



**TOWN OF LOS GATOS
COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT**

MEETING DATE: 06/17/2025

ITEM NO: 16

DATE: June 17, 2025
TO: Mayor and Town Council
FROM: Chris Constantin, Town Manager
SUBJECT: Authorize the Town Manager to Execute an Amendment to the Agreement with the County of Santa Clara for the Countywide Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program to Reflect the Updated FY 2025-26 Augmentation Rate of \$117,136

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the following actions related to the Countywide Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program:

- a. Authorize the Town Manager to execute an amendment (Attachment 1) to the agreement with the County of Santa Clara for the Countywide Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program to reflect the updated Fiscal Year (FY) 2025/26 augmentation rate; and
- b. Authorize FY 2025/26 revenue and expenditure budget increase in the amount of \$22,917 to recognize the increased FY 2025- 26 augmentation rate.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

The proposed project aligns with the Core Goals of **Good Governance** and **Community Character**, as well as and the strategic priority related to promoting sustainable practices.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Proposed FY 2025-26 Operating Budget within the Environmental Services Program (expenditures 5302-63121, revenues 5302-42522) includes a revenue projection of \$94,219 with associated expenditures of the same amount. This is pass-through funding received from West Valley Collection and Recycling and paid by the Town to the County of Santa Clara to operate a Household Hazardous Waste Collection program.

PREPARED BY: Shirley Ng
Environmental Program Specialist

Reviewed by: Town Manager, Assistant Town Manager, Town Attorney, and Finance Director

SUBJECT: Authorize the Town Manager to execute an Amendment with the County of Santa Clara for the Countywide Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program to update FY 2025-26 Pass-Through Amounts

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The County has evaluated the pass-through amount that Los Gatos is responsible for, also known as the augmentation rate, and has determined that the augmentation rate will go up from \$94,219 to \$117,136 in FY 2025/26. Staff recommends authorization of revenue and expenditure budget adjustments in the amount of \$22,917 to ensure the augmentation is budgeted in accordance with the updated County augmentation. The amount is calculated based on anticipated resident participation from Los Gatos; actual funding augmentation for FY 2025/26 will be based on actual resident participation. With this action, the revenue and expenditure will increase by \$22,917 for a total of \$117,136.

BACKGROUND:

On May 7, 2024, the Town Council approved an agreement (Attachment 2) with the County of Santa Clara to manage the Countywide Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Program for the Town for FY 2024-25 through FY 2026-27.

Responsible management of solid waste, including Hazardous Household Waste (HHW) is a requirement under Assembly Bill (AB) 939 and the California Integrated Waste Management Act. The County HHW collection program funds safe and appropriate disposal or re-purposing of waste. Additionally, the Countywide HHW Agreement is designed to reduce and eventually eliminate the residential hazardous waste that is still sent to landfills countywide and to capture some of the hazardous waste that might otherwise be illegally dumped.

The County runs the program and the Town participates through the Agreement for Countywide Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program (Attachment 2). The County HHW Program includes two permanent drop-off facilities for HHW as well as temporary events at various locations in the County periodically throughout the year. Los Gatos residents use this drop-off service for the responsible disposal of unwanted HHW materials.

The Town's solid waste hauler collects fees through customer monthly billing, then pays the fees to the Town of Los Gatos as a member of the joint powers authority the hauler is contracted through. The Town then participates as a pass-through agent and pays the fees in full to the County. The agreement discussed in this staff report is the agreement between the County and the Town to facilitate the last step of the pass-through agent's responsibility to pay the fees collected to the County.

DISCUSSION:

Associated fees collected by the solid waste hauler are updated annually through collaboration with the hauler, JPA member agencies, and the County. As a result, the updated rates are passed on to residents and the annual pass-through funding amount – known as the augmentation rate

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– owed by each city/town is also revised. The Town's updated augmentation for FY 2025/26 is \$117,136 and this increase is reflected in the proposed amendment to the County HHW program agreement. As this is an increase from the existing agreement, staff recommends FY 2025/26 revenue and expenditure budget increases of \$22,917 to cover the difference.

CONCLUSION:

If authorized, these actions will update the agreements and resources needed for Los Gatos residents to participate in the County's HHW program. This program is critical to the Town's compliance with the State of California's Solid Waste laws.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

This is not a project defined under CEQA, and no further action is required.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. First Amendment to the Agreement for Countywide Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program
2. Agreement for Countywide Hazardous Household Waste Collection Program