## CITY OF SUNNYVAL

## The Heart of Silicon Valley "

**456 WEST OLIVE AVENUE** 

SUNNYVALE, CALIFORNIA 94086

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Office of the City Manager

October 28, 2015

Mr. Thomas C. Williams City Manager City of Milpitas 455 East Calaveras Boulevard Milpitas, California 95035

Subject: Request for Proposals

Dear Mr. Williams:

On behalf of the City of Sunnyvale and in partnership with Garden City Sanitation, I am pleased to make you aware of the City's interest in providing services to Milpitas in response to your Request for Proposals (RFP) for Solid Waste, Recyclables and Organics Collection, Processing and Disposal Services.

In fact, I also offer you an opportunity to become a partner, along with Mountain View and Palo Alto, in the award-winning Sunnyvale Materials Recovery and Transfer Station (SMaRT Station®). I am confident that the services provided by the SMaRT Station will meet or exceed Milpitas's needs. The SMaRT Station will:

- Use a modern Materials Recovery Facility to reduce by 30 percent or more the disposal of solid waste.
- Process Milpitas recyclables for sales to markets here and abroad.
- Arrange for composting of your source-separated organics (yard trimmings and food waste).
- Transport the unrecycled residues from the above activities to the Kirby Canyon Landfill in San Jose, a state-of-the-art disposal site owned and operated by Waste Management of California, Inc. Sunnyvale recently extended its Kirby Canyon disposal contract to run through 2031.

Sunnyvale can provide these services on a merchant basis or (our preference) in a full, peer-to-peer partnership, with Milpitas joining Mountain View, Palo Alto and Sunnyvale as a full participant in the SMaRT Station MOU. This would include a share of the recycling revenues generated by SMaRT and a seat at the table when the cities discuss how best to use the facility to meet future recycling and solid waste processing and disposal needs. The urgency of this last topic is sharpened by the Air Resources Board announcing this month its intent to <u>ban</u> the disposal of organics by the year 2025.

The City of Sunnyvale owns and operates, with a contract operator, the SMaRT Station, located at 301 Carl Road in Sunnyvale. The SMaRT Station provides a number of refuse-related services to Sunnyvale and the cities of Mountain View and Palo Alto. These functions include:

- Receipt of garbage collected within the SMaRT cities.
- Recovery of recyclable materials and compostable organics from the garbage, using a \$16 million equipment layout installed in 2009 and updated in the first half of 2015.
- Preparing source-separated curbside recyclables for shipment and sale to recycling markets.
- Processing yard trimmings and shipping them to a compost facility.
- No-charge distribution to residents of finished compost.
- Providing residents and businesses with an attractive, paved facility for selfhauled waste and recyclables.
- Drop-off of Universal Wastes, paint, hypodermic needles and other "sharps".
- A popular beverage container redemption center.
- Periodic shredding events for residents.

The SMaRT Station began operation in October 1993 and serves a combined residential population of 290,000 in the cities of Mountain View, Palo Alto and Sunnyvale. It also serves the recycling and disposal needs of the large industrial sectors of these "SMaRT Cities," including aggressive sorting of recyclables materials from construction and demolition projects.

I encourage you to think beyond the framework of the current RFP to consider the benefits a SMaRT Station partner role will provide to your community. I look forward to the opportunity to discuss with you this opportunity.

Sincerely,

Deanna J. Santana

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City Manager

cc: John Stufflebean, Environmental Services Director

Joan Borger, City Attorney
Grace Leung, Finance Director

Mark Bowers, Solid Waste Program Manager