

**NOVATO SANITARY DISTRICT  
SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**August 6, 2013  
3:00-4:00pm**

**MINUTES**

Members Present:

Dennis Welsh                      Mike DiGiorgio

Others in Attendance:

Beverly James	Dee Johnson	Pat Eklund	Jerry Peters	Brant Miller
Steve McCaffrey	Dave Myers	Brian Cochran	Karina Joffee	

1. Approve agenda. The agenda for August 6, 2013 was approved as submitted.
2. Public Comment. There was no comment from the public.
3. Minutes of May 21., 2013. The minutes of May 21, 2013 were approved as submitted. .
4. Discussion and Comments on City of Novato Draft Fiscal Sustainability Plan. Beverly James delivered a staff report and powerpoint presentation on the City of Novato proposed road impact fee. She outlined a brief history of the District's solid waste franchise and programs. She indicated that the rates reflect the cost of service consistent with the constraints of Prop. 218 and are set in a public process. The franchise fee only covers the cost of overseeing the contract. The District has always looked at residential and commercial rates as a package. The District maintains the lowest rates in all categories in comparison with other Marin jurisdictions. The District's franchise agreement with the hauler negotiated a low profit margin (10%) to keep rates low for the public. If the City were to implement a road impact fee, it would be passed on to ratepayers, increasing rates. Modifying the rate structure with these fees could violate Prop. 218. Questions to consider if the City imposed a road impact fee include legal issues, ratepayer impacts, and the "fairness" issue of singling out solid waste trucks alone to impose a road impact fee when there are many other regular trucks on the road.

Mike DiGiorgio asked about the legal issues. Could the City impose the fee? It doesn't seem that the District has a mechanism to impose a road impact fee, particularly given Prop. 218 constraints. Dennis Welch asked how much Novato Disposal saves due to the proximity to Redwood Landfill and the prevalence of wide, flat streets. Beverly indicated that other Marin jurisdictions do impose a hill rate for those customers. Pat Eklund indicated that the City Council has not discussed the road impact fee and her understanding was that Michael Frank was not specifically recommending the road impact fee. Pat suggested that the District bring forward their concerns to the City Council. Mike DiGiorgio indicated that he had requested a letter from Michael Frank regarding the road impact fee and instead received comments in the Draft Sustainability Plan that indicated the District wasn't doing its job. Brian Cochran from the City, stated that staff had presented sections of the Draft Fiscal Sustainability Plan to the City Council in workshops over the past month or so. He stated that the "City's hands are tied" with regards to raising potential revenue. Staff looked at revenue options, including the road impact fee and economic development fees. The amount of \$350,000 was a "plug-in" number. He indicated that most jurisdictions in CA are receiving "substantial" revenue from franchise fees and road impact fees. Beverly James asked Brian about the consultant's report the City had requested over a year ago re: the road impact fees and whether this report was available. Brian stated he wasn't aware of any report but would look into it. Pat Eklund also mentioned that she would check with Michael Frank about the report. Brian Cochran stated that if the City instituted a road impact fee, it would be a mitigation fee and would require a road impact study prior to instituting. Brant Miller indicated that the City needed to be open with the public re: its finances. Beverly James suggested that the next steps were to look at the legal issues, what are other sanitary district's doing that hold a garbage franchise and the actual wear and tear on the streets from the garbage trucks.

Committee members recommended that the District take no further action at this time until the City returns with a more formal request. Mike requested that this item be put on the next District Board agenda for further discussion.

5. Updates/Routine Business Items.

- City of Novato. Mike DiGiorgio indicated that we should make sure Novato Disposal and the City are set up with collection bins at the new City Hall location. Steve and Dee indicated that these discussions had been held but would follow up again.
- Redwood Landfill. No report from Redwood Landfill.
- Novato Disposal - No report from Novato Disposal.
- Marin County JPA and Local Task Force. Dee Johnson indicated that the LTF was proceeding with a Zero Waste campaign.

6. Household Hazardous Waste Programs

- a. 2013 HHW Program Report update. Dee reviewed the 2013 report, indicating July was the busiest July in 6 years.

7. 2012 Disposal/Diversion Monitoring Report. Novato Disposal's 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2013 diversion rate increased to 56% from 53% in 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2013. Concerns were expressed regarding the other recycling Center on Redwood at the Mill location and their impact on our diversion rate.

8. Adjourn. The next Committee meeting will be scheduled for some time in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. The meeting adjourned at 4:00pm.