



JOHN A. FANTHAM
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

County of Santa Cruz

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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AGENDA: MAY 23, 2000

May 11, 2000

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, California 95060

SUBJECT: GRANT APPLICATION FOR FOOD WASTE RECYCLING PROJECT

Members of the Board:

The California Integrated Waste Management Board has recently released a Request for Proposals (RFP) to demonstrate methods of food waste recycling in high visibility locations. Public Works believes this would be a good opportunity to establish a demonstration project that can serve as a model for food generating businesses throughout the county. We have contacted the California Grey Bears, located in mid-county, about using this grant to install an in-vessel composting system for the food residue generated from the Seniors Food Redistribution Program at their Chanticleer Avenue site. The Grey Bears are interested in participating in this project (see Attachment "A") and would contribute to the matching cost requirement of the RFP.

Attachment "B" provides an overview of the scope of the project solicited by the RFP. Because of the very short time available to respond to the RFP, a complete draft of the proposal will not be ready until May 19, 2000, at which time a copy will be placed on file with the Clerk of the Board. However, the basic structure of the proposal includes acquisition, installation, and operation of two in-vessel composting units (see description in Attachment "C") combined with public outreach. The Sonoma County Solid Waste Management Authority and the City of Eugene, Oregon have both had recent successful experiences with these units.

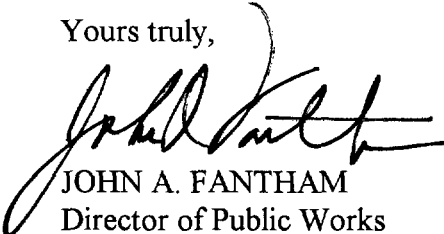
Based on the experience in Oregon with these in-vessel cornposters, Public Works estimates that the capital cost (grant request) of setting up the cornposters would be about \$25,000. The RFP requires a 1: 1 match at a minimum, and we anticipate meeting this requirement in the following ways:

- staff time from the Grey Bears to operate the unit, record performance, and host public outreach events - operational costs (approximately \$5,000)
- staff time from Public Works for grant administration, outreach coordination, plus printing and advertising (approximately \$10,000)
- County contracted professional services for operations technical assistance to the Grey Bears plus outreach and public information (approximately \$10,000).

The outreach component to the project will include printed material describing the benefits of this approach to food waste reduction for targeted businesses plus technical information on the operations, general press and media coverage, photo documentation for in-person and Internet presentations, general public site visit, and focused outreach to specific businesses and institutions with high volumes of food waste. Outreach will play a very significant role in this project, as the overall purpose will be to demonstrate the feasibility and benefit of using this waste reduction technique to large food-waste generators. Funds for this type of waste reduction outreach are available in the current year Public Works Solid Waste budget and are proposed in the 2000/2001 year Public Works budget as well.

It is therefore recommended that the Board of Supervisors authorize the Director of Public Works to submit a proposal to establish an in-vessel food waste composting system in response to the California Integrated Waste Management Board Request for Proposals Contract No. IWM-C906 1.

Yours truly,

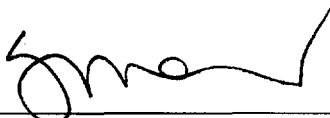


JOHN A. FANTHAM
Director of Public Works

DDG:mg

Attachments

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL:



County Administrative Officer
copy to: Public Works

FODM



CALIFORNIA GREY BEARS, INC.⁰⁵¹³

2710 Chanticleer Avenue • Santa Cruz, CA 95065-I 812 • (831) 479-I 055 • Fax (831) 479-8465

May 5, 2000



Dan deGrassi
Public Works Dept.
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean St.
Santa Cruz, CA.95060

Dear Dan:

Grey Bears is interested in pursuing a grant in order to purchase a couple of "Earth Tubs" for composting our leftover produce. A preliminary analysis that we recently conducted found that we need to dispose of 400 Ibs of produce per day. As you know, we have tried worm farming, but this small operation does not divert enough of the produce we have leftover. Over the years, we have seen a substantial reduction in the number of livestock farmers who would pick up leftovers.

We would like to be a showcase or model for all those in the community who are interested in composting. We could give demonstrations, house the tubs, and supply the staff time required to run the operation.

We would be glad to discuss this matter further with you. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Lynda Francis

Lynda Francis
Executive Director

SECTION VII

SCOPE OF WORK

I. INTRODUCTION

The California Integrated Waste Management Board (Board) is the primary agency responsible for non-hazardous waste management in California. The Board intends to award a total of up to \$150,000 during Fiscal Year 1999/2000 for partnership project contracts with local jurisdictions and/or school districts, designed to divert food scraps generated at high volume sites (e.g. school cafeterias, theme parks, shopping malls, outreach events, convention centers). The maximum funding per contract will be \$50,000. This Request for Proposals (RFP) seeks proposals for completion of the project(s) outlined in this document.

Municipal organic materials comprise over 30 percent of California's solid waste stream. These municipal materials, which primarily include yard trimmings, food scraps, and wood waste, are one of the Board's priorities for diversion from landfills. In some jurisdictions, food scraps comprise 14 percent of the wastestream. Board staff is implementing an ambitious plan (known as the "Greening Team" performance plan, available at <http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/organics/>) to divert an additional five to seven million tons of these organic materials from landfills by the year 2000. The project(s) solicited in this RFP will help the Board achieve its goal by establishing partnerships with local jurisdictions and school districts, in accordance with Target 2 of the performance plan, to decrease waste of commercial and institutional food.

