean Street, Room 4 10
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

SUBJECT: WORMS FOR COUNTY COMPOST BIN SALE

Dear Mr. de Grassi,

Thank you for inviting the Skills Center Worm Farm to participate in the upcoming County-sponsored compost bin sale. We are pleased to be able to help Santa Cruz County meet its waste reduction goals by offering worms and vermicomposting supplies to residents.

We would like to propose that the County offer residents of the unincorporated County an incentive to attend the sale and purchase a bin by providing them with a free pound of worms. We worked with the City of San Jose to offer a similar incentive to their residents at their Fall 1999 bin sale. Each resident who purchased a compost bin received a free pound of vermicomposting worms,

Our regular price for a pound of worms is \$14.95. Our price to the County for 100 pounds of worms at the bin sale would be \$1300. Residents of the unincorporated County who purchase a bin could be given a coupon, redeemable for a free pound of worms at the Skills Center Worm Farm booth. Coupons could be distributed on a first-come, first-serve basis, with a not-to-exceed quantity of 100 coupons.

Thank you for considering this proposal. We look forward to working with you at the bin sale.

Sincerely,

Karin Grobe
Karin Grobe
Worm Farm Manager