TO: HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL
FROM: CITY MANAGER DEPARTMENT: PUBLIC WORKS
DATE: JULY 11, 2005 CMR:307:05
SUBJECT: SUNNYVALE MATERIALS RECOVERY AND TRANSFER STATION ANNUAL REPORT

This is an informational report and no Council action is required.

BACKGROUND
On October 7, 1991, Council approved a long-term refuse disposal agreement at Kirby Canyon Landfill with Waste Management, Inc. of California. At the same time, the Council also approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) creating a partnership with the Cities of Mountain View, Palo Alto and Sunnyvale to construct and operate the Sunnyvale Materials Recovery and Transfer (SMaRT) Station in Sunnyvale on a ten-acre site. These two agreements assured future generations of Palo Altans solid waste capacity for 30 years (until September 30, 2021). Per this MOU, the City of Sunnyvale takes the lead in the construction and operation of the station. In October 1993 the SMaRT Station began operation. It was designed and is permitted to handle a maximum of 1,500 tons per day of solid waste.

DISCUSSION
The City of Palo Alto delivered approximately 49,306 tons of solid waste in FY 2003/04 to the SMaRT Station. This is approximately 70 percent of the total waste stream processed by the City. The Palo Alto Sanitation Company/Waste Management delivers the majority of the waste with an average of four Palo Alto public self-haul customers using the station each month. In FY 2003/04 the SMaRT Station recovered approximately 9,007 tons (or 18.3 percent) of recyclables from the Palo Alto waste stream delivered.

Each year the SMaRT Station contract administrator prepares a report to the community (Attachment A). In FY 2003/04 the following highlights of achievements include:

- The annual diversion of recyclable materials from garbage received at the SMaRT Station in 2003/04 totaled 18.3%, qualifying the operator of the facility for the highest financial incentive offered in the operating contract.

- The average revenue for recyclable materials recovered from the sorting line increased by 39% while the average price for source-separated recyclables increased by 6%. One of the main factors causing higher revenues was the increase in the California Redemption Value (CRV) materials that provided an additional $65,000 in revenues to the cities.
- The SMaRT Station received an award from the California State Department of Conservation (DOC) for its recycling achievements through the years. The DOC noted that the SMaRT Station collection of CRV beverage containers on behalf of the three partner cities (Mountain View, Palo Alto, and Sunnyvale) in 2003 represented 43% of the total volume of containers collected in all of Santa Clara County.

- About 2,500 cubic yards of finished compost generated from the SMaRT Station was returned to residents free of charge, for use in their gardens and landscaping.

- Labor contract negotiations continued without disruption of services to the three City partners.

The three cities continue to create success through cooperative management that is built on a safe environmentally sound spirit and cost effective waste management and recycling services.

ATTACHMENT
Attachment A: “A Report to the Community about the SMaRT Station cooperative venture 2003-2004”

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