To date, the Board has partnered with local governments and school districts, and others to divert organic materials from the wastestream and demonstrate effectiveness of alternative to disposal. The Board is committed to this "partnership" approach and is seeking to develop further strategic alliances of groups working on commercial and industrial food diversion generated at high volume sites.

Keeping with the Board's hierarchy of waste reduction, reuse and recycling, this year's solicitation seeks to encourage projects that effectively and economically divert food scraps and that demonstrate innovative approaches to accomplishing this goal. Examples of food diversion may include: 1) Food waste reduction that streamlines processing of foods to prevent excessive generation of food trimmings prior to consumption, 2) Reuse of food by developing an infrastructure with food banks or other entities that distribute consumable foods; and 3) Recycling through diversion of non-consumable food scraps for use as animal feed or inclusion in a composting operation. In evaluating proposals for funding, preferences will be given for innovative projects.

Consistent with the Board's general commitment to "partnership" approaches, this RFP would enable the Board to develop new strategic alliances with local jurisdictions and school districts working on food waste diversion. In particular, this RFP solicits proposals from 1) School districts proposing to divert food scraps, 2) Local jurisdictions proposing to divert food scraps at high-volume sites (e.g., theme parks, shopping malls, outreach events, convention centers) or 3) School districts and local jurisdictions can submit a joint proposal to divert food scraps within the school district.

The projects must be viewed as economically feasible and replicable by other entities, school districts or jurisdictions.

For each project, a local jurisdiction and/or school district will serve as the contractor and be responsible for organizing, planning and coordinating project implementation. This requires the ability to coordinate with local waste management and/or recycling companies regarding collection and management of food scraps; ability to prepare technical information and plans relevant to collection and management of food scraps; and ability to provide facilities, sites and staffing as necessary for local projects.

The Board encourages creative proposals and expects the project proposal to describe the specific goals and methodologies of the project. The Board is particularly interested in high-visibility, high-volume food diversion projects that are either on-going or one-time events which clearly provide public education opportunities. Innovative technologies for high-volume food scrap processing are also encouraged.

Acceptable proposals must indicate how the project, if funded, will:

- Provide on-site education.
- Demonstrate ability to be replicated by other jurisdictions or school districts.
- Increase awareness to local jurisdictions or school districts about effective methodologies for diversion.
- Identify food scrap collection barriers and develop solutions to decreasing contamination.
- Measure volume of food generated and diverted.
- Quantify economic benefits of food scrap reduction and/or diversion.
- Disseminate the results of the diversion project to local jurisdictions, school districts and interested parties within the region and state. To accomplish this, this project requires the development and coordination of effective outreach activities. Outreach for this project may include: brochures, media coverage and publication of findings in trade magazines or other publications.

The Board believes that the partnership projects will help meet local and regional needs and is recommending all partnership proposals include matching funds or in-kind provisions. These provisions must be described in detail. The proposal must clearly identify the amount of matching funds or in-kind contributions (including labor, equipment rental, administrative overhead, etc.). Quantitative estimates of labor costs, etc. must be provided.

The Board intends to award a total of up to \$150,000 for contracts during Fiscal Year 1999/2000, with no individual project proposal funded in excess of \$50,000. Awards will be offered to the highest scored proposal first with subsequent awards being given to the second highest and so on depending on availability of remaining funds. The Board reserves the right to fund, any, all, or none of the proposals submitted in response to this solicitation.

Type and Terms of Assistance

Contractual funds of up to \$50,000 per project in California are available. Proposals will be funded by June 2000. There will be no provision for advance or lump sum payment. Projects should begin by approximately June 2000 and be completed in twelve months with the submission of a final report by March 15, 2001.

Project funding will be available in quarterly payments contingent upon receipt of timely reports and invoices according to terms specified in the Agreement with each contractor. These contracts will be initiated with local governments or school districts, who may partner with individuals, businesses and organizations selected from submitted proposals. Awards are not considered grant funds, but rather contractual agreements with the Board.

Tetitative Schedule

April 2000	Advertisement
May 2000	Bidders Conference
June 2000	Proposals will be received, scored and final selection announced

HOW TO WORK AN EARTH TUB™

1. Loading

Organic materials such as food scraps, manure or yard waste are loaded through the large hatchway in the cover. Periodically, dry materials such as wood chips, shredded paper or shavings can be added to insure that porosity and moisture levels are ideal for composting.

AUGER MOTOR

2. Mixing

Turn on the auger motor and rotate the cover to shred and mix the new organic material into the active compost. Two revolutions of the rotating cover are required to mix the outside and center of the Earth Tub. The auger will shred and mix a ton or more of compost in 10-15 minutes. During active composting, the Earth Tub should be mixed at least two times per week.

3. Waste Reduction!

Heat generated in the Earth Tub evaporates the food scraps in the Earth Tub because food is mostly water! The volume reduction is typically 70% or higher. Once complete, compost removal is easy. Simply open the discharge doors during the mixing process and the auger pushes the compost out as it rotates past the discharge door. The compost is cured for 15-20 days before use in gardening or landscaping.

Aerobics

Maintaining aerobic conditions and controlling temperature are essential for composting and odor control. The aeration system draws air out of the Earth Tub to remove heat generated by the accelerated break down of organic materials. The blower pushes the exhaust gases through the biofilter in the Earth Tub floor collected in a holding tank in the Earth Tub floor can be recycled back onto the compost.

Aeration Flow Diagram

